

NH Audubon Afield

Raptor Observatories Open Sept. 1–Nov. 15

by Phil Brown, Raptor Observatory Coordinator

The autumnal spectacle of raptor migration returns to the skies this September and is best enjoyed at NH Audubon's two raptor observatories, Pack Monadnock (Peterborough) and Carter Hill (Concord). At each site, a NH Audubon naturalist and a team of volunteers collect hourly migration data from September 1 through November 15 and educate the public about raptor migration through school visits, formal education programs, and through constant, casual learning opportunities that the observatories afford.

The 2014 season was exceptional. Relationships between NH Audubon and hosts, Miller State Park and Carter Hill Orchard, strengthened and grew, the level of community support increased with new corporate partners playing a greater role than ever, and over 10,000 visitors experienced migration between the two sites. Pack Monadnock celebrated the milestone of reaching the tenth consecutive season of full coverage, enabling its data to be utilized by the Raptor Population Index (RPI), a tool that helps determine continent-wide raptor population estimates. Over these 10 years,



Maria Colby of Wings of the Dawn releases a rehabilitated Broad-winged Hawk. Photo by Rough Legged Photography.

we've learned a lot about raptor migration trends and, with more data, we begin to see new patterns emerge. For example, the outlook for many of our familiar raptor species, such as the Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon, is positive; however, there are stark downward trends of a few iconic species like the American Kestrel and Northern Harrier. Our sites' contributions become increasingly important as each stands the test of time and develops greater consistency and a deeper database.

This fall features programs and workshops focused on in-depth identification for both youth and adults, including the annual Raptor Rally co-sponsored by NH Audubon and Project SEE, in which all of Concord's fourth graders descend upon Carter Hill Observatory to learn about raptors. Naturalists and volunteers instruct these students in raptor identification and life histories, and help them make the connections between raptors and environmental stewardship. The

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Join us for the 101st Annual Gathering and Meeting on September 12 at the Crotched Mountain Center located in Greenfield, NH. Look for details on page 3.

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NH AUDUBON
Protecting our environment since 1914

Protecting New Hampshire's
Natural Environment
for Wildlife and for People



Thank you to Ed Reilly Subaru in Concord, NH for once again supporting this effort. Ed Reilly Subaru is a family-owned and

operated, full-service Subaru dealership that has operated out of Concord, NH for 20 years.

Raptor Observatory Events

For more information about these and other events, visit nhaudubon.org.

RAPTOR RELEASE WEEKEND

Saturday, September 19, at Pack Monadnock, release event at 1pm
Sunday, September 20, at Carter Hill Orchard, release event at 4pm

Cost: Free

Join NH Audubon for a special send-off – that of a rehabilitated migratory bird of prey! This annual event is timed to coincide with peak Broad-winged Hawk migration.

BIG SIT EVENTS

Saturday, October 10, 9am–5pm
Pack Monadnock, Peterborough
Carter Hill Orchard, Concord

Cost: Free

Join fellow hawk watchers and birders for the annual 'Big Sit' event – a tally of all bird species from the raptor observatory. Rain/fog date is Sunday, October 11.

Sunday, October 11, 5:30am–5:30pm
Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge, Jefferson

Cost: Free

Participate in the 9th Annual Big Sit at the Tudor Richards Viewing Platform on Cherry Pond in Jefferson, NH.

PRESENTATION

Hawk Watch – Fall Migration

Friday, September 11, 7–9pm
Massabesic Audubon Center, Auburn

Cost: \$5 per person, free to MAC volunteers

Join us for a presentation by Phil Brown, NH Audubon Raptor Observatory Coordinator, about the increasingly-popular pastime of hawk watching.

PEAK MIGRATION WORKSHOP

Carter Hill Raptor Observatory
Friday, September 11, 10am–2pm

Cost: \$10/person

Join us for a slideshow introduction/refresher of raptor identification and life history. We will then join the Interpretive Naturalist on the hawkwatch platform and partake in some sky-watching during the peak of Broad-winged Hawk migration!

PRESENTATION

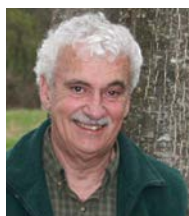
Raptor Migration at Pack Monadnock and Carter Hill with Phil Brown

Wednesday, September 16, 7–9pm
Nashua Public Library, Nashua

Cost: Free

This informative presentation will focus on the two Raptor Observatories: Carter Hill in Concord and Pack Monadnock.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Friends,

Ah, fall. It is a beautiful time of year as the leaves change from vibrant greens to scarlet red, brilliant orange and blinding yellow. It's an awesome season as we witness the time-honored event of migration with swirling kettles of hawks riding thermals of warm air to glide toward the south. Yet fall also means shorter

days, colder temperatures and the end of summer. With each changing season there are elements of celebration mixed with bits of loss.

So it is with life in an organization like NH Audubon. Comings and goings bring both new opportunities and farewells. It is with great enthusiasm that we welcome Sean Gillery as our new Director of Membership and Development. Sean brings with him over 25 years of fundraising experience, most of it with Keene State College (but including a six year stint with NH Public Radio). Despite the fact Sean has been with us less than two weeks, he has already proven to be extraordinarily capable, highly motivated—and a pleasure to work with.

We would also like to welcome Joe Consentino, who recently joined us as the Director of Finance. Joe comes to us with over 20 years as a senior non-profit finance manager, most recently with The Non Profit Edge, a group responsible for providing finance and technology services for small to mid-range nonprofit organizations. Joe also has left his finance mark on Merrimack College, the Merrimack Valley YMCA and the Girl Scouts of America. Joe's extraordinary skill set, innovativeness and great sense of humor have already made him a "team" favorite.

On the "goings" side, I want to share with you that I plan to retire (again!) next spring. After nearly eight years of extraordinarily rewarding work at the helm of this incredible organization, it is time for me to hand off the baton—and actually spend some time enjoying the natural environment that we all work so hard to protect!

A Presidential Transition Task Force, made up of representatives of current and past trustees and staff, will work with an executive search firm to assess the current and future needs of NH Audubon and find the best possible candidate to lead the organization into its next chapter.

I look forward to continuing to work with the board, staff and all of you in the next several months to ensure that, when I pass the baton on to my successor, NH Audubon is strong and well positioned for continued growth and success. We will keep you posted on our search progress. I certainly hope to cross paths with many of you before I do my own migration.

Sincerely,

—Michael J. Bartlett, President, New Hampshire Audubon

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ever-popular Raptor Release also returns in September – this year as a festival – and includes the release of a rehabilitated raptor at each site, and more.

For a closer look at NH Audubon's raptor observatories, including upcoming events, links to past seasons' reports, what to expect this fall, and how to support these important projects, please visit nhaudubon.org. Throughout the season, be sure to check daily reports

and next day forecasts on each site's pages at hawkcount.org.

There are many reasons to support NH Audubon's monitoring of raptor populations and educating diverse audiences. Your support will help us carry out these goals effectively. For information about becoming a raptor observatory sponsor, please contact Phil Brown at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or at 224-9909 x334.

Join Us! 101st Annual Gathering and Meeting

Join us as we celebrate 101 years of conservation, honor those who have helped us get to this point and look toward future opportunities. This year's gathering will be held at the Crotched Mountain Center in Greenfield, NH, a place of extraordinary natural beauty and opportunity. The theme is "It's In to Be Out: No Person Left Inside."



David Sobel will be the keynote speaker. His presentation – "Preserving Children's Connection to Nature: How Individuals and Communities Can Help" – will inform and enlighten you. Engaging in this effort will foster conservation values in our youth and assure the protection of natural places in New Hampshire.

David Sobel is a professor of education, particularly as it relates to the natural world, at Antioch University New England in Keene. He has served as science curriculum consultant to schools throughout New Hampshire and Vermont and has been a speaker and workshop leader at countless educational and environmental events. Sobel has authored several books including *Children's Special Places*, *Place-Based Education*, and *Childhood and Nature*, as well as many articles.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 • SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 9:00am | FIELD TRIPS (See schedule at right and full details at nhaudubon.org) |
| 12:00pm | Gather at Crotched Mountain Center; check in, view exhibits and silent auction items |
| 12:15pm | BUFFET LUNCH |
| 1:15pm | WELCOME ADDRESS by President Mike Bartlett |
| 1:45pm | ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
Report of finances, election of officers, etc. |
| 2:15pm | AWARDS AND APPRECIATIONS
2015 Tudor Richards Award: Recipient is Jane Doherty
2015 Goodhue-Elkins Award: Recipient is David Donsker
2015 Volunteer of the Year Award: Recipients are Bill & Carol Vose |
| 3:00pm | REPORTS FROM STAFF: Accomplishments, presentations |
| 3:30pm | BREAK: Refreshments, exhibits, mingle, silent auction time |
| 4:15pm | KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Professor David Sobel of Antioch University New England
"Preserving Children's Connection to Nature – How Individuals and Communities Can Help" |
| 5:00pm | Last chance at Silent Auction |
| 5:30pm | Silent Auction announcements |
| 6:00pm | Departure |

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 8.

TO REGISTER: contact Ruth Smith at rsmith@nhaudubon.org or 603-224-9909 ext. 313.

EVENT COST: \$35/NHA member; \$45/non-member (includes lunch, field trips & activities)

Details of field trip meeting locations will be emailed to all pre-registered participants.

Field Trip Schedule

HAPPENING AT:

**Miller State Park
Peterborough, NH**

9:00–11:30am

Hawk Migration Observation on Pack Monadnock with Katrina Fenton, Bob Quinn and Eric Masterson

HAPPENING AT:

**Willard Pond Sanctuary
Antrim, NH**

9:00–11:30am

Explore Willard Pond Sanctuary by Boot or Boat:

- Hike to Bald Mountain Ledges with Phil Brown or
- Paddle on Willard Pond with Chris Martin, Susie Spikol-Faber and Carol Foss

HAPPENING AT:

**Crotched Mountain
Greenfield, NH**

9:30–11:30am

Accessible Trails and History Tales with Francie Von Mertens and Liz LaRose

10:00–11:30am

Biomass Tour and Clean Energy Update with Sheridan Brown and Crotched Mountain staff

OUR THANKS

to Normandeau Associates Environmental Consultants who will once again be the lead sponsor for our annual meeting.





New Hampshire Bird Records

This is a perfect time to subscribe to NH Audubon's quarterly that's all about birds and birding in New Hampshire. Read about the bird highlights each season, learn about good birding spots, test yourself with the Photo Quiz, and enjoy the many articles in each issue.

A sampling of recent articles:

- Birding NH Audubon's dePierrefeu-Willard Pond Wildlife Sanctuary
- Breeding Least Bitterns at World End Pond
- Purple Martins on the Seacoast
- Spotlight on Sandhill Crane
- Observations of a Great Horned Owl's Nest.

By subscribing, you also help support the collection and sharing of bird sighting data.

For more information, please go to nhbirdrecords.org. You can subscribe online or call NH Audubon at 603-224-9909.

NH AUDUBON NEWS

Jane's Trust Grant Supports Urban Bird Pilot Program

The enthusiastic calls of "robin!", "male cardinal!" and "big hawk!" were heard from the 5th grade classes of Bakersville School as the students scanned the habitat around their urban schoolyard using binoculars and newly-acquired bird identification skills.

Thanks to a generous grant from Jane's Trust, NH Audubon educators developed and piloted an urban bird unit for the inner city Manchester school.

Over the course of several months, NH Audubon educators delivered in-class lessons on habitat, bird behavior and identification skills, culminating in several field experiences, including trips to the Massabesic and McLane centers.

The inquiry-based lessons incorporate math, science and language arts areas of the curriculum, using urban birds as the focus.

The grant also enables NH Audubon educators to revise current programs, incorporate new curriculum standards, and make them more valuable to students and teachers.



A poster created by students to show what they learned about the urban bird program.

Professional workshops showcasing the development, implementation and success of the pilot will be presented by NH Audubon educators at several key forums in the coming months.

This grant has given staff an incredible opportunity to create and deliver an exciting, in-depth unit for underserved NH students.

Based on the enthusiastic response of over fifty 5th graders, the Manchester area now has a new cadre of environmental stewards! NH Audubon educators plan to continue the program through donations from last year's "Fund-the-Future."

—Hilary Chapman, Education Specialist

NH Audubon gratefully acknowledges the following foundations and organizations for their support:

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: Two-year operations grant that provides support for NH Audubon's communication, outreach, fundraising work and special initiatives.

TD Charitable Foundation: Continued support for environmental education programs and field trips to Massabesic Audubon Center for second grade students at the Beech Street elementary school in downtown Manchester.

French Foundation: General support and environmental policy initiatives.

Queen City Rotary: Support for environmental education programs in low-income schools in Manchester.

Manchester Rotary Club: Support for scholarships for disadvantaged youth to attend Massabesic Audubon Center's Camp Wildside in Auburn.

Biber Foundation: Support for NH Audubon staff to engage in the American Bird Conservancy Bird-friendly Buildings program.



Artist Exhibits

Photographer John Rockwood will display his photographs through October 1 at the Massabesic Audubon Center in Auburn, NH. Please stop by during regular business hours to view this exhibit.

John has been delighting audiences with his spectacular collections of narrated and very informative multimedia shows for the Common Loon and “Nature for All to See” shows which include a vast array of other fascinating wildlife, indigenous to the Northeast and across the United States.

Artist Patricia Sweet-MacDonald will display her paintings through October 31 at the McLane Center at NH



Audubon in Concord. Please stop by our PSNH Room during regular business hours to view this exhibit.

Patricia is drawn to the long distant views atop the mountains of New England and the Carolinas as well as the vibrant coastal landscape of Cape Cod. Primarily a plein-air (outdoor) painter, she creates hundreds of studies directly from nature, observing the ever changing light of day.

“Bid for the Birds” Live and Silent Auction

Help broaden and deepen our conservation, education and environmental protection work at our fundraising auction and dinner.

5:00 Cocktails, hors d'oeuvre and Silent Auction
6:00 Buffet dinner
7:00 Live auction

WHEN: Saturday, November 14, 5pm

WHERE: Gunstock Mountain Resort, Gifford, NH

COST: \$70/person, \$550/table (M)
\$80/person, \$600/table (NM)

Contact us for table reservations.

Here's a sample of the auction items:

- Fly fishing trip in Montana
- Birding with naturalist Phil Brown at Mt. Auburn Cemetery
- Bird and landscape art
- Tickets to sporting and cultural events

And more! Special items are being added to the list to make this a uniquely NH Audubon event. Join the fun and take your chances on opportunities to create special memories and support a mission you care deeply about.

To register visit nhaudubon.org or call 224-9909 ext. 313.

Audubon Quadruped Exhibit and Raffle

Thank you to all the donors and supporters who made the exhibit “From Birds to Beasts: Audubon’s Last Great Adventure” at the Currier Museum a huge success. From the opening reception in May that attracted over 400 members of NH Audubon and The Currier (the



largest opening reception in the Currier’s history) throughout the entire summer, visitors marveled at the display of original Audubon prints. Many people interacted with NH Audubon and the Currier for the first time.

It was a thrill to work with the staff and volunteers of the Currier Museum. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to display part of our collection of artwork by John James Audubon and share it with the public. The series of programs enabled both organizations to reach a broader audience and share our missions and work. We welcome all the new members who joined as a result of this collaboration and exhibition.

We would also like to congratulate Jim Naro of Nashua who won the raffle for the Gray Fox print. Thanks to all who purchased raffle tickets. The proceeds helped to support NH Audubon’s participation with the exhibition.



The Amoskeag Fishways Learning and Visitor's Center is located at Exit 6 off Interstate 293 in Manchester, NH.
4 FLETCHER ST • MANCHESTER, NH • (603) 626-3474

Family Fun Nights

Cost: \$8/family per event except where noted. Advance registration with payment required.

Chimney Swift Watch

September 11, 6:30–8pm **Cost:** \$5/family
We will cover the natural history and unique story of this insectivore at the center before we go out to explore a nearby roosting site.

The Bear Necessities

September 25, 6:30–8pm **Cost:** \$5/family
Discover what these large mammals need to survive, what makes them unique, and what they have in common with you.

Native Bees and Other Pollinators

October 9, 6:30–8pm
Become acquainted with local pollinators and deepen your understanding of their incredible relationship to flowering plants.

Fishways Fundays

Cost: \$8/family for each session. Advance registration with payment required.

Colors of Autumn

October 1 and 3, 12:30–2pm
Discover where these colors come from and how trees and animals prepare for winter as we play games and create beautiful autumn artwork.

Scratch, Bite or Run

October 15 and 17, 12:30–2pm
Surviving in the wild can be difficult for an animal, especially if there are lots of hungry predators or vicious competitors around! What do animals do when they feel threatened by another? We will play games to understand what special features and behaviors animals use to defend themselves.

Let's Talk Turkey!

November 5, 12:30–2pm
Find out more about this fine bird, and make your very own turkey call to take home.

Super Seeds

October 23, 6:30–8pm
We'll explore the amazing lives of nuts, cones and seeds, and learn how to identify some of the trees and other plants that produce them.

Whoo's Up for Dinner?

November 6, 6:30–8pm
Learn all about owl eating habits and pick apart a real pellet with your family!

Going Batty

November 20, 6:30–8pm
Become familiar with these charismatic critters as we play games and discuss bat habits, habitat and the challenges they face today in New Hampshire.



Life Along the River

November 19, 12:30–2pm
November 21, 12:30–2pm
If you lived along the river, as many animals do, where would you make a home? What would you eat? How would you cook your food? What would you wear? The Penacook knew what to do! Make a pinch pot, listen to stories and more as we explore the lives of New Hampshire's native people.

Eyes on Owls



November 7, 11am–12:15pm & 1–2:15pm
Cost: \$10/person or \$25/family (fee does not cover extended family)
Advance registration with payment required. Learn all about New Hampshire's owls, what they look like, and where they might be found. See these wonderful birds up close, and learn some of their hooting calls!

15th Annual Bug Ball

September 19, 11am–3pm
Cost: \$3/person or \$6/family (fee does not cover extended family)
Advance registration with payment required. Come one, come all to the 15th Annual Bug Ball! Activities will include an insect petting zoo, buggy crafts, and special guest Dr. Paul Johnson, UNH insect expert. Enjoy a special staff presentation: "Monarch Butterflies and Native Bees," featuring two very important local insect pollinators.



Homeschool Discovery Programs

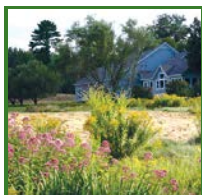
Second Thursday of every month, October–June, 10am–12pm, ages 9–14
Cost: \$10/child per class or \$80 for all nine sessions
Advance registration with payment required.

Exploring River Life throughout a Year
Through field trips, data collection and classroom instruction, we will study the living and non-living components of the Merrimack River ecosystem.



Celebrating a 20-Year Partnership!

This year, 2015, is especially meaningful as it is the twentieth year of the Amoskeag Fishways Partnership. We honor and appreciate the successful and diverse partnership of Eversource, NH Audubon, NH Fish & Game and the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Thank you for all that you do for the Fishways!



Located on an historic farm site, the Center is bordered by 130 acres of wildlife sanctuary that encompasses a diverse array of upland habitats and includes more than five miles of trails that lead to Lake Massabesic.

26 AUDUBON WAY • AUBURN, NH 03032 • 603-668-2045

Wee Wonders Preschool Science Program

Discover the changing seasons through hands-on activities, songs, crafts, stories, and outdoor discovery.

Cost for each event: \$10/student M; \$13 NM Register online at nhaudubon.org.
Class size is limited so register early. All programs are led by Naturalist Kim Murphy.

Honeybees

September 9, 10–11:30am

Come and discover who visits our gardens, and find out what special jobs they do – from pollination to honey production!

Hawk Watch

September 23, 10–11:30am

Today we will watch as some hawks soar on thermals, preparing for a long journey south, as others prepare for a long New England winter.

Speed of Seeds

October 7, 10–11:30am

Seeds are on the move and we will explore how and what they might turn into!

Rainbow Leaves

October 21, 10–11:30am

We will explore trees and answer questions surrounding the beauty of New England's rainbow leaves.



Animal Harvesters

November 4, 10–11:30am

We will take a look into the lives of some animal harvesters as we search the fields and forest for food.

Native American Stories

November 18, 10–11:30am

Come and hear stories from some of North America's first people as we learn a little about the lives they lived.

Junior Explorers Homeschool Science Program

Discover the changing seasons through hands-on activities, songs, crafts, stories, and outdoor discovery.

Cost for each event: \$10/student M; \$13NM
Register online at nhaudubon.org.

Class size is limited so register early.

Ages 7–12. All programs are led by Kelly Dwyer.

Honeybees

September 9, 10–11:30am

Come and discover who visits our gardens, and find out what special jobs they do – from pollination to honey production!



USF&WS

Hawk Watch

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Today we will watch as some hawks soar on thermals, preparing for a long journey south, as others prepare for a long New England winter.

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Autumn Nature Celebration Saturday, October 17, 10am–3pm

The Massabesic Audubon Center invites you to enjoy the beauty of the autumn season by attending a special celebration of all that nature has to offer. Events will appeal to all ages and include live animals, bonfire, hands-on activities, crafts, live music, vendors featuring natural products, food to purchase and demonstrations that will be presented throughout the day.

Please join us for this special event that the entire family is sure to enjoy!



Call (603) 668-2045 and sign up for the Early Bird Special (before 10/14/15)

Cost: Early Bird Special (before 10/14/15): Families \$10M/\$20NM

At the door: Families \$15M/\$25NM



Coastal Birding

September 16, 9am–2:30pm

October 21, 9am–2:30pm

November 18, 9am–2:30pm

Cost: \$6/M; \$9/NM per session.

Call ahead to register.

Enjoy birding the coast with JoAnn O'Shaughnessy.

Fall Nature Walk

October 10, 9–11am

Cost: \$5 NHA and AARP M; \$8 NM

Advance registration with payment required.

Join Naturalist Kelly Dwyer for a gentle walk on our trails to enjoy fall foliage and learn how nature prepares for winter. Discuss the changing position of the sun in the sky and the fall migration of birds.

Intro to Pelagic Wildlife with Jon Woolf

October 10, 3–4pm

Cost: \$5 (free for those attending Pelagic Trip on Oct. 11)

Join Jon Woolf for 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

October 11, 8am–5pm

Cost: \$70 M/\$90 NM

Pre-registration required.

Join NH Audubon and Jon Woolf aboard the MV *Granite State* as we explore Jeffrey's Ledge, 20 miles off the New Hampshire coast. We'll spend all day at sea, searching for pelagic seabirds, whales, dolphins, and anything else that happens to cross our course.

Hike New Hampshire with Jeff Romano

October 23, 7–9pm

Cost: \$5 per person, free to MAC

Volunteers

Jeff Romano, author of *Day Hiking New England*, will showcase day hikes throughout New England and the region's flora and fauna.

Holiday Wreath Fundraiser October 15 – November 6

Experience NH Audubon natural beauty for the holidays.

Order a beautiful, fragrant balsam fir wreath and support NH Audubon's educational programs! Our volunteers carefully hand decorate each wreath to your specifications. All decorations (except the bows) are natural materials gathered from gardens, fields and forests of the Massabesic Audubon Center.



Photo by Dawn Genes

These very popular wreaths sell out every year so order early!

Members can save 10% on their wreath order.

Choice of bow color and four sizes to fit every door window or barn. Call (603) 668-2045 for an order form.

Pick up locations are Massabesic and McLane Center.



Tom Ricardi with Bald Eagle. Photo by Rita Tulloh

LIVE! Birds of Prey with Tom Ricardi

November 14, 12–1pm and 2–3pm

Cost: \$5 M/\$10 NM Individuals,

Families: \$15 M/ \$30 NM

Get a close-up look at a live Bald Eagle or American Kestrel and other birds of prey with this outstanding presentation by Tom Ricardi, a licensed rehabilitator and wildlife biologist. Our thanks to NHA trustee JoAnn O'Shaughnessy for underwriting this program.



In addition to being a program center, the McLane Center is home to NH Audubon's central operations. It is located on the Silk Farm Sanctuary in Concord. Sanctuary trails are open dawn to dusk daily, as are the raptor mews. The Center is open Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm.
84 SILK FARM RD • CONCORD NH • 603-224-9909

Conservation Series

The staff of NH Audubon's Conservation Department does amazing work throughout each year. Their activities include banding Peregrine Falcon chicks, chasing rare butterflies, searching dark skies for nighthawks and bats and so much more. This fall we are launching a series of programs to enable the biologists to share with the public some of what they do to help New Hampshire's wildlife. Meet the staff, hear their stories, and ask about their adventures and their data. All programs will be held at the McLane Audubon Center.

Programs are free, but donations are always welcome.

The Whip-poor-will: Biology and Conservation of a Crepuscular Enigma

Tuesday, September 22, 7pm

Presenter: Pam Hunt, NH Audubon Senior Biologist for Avian Conservation

The Eastern Whip-poor-will was once a familiar bird across much of New Hampshire, but it is rare today except in a few scattered locations. To learn more about this poorly-known species, Pam Hunt initiated a monitoring program in New Hampshire in 2003, and followed this with habitat research from 2008 to 2012. In this program she'll provide an overview of whip-poor-will ecology, discuss conservation issues facing the species, and wrap up with some of the results of her research program.

Common Nighthawks in New Hampshire

Thursday, October 15, 7pm

Presenter: Becky Suomala, NH Audubon Biologist, Coordinator of Project Nighthawk
Join NH Audubon's Becky Suomala for a program about the state-endangered Common Nighthawk. Nighthawks are declining throughout their range and biologists do not know why. The dawn and dusk "peent" call of these birds was once a familiar sound in cities and towns throughout New Hampshire, where they nested on flat, pea stone gravel roofs and fed on insects attracted to city lights. NH Audubon initiated Project Nighthawk in 2007 to investigate the potential for restoring nesting nighthawks by placing simple gravel "nest patches" on flat rooftops. Find out what we've learned about patches and nesting nighthawks, and see photos of nests and chicks.



Golden Visitors:

Golden Eagles Visiting New Hampshire

Thursday, November 5, 7pm

Presenter: Chris Martin, NH Audubon Raptor Biologist

During the fall migration of 2013 and 2014, 18 Golden Eagles were observed from the Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory in Peterborough. But you don't have to stand on a mountaintop for hours and battle numbing winds to see Golden Eagles in our region. Over three recent winters, NH Audubon's raptor biologist, Chris Martin, collaborated with a landowner and employed a "camera-trapping" technique to capture images of Golden and Bald Eagles on the Maine-NH border near the Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge. This method is being used across the Appalachian Mountains from Maine to Alabama to document Golden Eagle winter and migration behavior. Golden Eagles are far more abundant in the eastern U.S. in migration and over winter than was previously recognized, and a few of these elusive birds overwinter right here in northern New England! Learn more and see amazing images of these incredible raptors.



Enchanted Forest

Saturday, October 24, 4:50–7:50pm &

Sunday, October 25, 4:30–7:30pm

Cost: \$6.50/M, \$9.50/NM

Group rates available for scout and youth groups. Call for details.

Join us for another great year of NH Audubon's Enchanted Forest – new skits, same enchanting fun. This is a family-friendly event for ages 4 to adult. Scout and youth groups are also invited.

- Follow the glowing jack-o-lantern trail into the night time forest
- Encounter larger-than-life creatures and characters as they present skits about mysterious activities in nature
- Gather around a campfire for engaging stories
- Enjoy indoor seasonal games, refreshments and activities

This event takes place rain or shine as all skit sites are covered. Preregistration is required. Call (603) 224-9909 to register for a specific day and time slot. This popular event sells out so sign up early for your preferred time slot.

Volunteers will be needed to help make this event successful. There are opportunities to help with the planning, but also in the production of Enchanted Forest. If you would like to participate by acting in a skit, leading groups on a trail, sharing games and crafts, baking refreshments, assisting with planning or set up, please contact Ruth Smith at rsmith@nhaudubon.org.

AMMONOOSUC CHAPTER

Meetings are held at The Rocks Estate, 4 Christmas Lane, Bethlehem, NH therocks.org, (603) 444-6228. Contact: David Govatski, Chapter President, at david.govatski@gmail.com.

The Nature of Alaska's Inside Passage with Naturalist David Govatski

September 16, 7–8:30pm

Learn about the natural and cultural history of this fascinating region.

The Buzz on Bumblebees with Biologist Sara Zahendra

October 21, 7–8:30pm

Learn about bumblebee natural history, the role they play in our ecosystem, and get an update on their current status in the northeast.

CAPITAL REGION CHAPTER

Field Trip: A New Tradition – Labor Day Fall Warblers of Concord

September 7, 8am–12pm

Fall warbler migration is in full swing in early September and we will spend the morning in a variety of habitats that should result in at least a dozen species of warblers and other migrants. Contact Bob Quinn at raqbirds@aol.com for more information.

Lions and Zebras and Ostrich, Oh My! presented by Ruth Smith

McLane Center, Concord

September 15, 7–8pm

Join Ruth Smith as she shares slides and stories of her dream-come-true trip to the plains of Tanzania in East Africa. Refreshments will be served.

Field Trip: Elm Brook Park, Hopkinton

September 19, 7am–12pm

Search for fall migrants at Elm Brook Lake, Sparrow Corner, and especially warblers along legendary Dendroica Alley at Elm Brook Park in Hopkinton. Contact: Rob Woodward at 224-0889 (evenings) for more information.

Block Island Weekend

September 25–27

Cost: Meals, lodging, ferry

Block Island lies off the coast of Rhode Island and is a renowned location for watching fall migration in New England. Pam Hunt will lead this two-day, two night trip near the peak time for warblers and other songbirds. Participants will be responsible for their own travel and housing costs, and logistics for the former will be sorted out the week before the trip. For more information, contact Pam Hunt at 753-9137 or biodiva@myfairpoint.net.

Field Trip: Sparrow Roundup!

Community Gardens, Concord

October 10, 8am–12pm

Learn sparrow identification and enjoy hot apple cider with cookies and pie. Meet at the community gardens off Clinton Street, Concord. Contact: Rob Woodward at 224-0889 (evenings) for more information.

Field Trip: Concord November Challenge 2015

November 7–8

For the last seven years, Concord area birders and folks from farther afield have gathered on the first weekend of November to see how many species we can find within the

city limits. Over the years we've found 119 species, with the record of 93 set in 2013. Can we top it in 2015?! Birders of all skill levels are welcome to participate, and we'll make every effort to pair new folks up with hardened veterans of the CNC. There is no set meeting place since interested birders will be located in different areas. If interested, contact Pam Hunt 753-9137 (evenings) or biodiva@myfairpoint.net.

LAKES REGION CHAPTER

Programs are held at the Loon Center, 183 Lees Mill Road, Moultonborough, NH loon.org, 603-476-5666.



Curve-billed Thrasher on Ocotillo branch.
Photo by Mark Suomala.

From the Desert to the Mountains: Birding in Southeast Arizona, presented by Mark Suomala

September 17, 7–8pm

Mark Suomala has guided numerous trips to Arizona and will present a captivating overview of the avifauna, with tips on where and when to visit.

Rare and Endangered of the Lakes Region, presented by Rick Van de Poll

October 15, 7–8pm

This talk will emphasize the oft-unnoticed elements of our flora and fauna, and discuss the reasons why they're rare, as well as the uncommon and often fragile natural communities that they require.

Lions and Zebras and Ostrich, Oh My! presented by Ruth Smith

November 19, 7–8pm

Join Ruth Smith as she shares slides and stories of her dream-come-true trip to the plains of Tanzania in East Africa. Refreshments will be served.



SANCTUARY FIELD TRIPS

Ponemah Bog Walks

Saturdays, September 12 and 26, 9am

Join Ponemah Bog steward and nature enthusiast Jack Gleason for an informative walk around the Bog. Children always welcome. For more information, contact Jack at 603-673-3177 or email westonpond10@gmail.com

Photo by Pam Hunt

MASCOMA CHAPTER

Contact: mascomabirds@yahoo.com.

Field Trip: Annual Hawk Migration Watch

Lebanon Airport, West Lebanon, NH

September 12, 10am–12pm

This popular event provides a good opportunity to watch the wonderful fall hawk migration. All experience levels are welcome. Bring binoculars and/or spotting scopes.

Field Trip: Bedell Bridge Bird Walk

Bedell Covered Bridge, Haverhill, MA

October 3, 7–9am

The Bedell Covered Bridge may be long gone, a victim of a violent windstorm in 1979, but the area surrounding it offers a diverse array of habitats that always produce some interesting sightings.

Field Trip: Dead Creek Wildlife

Management Area

Addison, VT

November 7, 7am–5pm

Did someone say snow geese?

Last year's visit to this major migratory stop on the Lake Champlain flyway produced a tally of over 3,500 of the birds. Watchers occasionally were treated to wonderful views of the flock spiraling upward creating spectacular white, cloud-like formations.

NASHAWAY CHAPTER

Lectures and programs held at:

Nashua Public Library

2 Court St., Nashua, NH

Chapter Meeting and Guest Speaker

October 21, 7–9pm and

November 18, 7–9pm

After a brief meeting, we will feature a guest speaker from either the Nashua area, NH Audubon, or UNH speakers bureau who will discuss important New Hampshire environmental issues.

SEACOAST CHAPTER

Programs and lectures are held at

Seacoast Science Center, 570 Ocean Blvd,

Rye, NH. Contact Dan Hubbard at 603-

332-4093 or danielhubbard@peoplepc.com.

Antarctica Adventures with

Dr. Marco Restani

September 9, 7–9pm

Dr. Marco Restani, Professor of Wildlife Ecology at St. Cloud State University, MN and Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society Board Member, will provide an overview of the unique jurisdiction governing Antarctica, sustainability of tourism in the Southern Ocean, and the natural history of the region.

Soundscape Ecology: Using Recorded Sound to Estimate Habitat Biodiversity

October 14, 7–9pm

How can sounds be recorded and analyzed to help understand how busy a habitat is? Sue Bickford, Natural Resource Specialist for the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve in Maine, will give an overview of how some of these questions are being answered through a joint project between the Reserve and Purdue University in Indiana.



Dark-eyed Junco. Photo by D. Menke, USF&WS.

The Ordinary Extraordinary Junco

November 11, 7–9pm

A feature-length film will be shown comprised of eight chapters that highlight past and present biological research on one of the most common and abundant – yet amazing and diverse – groups of songbirds in North America: the juncos.

We like to give thanks...

Massabesic American Elm Care

An American elm "whip," located at the Milne Pond area at the Massabesic Center, was planted in the fall of 2003 by Pat Mattson and Tabor Browder. The elm was severely affected by the harsh winter of 2014-15. Numerous dead branches were removed in July 2015, under the direction of Bill Collins, a certified arborist and owner of Collins Tree Service in Hooksett, who volunteered his time. NH Audubon is grateful to Bill for his help as well as Bruce Carley who has pruned the elm on an almost yearly basis, and the Student Conservation Corps at Bear Brook for removing shrubbery directly adjacent to the tree.

New Garage Door at Massabesic

Thank you to Rob Degroup and Door Up, a professional garage door company located in Auburn, NH, for the recent donation of a new garage door, keypad, and installation at our Massabesic location.

101st Annual Gathering and Membership Meeting

Thank you to Normandeau Associates Environmental Consultants who will once again this year be the lead sponsor for our annual meeting. Normandeau Associates, Inc. is one of the largest science-based environmental consulting firms in the United States serving both the private and public sectors. Founded in 1970, it is a trusted leader in delivering sound, innovative scientific solutions to a global clientele. Headquartered in Bedford, NH with offices nationwide, Normandeau is 100% owned by its employees. For more information, please visit normandeau.com.



Tree Removal at Newfound Audubon Center

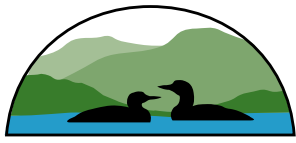
A tree removal service recently took down a dead twin ash, a white pine stub, a triple tree blowdown, and three big brush and log piles at our Newfound location. Thank you to Pete Carey for covering the expense of this service.

Massabesic Summer Camp Van Sponsorship

Eric Soederberg, President of Sunrise Labs, Inc. in Auburn generously helped to sponsor the Massabesic Audubon's Camp Wildside van used

to transport campers around the region as they took on new adventures such as climbing Mt. Monadnock or Windam Rail Trail or state parks. Thank you Sunrise Labs!





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NOW AVAILABLE:

New Hampshire Birds 2016 Calendar

Dr. John D. Lloyd was an avid outdoorsman
and nature photographer.

This 2016 calendar of Dr. Lloyd's
bird photos was compiled to honor his
talents and raise money to support the
Newfound Audubon Center, which is
located on one of his favorite lakes – Newfound Lake.

To purchase, visit the Nature Store
at 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH.
Open Monday-Friday, 10am–5pm and Saturdays 10am–4pm.
Or order online at nhaudubon.org. Cost: \$15.



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