

2016 Bog Learning Network Work & Learn Field Day Series – Cold Springs Seep

Date: Tuesday, August 9th

9:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Rain Date: Thursday, August 11th

The Cold Springs area of Haywood County has a diverse land use history and contains wetland soils along with several shaded seeps that may have previously supported bog habitat. Portions of the area are visited by elk roaming from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Cold Springs Seep encompasses maintained wildlife openings and a beaver pond.

Workday Agenda

US Forest Service Botanist and Ecologist Gary Kauffman will provide our group with a tour of Cold Springs Seep, lead discussions on the land use history and ecological significance of the site, and offer a training on the US Forest Service's standardized protocol for non-native invasive plant inventorying.

We will then divide into teams and employ the inventorying protocol on +/- 10 acres of Cold Springs Seep, gathering data which will document the extent of the non-native invasive plant occurrences. The resulting dataset will be instrumental in assisting the US Forest Service with prioritizing restoration initiatives and efficiently applying non-native invasive plant management at the site.

The non-native invasive plant species currently in the greatest abundance at Cold Springs Seep are anticipated to be autumn-olive and multiflora rose but others are likely to be present as well.

What to Bring & What's Provided

Recommended: Rubber boots, personal water bottle, field lunch, snacks, long pants

Suggested: Separate long-sleeved shirt, clipboard, camera, binoculars

Provided: Water, hand cleansing supplies, boot decontamination station, datasheets, pens/pencils

Carpool Meet Location

We will meet in the Westgate Shopping Center/Earth Fare parking lot located at 66 Westgate Parkway, Asheville, NC 28806 in the east end of the parking lot (closest to I-26/US-19/US-23) at **8:00 a.m.** to make carpooling arrangements for an 8:15 a.m. departure. We will then regroup at the Harmon Den parking area at 9:15 a.m.

Directions to the Harmon Den Parking Area from Asheville, NC: Follow I-40 West for approx. 40 miles to exit 7 for Harmon Den. From the exit ramp, turn right onto Cold Springs Road (Forest Service Road 148) and travel approx. 3.2 miles to the Harmon Den parking area located on the left at approx. latitude/longitude: **35.76315, -82.98714.**

Please **RSVP** to Gary Peeples at Gary_Peeples@fws.gov by **Wednesday, August 3rd** and include **"Cold Springs Seep Workday"** in the subject line so we can notify you directly if the workday is cancelled due to inclement weather.