

## **The Year in Clubs, 2023**

The realm of natural history is vast. The Natural History Society of Maryland, established in 1929, is dedicated to natural history in all its various forms. If you want to learn a little bit about a lot of different topics, NHSM is your place. If you want to dive deeper into a specific topic, NHSM is also your place.

NHSM has had a long tradition of clubs dedicated to various subjects. Currently we have four volunteer-led clubs that meet once a month, sponsor guest speakers, go on field trips, and engage in a variety of other projects associated with their field of study:

- The Archaeology (“Arch”) Club
- The Fossil Club
- The Herpetology (“Herp”) Club
- The Lepidoptery (“Lep”) Club

Club meetings are open to all! Field trips and other events require membership. Any NHSM member can join any of the clubs for \$5/year.



Natural History Society of Maryland's **Archaeology Club** promotes the value of archaeology in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and surrounding areas. The goal of the Arch Club is to educate citizenry in the ethics, methods, and artifact preservation methods of archaeology and how archaeology can be used to document, discover, and promote local history. The Archaeology Club is inclusive to all persons who have an interest in archaeology. If you are an archaeology enthusiast, please consider joining us.

Club membership as of Dec 31, 2023: **122**

New members: **12**

Top 5 most popular programs:

1. Native American Archaeology in Anne Arundel County, Nov 15.
2. Diving Into the Past: Recent developments in underwater prehistoric archaeology, Feb 15.
3. History of Marshy Point, Sep 20.
4. Explore the Homesite of Harriett Tubman's Father, Ben Ross, Apr 19.
5. Colonial Chesapeake Horse Culture, Jun 21.





The **Fossil Club** is a group of novice and more experienced collectors who meet to share knowledge and discuss fossil identification, fossil locations, and other fossil-related topics. Monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month.

Club membership as of Dec 31, 2023: **239**

New members: **29**

Top 5 most popular programs:

1. Hunting Giant Sharks, Sep 6.
2. Prepping Your Fossils: A Hands-on Demonstration, Nov 1.
3. Ice Age Fauna and Mammalian Evolution, Feb 1.
4. The Evolution of Euryapsids, Mar 1.
5. New Perspectives on Tyrannosaurs and Their World, Jan 24.





Are you fascinated by reptiles and amphibians? The **Herp Club** promotes the proper husbandry, conservation, study, and appreciation of reptiles and amphibians. Amateurs, professionals, and kids of all ages are welcome. Monthly meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month.

Club membership as of Dec 31, 2023: **123**

New members: **15**

Top 5 most popular programs:

1. Saving the Northern Map Turtle, Mar 8.
2. The Secrets of Spotted Turtles, Jan 11.
3. SAVE THE FROGS! Translating Science into Action, Nov 8.
4. Herp Club Show and Tell, Feb 8.
5. Foundation for the Conservation of Salamanders, Jun 14.





If you love butterflies and moths, consider joining the **Lep Club**. On the third Wednesday of each month, novice and expert lepidopterists meet to exchange knowledge and provide mutual support concerning habitat, threats, food sources, identification, and life cycle of butterflies and moths.

The Lep Club supports the raising and breeding of moths and butterflies through hands-on lessons and guest speakers. Club members are also involved in outreach in the greater Baltimore community through educational programs and service projects. Club meetings often feature a guest speaker on a topic related to moths and butterflies. Meetings also include time to distribute host plants, caterpillars, and eggs.

Membership as of Dec 31, 2023: **124**

New members: **20**

Top 5 most popular programs:

1. Supporting Pollinators with Native Plants, Mar 22.
2. Baltimore Checkerspot Restoration Project, Feb 22.
3. "Our" Monarchs in Mexico, Apr 26.
4. Cylburn Arboretum Exploratory Lepidoptera Walk, Aug 26.
5. Ladew Gardens Butterfly House Tour, Aug 15.

