

AUDUBON GREENWICH NATURE PROGRAM CALENDAR

S P R I N G 2 0 1 0

Saturday, March 6

Mead Lake Hike 2:00-3:45 pm

Come explore the shores, inflows and spillway of Mead Lake for animal tracks, stories of animal life, history of the lake and the surrounding landscape. *Ages: 7 & up. RSVP to Store at x22.*

Saturday, March 13

Bird House Workshop 2:00-3:30 pm

Bird houses are a fun way to observe wildlife in our backyards. Come learn the secrets to attracting birds when Ted Gilman explains best practices for nest boxes and wildlife-friendly landscaping. *Ages: 5 & up. RSVP required to purchase & construct your own bluebird nest box after the program. RSVP to Store at x221.*

Sunday, March 14:

Hummingbirds: Feathered Gems 3:30-4:30 pm

Gina Nichol, former Audubon staff member, illustrates the amazing adaptations of these glittering gems and describes their fascinating life histories. With vivid photographs of hummingbirds who live throughout the Americas, Gina will describe how these birds survive in habitats that range from tropical forests to the forests of the Andes Mountains. Tips for attracting hummingbirds will also be discussed. *No RSVP required. \$5 per person.*

Saturday, March 20

Audubon Greenwich Hike 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Join John Calendrelli, a Sierra Club hiking guide, for a special walk through Audubon's forests, fields, and riparian areas. This hike will be an ideal way to search for the early signs of spring and learn more about this biologically rich site. *All ages. No charge. RSVP required. Call John Calendrelli to sign up at 860-236-4405.*

Woodcock Watch 6:45-7:45 pm

Witness one of the rites of spring as we watch and listen to the crepuscular calls and aerial performance of these woodland sandpiper relatives. *Ages: 6 & up. RSVP to Store at x221.*

Sunday, March 21

All about the Hog Island Camp in Maine 2:30-3:30 pm

Hog Island is a 330-acre wildlife sanctuary in Muscongus Bay and is frequented by Blackburnian warblers, flying squirrels, harbor seals, and Atlantic puffins. Join "Puffin Pete" Salmansohn from "Project Puffin" and Ted Gilman to learn about this magical island on the Maine coast. Ted and Pete will share photos and answer questions about why this opportunity is not to be missed! *All ages. No charge. RSVP to Store at x221.*



Camp Accommodations

Tuesday, March 23

AIR: Safe Caulks, Paints, Fabrics and Cabinetry

7:00-9:00 pm

A chemical-free home & work space is important to our health. Learn about safe choices, how to avoid unsafe products for remodeling or new buildings, and about the safest products from experts who use them daily. *Teens are free. \$10/adult. RSVP to Jeff at x239.*

Thursday, March 25

Chip Osborn's Organic Lawn Care 8:30-11:30 am

An ideal class for professional landscapers who want to maintain lawns without dangerous and costly lawn care chemicals. Ample time for questions after the course. \$20 per person. *This class will qualify for NYDEC, CTDEP, and NOFA education credit. RSVP required. RSVP to Jeff at x239.*

ORGANIC SUNDAY

Sunday, March 28

Organic Land Care Workshop 1:45-3:15 pm

An ideal program for homeowners seeking to learn organic lawn and landscape care. This workshop is by John Tycz and offered by the Northeast Organic Farming Association of CT. Q&A time included. *No Charge or RSVP required.*

Followed by:

MOVIE: 'A Chemical Reaction' 3:30-5:00 pm

This award-winning film by safelawns.org founder Paul Tukey is a documentary about Quebec's successful fight to ban common lawn chemicals. *\$7 per person. RSVP required. RSVP to Jeff at x239.*

These events are co-sponsored by CT NOFA.

Learn more about Organic Land Care at www.organiclandcare.net.

Saturday, April 3

Early Spring Mead Lake Hike 2:00-3:45 pm

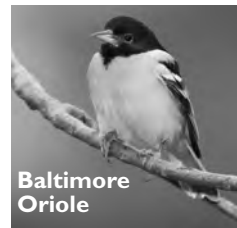
Join us as we circle Mead Lake at the time of spring thaw to seek out colorful tree buds, early flowers and any early emerging turtles, frogs, snakes, and insects, and returning wetland and water birds. *Ages 5 & up. RSVP to Store at x221.*

Saturday, April 10

Workshop: Bird Watching Basics

9:30 am-12:00 pm

An introduction to ornithology and the tools/skills used in bird study. Enjoy a walk, learn how to use binoculars, guides, and other resources that make birding so much fun. *Ideal for adults & interested youth. \$12/adult. No charge for youth. RSVP required. Call Ted at x230.*



Baltimore Oriole

Vernal Pool Survey Hike 2:00-4:00 pm

Hike the Old Pasture Trail to examine vernal pools in search of evidence of breeding wood frogs, spotted salamanders, and fairy shrimp. *Ages 7 & up. RSVP to Store at x221.*

Saturday, April 17

Migration & Early Spring Migrants 9:30am-12:00 pm

Learn about migration, recent bird research, and the many early spring migrants in our area. *Ideal for adults & interested youth. \$12/adult. No charge for youth. RSVP required. Call Ted at x230.*

Volunteer Day: Spring Cleanup 11:00 am-2:00 pm

Join the Audubon staff as we shake off the winter doldrums and get our trails and sanctuaries ready for spring. Wear long pants and sturdy shoes. Tools and work gloves will be provided. *RSVP required. Call Store at x221. Heavy rain cancels.*

Healthier Foods, Healthier Families 2:00-3:30 pm

Did you know that roughly 70% of antibiotics in the U.S. are given to animals? Or that there are now more overweight people in the world than starving people? Join Chef and Health Counselor Rachel Khanna to learn how to choose healthier foods and explore some of the myths surrounding our food supply. *Suggested donation: \$10. RSVP to Jeff at x239.*

Tuesday, April 20

WATER: Ways to Reduce Use and Harvest Water

7:00-9:00 pm

Before the 'well runs dry' come learn about the many ways to collect water and reduce use in our homes. Topics will include efficient garden irrigation, rain barrels and storage, and also explore practical rain harvesting systems for our region. *Teens are free. \$10/adult. RSVP to Jeff at x239.*

Friday, April 23

'Tapped': A Movie About Bottled Water 7:00-9:00 pm

This film is an unflinching examination of the bottled water business and a timely behind-the-scenes look into the unregulated and unseen world of the industry. From the plastic production to the ocean in which so many of these bottles end up, this documentary trails the path of the water industry and communities where the water is drawn from. *\$10/person. Space limited. RSVP required. Call Jeff at x239.*

Saturday, April 24

Local Wildflower Walk 10:00-11:30am

Hike and search for early spring wildflowers. Learn their life histories, ecological niches and insect pollination partners. *Ages 5 & up. RSVP to Store at x221.*

Springtime Night Hike 8:00-9:30pm

Join a night hike to our pond, woods, fields and lake in search of frogs, owls, insects, and scan the moon's disk for birds migrating at night. *Ages 7 & up. RSVP required. Call Ted at x230.*

Sunday, April 25

Birding Planet Earth:

Phoebe Snetsinger's Adventures 1:30-2:15 pm

Olivia Gentile, author of *Life List: A Woman's Quest for the World's Most Amazing Birds*, a new biography of one of the world's most storied birders, discusses how Phoebe became an intrepid, globetrotter and record setter who saw more than 8000 species of birds in her lifetime while amassing a breadth of ornithological knowledge to rival any professional's. *All ages. \$5/adult. Kids are free.*

Composting 202: Beyond The Pile 2:30-3:30 pm

Gwendolyn Bounds, an author and journalist from the Wall Street Journal, will discuss many ways to create compost without an outdoor compost pile. Since investigating this topic as a journalist, she has experimented with several methods and had great success turning her spoils into soils. She will review several methods including worm bins, the "Nature Mill" automatic model, a bokashi-based method and the "e-composter." *All ages. \$5/adult. Kids are free.*

SPRING MIGRATION BIRD WALKS

Wednesday & Saturday Mornings at 7 am

Rise and shine for this annual tradition. Bring binoculars. Some loaner binoculars may be available. *No charge or RSVP required.*

Wednesday: April 7, 14, 21, 28 / May 5, 12, 19, 26

7:00-8:30 am. Fairchild Garden.

Meet in parking area on North Porchuck Road.

Saturday: April 3, 10, 17, 24 / May 1, 15, 22

7:00-8:45 am. Audubon Greenwich.

Meet in main parking area on Riversville Road.

Saturday, May 1

Workshop: Birding By Ear 9:30 am-12:00 pm

Indoor discussion of how and why birds vocalize, introduction to useful bird sound recordings, and outdoor walk to practice Birding By Ear skills. *Ideal for adults & interested youth. \$12/adult. No charge for youth. RSVP required. Call Ted at x230.*

Tree ID and Natural History 2:00-3:30 pm

Would you like to be able to identify trees and shrubs and understand their integral role in local ecology? Join Ted Gilman for an insightful session about identification and how wildlife depend on woody plants. *Ages 8 & up. RSVP to Store at x221.*

Sunday, May 2

'Victory Gardens' & Nutrient Testing 2:00-3:30 pm

A special presentation by Vonne Whittleton, an organic vegetable garden designer, and Jennifer Boyd, a Physician Assistant and wellness specialist. They will teach how to establish a 'victory garden' and discuss why organic vegetables tend to be richer in nutrients when compared to non-organic varieties. Topics will include elements for a successful garden, soil testing, Brix testing, sustainability planning, medicinal plants, and botanical Lyme disease prevention. *\$5/adult. Kids are free. RSVP to Jeff at x239.*



Saturday, May 8

International Migratory Bird Day

Check website and page 1 of newsletter for details.

THE SCIENCE OF WATER

Wednesday, May 12 • 6:30-8:00 pm

Dr. Bernard Sweeney from the Stroud Water Research Center will discuss freshwater research, how our streams and rivers function as a whole, and the complex web of life that inhabits them. Only through knowing how healthy streams and rivers work, and what happens when they become polluted, can we determine how to protect and preserve this vital resource. Participants will leave with a fresh perspective on how to protect, preserve, and restore watersheds everywhere, including our local area. *No Charge or RSVP required.*

Saturday, May 15

Workshop: Wood Warblers & Neotropical Migrants

9:30 am-12:00 pm

Introductory talk and walk to learn characteristics, adaptations, and behaviors of these colorful springtime migrants, as well as identification tips, and resources for continued study. *Ideal for adults & interested youth. \$12/adult. No charge for youth. RSVP required. Call Ted at x230.*

The Healing Power of Whole Foods 2:00-3:30 pm

Whole foods are powerful. Learn how food can directly impact your health, detoxify, increase energy and boost your immune system with Gina Paterno Villalobos a.k.a. The Organic Coach. Q&A session at end on how to eat for different health conditions. *\$5/adult. Kids are free. RSVP to Jeff at x239.*

Tuesday, May 18

EARTH: All about 'Green Roofs' 7:00-9:00 pm

This program will feature a panel of experts with experience installing live plant materials on roofs and show examples of green roof projects suitable for existing and new homes and buildings in the region. *Teens are free. \$10/adult. RSVP to Jeff at x239.*

Saturday, May 22

Workshop: Birds in their Habitats 9:30 am-12:00 pm

Learn how particular bird species depend on specific habitats and how this relates to the 'Audubon at Home' and 'Important Bird Area' programs. *Ideal for adults and interested youth. \$12/adult. No charge for youth. RSVP required. Call Ted at x230.*

Family Pond Exploration 2:30-4:00 pm

Bring your family to discover the amazing variety of insects, amphibians and other organisms which call our Indian Spring Pond home. *All ages. RSVP to Store at x221.*

Programs suitable for all ages unless otherwise indicated. Register by calling 203-869-5272. Audubon Greenwich, 613 Riversville Road. <http://greenwich.audubon.org>. Programs: \$3/adult members; \$5/adult non-members; \$1.50/member children and seniors; \$3/non-member children and seniors.

STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH AUDUBON PROGRAMS! Send a blank email to: AudubonGreenwichNews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com for weekly program reminders.