



### **Know the Facts by Wilde Lake**

Let's talk turtles! Wilde Lake, and other lakes in Columbia, are frequent targets of turtle poaching. People come with their dip nets and scoop up baby turtles to sell for profit. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources urges people to resist this temptation and leave reptiles in the wild.. While baby turtles are cute, they become big, can live for decades, and may outgrow their aquariums. Captive turtles often do not survive being released into the wild and may introduce diseases into wild populations. **It is illegal in Maryland to possess turtles with a carapace under 4 inches.** For some species, it is illegal to possess a turtle of any size. What should you do if you see someone removing turtles from Wilde Lake or another nearby lake? You may call the Howard County non-emergency number to report the incident. 410-313-2200. You may also report the incident to Columbia Association Open Space. 410-312-6330. We discourage direct confrontation.

### **Upcoming Events and Information:**

#### **No Mow May**

No Mow May is really about not mowing more than once every two weeks and at a height of at least 3 inches - these mowing practices are best for all summer long.



#### **Yards Alive Tour, Sunday, May 22nd, 2-5pm**

The Yards Alive! Yard Tour will take place Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2-5 PM. The tour includes eight yards that display the Yards Alive goal of replacing lawn with planting beds. Each homeowner will be present to show you their yard, discuss specific plants, and talk about their goals, successes and failures. To view the addresses and a description of each yard click on: [tinyurl.com/Yards-Alive-Tour](https://tinyurl.com/Yards-Alive-Tour)

#### **Backyard Butterflies: Creating simple mini gardens as "Pocket Habitats," June 9, 2022, 7-8pm**

KC Cares hosts this informative webinar with special guest Linda Hunt, Master Naturalist and co-coordinator of the annual Howard County Butterfly Survey. Results of the Howard County Butterfly Survey suggest that private gardens may be critical for sustaining pollinators threatened by habitat loss and fragmentation. After a brief overview of the 8-year survey, this talk will provide information and resources to help you create a mini garden providing the food and breeding sites that butterflies need for their survival. Many pictures of Howard County butterflies and sample garden habitats are included.

**Zoom link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84175045088?pwd=CmzKeM0hQtYMayzx7jS48KuKx90FPPr.1>

The meeting ID is: **841 7504 5088** and the Passcode is **694200**

#### **Howard Ecoworks READY Program**

The Howard EcoWorks' READY program is now accepting applications for this year's summer program. Deadline to apply is May 27. READY is an 8 week paid workforce development program for youth ages 16-25. Please share this opportunity with others. For more information or to apply visit [this website](#).