

Mid-Atlantic Region

Mid-Atlantic Resource Management Specialists have been infected with the urge to migrate. Bruce Rodgers, Resource Manager at Assateague Island has accepted a job as Site Manager at Fort Jefferson National Monument; Dave Reynolds, Resource Manager at New River Gorge National River has accepted a job in the International Affairs Office as NPS Representative to the Peace Corps; Pete Baril, Resource Manager at Colonial NHP is trading positions with Chuck Rafkind, Chief Ranger at Richmond NBP. In addition, congratulations to John Apel, Hopewell Furnace NPS, and Rick Potts, Shenandoah NP, for "earning their wings" by completing the recent Resource Management Trainee Program. We also welcome aboard Kathy Jope as our new Regional Natural Resource Manager. Good luck to all in their new positions!

Twenty-three Resource Managers from the Mid-Atlantic Region recently completed a Region-sponsored course on learning DBASE III for use with resource inventory and monitoring databases. Participants used self-paced instruction modules on individual microcomputers in a lab made available by Pennsylvania State University. As a final assignment, participants spent the last day developing DBASE applications for a database from their respective parks. Copies of the DBASE Instruction Manual are available from Jeff Marion, Star Route 38, Milford, PA 18337 (include a blank floppy disk as several files are also needed).

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A two-year study of the federally-listed piping plover at Assateague Island, conducted by researchers from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, provides information on piping plover population size, breeding chronology, and natural and anthropogenic factors affecting nest success. Most documented nest failures were attributable to predation by red fox and raccoon; only one was directly attributable to human activity.

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Two endangered species have found new homes at New River Gorge NR. A pair of falcons were released in a new peregrine hacking program, a cooperative effort between the West Virginia DNR, the Peregrine Fund, the NPS, the USFWS, and a private landowner. A federally listed plant species, *Trifolium stoloniferum* (running buffalo clover) also was successfully reintroduced. The species was last collected in the 1940s and was thought to be extinct until a West Virginia botanist discovered it in 1983 along the New River just outside the park boundary. Cuttings from those plants were propagated and used for the reintroductions.