

## Board of County Commissioners

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## Carroll County Government

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Westminster, Maryland 21157  
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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dawn Harry, 410-386-3560



### **Bear Branch Nature Center to host Carroll County's first Maryland Master Naturalist Program beginning April 2016**

**Westminster, MD, December 9, 2015** - Bear Branch Nature Center and Hashawha Environmental Center in Westminster, Maryland will be hosting a Maryland Master Naturalist Training beginning on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and running through November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Classes will be held on the third Sunday of each month from April – November of 2016. One Saturday field trip will be held at an off-site location. The cost for this course is \$250, including materials.

Master Naturalist volunteers complete a 60-hour hands-on course with expert instructors and fellow learners – studying natural history, environmental interpretation, and conservation. Final certification follows the completion of 40 hours of volunteer service at Bear Branch Nature Center and Hashawha Environmental Center.

Since 2010, the Maryland Master Naturalist Program has engaged citizens of Maryland as stewards of Maryland's natural resources and ecosystems through science-based education and volunteer service. Bear Branch Nature Center and Hashawha Environmental Center are excited to bring this program to Carroll County for the first time.

Interested? Please visit the Maryland Master Naturalist website at <http://extension.umd.edu/masternaturalist> to learn more and to download an application.

Applications must be submitted no later than **March 15<sup>th</sup>**, and must be sent to:  
Bear Branch Nature Center  
300 John Owings Road  
Westminster, MD 21158  
Or emailed to: [bearbranch@cgg.carr.org](mailto:bearbranch@cgg.carr.org)

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Questions? Contact Bear Branch Nature Center's Park Naturalist at 410-386-3580 or [bearbranch@cgg.carr.org](mailto:bearbranch@cgg.carr.org).

*University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, gender, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital or parental status or national origin.*



The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.

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