

Watching plants and animals for signs of climate change

What do blooming wildflowers, metamorphosing frogs, and migrating hawks have in common? They are all undergoing life cycle phases that can be affected by climate change. NH Audubon's Conservation Department has joined a cooperative effort to monitor these life cycle events to better understand the impacts of climate change.

Phenology refers to the relationship between climate and periodic biological phenomena such as the timing of a plant blooming. Have you ever made notes about the first peeper you heard calling, the first Mourning Cloak Butterfly you see in the spring, the date the pink ladyslippers bloom, or the first robin egg? Then you've actually been monitoring phenology!

Life cycle phases, or "phenophases," are closely tied to climate, and over millennia, plants and animals within each region have evolved complex inter-relationships. Hatching of eggs in many bird species is synchronous with the emergence of insects; early woodland flowers bloom before trees leaf out, taking advantage of the brief sunlight between snowmelt and leafout.

Weather also plays a role in the timing of many phenophases, and can have short-term, and potentially long-term, effects on particular species. Heavy rains in early spring can cause widespread nest failures in raptors and early-nesting songbirds; dry winters and springs reduce the availability of vernal pools that are essential breeding sites for wood frogs and mole salamanders.

Many phenological events are easily observed, and thus provide a way to measure biological responses to climate change. By monitoring phenological events, researchers can determine which species are most vulnerable to climate change, how these species' populations will respond over time, and how these changes will affect other species and overall ecosystems.

Recently, scientists across North America established a National Phenology Network (NPN) to facilitate sharing of resources and pooling of data. The NPN is comprised of a vast array of phenological monitoring projects, and is continuing to grow as more researchers join the effort to gather data on plants and animals throughout the year.

This year, the Conservation Department is launching a pilot project to establish Phenological Monitoring on NH Audubon's Deering Sanctuary. For our pilot year, we will be evaluating all aspects of the project, such as survey methods, observation sites, training materials, and target species. Our goal is to eventually expand monitoring to other sanctuaries throughout the state, and to involve as many Citizen Scientists as possible.

This year, we are looking for a few brave volunteers to conduct surveys and help us evaluate various aspects of the project. For more information on NH Audubon's pilot study, please contact Laura Deming or Vanessa Jones. To learn more about phenological monitoring, please visit the National Phenology Network website: <http://www.usanpn.org/>.



Canada Mayflower. Photo by Julie Klett

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From the President's Desk

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Kelly Wing, *General Editor* (kwing@nhaudubon.org)

Banner photo by John Hession.

Dear Friends,

Summer is here, that evocative season when memories of glorious sunny days spent wading in the brook or tromping through the woods flood my mind. Carefree and alive to the world around me, I loved listening to the birds and climbing up the well-worn limbs of favorite trees. Unlike many of today's children, I found my playground in nature.

There are many reasons children today aren't exposed to the out of doors the way my generation was. The conversion of fields and forests to neighborhoods and parking lots tells only a fraction of the story. Most of the problem lies in the fact that we have become an increasingly sedentary society focused on computer and TV screens. Too many adults, though themselves often products of time in the woods, are afraid to let their children loose outdoors.

As Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods*, puts it, "Parents, educators, other adults, institutions – the culture itself – may say one thing to children about nature's gifts, but so many of our actions and messages – especially the ones we hear ourselves deliver – are different. And children hear very well."

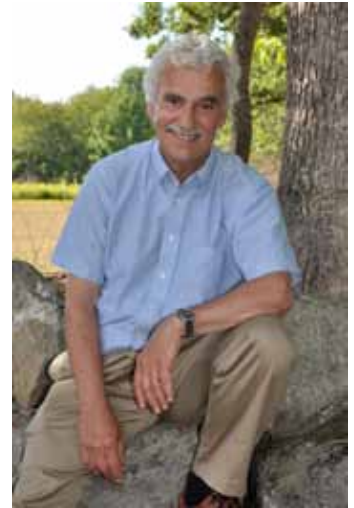
Here at New Hampshire Audubon, I like to think Angie, Kevin, Helen, and the rest of our educators are helping children to hear a different message – a message that instills that sense of awe and wonder for the natural world, while at the same time dispelling fears and myths about the wild. As a result nature becomes something very real, very tangible, and unthinkably interesting.

The earlier we expose children to the natural world and its wild inhabitants, the better. I recently received a note from the parents of a young boy who wrote: "Just a note to THANK YOU! [You] hosted my son's 4th Birthday Party at the McLane Center and we had a GREAT!!! Experience! Kevin did a wonderful job with the kids showing them the turtles and snakes! We highly recommend the Center to anyone looking for a memorable Birthday Party. Thank you Again."

You never know what will spark a child's sense of wonder. But when it's sparked and the child holds out a hand, take it, and join that child for a walk in the woods. You could be creating a passion that will last forever.

Mike

Michael J. Bartlett
 President, New Hampshire Audubon



We need your feedback!

NH Audubon Membership Survey, Summer 2011

Please help us improve our communications with members by completing and returning this brief survey. If you prefer, you may also take the survey online at www.nh Audubon.org/afield-survey.

1. What is your relationship with NH Audubon? (Please check all that apply.)

- NH Audubon member
- Chapter member
- Board of Trustees
- Volunteer
- Program/Camp parent

2. Please indicate your ONE most important reason for supporting NH Audubon.

- To protect birds, wildlife, and habitat
- To protect land
- To support environmental education
- To support environmental policy
- To receive discounts on programs and camps
- To take part in NH Audubon activities
- All of the above

3. How could NH Audubon attract new members?

4. What NH Audubon activities, programs have you participated in? (Please check all that apply.)

- Self-guided visit(s) to NH Audubon center or sanctuary
- Birding activities
- Summer/vacation camps
- Sanctuary tours/field trips
- Chapter programs/field trips
- Family programs/special events
- Preschool/homeschool programs
- Citizen Science/Conservation projects

5. If you have not participated in NH Audubon activities or programs, why? What could we do or offer that would make you consider participating?

Please turn over to page 4 for remainder of survey. ➡

NH Audubon Membership Survey, continued

6. How would you rate NH Audubon's communications with members?

- Excellent Fair
 Very good Poor
 Good

7. Why?

8. How do you follow NH Audubon news and program information? (Please check all that apply.)

- Afield (this printed newsletter)
 E-field (monthly electronic newsletter)
 website
 Facebook
 Communications from Chapters

9. Do you have access to email? Yes No

10. How much time do you spend with Afield (this printed newsletter) each issue? (Please check ONE.)

- I review each page and note the content and activities of interest to me.
 I go directly to the Center or Chapter page(s) of interest to me.
 I give the newsletter a quick glance.
 The newsletter goes directly from my mailbox to my recycling bin.

9. How would you like to see Afield changed? (Please check all that apply.)

- I do not feel it needs to be changed.
 I would like to see news items related to conservation.
 I would like to see news items related to environmental policy.
 I would like to see more detailed program/activity information.
 I would like to see less detailed program/activity information.
 I would like to see more pictures.
 I would rather stop receiving the printed Afield and get all my information electronically.
 I would like to see the design/layout changed.

10. How do you think Afield could be improved?

11. Do you have any further comments you would like to share? (Please use additional paper if needed.)

If you do not already receive electronic communications from NH Audubon, and would like to, please write your **name** and **email address** here: _____

Would you also like to receive your membership renewal notices by email? Yes No

Thank you for your feedback! Please return survey to: NH Audubon Membership Survey,

84 Silk Farm Rd., Concord, NH 03301



In Memoriam

Robert Rathbone, NH Audubon Honorary Trustee, passed away at age 95 on February 23, 2011 after a long and productive life. A teacher, technical writer and editor for the Whirlwind early computer project at MIT, and later Professor of Technical Communications on the MIT faculty, Robert Rathbone was also an avid bird watcher. He was an active Audubon member in the 1950s and served on the Board of Trustees for 10 years, from 1960 to 1970, for several of those years as Vice-President.

It was during Bob's tenure as Chair of the Sanctuaries Committee that Audubon acquired 44 acres at Paradise Point on Newfound Lake from the NH Charitable Foundation, as he wrote in the 1967 NH Audubon Quarterly, "the culmination of some eighteen months of conferences, research, proposals, and visits to the area by the Society [Audubon Society of NH, today d.b.a. NH Audubon]." According to Barbara Richards, then Audubon president Tudor Richard's wife, "Paradise Point wouldn't have happened without Bob." Within two years, the shell of the Paradise Point Nature Center was up, thanks to financial and building-skills support of members, friends, and – importantly again - Bob.

Years later, when Bob visited Paradise Point, former center director Dorothy Zug remembers their "lively discussions," and he made a contribution on the spot for some work that needed to be done at the Center!" His interest in the Center never failed, nor did his interest in NH Audubon. Robert Rathbone left a legacy gift to NH Audubon, an act that speaks volumes of his love of birds and commitment to the organization he served so well.

We learned of his passing from his daughter, Anne Rathbone Winskie of Washington state.

Mark your calendar now: 97th Annual Meeting: October 8

NH Audubon's 97th annual meeting will be held Saturday, October 8. Join other NH Audubon members and friends for a day of field trips, Audubon updates, and a fascinating presentation by Smithsonian research scientist Peter Marra, a conservation scientist at the Smithsonian Institution's Conservation Biology Institute since 1999. Pete's research in conservation ecology has focused on bird migration, disease, and urban ecology. Communicating his excitement for the conservation of wildlife to the public through involving them in all aspects of his research is a high priority. His papers have appeared in *Science*, *Nature*, *PNAS*, *PLOS Biology*, *Proceedings of the Royal Society*, *Conservation Biology*, *Ecological Monographs*, *Biological Conservation* and *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*.

Check out the *Fall Afield* or www.nh Audubon.org for location information and more details.

HAVE A SUMMER AND WINTER ADDRESS?

Help us save on postage costs! Receive NH Audubon news all year long by sending us your summer and winter addresses along with the dates that you reside at each location. No interruption in your mail and a great savings to us. Please call (603) 224-9909, Ext. 310, or email kpalfy@nh Audubon.org with this information.

Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center

FISHWAYS FUNDAYS

(for children ages 4-5, accompanied by an adult)

10-11 am or 1-2 pm

Cost: \$5 per family, advance registration with payment required

Get Ready – GROW!

June 22

What makes plants so special? What do they need to grow? We'll explore outdoors, play games and plant seeds to learn about the magic of growing.

Dragons and Damsels... Flies, That is

August 3

From larva to adult, dragonflies and damselflies are amazing creatures! Learn all about these beautiful insects as we search for some around the Fishways.

What's Under Our Feet?

August 17

Join us as we go on a fun-filled adventure to our local forest and discover what lives on the forest floor. We will meet at the Fishways and caravan to Hackett Hill (5 min drive).

FAMILY FRIDAY NIGHTS

(Programs are for all ages and focus on the Merrimack River and its watershed)

Cost: \$5 per family, advance registration with payment required

Dirt, Worms, and Super Soil

June 10, 7-8pm

Meet some hard working worms, discover the wonders of dirt, and start composting with your family this summer. Turn your food scraps into soil and create a small indoor or outdoor compost bin. It's simple, fun, and can help the environment in a big way.

Incredible Insects

June 24, 7-8pm

Get ready for an evening of creepy-crawly fun! We'll search for bugs around the Fishways and explore some of their amazing adaptations. Kids are encouraged to bring a live insect to investigate.

Full Moon Hike

July 15, 8-9 pm

Walk through the woods, play games, and use your night vision to see in the dark. Our hike will be filled with lots of fun facts about which animals come out at night and how they find their way around. Group will meet at the Fishways, then drive to Hackett Hill (5 min drive).

Campfire Tales

August 12, 8-9 pm

The Penacook told stories by campfire light, and we will do the same. Listen to traditional Native American tales and enjoy a campfire on the banks of the Merrimack River. Dress appropriately for weather and insects.

SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE FISHWAYS

The 13th Annual Lamprey Appreciation Day

June 4, 10am-3pm

Often mistaken for eels, sea lamprey are the oldest and coolest fish in the Merrimack River. Discover the fascinating life and history of this 'sucker' fish during this one-of-a-kind event. Presentations featuring live sea lamprey will run every half hour. Get sucked into the fun and hold a live, three-foot long sea lamprey!

Cost: \$2 per person or \$5 per family (parents & their own children under age 18). No registration required.

Play in the Woods

August 13, 10:30-11:30am

Get outside with your family on a beautiful summer day. We'll play games and explore the forest. Group will meet at Fishways, then travel together to Hackett Hill (5 min drive). Cost: \$5 per family.

SUMMER VACATION SERIES PROGRAMS

Explorers Programs for ages 5-6

July 5, 12, 19, 26. 10am-noon or 1:30-3:30pm. Cost: \$8 per session/\$30 for all four sessions. Pre-registration with payment required.

Adventurers Programs for ages 7-9

July 6, 13, 20, 27. 10am-noon or 1:30-3:30pm. Cost: \$8 per session/\$30 for all four sessions. Pre-registration with payment required.

July 5, 6: *Drip, Drop, Splash*

Play with water and learn why it is so unique.

July 12, 13: *River Quest*

See how many creatures we can find living along the river. (Requires adult transportation).

July 19, 20: *Fort in the Forest*

Discover what lives on the forest floor and create shelter for creatures big and small. (Requires adult transportation).

July 26, 27: *Bugs and Slugs*

Search for bugs and other creepy crawly critters around the Fishways.

New! Voyagers Programs for ages 10-13

July 25-29. 9am-4pm. Cost: \$30 per session/\$140 for all five sessions. Pre-registration with payment required.

July 25: *Let's Go Fishing*

Learn to fish at Lake Massabesic and Kimball Pond.

July 26: *Explore Nesenkeag Brook*

Bring your boots and muck around searching for critters.

July 27: *Get Away to Pawtuckaway*

Hike the trails and go swimming at the lake.

July 28: *Paddle on Newfound Lake*

Learn to paddle a canoe and enjoy a day on Newfound Lake.

July 29: *Great Bay Day*

Visit the Sandy Point Discovery Center and climb the fire tower for a bird's eye view.

Fletcher Street, Manchester, NH 03105

626-FISH (3474)

NH Audubon's Statewide Offices - The McLane Center

SPECIAL EVENTS

Our Changing Environment: An Evening Lecture Series

Tuesday, July 26, 7–9pm: White Nose Syndrome

Cost: Free

What is white nose syndrome? Which bats does it affect? Where did it come from? How extensive is the damage? What's the prognosis for our remaining bats? Join Susi von Oettingen, Endangered Species Biologist with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, for an in-depth look at this devastating disease and its effects on our native bat population. Afterwards, see bats in the evening sky (if we're lucky).

Refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, August 17, 7–9pm: Climate Change - How Might it Impact New Hampshire? Are we ready?

Cost: Free

What impacts are scientists predicting from climate change in New Hampshire? What are environmental and public health professionals doing to prepare for these impacts? On the local level, what are communities doing to prepare themselves? Join Sherry Godlewski of the Air Resources Division, NH Department of Environmental Services, for an overview of issues related to our changing climate and responses to them here in the Granite State.

Refreshments will be served.

**84 Silk Farm Road,
Concord, NH 03301 224-9909**



SUMMER CAMP 2011

- Programs for Ages 4-15 in Auburn & Concord
- NEW!!! One-week sessions all summer
- Spend summer days in the great outdoors
- Explore the natural world
- Games, crafts, live animals, and more!

DATES

Session #1: June 27-July 1, Avian Adventures

Session #2: July 5-8 (4 Days), Cycles of Life

Session #3: July 11-15, NH Ecosystems

Session #4: July 18-22, Fields and Forest

Session #5: July 25-29, Keepers of the Earth

Session #6: August 1-5, Survival Week

Session #7: August 8-12, Insect Investigations

Full session descriptions available online.

PROGRAMS

Wonders Camp (Ages 4-5): 9am–noon

Available Sessions #1, #3, and #5 only

This ½ day session gives your child the opportunity to begin experiencing the wonders of camp. Our instructors develop age appropriate activities that connect your little one to the natural world.

Discovery Camp (Ages 6-9): 9am–4pm

Come spend the day exploring the fields, forest, and wetlands that surround each camp location. Activities include hiking, ponding, craft making, storytelling, and interactive nature based games.

Explorer's Camp (Ages 10-12): 9am–4pm

Older campers will explore the beauty of NH by taking field trips around the state each day. Trips may include canoeing, hiking, and swimming. Visit NH Audubon sanctuaries and other natural areas to discover what makes NH's environment so special.

Leaders-in-Training Program (Ages 13-15): 9am–4pm

Participants work alongside camp counselors with younger campers to hone their skills as leaders. Learn how to plan the day's activities and maintain the safety of your group.

Visit www.nhaudubon.org to download camp brochures & registration forms, and to make camp payments online.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Intro to Pelagic Wildlife

Saturday, June 4, 3–4pm

Cost: \$5 (free to those attending Pelagic Trip on June 6th)

Leader: Jon Woolf

Come see a brief slideshow about some of the wildlife you might see just off NH's coast. We'll teach you how to identify some of our common pelagic birds as well as a few of our commonly sighted whale species.

Pelagic Trip, Location: Rye Harbor, NH

Monday, June 6, 8am–5pm

Cost: \$65 M/\$85 NM

Join NH Audubon aboard MV Granite State as we explore Jeffreys Ledge, 20 miles off the NH coast. Spend all day at sea, searching the length of Jeffreys Ledge for pelagic seabirds, whales, dolphins, and anything else that happens to cross our course. Once you register, you will receive confirmation and further information. Participants need to meet for departure from Rye Harbor at 8am. Maximum: 50

Coastal Bird Trips

Wednesdays, June 15, July 20, August 17, 9am–2:30pm

Cost: \$6 M/\$9 NM per trip

Enjoy birding the NH coast with trip leader JoAnn O'Shaughnessy. Meet at the Hampton Beach State Park parking lot at 9 and carpool from there to coastal hot spots. Lunch is not provided, but the group will stop at a local restaurant to cap off the morning's adventure. Meet at 7:45 am in the Massabesic Audubon parking lot if you want to carpool with other participants to Hampton. Maximum of 24 people.

Soap Workshop

Saturday, July 9, 1–3pm

Cost: \$15 M/\$25 NM, plus \$5 materials fee

Leader: Barbara Benton, Little Cabin Crafts

Come join us for a demonstration of making hand-crafted soap using all natural ingredients and essential oils. Follow the entire process: the selection of recipe and ingredients, the choice of utensils and equipment, mixing and pouring into a mold. Watch a recently processed batch being cut into bars using a guitar string. Take home a finished soap bar from a previously cured batch.

Tern Colony Cruise

Saturday, July 30, 6:45–8:45 am (Rain date August 6)

Cost: \$32 M/\$37 NM

Join us on a very special opportunity: a two-hour trip out to the Isles of Shoals to see a unique gem of New Hampshire wildlife: the Seavey Island tern colony, the only place on the East Coast where you can see three tern species at once. Meet at Rye Harbor Marina at 6:30 am to ensure a 6:45 am departure. Minimum of 12 participants to run, maximum of 16.

Pre-registration required for all programs. Call 668-2045 to register.

Shorebirds Talk

Saturday, August 20, 2–4pm

Cost: \$5 (FREE if attending Shorebirds Field Trip)

Leader: Jon Woolf

Come learn about shorebirds, some of the most interesting and most puzzling birds we see in New Hampshire. Study the features and field marks of common plovers and sandpipers in the classroom and learn how to identify many of the species that populate New Hampshire's shorelines. Join us for a field trip to the coast to put your new knowledge to the test.

Shorebirds Field Trip

Sunday, August 21, 8:30am–12:30pm

Cost: \$10 M/\$15 NM

Leader: Jon Woolf

Join us as we travel to a few of New Hampshire's beaches to study the various species of sandpipers and plovers that call our coastlines home. Meet at the Massabesic Center at 7:30 am to carpool or meet at Hampton Harbor at 8:30. Bring a bag lunch and prepare to be outside! Binoculars will be provided.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

NEW!! Massabesic's "Passport to Adventure"

Families will follow clues that will lead to various locations around the Audubon Center and its trails where they will find a stamp that can be used to stamp their passport. After following all the clues and finding all the stamps, families will have their name added to the Passport Adventure Wall of Fame and will be entered into a drawing to win a prize! Passports are available at two levels- "Junior" for beginners and "Explorer" for experienced hikers. The Passports are \$2.00 each and can be purchased at the front desk. Call 603-668-2045 for more information.

Fairy and Gnome Houses

Saturday, July 16, 1–3pm

Cost: Families \$10 M/\$15 NM

Leaders: Karen Lincoln and Holly Oliver

Get outside and try to entice these magical woodland creatures by building them little habitats. We'll use natural materials such as pine cones, bark, twigs, rocks, and whatever else we might find in our woods. Girls and boys are encouraged to dress in their favorite fairy, elf, and butterfly costumes or wings.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Dragonfly Workshop

Saturday, July 23,
1–3pm

Cost:

Individuals-\$7
M/\$10 NM;
Families-\$15
M/\$25 NM

Leader: Angie
Krysiak, Program
Naturalist

Come watch a slide show about these beautiful and beneficial insects, then head outside to learn the art of catching dragonflies! We'll learn tricks to catching and handling, as well as how to identify some of our most common species. You can even volunteer in a citizen science project to help catalog various species around the state.



Campfire Sing-A-Long

Saturday, August 13, 6–8pm

Cost: Families \$10 M/\$15 NM

Leader: Karen Lincoln

What could be better than roasting marshmallows and singing songs around a campfire on a warm summer evening? Join local entertainer Karen Lincoln for campfire favorites. Bring an instrument to share or just enjoy the music with the whole family.

Exhibit

Loving the Land: An exhibit of plein air works by members of NH PleinAir Artists: May 3–June 17

NHPleinAir Artists is a group of artists who paint en plein air (from French, meaning to paint from life outdoors). Paintings in this exhibit represent a variety of locations throughout the NH, MA, & ME area in a range of styles, and 30% from the sale of each painting will be donated to the Massabesic Audubon Center. In addition to painting at purely scenic locations throughout the area, the group also paints at historic sites, State Parks, and participates in fund raiser paint-outs as often as possible and holds exhibits of their works at historic or conservation-related host venues. To learn more about the group, please visit their website at www.nhpleinair.com

Outdoor Ventures

A unique partnership of Catholic Medical Center's Prime Time (50+) program, Deb Sugerman of Experiential Concepts and NH Audubon brings you this engaging program series. You get an unbeatable opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in the company of like-minded people. Outdoor Ventures will take you to new heights and depths all over the state of New Hampshire, and beyond, with hikes, bikes, snowshoes, skis, and kayaks. For everyone from beginner to expert, just look for your experience level. **Call 626-2626 (Ask-a-Nurse) to register.**

Beginner Hike: June 9; 10am–2pm

Joe English Reservation, Amherst

The Joe English Reservation is the largest and best known conservation property in Amherst. We will hike on the rolling wooded Hammond Brook trail, observing deciduous and evergreen trees, brooks and ponds, and hopefully some beaver, migratory waterfowl, moose and deer. This area is close to home – a spectacular hidden spot! The trip is rated beginner because the hike is approximately 2 miles round trip on mild terrain. Trip cost: \$20.

Beginner Touring Kayak Lessons and Trip: July 14, 10am–3pm

Contoocook River, Concord

Learn how to paddle a kayak or perfect your strokes in this instructional trip on the scenic Contoocook River. We will meet at Contoocook River Canoe Company where you can rent a boat if needed. After learning basic kayak strokes and maneuvers we will paddle to upriver toward Daisy Beach. Trip cost: \$20. Boat rental: \$21. Launching fee if not renting: \$3.

Intermediate Kayak: July 21, 10am–3pm

Lake Massabesic, Auburn

Paddle the remote stretches of Lake Massabesic – explore places where few people venture. If weather permits, interested paddlers can practice kayak rescues with the instructors. This is a good trip to improve your kayaking skills! Trip cost: \$20. Boat rental: \$25.

**Intermediate Touring Kayak Trip: August 18, 1–5pm
Portsmouth Harbor, Portsmouth**

This intermediate trip includes paddling approximately 8 miles on a tidal river and up into Portsmouth Harbor. We will stop at the Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion for a short tour. You must have kayaking experience to attend this trip. Trip cost: \$20. Boat rental from Portsmouth Kayak Adventures: \$45. Launch fee if not renting: \$5

**Beginner Kayak Trip: August 25, 10am–3pm
Merrimack River, Concord**

Observe the native swallows nesting in the high sand banks as you paddle a beautiful 5 mile stretch of the Merrimack River. Last year we watched a bald eagle while we ate lunch – he promised to be there again this year! Trip cost: \$36 (includes boat shuttle from Contoocook River Canoe Company). Boat rental: \$20

The Garden Buzz: News from the 4-H Children's Teaching Garden at Massabesic

Every day is a glorious day at the 4-H Children's Teaching Garden located at the Massabesic Audubon Center and 2011 is proving to be a great year for having wonderful staff, volunteers, community supporters and new partners.



So what's new for the garden this year?

- **Warm Welcome and Thanks:** First, a warm welcome to all of our new Garden Crew and Garden Docent volunteers and our new partner Plus Company, serving developmentally disabled adults and youth in southern NH/Merrimack Valley Area. We can all use volunteers here at Massabesic, whether in the garden or for the Centers programs, so consider sharing some of your time/talents here, whether with Angie Krysiak "on the trails" or with Julia in the garden.
- **New Arbor:** Take a look at the new entry arbor and thank volunteers Jim Barbaro, Norm Belanger and our National ABLE staff, Jim Pollard for the great work. It provides a wonderful frame now, not only as an entrance but as a lovely gathering place for weddings and special events.
- **Shared Harvest:** While the season is in full swing, we encourage you to join our Shared Harvest initiative and go and get to know your local food pantry and consider donating some of your fresh produce. You can locate the pantry near you by checking out the NH Food Bank website (nhfoodbank.org) or contacting your local church group. Talk to them and find out about what they need, how they'd like it delivered and what time is best for delivery. Let us know if you would like to participate by contacting Julia Steed Mawson at gardensforall@unh.edu so that we can register you as a Shared Harvest partner. Become a "community of practice" with us, ready and willing to learn more from each other about how best to work with our NH Food Bank.
- **Garden Lecture Series:** There's always more to learn in a garden, so consider joining Rockingham County's Master Gardener Coordinator Ron Christie and his Master Gardeners for their monthly garden series at Massabesic. Contact Julia Steed Mawson for the remaining summer and fall dates.
- **Garden Festival: Mark your calendar for August 20**, 10am–3pm and be ready to join this wonderful garden party. We'll celebrate the good work of our 150 inner city and neighborhood 4-H Green Thumb Team youth, their families and agency providers while showcasing our beautiful 2011 gardens. Bring a picnic lunch and be ready to enjoy the peace, beauty and joy of these gardens and their contribution to the community and the NH Food Bank.

For information about the gardens, it's programs and events, contact Julia Steed Mawson 603-660-6373 or e-mail gardensforall@unh.edu. *The 4-H Children's Teaching Garden is an initiative of the NH Common Ground Garden Project, cosponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension 4-H and the Massabesic Audubon Center.*

Summer is here! Are you registered for camp yet?

For details, see page 7 or visit www.nhaudubon.org

Newfound Audubon Center

ABOUT NEWFOUND AUDUBON CENTER

Located on the beautiful northern shore of Newfound Lake, the Newfound Audubon Center is comprised of three wildlife sanctuaries: Paradise Point Nature Center, Ash Cottage at Hebron Marsh Sanctuary and Bear Mountain Sanctuary. The trails at all three sanctuaries are open year-round to bird watchers and hikers, Nordic skiers and snowshoers, and all-around nature lovers. Paradise Point and Hebron Marsh extend to the water's edge, allowing visitors to experience more of Newfound Lake's habitat, while Bear Mountain's hillside habitat exemplifies the beauty of New Hampshire's woodlands. With sanctuary trails open all year long and exciting summertime program offerings, there is always something to do.



Photo by Julie Klett

Download Newfound Summer Program Guide at www.nhaudubon.org

North Shore Road, Hebron NH 03222

603-744-3516

The Loon Center

ABOUT THE LOON CENTER

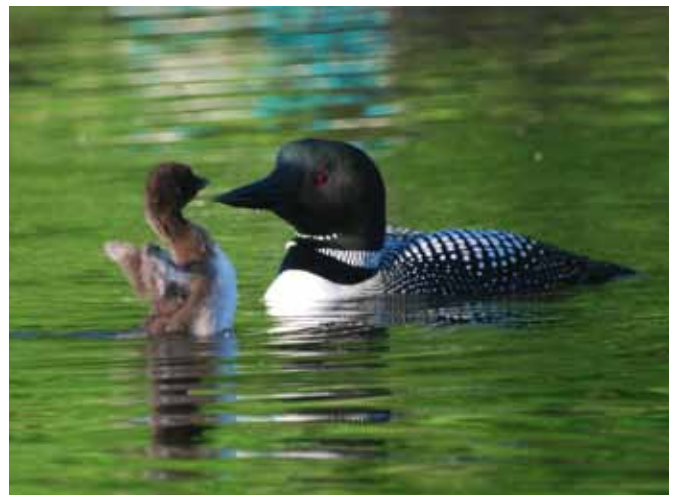
The Loon Center is a self-directed and self-funded constituent organization of NH Audubon located on the 200-acre Markus Wildlife Sanctuary. The Loon Preservation Committee exists to restore and maintain a healthy population of loons throughout New Hampshire; to monitor the health and productivity of loon populations as sentinels of environmental quality; and to promote a greater understanding of loons and the natural world. All gift shop proceeds benefit Common Loon research and preservation in New Hampshire.

Upcoming Events:

June 26 – Summer Gala at Church Landing, Meredith
July 16 – Annual Loon Festival at The Loon Center
July 16 – Annual Loon Census, statewide
August 5 – Tentative date for the Squam Swim 2011
August 15 – Carl R. Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament, Ridgewood CC

Summer Nature Talk Series:

July 7	Loons – The Call of the Wild
July 14	Clean Water Starts in Your Backyard
July 21	Bats
July 28	Northern Forest Songbirds
August 4	History of Hiking the White Mountains
August 11	What's the Buzz on Honeybees?
August 18	Moose on the Loose!
August 25	2011 Loon Season Report & Annual Meeting



Two-week old chick's first wing spread. Photo by Kittie Wilson.

Lees Mills Road, Moultonborough, NH 03254

603-476-5666

Sanctuary Happenings

Ponemah Bog Summer Field Trip Series

Ponemah Bog Wildlife Sanctuary in Amherst, NH is one of New Hampshire's most beloved places. A true bog, this location is an excellent place to observe rare and interesting plant life including carnivorous pitcher plants and sundews, and it is a haven for wildlife, too! Join us for one or more of these free, informal walks – usually lasting under two hours. Some of the following interesting topics will be covered on each walk:

1. The wildlife in the bog, including birds and dragonflies
2. The plants found in the bog and their special adaptations
3. Bog formation and how bogs differ from marshes

Thursday, May 26, 8am Phil Brown, NH Audubon Director of Land Management

Saturday, June 11, 10am Laura Deming, Senior Wildlife Biologist

Saturday, July 9, 8am Friends of the Bog/ Bog Plants and Adaptations

Saturday, July 23, 8am Friends of the Bog

Saturday, July 30, 10am Tom Young, Bird and Dragonfly Enthusiast



Eastern tiger swallowtail feeding on sheep laurel at Ponemah Bog. Photo by Phil Brown

Field Trip: All Things Spring at the Deering Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, June 11, 8–10 am

With Diane DeLuca

Join NH Audubon Biologist, Diane DeLuca, as we explore the spring happenings at the Deering Wildlife Sanctuary. Nearly 1,000 acres in size, the sanctuary is a rich mosaic of ponds, forests, vernal pools, open field, and interconnected wetlands. Combined with adjoining conservation lands there are approximately 3,000 acres of contiguous conservation land at this site. This field trip welcomes all ages as we observe and learn about spring events from vernal pools to bluebirds. We will create a plant and critter list, from bark beetles to beavers to black cherry. Walking will be easy to moderate. This program is presented in cooperation with the Deering Association. Preregistration is required by calling (603) 224-9909.



Bald Mountain from Willard Pond. Photo by Phil Brown

Field Trip: Breeding Birds of Bald Mountain at the Willard Pond Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, July 9, 7–10 am

Join Willard Pond caretaker/naturalists Phil and Julie Brown for a moderately strenuous hike to the summit of Bald Mountain. This spruce-covered highest summit in Antrim is home to several species of warblers including good numbers of blackburnian, magnolia, Nashville, and yellow-rumpeds. Also plentiful are golden-crowned kinglets, dark-eyed juncos, and common ravens which nest on the scenic ledges that the trail traverses. Co-sponsored by the Monadnock Chapter of NH Audubon.

Bring appropriate footwear and bugwear, binoculars, a drink and snack. Contact Phil Brown to RSVP at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or at (603) 525-4096.

Field Trip: Bellamy River Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, July 23, 8–11 am

Join Director of Land Management, Phil Brown, on an informative walk around this exceptional 26-acre wildlife sanctuary, located on a peninsula at the mouth of the Bellamy River. This sanctuary is one of the key parcels in the management effort to protect the state-endangered New England cottontail, and we'll learn about its status and what's being done to conserve it, as well as efforts to restore other early-successional forest species. The wild blueberries should be ripe along the trail, and the coastal maritime charm of this sanctuary promise to call you back for a return visit. Bring appropriate footwear and bugwear (dress for ticks), a cold drink, and a snack. RSVP with Phil Brown at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or at (603) 224-9909x334.

Field Trip: Alice Bemis Thompson Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, August 13, 8–11 am

The Thompson Wildlife Sanctuary in Sandwich is one of NH Audubon's wildest and most ecologically-rich. Diverse types of wetlands, especially those along the sanctuary's most prominent natural feature, Atwood Brook, are premier habitat for moose, bear, bobcat, and other wide-ranging species, as well as rich bird and plant diversity. For these reasons, NH Audubon and other conservation groups have recently targeted its surroundings as a focal point for land conservation efforts. Join Director of Land Management, Phil Brown, the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, and other conservation partners, to explore some of the most interesting parts of this sanctuary and surrounding conservation lands. Bring appropriate footwear and bugwear, a cold drink, and a snack, and be prepared for a small amount of bushwhacking. RSVP with Phil Brown at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or at (603) 224-9909x334.

Volunteer Opportunities

Summer Field Surveys with the Conservation Department

Swallow Colony Reporter

Project Swallow CORE is looking for field volunteers to check the status of historic nesting colonies and monitor active colonies for four species: Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Bank Swallow, and Purple Martin. You will need to be able to identify swallows and have a pair of binoculars. You can also monitor your own Barn Swallow colony or other local swallow colonies. Reporting will be done primarily through NH eBird but we are revising procedures based on the 2010 pilot year. If you are interested, contact Becky Suomala, bsuomala@nhaudubon.org, 603-224-9909 x309. For more on Swallow CORE, see the web page: <http://www.nhaudubon.org/swallow-core>.

Nighthawk Watches

Project Nighthawk volunteers help locate and monitor Common Nighthawks in the Concord area. In addition to three coordinated watches each summer, we are also recording behavior at sites where a male is displaying, and hopefully monitoring nesting (if we have a pair). Volunteers typically watch at one site from 8-9:30 pm (unless you'd like to get up early and watch from 4-5:30 am!). Inexperienced volunteers can be paired with experienced watchers. Time commitment is variable, but we do request a minimum commitment of two evenings from new volunteers. If you are interested, contact Becky Suomala, bsuomala@nhaudubon.org, 603-224-9909 x309. For more on Project Nighthawk, see the web page: <http://www.nhaudubon.org/project-nighthawk>

Concord in-office Volunteer Opportunities

Office Assistant. This position involves a wide variety of office tasks primarily for New Hampshire Bird Records and other publications. Tasks depend on the needs and the person's experience but will include writing letters, checking e-mail, printing and compiling documents, assisting with publication preparation, and helping with mailings (including labeling, copying, stuffing envelopes, and preparing bulk mail). Some experience with computers (including e-mail) and good attention to detail is required. The position requires a half day, once a week, in the Concord office. If you are interested, contact Becky Suomala, bsuomala@nhaudubon.org, 603-224-9909 x309.

Project Assistant for Swallow CORE. We are looking for a person interested in becoming an important part of this new project. Tasks include communicating with field volunteers, entering sightings into eBird, and managing the swallow colony registry. Conducting swallow colony monitoring in the field is also included (to better understand the process and volunteer activities) but the extent can vary. Tasks may change as the project evolves. Training will be provided but volunteer must be able to operate independently. Familiarity with computers is required, and preferably experience with Word, Excel, and eBird. Most suitable for a volunteer interested in becoming more involved with a single project and taking a significant role in the project's operation over the longer term. The position requires a half day, once a week, in the Concord office. If you are interested, contact Becky Suomala, bsuomala@nhaudubon.org, 603-224-9909 x309.

Chapter Happenings

CAPITAL AREA

Field Trip: Locke Road, Concord Saturday, June 11, 7 am

Join Rob Woodward at Locke Road in East Concord off Portsmouth Street, Exit 16 to search for summer breeding birds in woods, wetlands, fields, and river in one of Concord's largest conservation areas. Contact: Rob Woodward at 224-0889 (evenings).

Field Trip: Caps Ridge Trail, White Mountains Saturday, June 25, 7 am

One of the best places in NH to find boreal species such as Gray Jay, Boreal Chickadee, Black-backed Woodpecker, and the regional endemic Bicknell's Thrush. Meet at the trailhead at 7:00 am. Contact: Rob Woodward at 224-0889 (evenings) for directions.

Field Trip: Dragonfly Trip to Salem, NH

Saturday, July 9, 9 am (Raindate, Sunday, July 10)

2011 marks the final year of NH Audubon's "NH Dragonfly Survey," and one of the project's goals this year is to improve coverage in selected areas of the state. One of these areas is southeastern NH along the Massachusetts border, hence a visit to Salem. The trip will check out a variety of wetlands including World End Pond (also a good waterfowl site during migration) and the Spicket River. Come prepared to get your feet wet and see some cool bugs. Bring a net if you have one to help collect valuable data! Meet at McLane at 9:00 a.m., bring a lunch or snacks. Trip will conclude in mid-afternoon. Contact: Pam Hunt at biodiva@myfairpoint.net or 753-9137

Field Trip: Canoeing/Birding on the Merrimack River Saturday, July 30, 1 pm - Ends at dusk. (Pre-registration required, but no cost)

Bring your canoe or kayak and join us for an afternoon of drifting down the Merrimack River from Boscawen to Penacook as we look for birds along the way. We'll stop at a beach or sandbar for a swim. Bring snacks or a light meal, as we will be on the river until evening. Pre-registration is required for this trip (but no cost). Meet at the Hannah Dustin Park 'N Ride on Route 4 West, off I-93 Exit 17. Contact Bob Quinn at raqbirds@aol.com.

Field Trip: Early Fall Warblers of Webster Saturday, August 27, 8-11 am

Many warblers and other fall migrants are on the move before the end of August and we will spend the morning in a variety of habitats that should result in at least a dozen species of warblers. We will walk several miles on roads and easy trails. Meet at the Webster elementary school at 8:00 AM. Contact Bob Quinn at raqbirds@aol.com.

LAKES REGION CHAPTER

Program and Annual Meeting Thursday, June 2, 5:30pm

Hors d'oeuvres and pot luck supper will be followed by a brief business meeting at 7 pm
Program at 7:30 pm: Bhutan's Birds and People
Intrepid birders and Tuftonboro summer residents Bob and Dana Fox will present a slide program featuring the birds and culture of Bhutan.
The Loon Center on Lees Mill Rd. Moultonborough.
Handicapped accessible.
Contact: The Loon Center at 476-5666

Field Trip: Sandwich Area Sunday June 5, 7-10am

We'll look for breeding birds in the Sandwich area. Bring binoculars and bug repellent. Waterproof shoes may be helpful. Meet at the parking area at the end of Diamond Ledge Road, about 2.5 miles from the blinker in Center Sandwich
Contact: Tony Vazzano, tvazzano@ncia.net or 284-7718



Canada Darner, Photo by Pam Hunt

MONADNOCK CHAPTER

Field Trip: Twilight for Nighthawks

Wednesday, June 8, 8 pm (Rain date is Thursday June 9.)

Join leaders Ken Klapper and Brett Amy Thelen as we stop, look and listen for Common Nighthawks in the evening sky on an hour-long walk through downtown Keene (one of only two cities in New Hampshire where Nighthawks still breed). Along the way we'll learn about the curious courtship and the unique urban nesting habits of this endangered species, and discuss innovative efforts by AVEO and NH Audubon to restore nighthawk nesting habitat in Keene and Concord. Meet by 8 pm in front of Keene State's Carroll House, 238 Main Street, in Keene.

Field Trip: Warblers and Thrushes Along Mount Monadnock's Pumpelly Trail

Sunday, June 12, 8 am

Meet experienced birding leader and NH Audubon Trustee, Tom Warren, at 15 Pumpelly Lane in Dublin at 8 am. We will hike a moderately strenuous section of the Pumpelly Trail from the trailhead to the first ridge.

MONADNOCK CHAPTER, continued

Field Trip: Breeding Birds of Bald Mountain

Saturday, July 9, 7–10 am

Join Willard Pond caretaker/naturalists Phil and Julie Brown for a moderately strenuous hike to the summit of Bald Mountain. **See page 12 for details.**

NASHAWAY CHAPTER

Programs

Held in the Theater Room of the Nashua Public Library

Tuesday, June 14, 7–9 pm

New Hampshire's Wild History: 350 Years of New Hampshire Wildlife

(Speaker TBD) This slide presentation by the UNH Cooperative Extension takes participants on a virtual journey through New Hampshire's past, focusing on changes in the land and how wildlife populations have responded over time. You'll learn why changes in habitat in our past are behind the decline of many of our rarest species today, and why others are more abundant than in the past. You'll also learn what you can do to help. Presentation includes handouts and other helpful materials. Contact: Richard Maloon 424-5621 or richard.maloon@att.net

Field Trips

Sunday June 12, 6–11am: Benson Park, Hudson

Formerly the site of Benson's Wild Animal Farm, Benson Park is now officially open as a park for passive recreation. Although no longer home to exotic animals, this site has been reclaimed by a wide variety of flora and fauna. Join our trek over the trails that wind through the pastoral and wild habitats of this historic site. Plant and wildlife enthusiast of all interests and abilities are welcome. Meet in the main parking lot off Kimball Hill Road. Contact: Richard Bielawski 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com.

Ponemah Bog Walks

These informal guided tours introduce visitors to the bog's distinctive plants and wildlife, including birds and dragonflies. Leaders will explain their special adaptations and the natural history that distinguishes the bog from other wetlands. **See page 12 for details.**

Contact: Jack Gleason 673-3177 or jgleason10@netzero.net

Become a Friend of Ponemah Bog

We need caring volunteers to assist Jack in monitoring the bog by walking the trails and boardwalk one time per month and reporting to Nashaway Chapter Sanctuary Chairperson. To help, please contact Jack Gleason 673-3177 or jgleason10@netzero.net.



A walk at Ponemah Bog.

SEACOAST CHAPTER

Program: Cuba: Beaches, Buicks and Bee Hummingbirds

Wednesday, June 8, 7pm: refreshments; 7:30pm: meeting

Cuba is the largest island in the Caribbean and accounts for more than half of the land area in the West Indies. Not unexpectedly, it has a rich avian fauna with many Caribbean specialties including over twenty endemic species. It is also an important wintering ground for many Neotropical migrants. On top of that, it is home to a vibrant population of people who, despite a half century of political isolation from our country, share many things with us, not the least of which is an enthusiasm for automobiles and baseball. Chapter member, David Donsker, recently completed a bird survey of Cuba with the Delaware Valley Ornithological Society. He will share his impressions of the island and its many special birds. The program will be held at the Seacoast Science Center, Odiorne Point State Park, 570 Ocean Boulevard, Rye.

Program: Summer Picnic

Wednesday, July 13, 6 pm: Bird Walk, 7 pm: Picnic

Our Annual Summer Picnic. Bring your own beverage and a food dish to share. Photos, stories, and other fun. Bird walk will be held, weather permitting. The program will be held at the Seacoast Science Center, Odiorne Point State Park, 570 Ocean Boulevard, Rye.

Program: Live Animal Show, Center for Wildlife

Date and time to be determined. The program will be held at the Seacoast Science Center, Odiorne Point State Park, 570 Ocean Boulevard, Rye.

Field Trips: Monthly field trips will be announced on www.seacoastchapter.org



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We are trying to streamline our mailing list. If you are unable to attend programs or no longer wish to receive program-related information, or prefer to receive electronic communications from NH Audubon, please call (603)224-9909 or email emedia@nhaudubon.org

New Partnership with Grappone - Potential Boost Memberships and Sales

NH Audubon and the Grappone Automotive Group have teamed together to meet a shared goal of environmental protection. For the period April through September, Grappone Auto Group will offer a free NH Audubon membership to patrons who purchase a high full economy, low emissions car from one of their dealerships. Any new or used vehicle that meets Granite State Clean Cars label requirements qualifies. Granite State Clean Cars have a highway fuel economy of at least 30 mpg and emissions ratings ranging from "Low Emission Vehicle" (LEV) to "Partial Zero Emissions Vehicle" (PZEV). Located off I-89 in Bow, Grappone offers Ford, Honda, Hyundai, Mazda, Scion, and Toyota vehicles. To participate, the buyer needs to complete an NH Audubon membership application form, add the stock number of the purchased vehicle to demonstrate proof of purchase, and either mail the form to NH Audubon or drop it in the box for applications in the dealership showroom.

Now prospective buyers can add an NH Audubon membership to rising gas prices and environmental concerns as incentives to purchase a more environmentally friendly vehicle.

Corporate Partner Spotlight

Grappone Automotive Center is a family-owned and operated dealer group in business in Concord since 1924.



Grappone sells Ford, Honda, Hyundai, Mazda, Scion and Toyota vehicles, as well as a variety of used cars and trucks. Grappone also operates a full-service collision center. Conscious of their environmental footprint, Grappone Collision has reduced its volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions by 40% by changing the type of base coat paint used. The company is seeking LEED certification for its renovations to the Toyota building and will use geothermal energy to heat this and other buildings in its Bow Junction complex.

OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

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If you would like to become a Corporate Partner of NH Audubon, please contact us at (603) 224-9909, ext. 307.