Q & A

Q: Why did you decide to write this book?
A: I love showing people my favorite places for hiking, cycling, and paddling, with the hope that they will enjoy them as much as I have. Those natural places you love, you will protect and preserve.

Q: What were some of the most surprising things you learned while writing/researching the book?
A: While Maryland has many well known places for outdoor recreation, some are still lightly visited and almost undiscovered.

Q: What is new about your book/research that sets it apart from other books in the field?
A: There are many guidebooks out there, especially to hiking venues. My books bring a naturalist’s eye to these special places. I hope information about plants, animals and ecology will enhance your appreciation of them.

Q: Did you encounter any eye opening statistics while writing your book?
A: Deer ticks are now very commonly encountered by Maryland hikers, although forty years ago this was not true. I noted that the very significant increase in reported cases of Lyme Disease over time correlated well with the increase in the size of the Maryland deer population (as measured by hunting harvest data).

Q: What do you hope people will take away from reading your book?
A: That outdoor recreational sports like hiking, cycling, and paddling, are not just athletic endeavors; they are a gateway to discovery and enjoyment of the natural world around us.