

BECOMING A WILDLIFE HABITAT COMMUNITY

Robin Rentsch, Habitat Project Team Leader
A GFCA Parks, Trails & Environment Committee Project

To accomplish our goal of celebrating our successful certification on Great Falls Day, the first week of May, our "Book of Evidence" detailing our 375 points must be presented to the National Wildlife Federation by early April for processing. To meet that deadline, all Great Falls backyard habitats need to be certified this fall, as there will be no leaves on the trees and shrubs for identification in March and early April and many fewer flowers.

The Great Falls Library has a display on the Habitat project in the hall with applications and handouts. If you feel you need help, a Habitat Steward will come to your property. I have now visited about fifteen lovely gardens/woodlands. It is educational for both the Habitat Steward and property owners who take such pride in exceeding the minimum requirements for certification. If you would like a visit- email: Robin Rentsch (robrentsch@cox.net), Elaine Tholen (Jtholen@cox.net), Eleanor Anderson (elandpaul@cox.net), Mary Anger(gfangers@cox.net), and/or Heather Stroup (heatherstroup@aol.com).

Visit "Make a Difference Day," October 28th

We are pleased to inform you that October 28th is Fairfax County's "Make a Difference Day." Volunteers from the National Wildlife Federation are coming to Forestville Elementary School to help plant a habitat so that that school can join our other three certified schools - Great Falls and Colvin Run Elementary Schools and Village Green Country Day School. Great Falls Elementary will celebrate the day with gardening and crafts for all age groups from 9am to 1pm. Colvin Run Elementary School will celebrate its anticipated Spring certification with nature crafts and readings with Ranger Rick as part of the October 28th Autumn Festival.