



SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF NATURALISTS

SCAN

PO Box 24911
Columbia, SC 29224
www.scnaturalists.org

December 2023

Well...here we are already into December! Where does the time go? Months fly by. Do you have some of your shopping list checked off? We are seeing more frost and freezing mornings and most of the leaf fall is about done. Winter is the best time to get out in the woods if you want to see the lay of the land. Things covered up by foliage are evident now. Secrets are waiting to be found. The woods are quiet now with a lack of bird chatter. We are losing only about one minute of sunlight and have about ten hours of daylight now. This season has special things awaiting.

November's foray was to Phinizy Swamp in Richmond County, Georgia. Our Regional Guide was Lee Morris. What an interesting place down there! Pictures below.

This month we will be going to Kalmia Gardens/Segars McKinnon Heritage Preserve in our Eastern Region. Our Regional Guide will be Todd Johnston. With the holidays and travel coming up our soodle will be earlier...on December 9th. Details below.

A reminder...We have reserved the Saluda Shoals Auditorium in Columbia for our Annual Meeting on **January 27, 2024**. We now have three interesting speakers lined up. It ought'a be interesting! If you have favorite pictures or stories from trips we have had this past year, share them with us for inclusion into the annual meeting. Upload them here:
<https://tinyurl.com/24scanslideshow>

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We need to fill the President, Vice President, and Secretary positions for 2024. Our Regional Directors have all graciously agreed to serve one more year, and we have a Treasurer replacement. As a totally voluntary organization, we rely on members to step up and help keep the group intact, so please, help us through yet another successful year.

None of the positions are terribly demanding, and there are plenty of us who have formerly served that will help with questions or concerns to get you through the learning curve. For more information on the responsibilities of leadership positions, reach out to President Dave Schuetrum or Vice President Gordon Murphy. Just a heads-up, Gordon will be reaching out directly to individual members this month in an effort to fill the vacancies.

That is all...Dave Schuetrum President



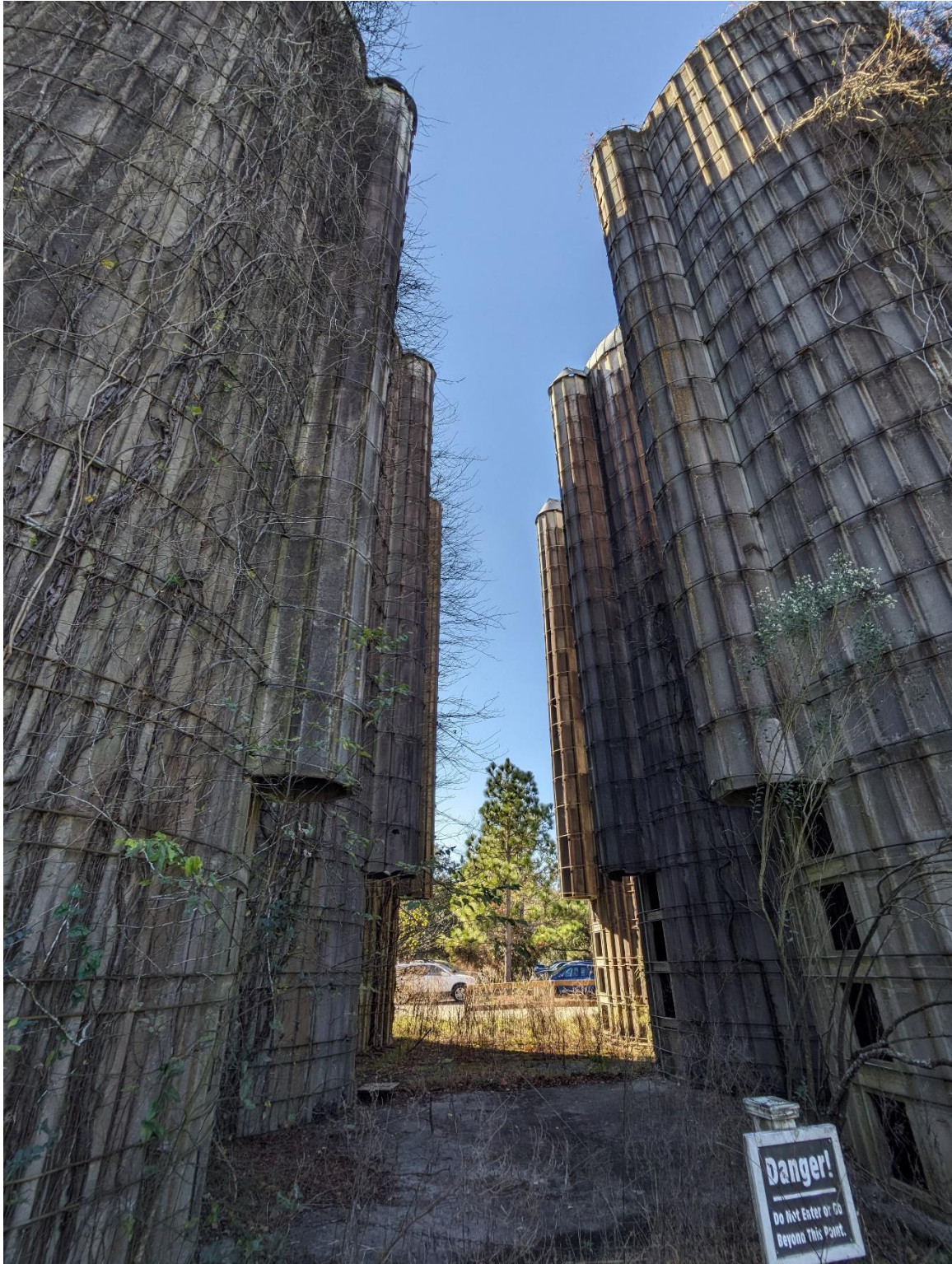
Here's who attended...in no particular order: Marty & Dave Kastner, Kim McManus, Tom Austin, Jerry Bright, Todd Johnston, Mandy Johnson, Ron Ahle, Becky Brown, Lee Morris, Sharon Yomtob, Marsha & Bob Hamlin, Ed Siggelko

From Kim McManus:

The weather was beautiful for our outing. Temps started off in the 60ies and warmed up to almost 80. The sun was out and so were the critters! My group of 5 moved slowly, checking out all the spiders and birds we could spot. We found some awesome snakes, too. The fall colors of the trees and the occasional patches of flowers added to the beauty of the day. One highlight was a Black-and-white Warbler that was completely unconcerned with our presence. It flitted around in a free a few feet from us, feeding on bugs in the bark.



Black-and-White Warbler, Mabel Orchard Orbweaver, Rough Green Snake with Asian Lady Beetles
Here are some photos from Tom Austin's camera...



The brutalist architecture of these abandoned silos greeted us as we prepared to depart for our soodle. They were squirming with Asian Multicolored Lady Beetles (*Harmonia axyridis*) too!



The Groundsel (*Baccharis halimifolia*) was just bursting with seeds all about the place!



We happened to chance upon an Eastern Ribbon Snake (*Thamnophis sauritus*) shortly after it had snagged a Green Treefrog (*Hyla cinerea*) on the side of the trail.



It's amazing how quick that poor frog vanished...



It was quite the snakey day at Phinzy that day; we saw 3 Cottonmouths (*Agkistrodon piscivorus*) and 2 Rough Green Snakes (*Opheodrys aestivus*) in less than 300yds.



For as dirt common as Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) is, it sure can be photogenic this time of year.



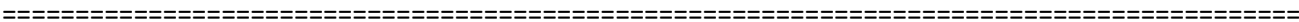
These Obscure Bird Grasshoppers (*Schistocerca obscura*) abounded out in the freshwater marshes.



A surprise guest was this immature Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinicus*)! We heard a lot of Sora, saw a few, and heard a few King Rails, but no eyes on any.



This big bull Gator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) was behind the fence in a canal and never even flinched as we walked by.



Kalmia Gardens

1624 W. Carolina Ave. Hartsville, SC 29550

GPS Coordinates: 34.3653848, -80.1174398

Saturday, December 9th, | 10:30 AM to ~3:30 PM

Meet at the parking area inside the entrance near the intersection of
W. Carolina Avenue (Hwy151) and Kelleytown Road



Kalmia Gardens, located in Darlington County, is over 30 acres of public gardens outside of Hartsville, SC. The gardens are highlighted by a 60' bluff that leads down to Black Creek, a blackwater swamp with boardwalks and an artesian well. The trail continues into the nearly 800 acre Segars-McKinnon Heritage Preserve. Unfortunately, due to some storm and flood damage to the boardwalks it is closed at this time.

The History of the property dates back to the 1800's with the Thomas Hart House being built around 1820 with timber cut on the property. The founder of Hartsville, Thomas Hart's house is still on the property and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Eventually the land, now known as Laurel Land, became neglected and overgrown until it was placed in the care of Mrs. May Roper Coker in 1932. Mrs. Coker with the help of some men, a mule, and a vision created trails, dug the pond and added exotic plants. The new garden was opened to the public in 1935 and renamed Kalmia gardens for the plentiful *Kalmia latifolia* on the bluff. Thirty years later in 1965 'Miss May' gave the gardens to Coker College in honor of her late husband. Today the college hosts school groups, festivals and garden clubs for education and enjoyment of the garden.

This will be a unique property for our visit as there is not only a mix of montane and coastal plain plants, but native plants mixing with some of the exotics. The property's plant communities include aquatic, savannah, sand hill, old field, great forest, swamp forest, and shrub bog. A few highlights we might find are some white cedars, titi, sparkleberry, beautyberry, and some holly to name a few. Some of the exotics are tea-olives, azaleas, wisteria but the star of December should be the camellias that number over 200 plants and 100 named varieties. One highlight near the house was the state champion beech tree that was over 80' tall but today it has lost its top and has been replaced as state champion by a 141' tall tree in Cherokee county. The

black creek area is a mini-Congaree so depending on the temperature you may still want to protect yourself from biting insects.

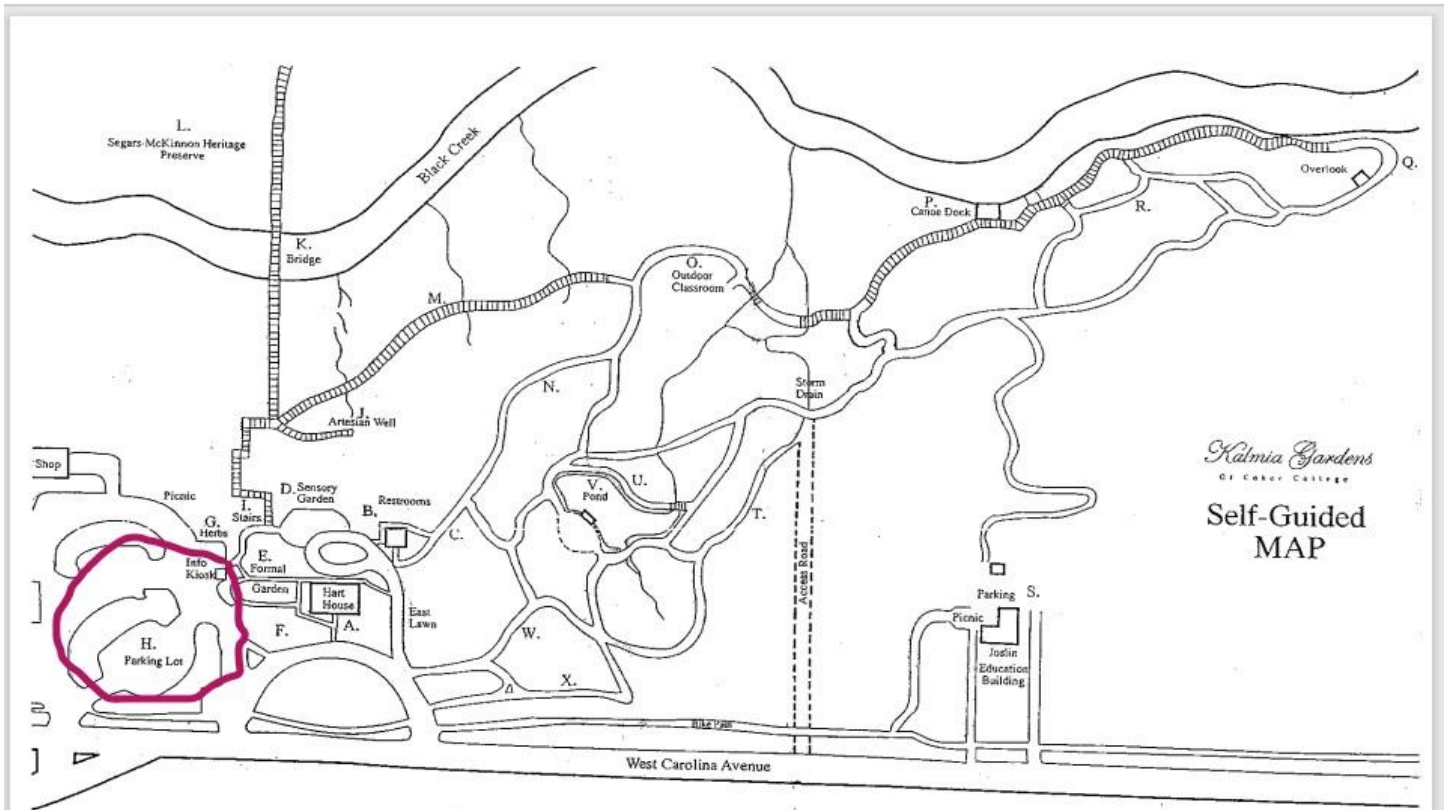
Meeting Location

From the **East** – Take I-20 west passed I-95 to exit 131. Turn left onto Hwy 401 S. Then in 0.7 miles turn Right on SC 403. After 8 miles it will merge and become Hwy 15. Less than 3 miles after the merge turn left on Hwy 151. Take Hwy 151 for 4 miles then turn right on Kellytown Rd. After a half mile as it merges into 151 alternate W carolina avenue the entrance will be directly across the road.

From the **west** – Take I-20 East to Bishopville exit 116. Merge onto Hwy 15 North towards Bishopville. Continue around 14 miles. Then turn Left to stay on Hwy 15. Less than 3 miles later turn left on Hwy 151. Take Hwy 151 for 4 miles then turn right on Kellytown Rd. After a half mile as it merges into 151 alternate (W carolina avenue) the entrance will be directly across the road.

GPS Coordinates: 34.3653848, -80.1174398

We will meet in the parking lot near the kiosk and the bluff overlook (location H in the diagram) not in the parking lot with the education building.



**Phinizy Swamp Nature Park
Richmond Co., GA
November 18, 2023**

This list was produced by SCAN from sightings produced by SCAN members and is subject to revision as needed. An asterisk (*) indicates a new sighting for SCAN. Send any changes or corrections to Kim McManus at scnaturalists76@gmail.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring in the subject line of your message. Thank you.

FLORA

American Royal Fern

Osmunda spectabilis

Japanese Climbing Fern

Lygodium japonicum

Mosquito Fern

Azolla filiculoides

Ebony Spleenwort

Asplenium platyneuron

Sensitive Fern

Onoclea sensibilis

Longleaf Pine

Pinus palustris

Loblolly Pine

Pinus taeda

Bald-cypress

Taxodium distichum

White Water-lily

Nymphaea odorata odorata

Lizard's-tail

Saururus cernuus

Southern Magnolia

Magnolia grandiflora

Common Pawpaw

Asimina triloba

Duckweed

Landoltia punctata

Duckweed

Lemna sp.

Green Arrow-arum

Peltandra virginica

Catbrier

Smilax bona-nox bona-nox

Whiteleaf Greenbrier

Smilax glauca

Bristly Greenbrier

Smilax hispida

Common Greenbrier

Smilax rotundifolia

Jackson-brier

Smilax smallii

Greenbrier

Smilax sp.

Cranefly Orchid

Tipularia discolor

Dwarf Palmetto

Sabal minor

Common Dayflower

Commelina communis

Common Cattail

Typha latifolia

Cattail

Typha sp.

Spanish-moss

Tillandsia usneoides

Common Rush

Juncus effusus solutus

Sedge

Carex sp.

Umbrella Sedge

Cyperus sp.

Woolly Bulrush

Scirpus cyperinus

Nutrush

Scleria sp.

Common Bushy Bluestem

Andropogon glomeratus

Old-field Broomstraw

Andropogon virginicus

Giant Cane

Arundinaria gigantea

Slender Spikegrass

Chasmanthium laxum

Bermuda Grass

Cynodon dactylon

Variable Witchgrass

Dichanthelium commutatum

Crab Grass

Digitaria sp.

Centipede Grass

Eremochloa ophiuroides

Sugarcane Plume Grass

Erianthus giganteus

Rice Cutgrass

Leersia oryzoides

Tall Fescue

Lolium arundinaceum

Switchgrass

Panicum virgatum

Florida Paspalum

Paspalum floridanum

Bahia Grass

Paspalum notatum

Vasey Grass

Paspalum urvillei

Annual Bluegrass

Poa annua

American Cupscale

Sacciolepis striata

Yellow Foxtail

Setaria pumila

Smut Grass

Sporobolus indicus

Redtop

Tridens flavus

Southern Wild-rice

Zizaniopsis miliacea

Coralbeads

Nephroia carolina

Sycamore

Platanus occidentalis

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Virginia-willow

Itea virginica

Raccoon-grape

Ampelopsis cordata

Muscadine

Muscadinia rotundifolia

rotundifolia

Peppervine

Nekemias arborea

Mimosa

Albizia julibrissin

Sericea Lespedeza

Lespedeza cuneata

Common Vetch

Vicia sativa sativa

American Wisteria

Wisteria frutescens frutescens

Mock Strawberry

Potentilla indica

Chickasaw Plum

Prunus angustifolia

Carolina Laurel Cherry

Prunus caroliniana

Eastern Wild Black Cherry

Prunus serotina serotina

Bradford Pear

Pyrus calleryana

Common Dewberry

Rubus flagellaris

Pennsylvania Blackberry

Rubus pensilvanicus

Southern Dewberry

Rubus trivialis

Winged Elm

Ulmus alata

Slippery Elm

Ulmus rubra

Elm

Ulmus sp.

Southern Hackberry

Celtis laevigata

American Beech

Fagus grandifolia

White Oak

Quercus alba

Swamp Chestnut Oak

Quercus michauxii

Water Oak*Quercus nigra***Cherrybark Oak***Quercus pagoda***Willow Oak***Quercus phellos***Live Oak***Quercus virginiana***Common Wax-myrtle***Morella cerifera***Pignut Hickory***Carya glabra***Black Walnut***Juglans nigra***River Birch***Betula nigra***Wood-sorrel***Oxalis* sp.**St. Andrew's Cross***Hypericum hypericoides***Violet***Viola* sp.**Passionflower***Passiflora incarnata***Yellow Passionflower***Passiflora lutea***Black Willow***Salix nigra***Rhombic Copperleaf***Acalypha rhomboidea***Popcorn Tree***Triadica sebifera***Chamber Bitter***Phyllanthus urinaria urinaria***Carolina Crane's-bill***Geranium carolinianum***Water-willow***Ludwigia leptocarpa***Winged Sumac***Rhus copallinum***Eastern Poison Ivy***Toxicodendron radicans radicans***Eastern Box Elder***Acer negundo negundo***Eastern Red Maple***Acer rubrum rubrum***Chinaberry***Melia azedarach***Rose-mallow***Hibiscus* sp.**Bristly-mallow***Modiola caroliniana***Arrowleaf Sida***Sida rhombifolia rhombifolia***Common Shepherd's Purse***Capsella bursa-pastoris***Waterpepper***Persicaria hydropiperoides***Smartweed***Persicaria* sp.**Dock***Rumex* sp.**Common Chickweed***Stellaria media***Alligator-weed***Alternanthera philoxeroides***Common Pokeweed***Phytolacca americana***American Persimmon***Diospyros virginiana***Elliott's Blueberry***Vaccinium elliotii***Buttonbush***Cephalanthus occidentalis***Cleavers***Galium aparine***Eastern Anglepod***Gonolobus suberosus suberosus***Red Morning-glory***Ipomoea coccinea***Coastal Morning-glory***Ipomoea cordatotriloba cordatotriloba***Common Jacquemontia***Jacquemontia tamnifolia***Smooth Ground-cherry***Physalis angulata***Chinese Privet***Ligustrum sinense***English Plantain***Plantago lanceolata***American Mistletoe***Phoradendron leucarpum leucarpum***Cross-vine***Bignonia capreolata***Trumpet-creeper***Campsis radicans***Brazilian Vervain***Verbena brasiliensis***Vervain***Verbena* sp.**Henbit***Lamium amplexicaule amplexicaule***Bugleweed***Lycopus* sp.**South American Skullcap***Scutellaria racemosa***Possum-haw***Ilex decidua***American Holly***Ilex opaca***Silverling***Baccharis halimifolia***Spanish Needles***Bidens bipinnata***Showy Bur-marigold***Bidens laevis***Mistflower***Conoclinium coelestinum***Common Horseweed***Erigeron canadensis***Common Dog-fennel***Eupatorium capillifolium***Cudweed***Gamochaeta* sp.**Brazilian Cat's-ear***Hypochaeris chillensis***Spotted Cat's-ear***Hypochaeris radicata***Climbing Hempweed***Mikania scandens***Tall Goldenrod***Solidago altissima altissima***Common Sow-thistle***Sonchus oleraceus***Long-stalked Aster***Symphotrichum dumosum***Frost Aster***Symphotrichum pilosum pilosum***American Aster***Symphotrichum* sp.**Common Dandelion***Taraxacum officinale***Southern Crownbeard***Verbesina occidentalis***Frostweed***Verbesina virginica***Asiatic Hawk's-beard***Youngia japonica***Common Elderberry***Sambucus canadensis***Japanese Honeysuckle***Lonicera japonica***Devil's-walking-stick***Aralia spinosa***Swamp Water-pennywort***Hydrocotyle ranunculoides***Water-hemlock***Cicuta maculata maculata***Brittle-gill***Russula* sp.**FAUNA****Yellow Garden Spider***Argiope aurantia***Spotted Forest Orbweaver***Neoscona domiciliorum***Long-jawed Orbweaver***Tetragnatha* sp.**Orchard Orbweaver***Leucauge venusta***Mabel Orchard Orbweaver***Leucauge argyrobapta***Nursery Web Spider***Pisaurina* sp.**Bold Jumper***Phidippus audax***Clipped-wing Grasshopper***Metaleptea brevicornis***Leather-color Bird Grasshopper***Schistocerca alutacea***Obscure Bird Grasshopper***Schistocerca obscura*

Meadow Katydid
Conocephalus sp.

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug
Halyomorpha halys

Leaf-footed Bug
Acanthocephala femorata

Large Milkweed Bug
Oncopeltus fasciatus

Milkweed Assassin Bug
Zelus longipes

Leafhopper
Family Cicadellidae, Species of

Red Imported Fire Ant
Solenopsis invicta

Fraternal Potter Wasp
Eumenes fraternus

Paper Wasp
Polistes annularis

Hunter's Little Paper Wasp
Polistes dorsalis

Paper Wasp
Polistes sp.

Black & Yellow Mud-dauber
Sceliphron caementarium

Bumblebee
Bombus impatiens

Cypress Twig Gall (midge)
Taxodiomyia cupressiananassa

Phantom Cranefly
Bittacomorpha clavipes

Margined Calligrapher
Toxomerus marginatus

Yellowjacket Hoverfly
Milesia virginiensis

Goldenrod Ball Gall (fly)
Eurosta solidaginis

Roseate Skimmer
Orthemis ferruginea

Carolina Saddlebags
Tramea carolina

American Rubyspot
Hetaerina americana

Familiar Bluet
Enallagma civile

Furtive Forktail
Ischnura prognatha

Citrine Forktail
Ischnura hastata

Multicolored Asian Lady Beetle
Harmonia axyridis

Cloudless Sulphur
Phoebis sennae

Little Yellow
Pyrisitia lisa

Red-banded Hairstreak
Calycopis cecrops

American Snout
Libytheana carinenta

Gulf Fritillary
Dione vanillae

Pearl Crescent
Phyciodes tharos

Red Admiral
Vanessa atalanta

Long-tailed Skipper
Urbanus proteus

Fiery Skipper
Hylephila phyleus

White Checkered-Skipper
Burnsius albescens

Polyphemus Moth
Antheraea polyphemus

Fall Webworm Moth
Hyphantria cunea

Eastern Mosquitofish
Gambusia holbrooki

Green Treefrog
Hyla cinerea

Squirrel Treefrog
Hyla squirella

Frog
Lithobates sp.

American Alligator
Alligator mississippiensis

River Cooter
Pseudemys concinna

Yellow-bellied Slider
Trachemys scripta

Green Anole
Anolis carolinensis

Rough Green Snake
Ophedryus aestivus

Eastern Ribbon Snake
Thamnophis sauritus

Cottonmouth
Agkistrodon piscivorus

Pied-billed Grebe
Podilymbus podiceps

Anhinga
Anhinga anhinga

Double-crested Cormorant
Phalacrocorax auritus

Great Blue Heron
Ardea herodias

Great Egret
Ardea alba

White Ibis
Eudocimus albus

Lesser Scaup
Aythya affinis

Blue-winged Teal
Spatula discors

King Rail
Rallus elegans

Virginia Rail
Rallus limicola

Sora
Porzana carolina

Purple Gallinule
Porphyrio martinicus

Common Gallinule
Gallinula galeata

American Coot
Fulica americana

Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura

Bald Eagle
Haliaeetus leucocephalus

Northern Harrier
Circus hudsonius

Sharp-shinned Hawk
Accipiter striatus

Cooper's Hawk
Accipiter cooperii

Red-tailed Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis

American Kestrel
Falco sparverius

Rock Pigeon
Columba livia

Mourning Dove
Zenaida macroura

Belted Kingfisher
Megaceryle alcyon

Red-bellied Woodpecker
Melanerpes carolinus

Northern Flicker
Colaptes auratus

Downy Woodpecker
Dryobates pubescens

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Sphyrapicus varius

Pileated Woodpecker
Dryocopus pileatus

Eastern Phoebe
Sayornis phoebe

Tufted Titmouse
Baeolophus bicolor

Carolina Chickadee
Poecile carolinensis

House Wren
Troglodytes aedon

Winter Wren
Troglodytes hiemalis

Carolina Wren
Thryothorus ludovicianus

Marsh Wren
Cistothorus palustris

Golden-crowned Kinglet
Regulus satrapa

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Regulus calendula

American Robin
Turdus migratorius

Gray Catbird
Dumetella carolinensis

Northern Mockingbird
Mimus polyglottos

Cedar Waxwing
Bombycilla cedrorum

Blue-headed Vireo
Vireo solitarius

Black-and-white Warbler
Mniotilta varia

Yellow-rumped Warbler
Setophaga coronata

Palm Warbler*Setophaga palmarum***Common Yellowthroat***Geothlypis trichas***Northern Cardinal***Cardinalis cardinalis***Painted Bunting***Passerina ciris***Eastern Towhee***Pipilo erythrophthalmus***Savannah Sparrow***Passerculus sandwichensis***Song Sparrow***Melospiza melodia***Chipping Sparrow***Spizella passerina***White-throated Sparrow***Zonotrichia albicollis***Swamp Sparrow***Melospiza georgiana***Red-winged Blackbird***Agelaius phoeniceus***Common Grackle***Quiscalus quiscula***American Goldfinch***Spinus tristis***Eastern Gray Squirrel***Sciurus carolinensis***Coyote***Canis latrans***Raccoon***Procyon lotor***NEW SPECIES****Wild Onion***Alium sp.***Oleander Aphid***Aphis nerii***Carpetgrass***Axonopus sp.***Common Blue Mud-dauber Wasp***Chalybion californicum***Cordyceps Fungus***Cordycipitaceae sp.***Gibellula***Gibellula sp.***Muck Sunflower***Helianthus simulans***Smoky Rubyspot***Hetaerina titia***Ichneumon Wasp***Lymeon orbus***Yellow Sweetclover***Melilotus officinalis***Tussock Moth***Orgyia sp.***Oak Treehopper***Platycotis vittate***Bulrush***Schoenoplectus sp.***Evening Bat***Vespertilionidae sp.***Graybark Grape***Vitis cinerea*