NEWS RELEASE

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(RIDGELY, MD, February 2, 2015)

Adkins Arboretum to Host Backyard Bird Count on Feb. 14

Join efforts to create an annual snapshot of the distribution and abundance of birds when Adkins Arboretum hosts a Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) walk on Sat., Feb. 14. Jim Wilson and student coleaders from Centreville Middle School and Kennard Elementary School will lead a bird walk to identify and count the birds seen and heard in the Arboretum meadows and woods. All ages are invited to participate in the two-hour walk that begins at 8:30 a.m. at the Visitor's Center bird feeders. Admission is free, and binoculars will be available for participants. The walk will be canceled in case of inclement



Photo by Leah M. Reynolds

weather. Participants are encouraged to register in advance at adkinsarboretum.org.

A truly international event, the GBBC is a joint effort of the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Last year, more than 142,000 people from 135 countries reported more than 4,200 species and more than 17 million individual birds, providing an incredible snapshot of winter bird populations and distribution in North America and beyond. In 2014, India ranked third in the number of checklists submitted, behind the U.S. and Canada.

For more information about the walk, call the Arboretum at 410.634.2847, ext. 0 or Jim

Wilson at 410-758-3717. For more information about the GBBC, visit **gbbc.birdcount.org**.

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Adkins Arboretum is a 400-acre native garden and preserve at the headwaters of the Tuckahoe Creek in Caroline County. Open year round, the Arboretum offers educational programs for all ages about nature and gardening. Through its <u>Campaign to Build a Green Legacy</u>, it will build the <u>W. Flaccus and Ruth B. Stifel Center at Adkins Arboretum</u> and a "green" entranceway to broaden educational offerings and research initiatives promoting best practices in conservation and land stewardship. For additional information about Arboretum programs, visit <u>www.adkinsarboretum.org</u> or call 410-634-2847, ext. 0.

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