

# AUDUBON GREENWICH NATURE PROGRAM CALENDAR

## W I N T E R 2 0 1 1 - 2 0 1 2

### Saturday, December 10

#### Old Pasture Trail Hike 1:00-3:00 pm

Come explore the eastern woods, the old fields, and the shores of Mead Lake on a one and a half mile hike to seek out winter birds, animal tracks and other evidence of wildlife activity. *All ages. RSVP to Ted at x230.*

### Saturday, December 17

#### Pre-Bird Count 'Scouting Trip' 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Join experienced Audubon birders for a scouting trip at local coastal and inland birding areas in preparation for the Annual Christmas Bird Count the next day. Meet at Audubon Greenwich. Bring binoculars and warm clothes. Loaner binoculars and field guides will be available. *Ages 8 & up. RSVP to Store at x221.*



Black-capped Chickadee

### Saturday, December 17

#### Family Birding & "Christmas Bird Count"

##### Practice Session 2:00-3:30 pm

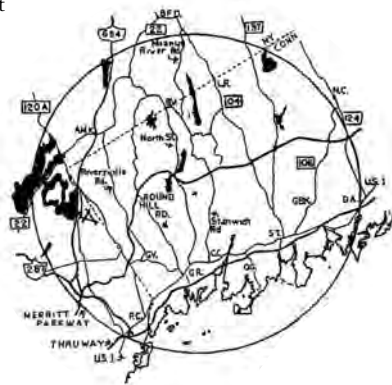
Get out and enjoy a bird class with Ted Gilman. He teaches about the many birds here for winter and explains how to be a 'citizen scientist' by counting birds at home and sending your 'data' to Audubon's scientists. Just in time, too. The next day is the Christmas Bird Count (Dec 18), the Great Backyard Bird Count (Feb. 17-20), and Project FeederWatch runs all winter long. Call Ted anytime to learn more about these great family activities that can be done at home or in the community. *All ages. RSVP to Ted at x230.*

## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT:

*A Greenwich Tradition since 1911*

*Sunday, December 18, 2011*

100 years ago in Greenwich, locals picked up binoculars and joined the Christmas Bird Count (CBC), one of the oldest 'citizen science' projects in the world. This important bird research project relies on volunteers (with a range of skill levels) who count all the birds they see in one day. The count happens in two ways. Many sign up for all or part of the day with a 'count team' in the field. Others, who live within Audubon Greenwich's 15-mile wide count circle, can volunteer to count in their backyards and send the results on a CBC Reporting Form to the local Count Captain, Brian O'Toole. The data then gets compiled and sent to bird researchers and scientists worldwide. So start a new family tradition that will make a real difference. *All ages & skill levels welcome. For details about signing up, call Brian at x221.*



**YOUR ULTIMATE**

ENJOY MEMBER SAVINGS!

## Nature Gift Shop

Great Nature-Inspired Gifts for the nature lovers in your life!

Shop at Audubon Greenwich for books, nature guides, feeders, seed, nature-inspired jewelry, binoculars and spotting scopes, and much more!

Your purchase at the Nature Store helps support Audubon's conservation programs.

*Can't decide? Need a special gift? Have a bird feeding station? We're here to help!* Call Brian O'Toole, the Nature Store Manager & Volunteer Coordinator at 203-869-5272 x221.

STORE HOURS:

Tues-Sat. 9 am-5 pm • Sundays 12-5 pm • Closed Mondays

## 1ST SUNDAY BIRD WALKS AT GREENWICH POINT

Jan. 1 / Feb. 5 / March 4 • 9:00-11:00 am

A monthly bird walk along the Long Island Sound shore. Leaders will bring spotting scopes and help everyone locate and ID wintering birds in the rich variety of habitats at Greenwich Point. All ages and beginners welcome. Held in collaboration with Wild Wings, Bruce Museum and Audubon Greenwich. Meet at the second concession stand. Wear warm clothes and bring binoculars. *No charge or RSVP required. Questions? Call Cynthia Ehlinger at 203-413-6756 or Meredith Sampson at 203-637-9822.*

### Saturday, January 7

#### TRIP: Coastal Birding at the Edith Read Sanctuary 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Rise and shine for a survey of over-wintering ducks, herons, shorebirds, hawks, and other birds frequenting Read Sanctuary and Playland Lake in Rye, NY. Spotting scopes will be provided by the leader. Dress warmly and bring binoculars. *\$15/person. RSVP required to Ted at x230. Sign up for a spot in Audubon's van or join the carpool. Loaner binoculars are available.*

### Saturday, January 7

#### Averting the Climate Crisis: with Peter Libre 4:00-5:30 pm

Ring in the new year with an afternoon presentation about estimating our carbon footprint, climate issues, and the relationship of health to both. Learn how to transform your way of living and improve your personal, planetary and fiscal well being. Peter Libre, trained by Al Gore's Climate Reality Project, is a Columbia University graduate performing 350 eye surgeries a year while living a low carbon lifestyle. He bikes 2,500 miles a year, keeps chickens, and grows vegetables. With solar hot water and electricity, good insulation, and a woodstove, his family's utility bills are \$25 a month. *\$5/adult. Youth are free. RSVP required to Jeff at x239. Snow date: Jan. 14.*

### Saturday, January 7

#### Winter Moonlight Walk

##### 6:30-8:00 pm

Come join us as we hike to Mead lake to enjoy the moonlit woods and lakeshore and listen for ice shifting, hooting owls, coyotes, or other wildlife. Dress warmly with soft, quiet outer layers. *\$5 per person. Ages 8 & up. RSVP required to Ted at x230.*



coyote

### Saturday, January 14

#### Family Bird-watch: Lifestyles of the Birds of Winter 1:00-2:30 pm

A family-friendly class about how birds like chickadees, nuthatches, and woodpeckers survive & thrive in winter's wonderland. Also, guests can help do the weekly bird count for Project FeederWatch while learning how the family can do these bird counts at home. *RSVPs appreciated to Ted Gilman at x230.*

### Saturday, January 21

#### Hillside Trail Hike 1:00-3:00 pm

Come along as we explore this 1.5 mile western trail loop away from the center for over-wintering birds and signs of wildlife activity from mice, shrews, and squirrels to deer, fox and coyote. *Ages 7 & up. RSVP to Store at x221.*

### Saturday, January 28

#### Insects in Winter Walk 1:00-2:30 pm

Learn how insects survive winter's cold. Search for some hardy insects known to be active on the snow and along the winter-chilled Byram River. We will also search for insects hidden away under logs, tree bark, and other winter retreats. *Ages 5 & up. RSVP to Store at x221.*

### Saturday, February 4

#### Hudson River 'Eagle Fest'

##### 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Visit Croton Point Park on the Hudson River in NY to scan its icy waters for wintering bald eagles during this annual celebration of Bald Eagles. Highlights include warming tents along the river, eagle conservation exhibits, live eagle presentations, and eagle-watching bus tours. Or pick-up a self-guided Eagle Tour map for all the best places to see eagles in the winter. Note: Bus & Show tickets tend to sell out. *For tickets, visit: <http://www.teatown.org>. (Snow date: Feb. 5.)*



bald eagle

## AUDUBON GREENWICH'S WINTER FILM FESTIVAL

### "Mother Nature's Child"

Growing Outdoors in the Media Age

Friday, January 20 6:00-9:00 pm

Mother Nature's Child explores nature's powerful role in children's health and development through the experience of toddlers, children in middle childhood and adolescents. With interviews with experts like Richard Louv, author of Last Child in the Woods, the film asks: Why do children need unstructured time outside? What is the place of risk-taking in healthy child development? How is play a form of learning? How can city kids connect with nature? Following the film, there will be a short discussion with a guest speaker from the Connecticut Outdoor & Environmental Education Association. *\$15/person. RSVP required to Jeff at x239. Pre-film Reception at 6:00 pm & Film at 7:15 pm. Snow Date: Jan. 27.*

### "American Meat"

A film & panel discussion

Saturday, January 28 4:00-7:00 pm

American Meat is a solutions-oriented macroscopic documentary surveying the current state of the U.S. meat industry. Featuring dozens of farmers across America, the film aims to be an even-handed look at animal husbandry. *\$15/person. RSVP required to Jeff at x239. Film at 4:00, followed by discussion & reception. (Snow Date: Jan. 29)*

### "La Clé des champs"

(The key fields)

Saturday, February 4 5:00-7:30 pm

In the French countryside, a young boy discovers a pond outside the village which soon becomes his secret Eden. He returns, fascinated, day after day, and discovers a whole unknown world, populated by strange creatures. Then one day, a little girl becomes his accomplice and the two explore this secret paradise. Through vivid imagery and a great story, the filmmakers take us on an adventure into the heart of an ecosystem close to us, yet totally unknown to us. This event is sponsored by Focus On French Cinema & Alliance Française of Greenwich. *All ages. \$15/adult. \$10/child. RSVP required to Jeff at x239.*

**Winter Vacation Adventures**

**February 14-15 & February 21-22**

Sign up and explore the winter season with Audubon's experts. They will enjoy short nature hikes, learn how wildlife weathers winter's tough conditions, and have fun making crafts with new friends. Sign up for one or all the days. *For Grades K-5, \$65 per day. (\$75 for non-members) Registration forms & details are online. Questions? Call James at x224 or Ted at x230.*

### Saturday, February 18

#### Great Backyard Bird Count: a 'training session' 1:00-2:30 pm

A great way to get the kids involved with science that matters, the Great Backyard Bird Count (February 17-20) is a nationwide 'citizen science' effort to research where the birds are in late winter. Count at home, in parks or neighborhoods. On Feb. 18, come with Audubon Greenwich staff when they check the bird feeding area and take a walk to count birds. Then, return to the center and report the data to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology via the internet. *Fun for all ages. RSVP to Ted at x230. To learn more, visit [www.birdsource.org](http://www.birdsource.org).*

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](mailto:AudubonGreenwichNews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) for weekly program reminders.**