

Sighting #3 Approx. Time: _____

Color of band on lower right leg: Aluminum

Color of band on upper right leg: _____

Color of band on lower left leg: _____

Color of band on upper left leg: _____

Number on nearest yellow sign: _____

Behaviors Observed (check all that apply):

☐ Feeding ☐ Preening ☐ Singing ☐ Calling

☐ Carrying nesting material ☐ Feeding Young

☐ Entering a nest box

Comments: _____

Sighting #4 Approx. Time: _____

Color of band on lower right leg: Aluminum

Color of band on upper right leg: _____

Color of band on lower left leg: _____

Color of band on upper left leg: _____

Number on nearest yellow sign: _____

Behaviors Observed (check all that apply):

☐ Feeding ☐ Preening ☐ Singing ☐ Calling

☐ Carrying nesting material ☐ Feeding Young

☐ Entering a nest box

Comments: _____

Sighting #5 Approx. Time: _____

Color of band on lower right leg: Aluminum

Color of band on upper right leg: _____

Color of band on lower left leg: _____

Color of band on upper left leg: _____

Number on nearest yellow sign: _____

Behaviors Observed (check all that apply):

☐ Feeding ☐ Preening ☐ Singing ☐ Calling

☐ Carrying nesting material ☐ Feeding Young

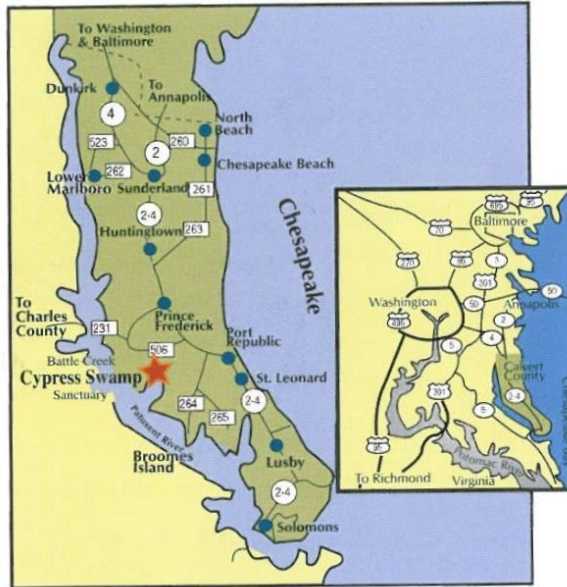
☐ Entering a nest box

Comments: _____

CONTACT US TODAY

Calvert County Natural Resources

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Just south of Prince Frederick, turn right onto Sixes Road (Rt. 506) Look for sign and turn left on Gray's Rd. The entrance will be on your right about one quarter mile



Calvert County Natural Resources

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER PROJECT



Photo by Jason Avery

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

The Prothonotary Warbler is a small songbird that can be found along forested streams and in swamps. Easily identifiable by its unique bright yellow color or its loud high pitched “sweet sweet sweet” song. We began the nest box program for these birds at Battle Creek in 2014. After breeding in our area they will migrate to Central and South America for the winter. In 2020 we began banding adults and nestlings to be able to learn which birds are returning to this site year after year. To help gather more data and to allow more people to help with this project we began adding color bands to our captured birds. This allows staff, volunteers and visitors to be able to identify individual birds just using their binoculars!

Using the data we collect from the resighting of color banded birds we will have a better understanding of their territory size, lifespans, breeding activity, and nest site fidelity. We need citizen scientists (like you) to report any banded birds that they see. Please follow the instructions on the next page to contribute to this invaluable research while visiting Battle Creek Cypress Swamp.

COLLECTING DATA

Each Prothonotary Warbler (PROW) that we capture at Battle Creek is fitted with a unique combination of bands on its legs. Every bird receives a silver aluminum band on its lower right leg; this band has a tiny number on it that corresponds to a national database. The other bands seen on our banded PROWs are plastic color bands that are unique to each individual bird.

In order to help us learn about these birds, **please begin by filling out the participant information in the box to the right. Then, as you walk the boardwalk and notice banded birds, fill out the following pages with the information requested.**

Reminders:

* If you spot a banded bird, try to see the band colors and their arrangement on the bird. Remember if a bird is facing you, its right leg will be on your left side. If you can't see or can't remember the arrangement that's okay! Still write down your observations and make a note of this in the comment area provided.

* The color bands that we've used are: **Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, White, Black, Light Brown and Gray.**

* There are yellow numbered signs every 30 feet along the boardwalk. Use the number on the sign to let us know where you saw each banded bird.



- When you finish your trip around the boardwalk please return your brochure to the bird box at the front desk. Even if you only saw one banded bird, that information is still very helpful to us!

Special thanks to **Matthew Johnson** of **Audubon Center at Francis Beidler Forest** for helping me with getting a color banding project started here at Battle Creek.

Participant Information:

Date: _____

Start time: _____

End Time: _____

Number of Participants in Group: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

If you are interested in volunteering with this project or to learn about other volunteer opportunities go to calvertstewards.galaxydigital.com

Sighting #1

Approx. Time: _____

Color of band on lower right leg: Aluminum

Color of band on upper right leg: _____

Color of band on lower left leg: _____

Color of band on upper left leg: _____

Number on nearest yellow sign: _____

Behaviors Observed (check all that apply):

☐ Feeding ☐ Preening ☐ Singing ☐ Calling

☐ Carrying nesting material ☐ Feeding Young

☐ Entering a nest box

Comments: _____

Sighting #2

Approx. Time: _____

Color of band on lower right leg: Aluminum

Color of band on upper right leg: _____

Color of band on lower left leg: _____

Color of band on upper left leg: _____

Number on nearest yellow sign: _____

Behaviors Observed (check all that apply):

☐ Feeding ☐ Preening ☐ Singing ☐ Calling

☐ Carrying nesting material ☐ Feeding Young

☐ Entering a nest box

Comments: _____