

# Afield

NH AUDUBON PROGRAMS AND EVENTS  
SPRING (March-April-May) 2011

## NH Audubon's annual Birdathon will be held on Saturday, May 21

The 18 teams that participated in last year's event located 195 species of birds in one day across New Hampshire! Help us meet the challenge by topping 200 species in 2011.

Join in the fun as teams try to see as many species of birds as possible within a given time period and location. Several returning teams and NH Audubon Chapters have already offered their returning participation, and the list of teams is expected to grow.

Some teams travel the state by car for 24 hours straight in search of the coveted 'Big Day' record of 170 species; some cover their favorite local park or NH Audubon sanctuary for a leisurely morning; some even bike around parts of their entire town or county looking to best last year's totals.



The Birdathon is a terrific opportunity for novice birders to get out with the experts and for the experts to set their mark a little bit higher. It is also a fundraiser for NH Audubon's Chapters and wildlife sanctuaries (last year's Birdathon brought in almost \$8,000!).

There are categories to fit every level of interest and experience, as well as expert-led teams in various locations. Additionally, there will once again be great prizes awarded in this friendly competition that focuses on New Hampshire's strong birding community. In this competition, everyone wins!

Contact your local NH Audubon Chapter to see how you can participate, or contact Phil Brown at 224-9909x334 or pbrown@nhaudubon.org for contest rules and information, and to register your team. We look forward to seeing you on the Big Day!

**May 21, various locations around the state**

**May 22, 5 pm: Potluck dinner & awards celebration at the McLane Center**

**\$10M/\$15NM per person suggested donation; all donations go to NH Audubon Chapter or Sanctuary of your choice**

### Categories:

- 1) Human-powered – non-motorized transport (foot, bike, canoe, etc)
- 2) Chapter area (except for Seacoast Chapter\*)
- 3) Seacoast Chapter area
- 4) Statewide
- 5) Youth (for teams whose members are ages 16 and younger)
- 6) Single Location (NHA Sanctuary or "Big Sit")

### Inside Afield

Springtime fun for families & outdoor enthusiasts!

- Vacation Camp for ages 6–10
- Sanctuary tours & celebrations
- Fish season
- J.J. Audubon's 226<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party
- Earth Day Festivities
- Survival Series
- Spring Birding Field Trips

Much more inside...



## From the President's Desk

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*Afield* is published quarterly by NH Audubon.

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

Banner photo by John Hession.

Dear Friends,

Spring is finally coming into focus and with it we welcome our breeding birds back to New Hampshire. Of particular note is the return of our peregrine falcons and bald eagles.

When peregrine falcon recovery efforts got underway in New Hampshire some 30 years ago, there was one pair of territorial birds, and just two young. Last year, NH Audubon raptor biologist Chris Martin recorded 16 territorial pairs and a record 35 young!

Bald eagles have made an even more amazing comeback. Twenty-five years ago there were NO territorial pairs in the state. Last year a record 22 pairs made New Hampshire their home. While the biggest concentration of nests is in the Lakes Region, eagles now breed throughout the state, including 10 pairs on the Connecticut River. Truly remarkable news.

This year our staff and volunteers will continue monitoring bald eagles the “old fashioned way” with binoculars and spotting scopes. We are also using satellite technology that allows us to ‘ride along’ with an individual bird on its travels, giving us a better understanding of the routes, timing, and risks of migration. And when Manchester’s peregrines return (hopefully) for a tenth year at the Brady-Sullivan Tower, we’ll once again offer a link to live streaming video that you can access through our website, NHAudubon.org. Last year our peregrine pair fledged five young for the camera—the most chicks fledged from a New Hampshire nest since the recovery effort began!

If you’d rather see a peregrine up close (something really hard to do in the wild), come visit our McLane Center. Last fall, wildlife rehabilitator Maria Colby transferred to us a female peregrine that, due to an injury, will never be able to fly. This lovely young bird is fast becoming a wonderful teacher in our Education Department, thanks to patient, caring handling by volunteer Robert Vallières and NH Audubon’s animal care staff. She and other birds of prey live in their mews adjacent to the McLane Center (open daily from 9 AM to 5 PM). Feeding times vary, but if your timing is good, you (and the birds!) will be in for a real treat!

So, eyes to the skies, and welcome back spring!

Mike

Michael J. Bartlett  
 President, New Hampshire Audubon



PS If you haven’t heard, I am proud to announce that our own Chris Martin was identified by The Hippo (Manchester’s news and culture weekly) as one of the “big players of 2010”. Our work with the state’s raptor population IS headline material—as are our results!

### Call for Award Nominations

Do you know someone who has done outstanding work for conservation, the study of birds, or who has been a tireless volunteer for NH Audubon? Help us recognize them! The Development Committee of the Board of Trustees requests nominations for the Tudor Richards Award, The Goodhue-Elkins Award, and the Volunteer of the Year Award, which will be presented at the upcoming Annual Meeting. Details on the awards, past recipients, and nomination forms are available on the NH Audubon web site—click on About Us or go directly to [www.nhaudubon.org/about/annual-awards](http://www.nhaudubon.org/about/annual-awards).

**Submission deadline is April 1, 2011.** If you have questions contact Margaret Watkins at 603-224-9909 x307 or Becky Suomala x309.

## APRIL VACATION CAMP

**April 25-29, All-day sessions: 9am–4pm**

April Camp is for children ages 6–10 and is held at both Massabesic and McLane Audubon Centers. This camp is the perfect way to prepare for a season of outdoor exploration and discovery. Each day is designed to build the skills of budding naturalists through hands-on activities, storytelling, crafts, games, outdoor exploration, and live animal observation.

**April Camp Fees:** \$40 Members/\$50 Non-members per child per day. Register for individual days or participate in the entire week.



**Monday, April 25: Signs of Spring**

The forest and fields are coming back to life. Learn about the seasonal transitions taking place right outside in the natural world. We will celebrate nature's time of renewal by watching for migrating birds, identifying wildflowers, and searching for other signs of the new season.

**Tuesday, April 26: Earth Day**

Every day at NHA is Earth Day. Today we focus on what makes the planet special and how we can do our part to insure its prosperity in the future.

**Wednesday, April 27: Reptiles and Amphibians**

Spring is a special time for these creatures. They've been sleeping all winter and now it's time to get busy. Meet our resident animals and then head outdoors to discover them in their natural habitat.

**Thursday, April 28: Vernal Pool**

Come discover the importance of vernal pools and who calls them home. Learn about the ecological importance of these temporary bodies of water by visiting existing ones here at NHA.

**Friday, April 29: Raptor Rapture**

Learn about the Raptors that call NH home and what you can do to help support their longevity. Meet our resident Raptors up close and discover what makes them highly efficient birds of prey.

Visit [www.nhaudubon.org](http://www.nhaudubon.org) to download camp brochures & registration forms, and to make camp payments online.

Summer Camp registration opens March 14 for NH Audubon members and March 21 for non-members.

## 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.

# Sanctuary Best Bets for Spring

## **Massabesic Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary Tour & Conservation Celebration**

**Saturday, April 2, 9 am–noon**

Over the winter, NH Audubon (NHA) and the Southeast Land Trust of NH (SELTNH) took successful steps to permanently protect 135 acres of fields, wetlands, and forests behind the Massabesic Audubon Center through a conservation easement. A collaboration of partners, including the Town of Auburn, Manchester Water Works, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the State of NH's Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP), helped make this project possible. Now, the land resources will be managed forever for people and wildlife for recreation, open space, and wildlife habitat.

Join leaders, Phil Brown, Director of Land Management at NHA, and Karin Rubin, Conservation Land Stewardship Manager of SELTNH, for a walking tour and natural history hike of the recently-conserved Massabesic Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary. We'll pay particular attention to the many natural spectacles of spring that can be enjoyed here, such as returning migrant songbirds, breeding amphibians, and the return of life to the forest floor and canopy.

After the walk, come inside to explore the center, and join us for some celebratory refreshments. Bring appropriate footwear for up to 2.5 miles of muddy trails, binoculars, and a drink.

This field trip is free and open to the public. Registration is required -- please contact 603-778-6088 or [info@seltnh.org](mailto:info@seltnh.org).

## **Dahl Wildlife Sanctuary "Grand Reopening"**

**Saturday, April 23, 10 am–2 pm**

Join Director of Land Management, Phil Brown, and partnering organizations on an in-depth hike of an important regional preserve, the Dahl Wildlife Sanctuary. This tiny gem of the Saco River in North Con-



way, a 60-acre parcel of fields, woodlands, and floodplain forest, has seen a complete makeover. Over the past five years, NH Audubon has worked cooperatively with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to remove large stands of invasive plant communities and restore several acres of abandoned agricultural fields to floodplain forest—a rare and declining natural community in NH. Now, the Dahl Wildlife Sanctuary is among the newest of the NRCS Wetland Reserve Program conservation easements.

New and improved trails, signage, and nesting boxes accentuate the natural features such as a new floodplain detention pond and acres of restored native plant communities. Despite its relatively small size, the site is used by numerous species of birds, mammals, reptiles, insects, and fish, and is home to rare plants and natural communities.

A hike of the property's lowland trail system will take visitors through the restoration area, up to the edge of the Saco River, and into a mature silver maple floodplain forest. Bring binoculars, lunch, water, and be prepared for some standing water (we are in a floodplain, after all!). Come help us celebrate the new conservation easement. RSVP with Phil Brown at [pbrown@nhaudubon.org](mailto:pbrown@nhaudubon.org) or at 224-9909x334.

## **Barn Cleanup & Bat Awareness Day at Willard Pond Wildlife Sanctuary**

**Sunday, May 1, 1–4 pm**

Celebrate Earth Week by giving back to the land you love. Join the Friends of Willard Pond in cleaning out the old equipment barn and preparing it for a returning summer colony of brown bats. Aside from the piles of guano, some great treasures will undoubtedly be found! Learn about the bats of this region, the threats that are facing them, and how to help them. For more information, please contact Phil Brown at [pbrown@nhaudubon.org](mailto:pbrown@nhaudubon.org) or call (603) 525-4096.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tudor Richards Memorial FT/ International Migratory Bird Day at Pondicherry Refuge**

**May 14, 7 am at Airport Marsh in Whitefield or 8 am at the Pondicherry main trailhead**

Join leaders, Dave Govatski of the Friends of Pondicherry, and Phil Brown, Director of Land Management for NH Audubon, for a guided bird walk around Airport Marsh in Whitefield and to Cherry Pond in Jefferson.

This annual event commemorates the return of migrating birds and the memory of Tudor Richards, the father of Pondicherry. Bring water, lunch and binoculars. Past field trips have yielded upwards of 100 species of birds! Be prepared to walk 3-5 miles on flat terrain. The event will be held rain or shine. Free IMBD posters for all participants.

In the afternoon we will take a visit to the new Mud Pond Interpretive Trail and walk 1 mile to see the new trail and unique wetlands. For more information contact David Govatski at 586-7776.

## **May Sanctuary Birding Trip Series**

Join Phil Brown, Director of Land Management, each Thursday morning in May for a weekly look at spring bird migration across NH Audubon's wildlife sanctuaries. We will explore various habitats of four of NH Audubon's best-known birding hotspots. Each trip is free and open to the public, but donations to the sanctuaries are accepted. All trips begin at 8 am and end at 10 am.

Pre-registration suggested.

Each trip meets at the sanctuary's kiosk. Bring binoculars and field guide. Heavy rain cancels.

May 5 – Silk Farm – field and shrublands

May 12 – Deering – woodland warblers

May 19 – Willard Pond – nesting loons and pond edge

May 26 – Ponemah Bog – breeding birds and peak blooms

## FISHWAYS FUNDAYS

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

10-11 am or 1-2 pm

Cost: \$5 per family

### March 2: River Critter Tales

This program features captivating stories that will teach us about the special critters that live in and around the Merrimack River. We'll make crafty props and become part of these fun-filled animal tales.

### March 23: Signs of Spring

It may still be chilly, but spring is officially here! As days get longer and the weather gets warmer, life along the river starts to wake up. Explore the outdoors and search for signs of spring.

### April 6: Amazing Amphibians

What is an amphibian and which ones live nearby? What have they been doing all winter? What do they do in spring? Meet live frogs and salamanders, learn how they survive, and try your luck at mimicking frog calls.

### April 20: Incredible Eggs!

Learn which Merrimack River animals lay eggs and discover what their eggs look and feel like. We'll play egg-citing games and even search for signs of animals getting ready to nest near the river.

### May 18: Fin-tastic Voyage: A Fish Season Tour

Join us for a fun program and tour to learn about the incredible migration of some Merrimack River fish. We'll discover what makes these fish special and which fish make this long journey from the ocean.

## FAMILY FRIDAY NIGHTS

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

Cost: \$5 per family

### Urban Mammals Series

Bring the family to this 3-part series and learn about the amazing mammals that live right in the heart of Manchester! We will look at pelts and skulls, play games, and participate in hands-on activities to discover the special qualities of these city critters.

- **March 4, 7-8pm: Raccoons, Opossums, and Skunks, Oh My!**
- **March 18, 7-8pm: Squirrels and Chipmunks Abound**
- **April 1, 7-8pm: Busy Beaver and "Otter" River Mammals**

### April 15, 7-8pm: River Reptiles

Which snakes and turtles live in and around the Merrimack River? Through hands-on activities and observation of live animals, we will discover the special traits of river reptiles.

### May 20, 7-8:30pm: Family Fishstravaganza

Some of our Merrimack River fish travel amazing distances. Find out which go the farthest as we play fish games, make a fish craft, and look for migrating fish in our ladder.

## SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE FISHWAYS

**Predators of the Sky: Live Birds of Prey**

Saturday, March 12

Two presentations: Noon-1:30pm or 2-3:30pm

Cost: \$8 per person /\$20 per family

**Advance payment with registration required.**

Tom Ricardi and his spectacular birds of prey will be our guests. A beautiful bald eagle and a very playful turkey vulture will be two of the birds on hand for close-up viewing! Learn about the great work done by Tom's organization, the Massachusetts Bird of Prey Rehabilitation Facility, which cares for injured birds and operates a successful captive breeding program. For all ages! Location: PSNH 5 Rivers Auditorium, 780 N Commercial St, Manchester NH 03101

**Growing Up WILD Educator Workshop for Parents and Teachers of Young Children**

March 26, 9am - 1pm

Cost: \$40 Pre-registration required.

The creators of Project WILD (a national wildlife education program) have developed a new early childhood education curriculum. This workshop is an introduction to the Growing Up WILD units designed especially for young children, ages 3-7. Through direct exploration, play, and creative activities, teachers and parents will find new ways to get pre school aged children outdoors and excited about learning! Includes a copy of Growing Up Wild: Exploring Nature with Young Children ages 3-7.

### Learn to Fly Fish

For Beginners and Intermediates

Wednesdays, March 30, April 6, 13, 20: 7-9 pm

Cost: \$3 per person for materials

Learn all about equipment, how to tie a fly, strategies and techniques, where fish live and what they eat. The four Wednesday classes will be followed by casting practice at Lake Massabesic. Members of Trout Unlimited certified in the 'Let's Go Fishing' program will be our instructors.

**2011 Fish Festival: Featuring Dash and Splash, Fish Story Walk, Fish Crafts, Hats, and Games**

April 28, 10am-3pm

Cost: \$3 per person or \$6 per family

Line up and cheer on U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologists when they deliver adult broodstock salmon to stock our fish ladder at 10am. The ladder is running but the wild fish have yet to swim up the Merrimack River. While we wait, we stock fish in the ladder for up close and personal underwater viewing. Fishways staff and biologists will be on hand to answer all of your **questions. We will have fish** crafts, fish viewing, fish hats, fish games, and other fishy fun for families.

# Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center

## SPECIAL EVENTS, continued

### Celebrate the 2011 Fish Season!

The Amoskeag Fishways celebrates the 2011 fish migration season May 2nd through June 18th. We will be open seven days a week, 9 am-5 pm. The center will be closed Monday, May 30th, in observance of Memorial Day. Walk-in visitors are always welcome and guided fish season tours are offered to groups of 10-30 participants. For more information about fish season or to schedule a tour, call 626-FISH.

NEW DOCUMENTARY!  
**MOTHER NATURE'S CHILD: Growing Outdoors in the Media Age**  
May 6 7pm-9pm  
FREE

*PSNH 5 Rivers Auditorium*

As an entire generation of children disconnect from the natural world, what will they lose intellectually, emotionally, physically, or spiritually? In poetic words, images, and focused passion, *Mother Nature's Child* captures the essence of the challenges we face.

Join us for a first in the region viewing of this important new film. The filmmakers explore nature's powerful role in children's health and development. The kids are from rural Vermont to the greater Washington, DC area and we hear the voices of many adult experts, from Richard Louv to Brother Yosef Burgess.

A beautiful, moving film for our times. Don't miss it!

"Mother Nature's Child is a fascinating and important film about a real and growing crisis in our country. It also thankfully suggests a solution to the problem which could be the salvation of our planet and posterity." —Ken Burns

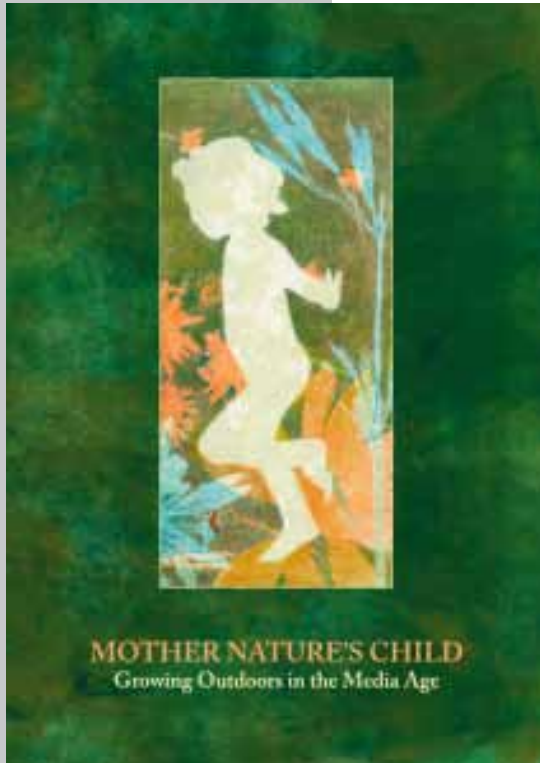
**Mother May I?**  
Saturday, May 7, 10am - 2pm  
Cost: \$8 per basket

Make a simple and beautiful Mother's Day gift. Fill a basket with organic soil and fresh flowers for special mothers and others.

**Spring to Life**  
May 14, 10am-3pm

Cost: \$3 per person, \$6 per family. Add \$4 for each sunflower planted

As the weather gets warmer, plants sprout and bloom, birds, fish and turtles migrate, eggs begin to hatch, insects emerge, and life wakes up along the river. Enjoy a spring celebration filled with games, crafts, and activities for the whole family. Outdoor bird walks, story walks, and flower and bee presentations will be available throughout the day. Help scientist study bees by participating in The Great Sunflower Project. Get outside, grow, discover, and play at this awakening event.



**Science Sleuths: Inquiry Based Science, Technology, and Literacy**  
A Teacher Workshop- Graduate Course  
July 11-22, 2011

This July, the Amoskeag Fishways will be part of a special summer institute with the Museum Institute for Teaching Science, MITS. The 10 day session theme is science investigations and literacy connections, revealing the story of the land and river. For 3rd- 8th grade teachers with graduate credit available. Become a dragonhunter, canoe the Merrimack River, climb Mt. Wachusett, visit Walden Pond, all the while walking in Thoreau's footsteps. Learn how to use science notebooking as a way to enliven science and literacy lessons.

Our regional partners are: Beaver Brook Association, Nashua River Watershed Association, Mass. Dept. of Conservation and Recreation and the Fishways.

For more information go to [www.MITS.org](http://www.MITS.org), [www.amoskeagfishways.org](http://www.amoskeagfishways.org) or call 626-FISH.

### CLASSES FOR HOMESCHOOLERS

**The Science of Creepy Crawlies** for grades 1-3

April 7, 1-2:30pm

Cost: \$8 per student

What do scientists actually do? Students will learn the basic parts of a scientific investigation using critters that are always fun and fascinating: bugs and worms! Observation, questioning, and planning will be included in this enjoyable approach to the process of scientific inquiry.

**Build a Solar Car** for grades 4 and up

April 8, 1-4pm

Cost: \$18 includes car to take home (solar panel must be purchased separately)

Try your hand at building a model car that runs on solar energy. Experiment with car components, learn how solar energy works, and how people can use energy in a variety of ways.

Fletcher Street, Manchester, NH 03105

626-FISH (3474)

# NH Audubon's Statewide Offices - The McLane Center

## FLEDGLING FUN PRESCHOOL CLASSES

These classes are geared towards our budding naturalist. Are you a preschool teacher looking for ways to enhance your student's experiences or a parent looking to give the gift of nature to your child's class? Then these are the programs for you. Combine the program with a visit to the McLane Center or we will travel to your location. Please call 604-224-9909, ext. 333 to arrange a time and date.

Teacher: Kevin Wall  
Available: Year-Round  
Cost: \$125; off-site programs add \$.90 per mile for travel  
Time: 45 minutes  
Group Size: 25

### Birds for Beginners

Introduce children to the basic parts of a bird. See and touch wings, feathers, bones, and beaks. Interactive experiences and a live raptor keep young students engaged.

### New Hampshire Wildlife

Students learn about the diverse animal groups found in New Hampshire through visits with a live snake, turtle, bird, and mounted animals.

## HOMESCHOOL PROGRAM

The McLane Center is excited to announce its new line up of homeschool classes. These programs take place at the McLane Center in Concord or at one of the many New Hampshire Audubon sanctuaries. Classes are geared towards homeschool groups and can be modified to meet the needs of a variety of students including multi-aged groups. Participants will be provided with take home materials that allow them to extend the learning experience beyond the visit. It is the responsibility of the parent/organizer to form the group and collect payment. Please call 603-224-9909, ext. 342 for details.

Leader: Kevin Wall  
Cost: \$150 minimum, for 15 students; \$10 for each additional student, class size limited to 25  
Duration: 1.5 hours

## HOMESCHOOL PROGRAM OPTIONS

### Beavers: Engineers of the Wilderness

**Available: Late April, May and June**

Beavers are well known engineers of North American Forest. This program begins with a look at the role beavers played in the creation of our country and what that meant to their population. Learn what it means to be a keystone species and about the amazing adaptations beavers have made to coexist with humans and other animals on Earth. This program will take place at a NH Audubon sanctuary to be determined closer to the date. Site will be chosen based on current beaver activity.

## BIRDS OF PREY PROGRAM!

**Saturday May 7, Two Shows: noon-1 pm and 2-3 pm**

**Cost:** Individuals \$8 M/\$10 NM; Families \$20 M/\$30 NM

Treat yourself to a close-up look at a live Bald Eagle, Turkey Vulture, and other birds of prey with this exceptional presentation by Tom Ricardi, a licensed rehabilitator and wildlife biologist. Rarely can you get this close to some of these phenomenal birds! Learn about the great work done by the Massachusetts Birds of Prey Rehabilitation Facility, which cares for injured birds and operates a successful captive-breeding program. Tom's groundbreaking work with Bald Eagles has resulted in captive-bred adults reproducing in the wild and captive-bred chicks being adopted into wild nests. Our thanks to Joann O'Shaughnessy for underwriting this program.

This Pink Lady's Slipper was found trailside at the Silk Farm Sanctuary. Which wildflowers will you discover? *Photo by Julie Klett*



**Budding Naturalist:  
Wildflower Identification**  
**Available: Late April, May,  
and June**

This class begins indoors with an introduction to the basic parts of a flower and how they can be used to easily identify most species. We then head out into Silk Farm Sanctuary to practice using various field guides and dichotomous keys to identify what we find.

**Winter Tracking/  
snowshoeing**  
**Available: March, Early  
April (weather permitting)**

Winter is the best time to explore the woods in search of Wildlife. This class focuses on using basic tracking techniques to identify signs of life in the snow. Students are equipped with the tools and knowledge necessary to begin honing their tracking skills. We learn to use clues to help uncover who has been out and about. Snowshoes will be provided if needed.

**Exploring Vernal Pools**  
**Available: Late April, Early May**

This program is offered in early spring once vernal pools emerge. We will visit Brockway Nature Preserve in Hopkinton, NH to explore the many vernal pools in the forest. The focus is on collecting and identifying specimens to determine what life forms are dependent on the vernal pools. Learn the importance of vernal pools in NH Ecosystems and what you can do to help protect them.

84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH 03301

224-9909

# NH Audubon's Statewide Offices - The McLane Center

## FAMILY PROGRAMS

These programs are open to the entire family. Family rates are available. Please call 603-224-9909, ext. 333 to register. Pre-registration is required.

### **Guided Hike Silk Farm Sanctuary**

**Saturday, March 19, 10-noon**

**Cost:** \$10M/\$12 NM

Leader: Kevin Wall

This program will focus on the natural and cultural history of Silk Farm Sanctuary. Come familiarize yourself with this often overlooked natural area. This would be the perfect time for perspective camp families to visit and see where your children would be spending most of their time.

### **Vernal Pool Exploration**

**Saturday, April 16, 10-noon**

**Cost:** \$10 M/\$12 NM

Leader: Kevin Wall

Silk Farm Sanctuary comes to life each spring with these temporary bodies of water. Learn about their significance in the ecosystem. We will visit and observe up-close these unique habitats and search for signs of life.

### **Spring Wildflower Hike**

**Saturday, May 21, 10-noon**

**Cost:** \$10 M/\$12 NM

Leader: Kevin Wall

Come learn the basics of wildflower identification during this hike through Silk Farm Sanctuary. Spring is the perfect time to hone your identification skills and begin preparing for a summer of Discovery.

## SPECIAL EVENT:

**Celebrate John James Audubon's 226<sup>th</sup> Birthday!**

**Sunday April 17, 1-4 PM**

**FREE Program for All Ages**

- Interactive Program
- Birthday Cake
- Guided Trail Walk
- NH Birds Presentation
- Nature-based Crafts for Kids
- Live Animal Appearances

John James Audubon himself (played by Tom Burack, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Services) will be present to celebrate his 226<sup>th</sup> Birthday. This free, family-oriented program features a performance at 3 PM by Mr. Audubon about his life and work, followed by birthday cake. At 1:30 PM, explore McLane Center sanctuary trails with an NH Audubon naturalist or learn about *Attracting and Appreciating Familiar and Not So Familiar Backyard Birds* at an indoor presentation. There will be crafts for children and ongoing demonstrations with live birds and reptiles. All are invited to attend, and children are especially welcome. Wear appropriate clothing for walking.

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

## Massabesic Audubon Center

Download complete details at [www.nh Audubon.org](http://www.nh Audubon.org)

### **WEE WONDRS**

**Tuesdays, 10-11:30am OR Wednesdays, 12-1:30pm**

**Cost:** \$8 M / \$11 NM (per adult/child pair)

Join us for our new spring series! Discover the changing seasons through hands-on activities, songs, crafts, stories, and outdoor discovery. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required.

#### **Spring Session 1: Sensations of Spring**

March 8/9: Sensations of Spring

March 15/16: Whiskers and Hands

March 22/23: Sounds of Spring

March 29/30: Sweet Taste of Spring

April 5/6: Colors and Shapes

April 12/13: What Stinks?!

#### **Spring Session 2: Babies of Spring**

May 3/4: Eggs Left Behind

May 10/11: Kits of a Different Kind

May 17/18: Water Babies

May 24/25: Marsupial Moms

May 31/June 1: Metamorphosing Monarchs

June 7/8: Babies Hidden From View

### **HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS: NEW!!!**

#### **Junior Explorers**

**Wednesdays, 12-1:30pm**

**Cost:** \$8 M / \$11 NM (per adult/child pair)

NEW!! Parents, drop off your older children for a class that can't be beat. We'll explore the natural world with live animals, nature walks, and hands-on activities that follow a different natural theme each day. Classes are for ages 7-12. Pre-registration is required, parents may stay and participate.

#### **Spring Session 1: Sensations of Spring**

March 16: Whiskers and Hands

March 30: Sweet Taste of Spring

April 13: What Stinks?!

#### **Spring Session 2: Spring Babies**

May 4: Eggs Left Behind

May 18: Water Babies

June 1: Metamorphosing Monarchs

**26 Audubon Way, Auburn, NH 03032**

**603-668-2045**

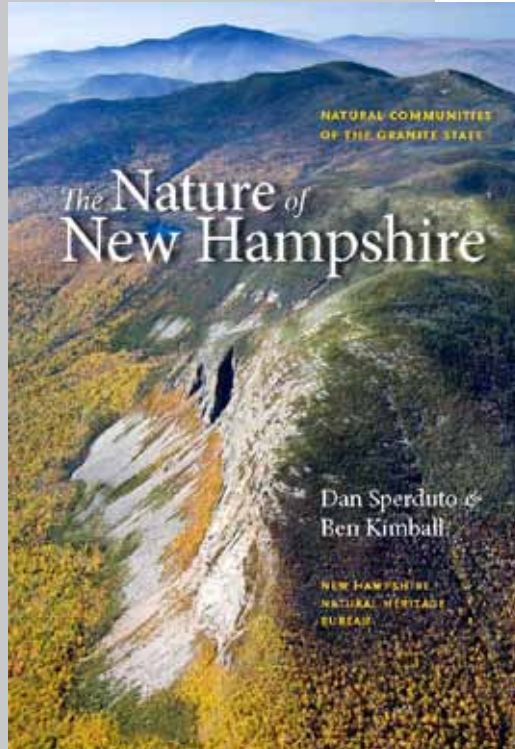
# ADULT PROGRAMS

## *NEW! Get to Know Your Backyard*

Once a month we'll meet to discuss a different natural topic. There will be coffee, dessert, and a community of folks willing to share their opinions and ideas. Bring your friends! Please call to register.  
Cost: \$5

### **Friday, April 8, 7-8:30 pm** **Natural Communities in New Hampshire**

Bill Nichols, State Botanist/Senior Ecologist with the NH Natural Heritage Bureau, will tell us what natural communities are, how they are distinguished from one another, and why they are critically important to informing conservation. Some of the best examples of New Hampshire's natural communities and the rare species they support will be highlighted. Information on natural community classification resources will be provided, including how to get a copy of the new guidebook titled "The Nature of New Hampshire: Natural Communities of the Granite State."



### **Friday, May 13, 7-8 pm** **Birding from Your Back Steps**

With a little planning, your own backyard can become one of your favorite birding hot spots! Join Massabesic Volunteer Educator and NH Audubon Trustee, Kelly Dwyer, as we discuss the essential components of a successful backyard habitat to attract resident and migratory birds. Using visual clues and bird song, learn to identify your backyard avian visitors. We will also explore the fun and fascinating world of bird behavior.

### **Coastal Birding Trips**

**Wednesdays, March 16, April 20, May 18, 9am-2:30pm**

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

Enjoy birding from the comfort of your car with 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. Pre registration required.

## *The Home Herbalist Series*

**Saturdays, 10am-1pm**

**Cost:** Individuals \$25 M/\$35 NM + \$5 materials fee per class

Leader: Maria Noël Groves, Wintergreen Botanicals

Join us for this highly informative series on how to use herbs to help our health. Each class will cover different body systems and the herbs to treat them, as well as a different type of remedy making. Take home a sample every class!

### **Saturday, March 5: Insulin Resistance & Diabetes: Herbs to Support Blood Sugar Balance**

Learn how diet and herbs like cinnamon and blueberries can help manage blood sugar—from basic sugar cravings to diabetes. **BONUS:** Herbal First Aid—We'll also talk about how to create your own First Aid Kit and what kinds of products you might want to make or choose for your family's needs. *Remedy Making: Herbal Salves*

### **Saturday, March 26: Hypertension & Cholesterol: Herbs for the Cardiovascular System**

Learn how to use herbs, food, and dietary supplements to help manage these two common cardiovascular concerns. We'll also discuss heart tonics that can be helpful in a variety of situations. *Remedy Making: Herbal Honey*

### **Saturday, April 2: Allergies, Colds & the Flu: Herbs for the Immune & Respiratory Systems**

We'll discuss foods and herbs to maintain a healthy immune system, as well as the ones we can call in when viral and bacterial infections strike. We'll also discuss remedies that can help reduce seasonal allergies. *Remedy Making: Herbal Vinegar*

### **Saturday, April 23: Women's & Men's Health: Herbs for the Reproductive System**

We'll discuss some of the common women's and men's health concerns including PMS, cramps, menopause, libido, and BPH. *Remedy Making: Lip Balms, Body Cream & Natural Bodycare*

26 Audubon Way, Auburn, NH 03032

603-668-2045

# Massabesic Audubon Center

## ...ADULT PROGRAMS

### **Bluebird Natural History and Trail Monitoring 2011** **Saturday, April 2, 10 am- noon and 12:30- 2:30 pm**

Leader: Angie Krysiak, Program Naturalist

Our bluebird trail monitoring season begins in April!

Join us for a morning workshop focused on the bluebird's natural history, conservation status and how to become a bluebird trail monitor. In the afternoon become oriented to our bluebird trail, clean out and make minor repairs to bluebird boxes as well as look for any early bluebirds. Volunteer monitors adopt a part or a whole field and contribute about one hour each week from the beginning of April to early August to monitor activity in our 100+ nest boxes.

### **Soap Making Workshop**

**Saturday, April 9, 1-3 pm**

**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. Pre-registration is required.

### **Changing Landscape in New England: A look at fields, forests, and rock walls**

**Saturday, April 30th 10-12 am and Sunday, May 15th 1-3 pm**

**Cost:** \$8M/\$10NM

Join Forester Dave Coughlin for a walk around Massabesic to look at the history of the land. Learn to identify trees and look to them for clues about how the land was used in the past. Look for stone walls and building remnants and listen to what stories they have to tell.

### **Moonlight Hike**

**Saturday, April 16, 5:30-8:30 pm**

**Cost:** \$15 M/\$20 NM

Leader: Jean Sweeney, Kelly Dwyer

Come celebrate the onset of spring with a reflective sunset hike through the fields and woods of Massabesic. Hopefully we will finish our hike by the light of the (almost!) full moon. Warm yourself afterwards with a bowl of vegetarian soup and fresh bread. Bring a flashlight, but don't expect to use it much!

## FAMILY PROGRAMS

### **Survival Series**

Join us for this series of classes designed to teach you how to survive in the woods. We'll cover a variety of topics with hands-on activities and walks. Fun for the whole family!

#### **Staying Found Workshop**

**Saturday, March 26, 10:00-11:30am**

**Cost:** FREE

Hosted by: NH Audubon and The Appalachian Mountain Club's New Hampshire Chapter Family Group

This workshop is an educational presentation by New England K-9 Search & Rescue for kids (age approx 4-12) and their families. Learn how to avoid becoming lost while hiking and what to do if you become lost. Meet some search and rescue dogs up close!

#### **Shelter Building**

**Saturday, March 26, 12-1:30pm**

**Cost:** Individuals \$8 M/\$12 NM, Families \$15 M/\$20 NM

Leader: Angie Krysiak

Come and learn the basics of building a shelter from what you find in the forest. We'll learn to lash, then go out to the woods to see if we can build our own shelter!

#### **Geocaching**

**Saturday, April 9, 1-3pm**

**Cost:** Individuals \$15 M/\$18 NM; Families \$20 M/\$30 NM

Leader: Stephanie Spratt

Discover the adventure of Geocaching! Utilizing hand held GPS units, geocachers find treasures that are sometimes hidden in remote places and sometimes in plain sight. This workshop will teach you the basics of Geocaching and allow you to find a number of caches around the Massabesic area. Please bring your GPS unit or be prepared to share. Please dress for the weather and be prepared to travel on and off trail. Max attendance 15. Pre-registration required.

#### **Edible Nature**

**Saturday, May 21, 12-1:30pm**

**Cost:** Individuals \$8 M/\$12 NM, Families \$15 M/\$20 NM

Leader: Angie Krysiak

Go for a walk and learn which plants can keep you alive if you are stranded in the woods! We'll discuss the ethics of collecting, learn how to identify, and try some pine tree tea.

26 Audubon Way, Auburn, NH 03032

603-668-2045

## FAMILY PROGRAMS

### 2011 Salamander Watch!

**Thursday, March 10, 6-8pm**

**Cost:** FREE, Suggested \$5 donation

Leader: Rick Glatz

Watch a salamander slide show that tells all about these unique amphibians. Each year a majority of the mole salamanders (yellow spotted and more) migrate to their breeding vernal pools during the first few warm rains after the snow has melted. In the process of migrating many are killed crossing roads. On migration nights this year we will have salamander "patrols" to help save these slow-moving amphibians. Come to this training workshop to learn how to take part and help gather amphibian population data.

### The Sweet Taste of Spring Fundraiser

**Saturday, March 19**

**Program 9-10 or 11-12; Breakfast 9-12**

**Cost:** Program and Breakfast: Individuals \$10 M/\$15 NM; Families \$25 M/\$35 NM

Join us for a maple sugaring celebration and NH Audubon Fundraiser breakfast. Attend an hour-long program to learn all about the amazing process of turning sap into syrup and join us for a homemade pancake breakfast with real NH made syrup! Help support NH Audubon's animals, programs, and mission. Bring your friends!



### Cheese and Garlic Workshop

**Saturday, March 26, 2-4pm**

**Leaders: Barbara Benton and Angie Krysiak**

**Cost:** Individuals \$15 M/\$18 NM; Families \$20 M/\$30 NM

Learn how to make your own mozzarella cheese in this tasty workshop. Then we'll talk about garlic-how to grow it, harvest it, and the million reasons it is good for you! We'll put the two together and make some delicious cheesy garlic bread and try a few other yummy treats. (Ages 10 and up)

### ART EXHIBIT

**Night Photography Contest & Show: March 1-April 24**

Join us for a stunning display of nature at night. All levels of photographers will show off their skills with a variety of photos taken after dark and using creative lighting techniques. Public is welcome to attend artist's reception on Sat. March 6 from 2-4pm. Sponsored by USA Aloft, LLC

### How Sweet It Is- A look at Bees and Honey

**Saturday, April 2, 2-4pm**

**Cost:** Individuals \$15 M/\$18 NM; Families \$20 M/\$30 NM

Leader: Wendy Booth, NH Beekeepers Association

Come learn about the life of the Honey Bee and what goes on inside and outside the colony of this very important pollinator. Wendy will provide a look into a real live bee colony, introduce you to beekeeping and offer honey tasting. (Ages 10 and up) Wendy Booth, owner of Hive Healthy, is the current VP of NH Beekeepers Association & Editor, NH Eastern Apiculture Society Director and was featured on NH Chronicle in October of 2010.

### Earth Day Festival-Tread Lightly

**Saturday, April 16, 10am-3pm**

**Cost:** Drop in Fee Individuals \$5, Families \$10

Join us to celebrate Earth Day! What better way to appreciate the Earth than to come to the beautiful Massabesic Audubon Center and enjoy fun-filled activities for the entire family. We'll have demos, workshops, crafts and live animals. Take walks on our gorgeous trails! Learn how you can make a difference today & every day.

### Fantastic Frogs Night Walk

**Friday, May 6, 7:30-9 pm**

**Cost:** Individuals \$6 M/\$9 NM; Families \$8 M/\$12 NM

Leader: Angie Krysiak, Program Naturalist

Come discover who's out at night with a walk to our wet places. We'll learn to identify our native frog species by sight and sound, then go outside to see who's calling! Bring a flashlight.

### Pond Probe

**Saturday, May 21, 2:30-4 pm**

**Cost:** Individuals \$6 M/\$9 NM; Families \$8 M/\$12 NM

Leader: Angie Krysiak, Program Naturalist

Come take an early look at who's awake in our pond! We'll scoop out some water to identify insects and look for frogs and turtles. Learn all about this fascinating watery world!

### Creatures of the Night Campfire

**Friday, May 27, 7-9pm**

**Cost:** Families \$8 M/\$12 NM

Leaders: Gary Schroeder and Stephanie Spratt

Join us for a celebration of nocturnal animals! We'll watch our owl get dinner, look for bats in the fields, listen for frogs at the ponds, and keep the mosquitoes at bay around a toasty campfire, complete with marshmallows! Pre-registration is required.

## NH Common Ground Garden Project

### The UNH Cooperative Extension 2011 Garden Workshop Series Saturdays, 9:30am-12:30pm

**Cost:** Families \$15/workshop, \$75 for whole series

Learn how to become a more successful gardener through this series of hands-on workshops sponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension of Hillsborough and Rockingham Counties and the Massabesic Audubon Center. For more information or to register call Ron Christie at Rockingham County UNH Cooperative Extension at 603-679-5616. *Preregistration is required.*

**February 12:** Vegetable Garden Planning; Starting Plants from Seed; Growing Transplants indoors

**March 12:** Your Soil, Soil Science and Soil Fertility; Building and Maintaining your Soil's Health

**April 9:** Containers and Raised Beds; Growing Different Vegetables

**May 14:** Weeds, Pests, and Disease; Crop Rotation; Companion Plants and Allies

**June 4:** Permaculture; Composting; Cover Crops and Green Manures

**August 20:** Extend Your Growing Season

**September 24:** Closing Your Garden; Assessing Your Success; Planning for Next Year



### Every Child in a Garden

**Saturday, March 5, 9am-4pm**

**Cost:** \$10

This special day long Junior Master Gardener workshop will be dedicated to teachers, afterschool providers, educators, parents, Master Gardeners, volunteers and community organizations who want to start or maintain youth and school gardens. Meet veterans in the youth garden field to hear about their trials and successes, roll up your sleeves and try fun, hands-on, minds-on activities as we share the Junior Master Gardener curriculum and other resources, and learn about how we can become a community of practice - a network of individuals and organizations statewide that want to support this effort to link youth and gardening. For more information and to register, contact Janell George or Julia Steed Mawson at [Janell.George@unh.edu](mailto:Janell.George@unh.edu) or call 603-641-6060. All participants will receive their own copy of the 188 page Junior Master Gardener curriculum and youth manual. Space is limited to 35 participants. *This workshop is sponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension's 4-H and Master Gardener program in Hillsborough and Rockingham County, the Massabesic Audubon Center, NH Farm to School program and their cooperating partners with support from the NH Charitable Foundation.*

### Shared Harvest 2011 Challenge

Join UNH Cooperative Extension 4-H and the Massabesic Audubon Center and become a part of its 2011 NH Common Ground Garden Project's Shared Harvest 2011 Challenge. When times are hard, children, families and elders suffer and very often having adequate and nutritious food is an issue - with a lack of fresh produce topping the list. Last year, over 5,500 lbs of produce was donated to the NH Food Bank from the 4-H Children's Teaching Garden located right on the Massabesic property. Over 150 inner city and neighborhood 4-H Green Thumb Team youth from MAC's Summer Camp and local Afterschools, "pledged their heart to greater service" by helping to plant, tend and harvest these gardens, and then donating the fruits of their labors to the NH Food Bank. Now they extend the challenge to you! Plant a Row for the Hungry and donate it to your local food pantry or the NH Food Bank. For more information about how to connect up with your food pantry or the NH Food Bank to learn about what they need, AND to download/receive your Shared Harvest information flier contact Julia Steed Mawson, [gardensforall@unh.edu](mailto:gardensforall@unh.edu) or call 603-641-6060. "Lettuce" join hands in this good work. Your donation and good efforts could bring some "peas" into someone's life. *The NH Common Ground Garden Project is cosponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension 4-H and the Massabesic Audubon Center.*

### Spring Call for 4-H Children's Teaching Garden Volunteers

Each year over 150 inner city and neighborhood youth help plant and maintain this beautiful garden while learning about gardening and nutrition science. Volunteers are needed for Garden Crew, (those that get down and dirty helping to plant and work in the gardens), Garden Docents (those who want to teach children about the wonders of gardening) and Action Committee members (those who want to help the program grow and blossom through grant writing & development, marketing and PR, web setup and maintenance, garden facility planning and maintenance.). For more information about these positions, and to apply, contact Carol Martin-Ward at [carol.martin-ward@unh.edu](mailto:carol.martin-ward@unh.edu). *The 4-H Children's Teaching Garden is an initiative of the NH Common Ground Garden Project, cosponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension and the Massabesic Audubon Center.*

## 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, there is always something to do. For information, please contact the Center by email at [cfoley@nhaudubon.org](mailto:cfoley@nhaudubon.org)



*Photo by Julie Klett*

**North Shore Road, Hebron NH 03222**

**603-744-3516**

## The Loon Center

### ABOUT THE LOON CENTER

The Loon Center is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm through May 1. Enjoy the educational displays and award-winning videos, as well as the trails on the Markus Wildlife Sanctuary which are open dawn to dusk daily for walking, snowshoeing, or cross-country skiing.

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.



*Loon Family, Photo by John Rockwood*

**Lees Mills Road, Moultonborough, NH 03254**

**603-476-5666**

# Chapter Happenings

## AMMONOOSUC CHAPTER

### Program: The Birds of Colombia

#### March 16, 7 pm at the Rocks Estate in Bethlehem

Birding in South America is absolutely fabulous. Home to about 3300 species, the continent offers every kind of topography from lowlands to Andean peaks over 22,000 feet high. Not only are the birds amazing, the variety of life forms is endless. Colombia has been off limits for years due to their political and drug-related problems, but recently birders have returned to see not only known species but some new ones, too. Please join Mary Boulanger and see the slides and hear the stories. If time permits, some slides of Brazil may appear! For more information contact Mary Boulanger at 444-6993.

### Program: Life of Vernal Pools

#### April 20, 7 pm at the Rocks Estate in Bethlehem

Elise Lawson and John Severance will present this timely program on the life of vernal pools. We will see slides of actual vernal pools from our local area and the wildlife that make their home. Learn about tree frogs and salamanders and why we need to protect this special habitat. We will venture outside for a look at an actual vernal pool and look for salamanders. Bring a flashlight. For more information contact David Govatski at 586-7776.

#### May 14, 6 pm at the Rocks Estate in Bethlehem

**Annual Ammonoosuc Chapter Meeting** and a tour of the historic Rocks Estate in Bethlehem by manager Nigel Manley. Refreshments will be served and there will be time for socializing. Learn about chapter conservation efforts and future plans. For more information contact David Govatski at 586-7776.

#### Field Trip: May 14, 7 am at Airport Marsh in Whitefield and 8 am at the Trailhead to Cherry Pond:

#### International Migratory Bird Day at Pondicherry NWR

Join us for a guided bird hike around Airport Marsh in Whitefield and at 8 am for a walk to Cherry Pond in Jefferson. This annual event commemorates the return of migrating birds and the memory of Tudor Richards, the father of Pondicherry. Bring water, lunch and binoculars. Be prepared to walk 3-5 miles on flat terrain. The event will be held rain or shine. Free IMBD posters for all participants. In the afternoon we will take a visit to the new Mud Pond Interpretive Trail and walk 1 mile to see the new trail. For more information contact David Govatski at 586-7776.

## CAPITAL AREA

### Field Trip: Concord Area Waterfowl

#### Saturday, April 2, 7:30 am

Join Bob Quinn and spend the morning searching for migrating waterfowl around the Concord area. Sightings in prior years have included Northern Pintail, American Widgeon, Northern Shoveler and Wilson's (f/k/a Common) Snipe. Meet at the McLane Audubon Center. Trip goes rain or shine! Contact Bob Quinn at 746-2535 or RAQbirds@aol.com.

## CAPITAL AREA, continued

### Field Trip: Early Spring Migrants at Lehinten Park, Penacook.

#### Sunday, May 1, 7:00 am to Noon

Join Bob Quinn at a new spot and spend the morning searching for early migrant land birds on a network of easy trails at Lehinten Park. We hope for a nice flight of warblers and other spring migrants in an area that has great potential. Be prepared for some wet walking but on mostly flat and easy trails. Meet at the Hannah Dustin Park 'n Ride off Exit 17 of I-93. Contact Bob Quinn at 746-2535 (daytimes) or RAQbirds@aol.com.

### Field Trip: "Before Work Walk"– Horseshoe Pond

#### Thursday, May 12, 6:30 am

Get your fill of spring migrants before heading off to work (or not!). What better way to begin the day? Join Rob Woodward for this popular Annual trip to see new spring migrants. Trip ends by 8:00 a.m. Contact: Rob Woodward at 224-0889 (evenings)

### Field Trip: Elm Brook Park

#### Saturday, May 21, 7:00 am

Meet Rob Woodward at the entrance to Elm Brook Park in Hopkinton and spend the morning looking for spring migrants. Don't miss your chance to walk down legendary "Dendroica Alley" and fill your bins with spring warblers! An entrance fee to the park may be charged, so bring a few dollars. Contact: Rob Woodward at 224-0889 (evenings)

## LAKES REGION CHAPTER

### Program: To Be Announced

#### Thursday, March 17, 7:30 pm

Check the local newspapers for program information. The Loon Center on Lees Mill Rd. Moultonborough. Handicapped accessible.

Contact: The Loon Center at 476-5666

### Program: Eastern Cougars

#### Thursday, April 16, 7:30 pm

Bill Betty is an expert on Eastern Cougars and lives in Rhode Island. He has lectured in the region extensively about the big cats. Are they on their way or are they already here? Find out at this fabulous slide presentation and lecture.

The Loon Center on Lees Mill Rd. Moultonborough. Handicapped accessible.

Contact: The Loon Center at 476-5666

### Field Trip: Sandwich to Freedom

#### Saturday, May 14, 7–11 am

We'll look for returning warblers and other spring migrants in a variety of habitats somewhere between Sandwich and Freedom. Call or email for the meeting location.

Contact: Tony Vazzano at 284-7718 or tvazzano@ncia.net

## MONADNOCK CHAPTER

### Field Trip: Spring Hawk Watch

Join Eric Masterson as he attempts to emulate Lance Tanino's achievements from Pitcher Mtn from early to mid-March, 2010. Lance spent a total of 11 hours on five separate days hawkwatching from the summit, and encountered 11 hawks total, including 2 golden eagles, a red-shouldered hawk and a Northern goshawk. Not much is known about spring migration of raptors through NH. Was Lance lucky, or is Pitcher a good site for early spring migrant hawks?

Meet at 10:45 at the Pitcher Mountain parking area. We will continue until 2pm.

This trip is weather dependent, so pre-registration by e-mail is required (eric.masterson@myfairpoint.net).

### Field Trip: 28<sup>th</sup> Annual "Waterfowl Safari" Along the Middle Connecticut River Important Bird Area

**Saturday, March 26, 8 am–1 pm**

By carpools and a little walking we're likely to see a variety of ducks and other species northward bound in spring migration. Co-sponsored by the Harris Center, we'll have two parties with leaders coordinated by Phil Brown from NH Audubon and Eric Masterson from the Harris Center. Eric's group will head north from Hinsdale (departing at 8 AM), while Phil's will work south from Charlestown (departing at 8 from the Charlestown Library on Main Street), and the two will meet at Herrick's Cove for a look around and a bag lunch. Carpools should be back about 1:00. To carpool or to RSVP, contact Phil Brown at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or at (603) 224-9909x334.



Dirk van der Merwe

### Field Trip: Sign of Spring—Woodcock Mating Fights

**Saturday and Sunday, April 16 and 17, 7 pm**

Join NH Audubon Trustee, Tom Warren, to observe the mating flights of the American woodcock. Meet Saturday and Sunday evening at 91 Charcoal Road in Dublin. Please call 603-563-7194 for directions.

### Field Trip: Owl Prowl

**Friday, April 15, 6 pm**

Join NH Audubon Trustee, Tom Warren, in Dublin for a slide and audio presentation followed by an early evening search for local owls which might include barred, great-horned and saw-whet.

Please call 603-563-7194 for directions.

### Field Trip: Dillant-Hopkins Airport Spring Ramble

**Saturday, April 23, 7–10 am**

Late April is an exciting time to explore around Swanzey's Dillant-Hopkins Airport. Join local birder, Ken Klapper, for a stroll along Airport Road in search of migrant waterfowl, raptors, early returning songbirds, and more. Along the way we'll experience the sights, sounds, and smells of spring woodlands, fields, and marshes and be serenaded by wood frogs, red-winged blackbirds, and the drumming of ruffed grouse. Previous field trips here have included wood duck, American bittern, American kestrel, Northern harrier, Eastern bluebird, Eastern meadowlark, and rusty blackbird - but a few surprises are always possible! Meet at the airport terminal parking lot on Airport Road (off Rt. 32) at 7 am and bring binoculars, field guides, water, bug spray, and a snack. The walk may include up to three miles of walking along a paved road. Contact Ken Klapper at kklapper@gmail.com

### Field Trip: Songbirds Return to Willard Pond WS

**Sunday, May 1, 8–11 am**

Join Willard Pond caretaker/naturalists Phil and Julie Brown for a moderate hike to the recent-cleared summit of Goodhue Hill. We should find many returning spring songbirds including hermit thrush, winter wren, Eastern phoebe, blue-headed vireo, and possibly a few warblers. We'll gaze skyward for migrating raptors from the summit and enjoy views of Willard Pond and Mount Monadnock. 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: Spring Warbler Walk in Hinsdale

**Sunday, May 15, 7 am–noon**

Join trip leader Cliff Seifer for a walk along the Connecticut River in search of warblers and other spring migrants. The walk will start at the Hinsdale setbacks where breeding marsh wrens keep company with migrating warblers, gnatcatchers, flycatchers, possible rails and maybe even a least bittern! The walk will continue along the causeway and out to the bluffs overlooking Lake Wantastiquet where possible birds include orchard oriole, bald eagle, and bank swallow.

Meet at Hinsdale High School at 7 am and bring along water, bug spray and a snack. Contact Cliff at cliffdisc@gmail.com

### Field Trip: Monadnock Audubon Birdathon (and Blooms) in Surry

**Saturday, May 21, 7 am–noon**

Join local birders Dave Hoitt and wildflower enthusiast Wendy Ward on this easy walk looking for birds and wildflowers of forest edge, open field, and wetland habitats. Dave and Wendy have been leading this peak migration trip for over 25 years. Some years they have netted 80 species of birds! Meet at the Surry Town Hall parking lot, and return by noon. Bring field guides, binoculars, drink, snack and bug repellent. Free and open to all - to register or for more info, contact Wendy at 352-2114 or weward0@yahoo.com

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](mailto:emedia@nhaudubon.org)

## New NH Audubon Member Benefit



Christopher Marston, Manager of the Bow Blue Seal store, gives Michael Bartlett, NH Audubon President, a check from donations contributed at Blue Seal's Made in New Hampshire booth last year. Blue Seal Feeds is our newest Corporate Partner.

Blue Seal Feeds and NH Audubon have partnered to benefit our wild birds—and our members! NH Audubon members will receive a 10% discount on all wild bird seed and suet purchased at a Blue Seal company store. Blue Seal company stores are located in Bow, Derry, Milford, and Rochester. Keep your member card handy to take advantage of this year-round offer.



## Corporate Partner Spotlight

TransCanada is a leading energy infrastructure company with a focus on pipelines, power generation, and power marketing. TransCanada Hydro Northeast, a US private company, is an affiliate of TransCanada Corporation based in Calgary, Alberta. TC Hydro NE owns and operates six hydroelectric facilities on the Connecticut River and two storage reservoirs at the First and Second Connecticut Lakes in Pittsburg. By management agreement, TransCanada also cooperates with the state-owned Murphy Dam, a flood storage dam at Lake Francis in Pittsburg. While each hydro facility operates under different license terms and conditions, they are integrated throughout the Connecticut River system for managing flows for recreation, fishery enhancement, flood control and power generation. TransCanada proudly supports NHA's work with eagles in the Connecticut Valley.



### OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

Public Service of New Hampshire • TransCanada  
Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc. • TD Bank  
Burt Consulting, Inc. • Company C • Electric Security Systems  
Blue Seal Feeds. • The Common Man Family of Restaurants  
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Concord Garden Club • Les A. Cartier & Associates, Inc.  
Manchester Garden Club • New England Wood Pellets

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