



# bio blitz

**Release date:** Immediate  
**Contact(s):** Mike Byrd  
**Phone number:** 757- 898-2422  
**Date:** September 13, 2016

## A BioBlitz is coming to Colonial National Historical Park

Grab your smartphone, camera, and binoculars and explore nature like never before! On Saturday September 24, 2016, Colonial National Historical Park will participate in the [National Parks BioBlitz](#). A BioBlitz is a fun, fast-paced biological survey of a park's creepers and crawlers, plants and pollinators, mammals and more! The National Park Service is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with more than 100 Bio Blitzes across the country.

During this free, one-day event at Colonial, teams of scientists, naturalists, students and volunteers will go out into the park's fields, woods and along historic earthworks to see how many species of butterflies they can document.

Volunteers will have the opportunity use an exciting new smartphone app, *INaturalist*, to take a photograph of a butterfly and download it into a global citizen science database. Volunteers will also be needed for taking camera photos and documenting species on a sheet. Inventory work will be done in tandem with the Historic River's Master Naturalists annual American Butterfly count.

American Express is the national sponsor of the 2016 National Parks BioBlitz. The Historic Rivers Master Naturalists have partnered with the park in this event and will provide much of field and identification expertise.

Explorers of all ages are needed. The park is organizing the event into a morning and afternoon shift: children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. This event engages the whole family.

To learn more about the National Parks BioBlitz and activities go to:

[go.nps.gov/2016bioblitz](http://go.nps.gov/2016bioblitz)  
[natgeo.org/bioblitz](http://natgeo.org/bioblitz)  
[Inaturalist.org](http://Inaturalist.org)

**For more information or to RSVP no later than September 20, please contact Dorothy Geyer at [Dorothy\\_Geyer@nps.gov](mailto:Dorothy_Geyer@nps.gov).**

NATIONAL SPONSOR

