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We are working to streamline our mailing list. If you would prefer to receive electronic communications from NH Audubon, please call 603-224-9909 or email nha@nhaudubon.org.

Register for Summer Day Camp Today

Massabesic & McLane Center locations

Programs for children ages 4-12

Sessions still available!

Visit nhaudubon.org for details

June 27-August 19

Live animal presentations

Session themes include Dirty Worm, Winged Adventures, Survival Strategies, Hide and Seek, Forest Adventures, Wetand Wild, and Scales to Skins

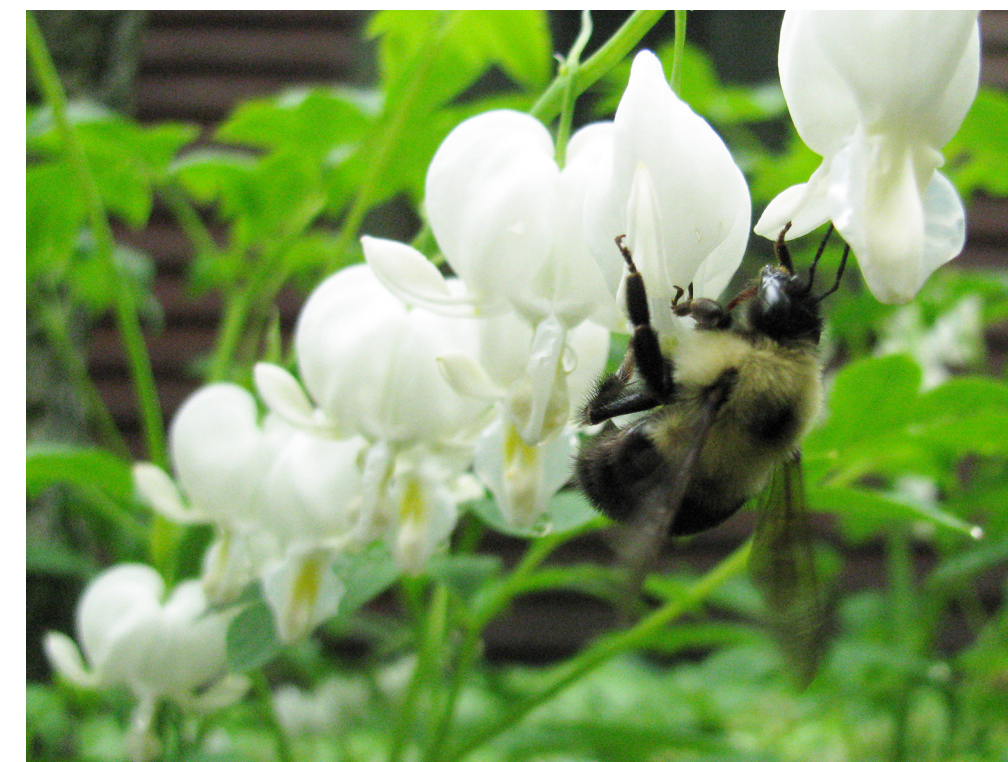
Crafts, storytelling, nature-based games and outdoor recreation

Explore NH Audubon's nature centers and surrounding sanctuaries

Fun, safe, hands-on learning opportunities



It's Not Too Late!



Pollinator Power

By Diane De Luca, Senior Biologist

Over 75% of the world's flowering plants depend on pollinators to reproduce. Scientists estimate that animal pollinators—mainly insects—are responsible for one out of every three mouthfuls of food and drink that we consume, and in the United States alone, are essential for pollination of more than a hundred crop plants. Without pollinators we would not be able to enjoy apples, blueberries, chocolate, almonds, peaches or pumpkins, just to name a few. Beyond providing the world with a rich source of fruits and vegetables, pollinators perform key roles in natural ecosystems. Native pollinators provide critical ecosystem functions by keeping plant communities healthy, which

"Plant diversity and pollinator diversity go hand in hand."

in turn provide food and cover for wildlife, prevent erosion, and protect waterways. Plant diversity and pollinator diversity go hand in hand.

Pollination is a strategy of plant reproduction that has evolved over millions of years and mutually benefits both flowering plants and pollinators.

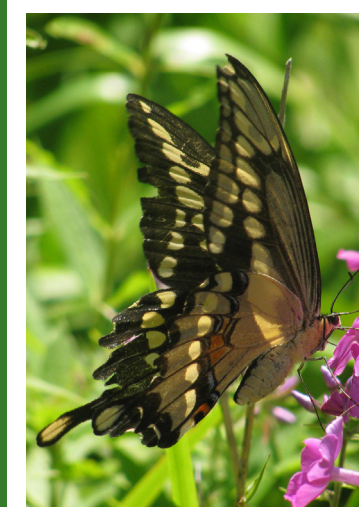
Pollination happens when pollen is transferred from flower to flower by wind, water or pollinating animals such as birds, bees, bats, butterflies, moths, beetles and innumerable other animals, leading to fertilization, seed and fruit production for plants. About 12% of the world's 400,000 or so flowering plants are wind-pollinated, including many trees (such as Eastern white pine) and grasses (even cultivated grasses such as wheat, rye, oats, corn, and barley). Another 2% of

Continued on page 6

Bee pollinating bleeding heart (Dicentra spectabilis). Photo by Diane De Luca.

SUMMER 2016

NH Audubon Afield



Pollinator Party June 26, 2016

Join us for an afternoon of fun and exploration. See page 7.

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NH AUDUBON
Protecting our environment since 1914

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



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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Earth Day dedication at Massabesic Center, with Dawn Genes and Angie Krysiak. Photo by Ruth Smith.



Mike's retirement party at McLane: supportive and thankful applause, right; enjoying social time in the courtyard, below right. Photos by Dyanna Smith.



Receiving the Conservation Service Award from Ranger Rick and Curtis Fisher, Regional Executive Director of the National Wildlife Federation. Photo by Sean Gillery.



Paver installed along McLane's courtyard path.

Enjoy a staff photo journal of all the spring celebrations honoring Mike's Presidential tenure with NH Audubon!



Fish whispering at Fish Fest. Mike releases the first salmon of the season. Photo by Emily Johnson.



Honor the Bartlett Legacy Give to the Bartlett Action Fund

The Bartlett Action Fund will provide resources to allow NH Audubon to take advantage of transformational and time-sensitive opportunities. The Fund will be managed by NHA's Board of Trustees to ensure maximum impact and longevity. To make a donation, give through the Annual Fund section of the NH Audubon website.

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

CAPITAL REGION CHAPTER

Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge, Whitefield Saturday, June 18, 7:00am

Let's spend the day in one of NH's premiere bird and wildlife areas. Here is your chance to see many northern species easily that are not found around Concord. Meet at the trailhead on Airport Road off Rte 115 at 7am or at the McLane Center, Concord, at 5:00. Bring a bag lunch. Contact: Rob Woodward 224-0889 (evenings).

Mid-Summer birding in Concord Saturday, July 23, 7am - noon

We will look for nestlings as well as early fall migrants and you might be surprised at what we can find in the middle of the summer! We will walk several miles on roads and easy trails. Meet at the NH Audubon McLane Center in Concord at 7am (to beat the heat!). Contact Bob Quinn at raqbirds@aol.com.

Weekday Canoe Birding on the Merrimack River

Thursday, August 18, 1pm-dusk

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

Common Nighthawk Migration Late August, evening (Dates TBD)

Witness hundreds of nighthawks migrating past Concord. Rob Woodward will spearhead the Nighthawk Migration Count in late August from the Capital Commons Parking Garage. Watch for details on the NH Birds listserv. Contact: Rob Woodward at 224-0889 (evenings).



Fringed polygala seen at Shaker Village during Birdathon/ Bloomathon. Photo by Jen Esten.

MASCOMA CHAPTER

Summer field trips are free and open to the public, led by Mascoma Chapter Steering Committee member George Clark. All skill levels are welcome. Bring binoculars and/or spotting scopes as you prefer. The walking is level and mostly paved. Wear comfortable shoes. It is advised to bring water and sun screen.

VT State Farm Prison and Environs

Saturday, June 18, 6:30-9:30am

The grounds of the VT correctional facility in Windsor offer some excellent birding opportunities. Among species observed during last year's visit were "winnowing" Wilson's Snipe, several members of the flycatcher family and singing mimids including Gray Catbirds and a Brown Thrasher. If time allows we'll also check the fields at the junction of Hunt Rd. and Marton Rd. for grassland species. Meet at the Vermont end of the Ledyard Bridge at 6:30am to carpool to Windsor.

Birding River Road – Hanover to Lyme Saturday, July 23, 6:30-9:30am

Explore scenic River Road from its beginning in northern Hanover to Lyme's Grant Brook. Meet at 6:30am in the Dartmouth Printing Company parking lot on NH Rt.10. From there, we'll carpool north along the Connecticut River making stops beginning at Wilson's Landing and concluding at the Grant Brook outflow in Lyme.

Chapter events are free unless noted otherwise.

Norwich Birdwalk – Early Fall Migrants Saturday, August 20, 7-9:30am

We'll gather at the Ledyard Bridge on the Connecticut River's Vermont side to see what waterfowl and land birds might be passing through as they begin their

journey south to their wintering grounds. From there, we'll carpool north along US Rt. 5. Likely stops include the Ompompanoosuc River Outflow, "Pompy" Flats, Kendall Station and Campbell Flats.

NASHAWAY CHAPTER

About Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge June 15, starting at 7pm

Bob Quinn gives an informative public presentation about Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge in Jefferson. Bob Quinn is a New Hampshire native who was NH Audubon's first staff ornithologist, a NH Bird Records editor, and a founding member of the NH Rare Bird Committee. Hear why Bob has such a keen interest in Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge. This will be held in the downstairs, wheelchair accessible, theater room of the Nashua Public Library. For information, contact Richard Maloon 424-5621 or richard.maloon@att.net.

Ponemah Bog Sanctuary Plant Walk June 18, starting at 9am

This free, short walk along the trails and boardwalks will showcase unique plant and animal adaptations of bogs. At this time Grass Pink orchids should be in bloom. Children are welcome. For more information, contact Bog Steward Jack Gleason @ 673-3177 or westonpond10@gmail.com.



Grass Pink orchid. Photo by Pam Hunt.

Visit www.nh Audubon.org for full event and program details.



Located on an historic farm site, the Center is bordered by 130 acres of wildlife sanctuary that includes more than five miles of trails that lead to Lake Massabesic. The Center is open Tuesday-Saturday 9am-5pm; sanctuary trails are open dawn to dusk daily.

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

Nature Cafe

Fridays, 7-8:30pm
Cost: \$5 per person, Free for Massabesic Volunteers

Come join us once each month at Massabesic Center to enjoy coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and delicious desserts while learning about our natural environment.

July 22: NH’s Wild History: 350 years of New Hampshire Wildlife

Join Bill Coder, NH Audubon Volunteer and UNH Cooperative Extension Covert Volunteer, for a journey through New Hampshire’s past, focusing on changes in the land and how wildlife populations have responded over time.

August 26: Living with the Coyote

Chris Schadler presents an informative talk on the Eastern Coyote. While wolf recovery was the focus of her early work, Chris’ attention shifted to the Eastern Coyote when she moved to New England. She chose a farm with known coyote problems to raise sheep and train her border collies. Chris is now the Representative for Project Coyote in NH and VT.



Go Solar and Support NH Audubon

Recently, the price of solar panels has dropped drastically making renewable energy systems much more affordable and attractive. Many new companies have sprung up to fill the demand. ReVision Energy has been around since 2008 and is an experienced, local solar energy company that has made over 4500 installations of renewable energy systems in New Hampshire and Maine. They have also been a strong supporter of NH Audubon over the years, including most recently as the lead sponsor for the Massabesic Earth Day event.

ReVision will continue to help NH Audubon, local citizens and the planet with their customer referral program. If you install one of their systems (solar hot water, solar electric, air source heat pumps) and tell them you learned about them through NH Audubon, you will receive a \$200 discount and Revision will donate \$200 to NH Audubon.

Visit: www.revisionenergy.com to learn more and don’t forget to tell them we sent you!

Spirit of the Loon

June 21, 7-8:30pm; Suggested Donation: \$5

Loons live with great passion and spirit. They are amazing bird parents, very gentle and loving with their chicks. Kittie Wilson has been documenting the lives of loons for many years and will enchant you with stories, songs and amazing photographs.

Creek Critters

July 30, 10am-12pm
Cost: \$6/M, \$9/NM per trip

Can you identify a common caddisfly or mayfly larva? With New Hampshire Audubon’s new Creek Critters! smartphone app (hosted by the Audubon Naturalist Society) the answer is a resounding YES. Creek Critters can be downloaded from the iTunes store or Google Play. Be prepared to wade and get muddy feet.

Coastal Birding

June 15, July 20 and August 17, 7:30am-noon
Cost: Individuals \$7/M, \$10/NM; families \$15/M, \$25/NM

Enjoy birding the coast with Audubon trustee JoAnn O’Shaughnessy. Meet at the Seabrook public parking lot (adjacent to the Yankee CoOp) at 7:30am and carpool from there to coastal hot spots. Bring a lunch, stop at the Beach Plum for ice cream to cap off the trip!



Groundbreaking installation of the new Sensory Garden. (L to R) Dawn Genes, David Morgan, President of the NH Association for the Blind, Michael Bartlet, and Martha Israel, Volunteer Project Manager. Photo by Kevin Harkins.

10th Annual Wild New Hampshire Photography Contest and Auction

If photography is your passion, take this opportunity to have your best photos recognized. Enter to win in three categories: wildlife, wild plants, and land/waterscapes.



“Kissie Kissie” Best in Show, 2015, by Mona Johnson.

Up to 5 photos can be submitted by amateur photographers only. Winning photos will be donated to the silent auction that will benefit the Massabesic Audubon Center.

Winning photos will be on display from October 6 to December 2, 2016. Rules and entry forms are on our website, www.nhaudubon.org.

Entries must be submitted July 15 to September 2.



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 and Saturday 10am-4pm.

84 SILK FARM RD • CONCORD NH • 603-224-9909

Kevin Talbot Loon Photo Exhibit

July 1-August 31
Artist’s Reception and Slideshow: July 14, 5-7pm

Kevin Talbot will be showing his amazing loon photos this summer during the months of July and August. Talbot is a local nature photographer who has honed his skills over the past twenty-five years on the ponds, in the woods, and across the mountains of his native New England.



“Loon Teenagers” by Kevin Talbot.

Birds and Beans Coffee House

July 21, 7-8:30pm
Tickets: \$15/M; \$18/NM. Seating is limited. Tickets may be reserved by calling 224-9909 x313 or booking online through the NHA website.

The natural environment has provided inspiration for music and art for thousands of years. The new Birds and Beans Coffee House series is an opportunity to listen to music and support NH Audubon programs that protect that environment. We are thrilled to have Concord native, and award winning musician, Cosy Sheridan as our inaugural performer as she sings tunes from her most recent release, *Pretty Bird*. Learn more about Cosy and her music at: www.cosysheridan.com. Birds and Beans bird-friendly coffee and locally baked refreshments will be sold at the event.

If you are 70 ½ years old or older, avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 from your IRA.

Help further NH Audubon’s mission with the IRA Charitable Rollover

Benefits of an IRA Charitable Rollover Gift

- » Avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to NH Audubon.
- » Satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.
- » Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions.
- » Make a gift that is not subject to the 50% deduction limits on charitable giving.
- » Help further the important work and mission of NH Audubon.

How an IRA Charitable Rollover Gift Works

1. Contact your IRA plan administrator to make a gift from your IRA directly to NH Audubon.
2. Your IRA funds will be directly transferred to NHA to benefit an organization you love.
3. Note that IRA charitable rollover gifts do not qualify for a charitable deduction.
4. Please contact development director Sean Gillery at 603-224-9909 ext. 307 if you have questions or wish your gift to be used for a specific purpose.

In Memoriam

New Hampshire Audubon is honored to receive donations in memory of friends and relatives who have passed. These gifts are a valuable contribution to the work we do for wildlife and conservation.

Thoughtful gifts were made by the following individuals and businesses:

In memory of Elizabeth Swift:

Tom Bolmer
Margaret B. Watkins

In memory of Eugene P. Huyck:

Jane T. Ellis
James E. Rodgers
Paul L. Talarico

In memory of Henry C. Beck:

Barbara Cabibbo
J. H. Grant
Marilyn S. Hicks
Robert A. Quinn
Dorothy F. Ransome
Louis J. Reeg
Mervin E. Stevens

In memory of Ida P. Morang:

Angeljean Chiaramida

In memory of John Sholik:

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Lauren E. Westbrook
Ruth Wyman

In memory of Ruth Underwood:
Putney Pond Neighborhood Assn.

In memory of Sally Sutcliffe:
Malcolm A. Merrill

The Silk Farm Wildlife Sanctuary A Place to Learn, Observe, and Play

By Phil Brown, Director of Land Management

New Hampshire Audubon is fortunate to have a premier research and demonstration site just outside of its McLane Center headquarters in Concord. The Silk Farm Wildlife Sanctuary, though small at only 12 acres, is also a place to immerse oneself in nature, learn about and observe the diversity of life around us, and recreate along an extensive trail system.

In combination with adjacent lands owned by St. Paul’s School under NHA’s management, there are ample opportunities for a variety of conservation activities. You may see cattle grazing the large grassland pasture (a partnership with local farmers) that is part of an ongoing grassland restoration project aimed at increasing breeding birds like Bobolinks.

In the woods beyond the parking lot and center, forest management over the winter was geared toward forest health and wildlife habitat improvements. Practices that benefit native wildlife include clearning to allow more sun near producing trees (mast tree release), invasive species control, and native plantings. Other conservation projects are designed to help bluebirds (about a dozen nest boxes are managed and monitored), bats (several structures exist in the fields and on buildings), and bees (an ambitious pollinator project is currently underway in the fields). Research projects conducted by students and staff focus on raptors, vernal pools, and forest growth.

We would be remiss to leave the Audubon campers off of this user group list as they make excellent use of the fields and forest for several weeks during the winter, spring, and summer!

This spring alone, NHA unveiled an attractive new trailhead kiosk, comprehensive trail guide, and bird species list, thanks in a large part to the efforts of partners and volunteers. Six American

“Six American Chestnut tree saplings have been planted... giving us hope for a forest that may someday again support this magnificent species.”



Cattle graze the St. Paul’s School fields. Photo by Phil Brown.

Chestnut tree saplings have been planted in conjunction with The American Chestnut Foundation and St. Paul’s School, giving us hope for a forest that may someday again support this magnificent species. Wendy’s Loop trail has been dedicated – a trail re-named and re-routed in honor of former NHA educator, Wendy Schorr – thanks to the work of St. Paul’s School’s ‘Sparks’ alumni team and our active sanctuary stewards.

So, add the Silk Farm Wildlife Sanctuary to your summer plans and check out the great work going on here. There will be ample opportunities to observe, document, and learn about pollinator-friendly plants, bumblebees and more during Pollinator Day on June 26. And there are always opportunities to witness migratory or breeding

forest, shrubland and grassland birds with Bob Quinn, and other staff and chapter bird experts.

For information or to volunteer for one of these exciting projects, please contact Phil Brown at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or at 224-9909 x334.



St. Paul’s student and American Chestnut Foundation staff member planting an American Chestnut tree in a forest opening.. Photo by Phil Brown.



Open for the season on June 18; 7 days a week through Labor Day. Weekly programs for adults and children enable local residents and vacationers to spend time at the diverse properties that make up the Newfound Center (Paradise Point Nature Center and Sanctuary, Ash Cottage, Hebron Marsh, and Bear Mountain).

290 NORTH SHORE ROAD • HEBRON, NH 03222 • 603-744-3516

Newfound Lake Swim for Wildlife

Saturday, August 6; Check-in begins at 8:00. Swim begins at 8:30.

Registration deadline: August 1

Do you love to swim? Do you appreciate clear lakes, beautiful natural areas and wildlife conservation? Then you are invited to join the third annual Newfound Lake Swim for Wildlife, a fund raising event to be held at the Newfound Center.

All swimmers must pre-register and are expected to obtain at least \$50 in pledges. Proceeds from the swim will support NH Audubon’s mission to protect NH’s natural environment for wildlife and for people.



Enjoying the quiet. Kayaking on Newfound Lake.

The swim route is ½ mile across Sanborn Bay from Paradise Point to Camp Mowgli and back, on the north end of Newfound Lake in Hebron. Contact Ruth Smith, NHA Community Engagement Manager for more information and to register. rsmith@nhaudubon.org, 603-224-9909 x313.

Newfound Center offers a variety of summer programs including Tai Chi, Stand-Up Paddleboard Yoga, lake ecology field trips, bird trail surveys, and live animal programs. Kayak and canoe rentals are also available throughout the summer. Visit www.nhaudubon.org for more information.

NH Audubon Grant Acknowledgements

Red Acre Foundation

Support for training and care of our live, captive raptors which are used in our education programs.

Kettering Family Foundation

Expansion and development of the Eco-Schools Program in NH in partnership with the National Wildlife Federation. NHA will work on biodiversity and schoolyard habitat action projects and sustainability initiatives with registered schools.

Samuel P. Pardoe Foundation

New Hampshire Purple Martin Recovery project: funds support a collaborative project with Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center to investigate the farm’s potential to serve as a new Purple Martin colony.

Quimby Trust

Completion of the boardwalk and viewing platform at our 304-acre Alice Bemis Thompson Wildlife Sanctuary in Sandwich.

Red Barn Lecture Series

The lecture series is held on Tuesdays from 7:30-8:45pm in the Red Barn of Meadow Winds Bed & Breakfast (please park across the street).

June 21: **Celebrate Honeybees**

June 28: **Aquatic Critters - Live**

July 5 (7-8:30pm): **Permaculture at Grey Rocks**
(Grey Rocks Tours 4-6:30pm)

July 12: **Peregrine Spring**

July 19: **NH Rabbits**

July 26: **Aerial Insectivores**

August 2: **Hidden Clues in Bat Guano**

August 9: **Endangered Species of the Lakes Region**

August 16: **Wood as an Archaeological Tool**

August 23: **Observing Mt. Washington Weather**

This summer’s Red Barn Lecture Series is generously supported by:

Meadow Winds Bed & Breakfast

Christopher Laux at Morgan Stanley

Meredith Village Savings Bank

Rotary of Plymouth, NH

Call for Volunteers

Do you love peaceful and quiet settings, surrounded by birdsong and lapping lakewater? Do you enjoy sharing your love for nature with others? Come volunteer as a docent on Paradise Point at the Newfound Audubon Center this summer! There’s plenty to do and we could use your help. Greet visitors, assist with programs, or adopt a trail. Come join us this summer as we continue our stewardship of the Audubon sanctuaries on beautiful Newfound Lake.



The Amoskeag Fishways Learning and Visitor’s Center is located at Exit 6 off Interstate 293 in Manchester, NH. The Center is open Monday–Saturday 9am–5pm. 4 FLETCHER ST • MANCHESTER, NH • (603) 626-3474



Migrating Alewife. Photo by Emily Johnson.

Celebrate Fish Season Through June 18

During this time, the fish ladder is open and ready for migrating fish. Visitors are able to view them through our underwater windows! Our center will be open daily from 9am–5pm. Walk-in visitors are always welcome and guided fish season tours are offered to groups of 10–30 participants.

Advance registration with payment required for all programs unless otherwise noted.

Let’s Go Fishing

June 14 & 16
6–8pm
FREE

Start your journey to becoming an angler in this two-part program by exploring fishing skills, equipment and available resources. Topics covered in this course include basic rods and reels, safety, knot tying, fish identification, ethics, rules and regulations, and aquatic ecology. All equipment and materials provided. Ages 8 and up. No fishing license necessary to participate.

Fishways Fundays

Cost: \$8 per family. For children ages 4-5
Get Ready, Grow!
June 9 & 11, 12:30–2pm

What makes plants so special? How do they get from seed to flower to fruit? We will explore outdoors, play games and plant seeds to discover the magic of plant growth.

Family Fun Nights

Cost: \$8 per family. 6:30–8pm
Family Fun Nights are for all ages, and focus on Merrimack River ecology. Engaging facts and stories are followed by group activities and open crafts.

Campfire Tales
August 5

The Penacook told stories by firelight and so will we. Participate in traditional Native American tales, play games and enjoy a campfire on the banks of the Merrimack River. Dress appropriately for weather and insects.

Fishways Family Adventures

Thursdays, July 7, 14, 21, 28
9am–12pm
Cost: \$10 per family

Looking for some fun, summer outings for your family? Join Fishways staff to hike, stomp, dig, climb, splash, and learn about Creek Critters through the popular new app! Put on your boots, discover some of the local natural gems in the Merrimack River watershed and explore with us! All Family Adventures will meet at the Fishways and caravan to the local destination of the week.



Children play a fast-paced game of Herring Fish Migration. Photo by Emily Johnson.

Kensan-Devan Pre-Harvest Tour
June 24, 8-11am

In 2015, NH Audubon adopted a forest management plan that is focused on managing for conservation priority bird species such as scarlet tanager, wood thrush, and Canada warbler. Join Phil Brown (NH Audubon’s Director of Land Management), Jeremy Turner (Forester, Meadowsend Timberlands), Wendy Ward (Soil Conservationist, NRCS), and Chad Witko (Graduate Student, Antioch University) for a tour of the areas subject to upcoming forest management. Come prepared to learn about (and look and listen for!) the bird species using these landscapes, planned management scenarios, current breeding bird research, and some of the stewardship improvements on the horizon. Meet at the parking lot at the end of Underwood Road in Marlborough at 8am.

Ponemah Bog Field Trip Series:
Dragonflies and other Flying Things
July 23, 10am-12pm
Nashaway Chapter Event

Dragonfly expert Tom Young will lead this walk in search of dragonflies, butterflies, and birds. There will also be several species of bog blooms to see at this time. For more information contact Jack Gleason at 673-3177 or westonpond10@gmail.com.

Willard Pond Paddle
August 19, 8-11am

Join Phil Brown for a leisurely exploration of Willard Pond by boat. We will focus on birds such as the common loon and bald eagle, and poke around in search of the first

autumn signs in the heart of this conserved landscape. Please RSVP to Phil Brown. Co-sponsored with the Hancock Conservation Commission and the Harris Center for Conservation Education.

Raptor Migration in NH - What the Numbers Tell Us
August 25, 7-8:30pm
Monadnock Chapter Event at the Harris Center for Conservation

The spectacle of large numbers of migrating hawks, eagles, falcons and other ‘raptors’ has always captivated people, and historical accounts of this phenomenon in NH date back to the 1700’s. Conservation of raptors is now a major theme across the globe, and species’ population changes provide evidence for conservation needs and successes. NH Audubon maintains two active monitoring sites including atop Pack Monadnock



Cuckoo snapped during Birdathon Bloomathon. Photo by Jen Esten.

Mountain in Peterborough, which has become a premier New England hawk watch. Phil Brown, Raptor Observatory Coordinator for NH Audubon, will review the history of hawk watching in NH, detail the ongoing monitoring efforts in NH and beyond, and provide some analysis of migration trend data. Co-sponsored with the Harris Center for Conservation Education.

Birding the Nighthawk Migration
August 29, 6-7:30pm
Monadnock Chapter Event

Join Cliff Seifer and Brett Amy Thelen to observe one of the under-appreciated spectacles of fall migration, the annual flight of Common Nighthawks over the Monadnock Region. If it’s an “average” night, we’ll get great looks at a handful of these incredible birds. If it’s a “good” night, we’ll see hundreds of acrobatic Nighthawks feeding in giant flocks. Meet at the Surry Dam at 6pm. Done by 7:30. For information, contact Cliff at clifdisc@gmail.com. Co-sponsored with the Harris Center for Conservation Education.

See page 11 for additional sanctuary chapter outings. Visit www.nh Audubon.org for outing details.



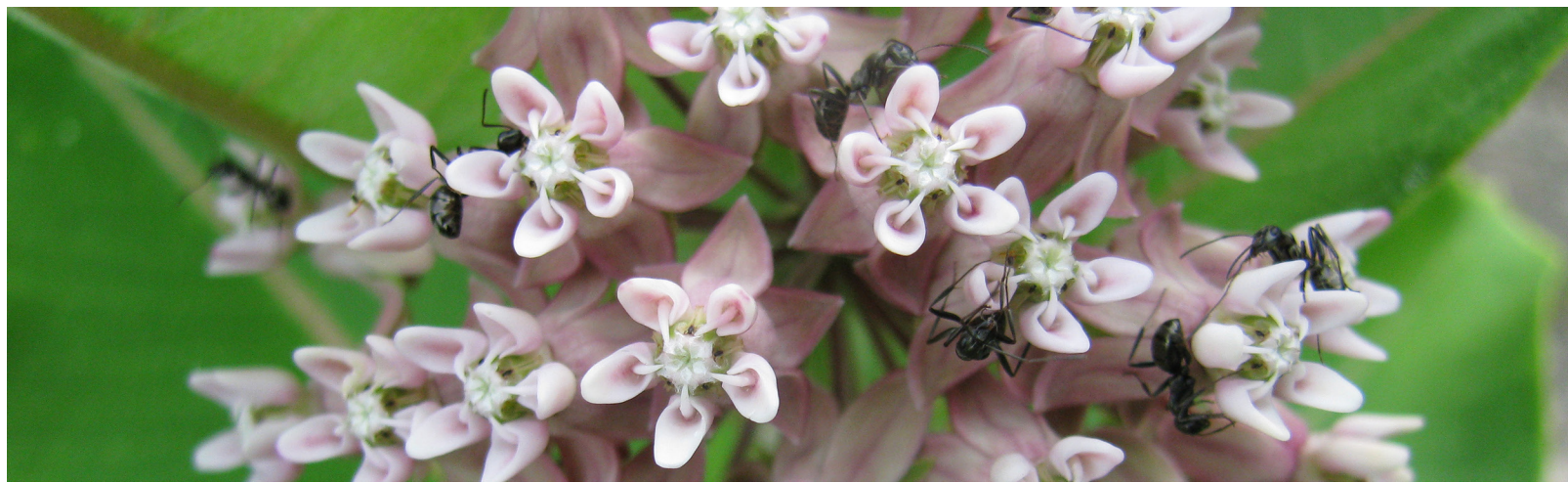
September 17, 2016
NH Audubon’s 2016 Annual Meeting and Membership Gathering at Massabesic Center in Auburn

Meet NH Audubon’s new president

- Douglas Bechtel and hear his vision for the organization’s future
- Award presentations – honor conservation leaders
- Morning field trips – visit local sanctuaries, paddle on Lake Massabesic, explore the Battery Point trails and more
- Speakers – learn about NH Audubon’s accomplishments and hear from an inspirational keynote

More details will be forthcoming in future newsletters and announcements, but mark your calendar so you can join us.





Ants pollinating a milkweed flower. Photo by Diane De Luca.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

flowering plants—all aquatic species—rely on water pollination. The rest of the world’s flowering plants rely on pollinators.

Unfortunately, there is troubling evidence that pollinating animals are in decline around the world. Habitat loss, disease, parasites and environmental contaminants have all contributed to the decline of many species of pollinators. In addition, many natural areas are degraded by invasive plant species, making them less suitable for native pollinators and wildlife. Finally, excessive or improper use of pesticides and herbicides can directly harm or kill pollinating species or native wildflowers. More than 185 species of pollinators are now considered threatened or have already become extinct.

The good news is that we all can help conserve pollinators by creating habitats that include native flowering plants with a variety of colors, shapes and bloom times. A variety of plants flowering at different times is essential, because the hundreds of species of native pollinators need nectar and pollen sources throughout the growing season with bloom times from early spring through fall. Creating clumps of plants, rather than widely spaced flowers, will attract pollinators, as will shrubs, tall grasses, piles of fallen branches, and old tree stumps or snags, which provide habitat for nesting and egg-laying. In addition, you can create simple “bee houses” using designs readily available through the University of New Hampshire. There are many options for helping native pollinators, in all types of locations, from farms to backyards. However, one of the most important things you can do to help pollinators is to avoid using pesticides and other chemicals, which not only kill or harm plants and animals, but often are not the best solution for most lawn and garden pest problems.

This past year, New Hampshire Audubon has partnered with UNH Cooperative Extension and the Natural Resources Conservation Service to create pollinator gardens at both Massabesic and McLane Centers. Both sites are still in very early stages, but will be maintained and monitored through citizen science projects starting up in the near future. In addition, the Massabesic Center has two honey bee hives owned and maintained by the Dodge family, who are Massabesic Center volunteers.

This year, New Hampshire Audubon will be participating in National Pollinator Week, which runs from June 20-26, 2016. This week-long celebration was initiated by the Pollinator Partnership, a nonprofit dedicated to protecting pollinators and their habitats. In 2007, the U.S. Senate unanimously approved and designated this June week each year as National Pollinator Week. Since then, Pollinator Week has grown into an international celebration of the important ecosystem services that pollinators provide, and addresses the urgent concern of declining pollinator populations.

“The good news is that we all can help conserve pollinators by creating habitats that include native flowering plants with a variety of colors, shapes and bloom times.”

PROJECT POLLINATION: MOTHS after dark

June 23 starting at 8:00pm
McLane Center; free

Local naturalist, Deb Lievens will present a program on Moths. She’ll introduce you to the family *Lepidoptera*, highlighting moth life cycles with photographs of the major moth families you might see in NH. She’ll also share her experiences documenting moths coming to her yard in NH for a citizen science project for Discover Life. After a slide presentation, Deb will take you outside to attract moths for identification!



*Silvery Blue butterfly.
Photo by Bob Janules.*

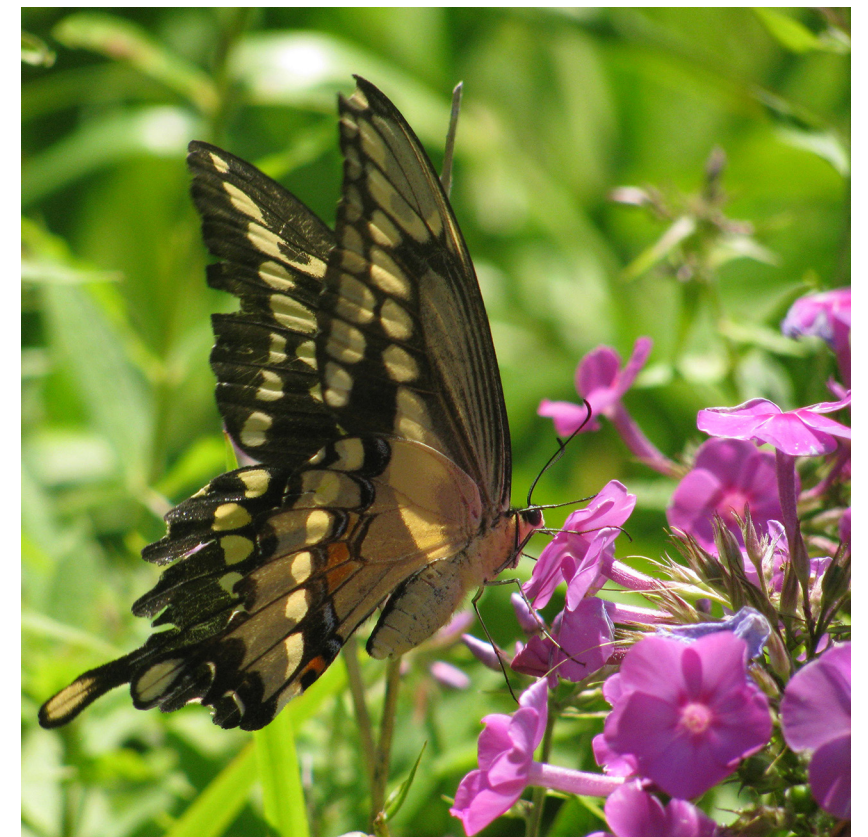
POLLINATOR Party

June 26, 1-4:30 pm
McLane Center

Many insects, bats and birds help to pollinate flowers in gardens, fields and forests. We need pollinators because it is estimated that at least a third of our food depends on their services. But pollinators also need our help.

Join us to learn about insects, who they are, what they do and what we can do for them. Biologists and educators will share presentations and activities, providing demonstrations and hands-on projects, including:

- 🌱 Honey bee biology and care
- 🌱 Butterfly identification and walk
- 🌱 Pollinators – who they are and how they help us
- 🌱 Planting for pollinators – what plants are best and how to grow them
- 🌱 Native bees – the unsung heroes
- 🌱 Bee house construction
- 🌱 Insect explorations for kids and adults
- 🌱 Pollinator crafts and games for children



Giant Swallowtail pollinating phlox. Photo by Diane De Luca.

Cole Gardens will be selling plants and other vendors will be offering butterfly art, resources and more. This event is free and appropriate for all ages—adults and children. Visit our website for a detailed schedule and more information. Thanks to support from Cole Gardens in Concord and the Pollinator Partnership.

Learn more about pollinators by visiting the following sites:



Clintonia with fly pollinator. Photo by Diane De Luca.

Xerces Society: (<http://www.xerces.org/>)

Natural Resources Conservation Service: (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/plantsanimals/pollinate/>)

UNH Cooperative Extension Service: (<http://extension.unh.edu/Wildflower-Meadows/Pollinator-Habitat>)

U.S. Forest Service: (<http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/index.shtml>)

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service: (<http://www.fws.gov/pollinators/Index.html>)