Citizen Science

Capital Region Land Conservancy is an ardent facilitator of citizen science projects. We encourage you to record your observations during your visit or participate in a future Bioblitz on the property. Join our current Citizen Science Projects:

- eBird – https://ebird.org/hotspot/L8260406
- iNaturalist – https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/varina-landlab

Plants:

Over 200 species of plants have been identified so far at the Varina LandLab. While not all of them are native species, many live together to form grassland, forested wetland, and hardwood forest habitats that support diverse wildlife.

Birds

Hundreds of bird species have been identified at Varina LandLab. As a designated important bird area, we are working to promote bird foraging, nesting, and breeding at VLL through habitat management and research projects with classes at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). Please visit the eBird page for Varina LandLab for the most up to date list of birds seen on the property.

Entrance #1 is a great location to view grassland and forest wetland-loving birds from a high vantage point. The bluff overlooking the James River at Entrance #3 provides a high location to view birds of prey like eagles, hawks, and osprey along the river.
Insects:
Insects serve as pollinators, food sources for other wildlife, and increase the overall biodiversity of Varina LandLab. We would greatly appreciate you recording any insects you see during your visit.

Other Wildlife
While many animals have been identified as Varina LandLab so far, we would greatly appreciate you recording any animals you see during your visit through the iNaturalist app to grow our list. List of Animals observed at Varina LandLab:

- Red Fox
- Skunk
- Deer
- Eastern Harvest Mouse
- Domesticate Cat
- Beaver
- Eastern River Cooter
- Marsh Rabbit
- Eastern Mole
- Grey Squirrel
- American Mink