



Fern & Feather Day Camp

A tradition of bringing campers and nature together on Martha's Vineyard since 1964



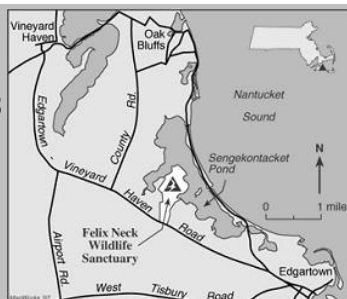
Explore the nature of Martha's Vineyard on our 350-acre wildlife sanctuary in the forest, field, marsh, pond, and seashore habitats. Our programs **encourage** campers to actively **investigate** and **observe** their surroundings, make their own **discoveries**, appreciate **nature**, and most of all have **fun!** Our camps incorporate **outdoor** games, activities, hikes, stories, and crafts.

Dear Campers and Families,

After a busy fall teaching school programs and a somewhat quieter winter season, I'm looking forward to hearing the joyful sounds of campers again. This will be my third summer at Felix Neck, but it is the forty-fifth anniversary of Fern & Feather Day Camp. I feel very privileged to be part of this long standing tradition of nature education. Felix the Osprey will be returning from his travels to South America and is looking forward to more adventures with campers, and we will be adopting the "La dee da, Felix Neck is the best" song that was created by counselors from last summer as our official camp song! I hope to see you all soon. - Justen Walker, Day Camp Director



Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
P.O. Box 494 Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
Phone: (508) 627-4850
Fax: (508) 627-6052
Email: felixneckcamp@massaudubon.org
Website: www.massaudubon.org



STAFF:

Suzan Bellincampi, Sanctuary Director
Marion Hammond, Administrator & Camp Registrar
Justen Walker, Education Coordinator & Camp Director
Susie Bowman, Teacher Naturalist
Emily Smith, Teacher Naturalist & Gift Shop Buyer
Philip Hunsaker, Property Worker

Try Camp for a Day!

June 24, 25, or 26

Camp Staff are chosen for their **enthusiasm, experience, knowledge, and ability** to work with children outdoors. Staff are First Aid, CPR and/or Lifeguard certified and attend training in safety, child development, and natural history.

Kick off the Summer with Camp for a Day: 9 am - 2 pm
Fee: **\$49/day members, \$65/day non-members**

Wednesday June 24: Clam Grand Slam
Thursday June 25: Crazy Crabs
Friday June 26: Bird Beaks and Feet

INVESTIGATORS:

9 am - 12 pm

Fee: **\$189 members, \$254 non-members**

Four-year olds (must be 4 by 04/01/09): This program encourages a young child's curiosity, increases sensory awareness, and provides an introduction to nature. Exciting adventures may include catching bugs, touching a turtle, making animal crafts, and much more! Classes are half day, with a snack brought from home.

June 22 - 26 (INV 1): Senses of Nature

"Stop, look, listen, feel and taste!" Campers experience nature using all their senses in a fun and friendly way. Find out which flowers smell the best, feel the many textures of trees, leaves, and bark, and taste some of nature's treats.

June 29 - July 3 (INV 2): Ooey Gooley

Find fun in yuk! There are many ooey gooley things to explore at Felix Neck, marsh mud, snails, seaweed, sea snot, and more!

July 6 - 10 (INV 3): Fuzzy, Furry, and Fun

Moles, voles, otters, and bunnies all call Martha's Vineyard home. Find out what makes them all mammals and how they are different from birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians.

August 3 - 7 (INV 4): Beach Bop

Sandy, rocky, muddy, marshy—Campers find out which beach habitat is their favorite and which critters live there.



Please see descriptions above for the following sessions:

August 10 - 14 (INV 5): Ooey Gooley

August 17 - 21 (INV 6): Fuzzy, Furry, and Fun

August 24 - 28 (INV 7): Senses of Nature



PATHFINDERS: 9 am - 2 pm Fee: **\$239 members, \$304 non-members**

Entering K and 1st grades (Ages 5 & 6): The Pathfinders program balances play, art, sensory exploration, and hands-on activities about animals. Days include crafts, hikes, exploring with nets, nature games, stories, and snack and lunch brought from home.

June 29 - July 3 (PATH 1): Nature Detectives

Learn to be a super nature sleuth! Track animals, go on scavenger hunts, look for nests, hunt for crabs and more! *Friday pick up will be at 12pm. Campers in this session will participate in the *Edgartown 4th of July parade on Saturday*.

July 6 - 10 (PATH 2): Mammal Mania

Even though an otter swims, find out why it is a mammal and not a fish! Discover the differences between mammals and other animals, and which mammals call Martha's Vineyard their home.

July 13 - 17 (PATH 3): Predators and Prey

Hunt or be hunted—a who's who in the animal kingdom. Find out who eats who in the island food chains and webs.

July 20 - 24 (PATH 4): Things with Wings

Hummingbirds hum, hawks soar, and dragonflies zip through the summer sky. Animals that fly are fun and exciting to investigate. Campers will use nets and bug boxes to discover for themselves what makes these animals so amazing.

July 27 - 31 (PATH 5): Aqua Critters

Like a fish out of water—why do some animals have to stay in the water to survive? This session focuses on some of the animals found living in the waters at Felix Neck.

August 3 - 7 (PATH 6): Wet and Wild

Discover the ins and outs of Felix Neck's water habitats. While splashing around in our salt and fresh water ponds campers will take a look at the plants and wildlife of the ponds.

August 10 - 14 (PATH 7): Slimy and Scaley

From reptiles and amphibians to butterflies and slugs to mushrooms and algae, learn why slime and scale are important to the survival of different organisms.

August 17 - 21 (PATH 8): Mammal Mania

Please see description above.

PATHFINDERS (1/2 Day Option):

9 am - 12 pm

Fee: **\$189 members, \$254 non-members**

Entering K and 1st grades (Ages 5 & 6): The Pathfinders program balances play, art, sensory exploration, and hands-on activities about animals. Days include crafts, hikes, exploring with nets, nature games, stories, and snack and lunch brought from home.

Please see descriptions above.

June 29 - July 3 (PATH A): Nature Detectives

July 6 - 10 (PATH B): Mammal Mania

July 13 - 17 (PATH C): Predators and Prey

July 20 - 24 (PATH D): Things with Wings

July 27 - 31 (PATH E): Aqua Critters

August 3 - 7 (PATH F): Wet and Wild

August 10 - 14 (PATH G): Slimy and Scaley

August 17 - 21 (PATH H): Mammal Mania

August 24 - 28 (PATH I): Nature Detectives



EXPLORERS: 9 am - 2 pm

Fee: \$259 members, \$324 non-members

Entering 2nd and 3rd grades (Ages 7 & 8): Explore the wildlife habitats of the sanctuary. Each session investigates animals and plants in an interactive way. Campers should bring snack and lunch from home, shoes and clothes that can get wet, and lots of curiosity!

June 29 - July 3 (EXP 1): Pondemonium

Tadpoles, dragonfly nymphs, giant water bugs, and water scorpions - which is the fiercest pond predator? Wading around in the salt and fresh water ponds campers take a closer look at the plants and wildlife found there. *Friday pick up will be at 12pm. Campers in the session will participate in the Edgartown 4th of July parade on Saturday.

July 6 - 10 (EXP 2): Mammals of Martha's Vineyard

Over fifty mammals call the land and waters of Martha's Vineyard their home. Island life is unique in many ways for people and for the animals living here. How did all the animals get to the island in the first place? Did they take the ferry?! We'll take a closer look at the deer, skunk and rabbit populations of the island.

July 13 - 17 (EXP 3): Natural Survival

Imagine living your entire life outside. Squirrels, deer, osprey, and otters can all survive, could you? Learn about animal survival techniques and adaptations for surviving in the wild.



July 20 - 24 (EXP 4): Birds of a Feather

"Birds of a feather are flocking outside." Why do birds flock together? Campers will discover raptors, songbirds, shorebirds, and more while having some feathery fun.

July 27 - 31 (EXP 5): Pondemonium

Please see description above.

August 3 - 7 (EXP 6): Ocean in Motion

"The tide is high but I'm holding on!" What makes the tide roll in and out, and what's all that commotion in the ocean? Discover what makes the waters around the island move and which animals and plants live beneath the waves.

**August 10 - 14 (EXP 7):
Fish, Frogs, and Pollywogs**

Fish can be found in both fresh and salt water habitats, but can frogs? And what is a pollywog? By exploring the watery habitats of Felix Neck campers will uncover the answers and find out about the unique life cycles of some of these animals.

**August 17 - 21 (EXP 8):
Mammals of Martha's Vineyard**

Please see description above.



ADVENTURERS: 9 am - 3 pm
(ADV 2, 3, 4: Friday pickup at 9 am, no camp on Friday)



Fee: **\$299 members** (* ADV 5: \$329 members),
\$364 non-members (*ADV 5: \$394 non-members)

Entering 4th and 5th grades (Ages 9 & 10): Investigate the natural world while discovering science and environmental stewardship. Explorations include hiking, nature experiments, games, and more. Each session includes a camp-out or a field trip.

July 6 - 10 (ADV 1): Endangered Species

Threatened, endangered or extinct? Discover what these words mean and their impact on some of the animals living on Martha's Vineyard. Campers will learn about heath hens, salamanders, piping plovers and spotted turtles, their struggles for survival and how they can help. Conservation is possible by learning about these animals and their habitats. *Includes a trip to the World of Reptiles and Birds Park.*

July 13 - 17 (ADV 2): Eco-Challenge

A challenging week of survival. Play team building games, learn to navigate the woods with a map and compass, and explore the survival techniques of plants and animals. *Thursday night camp-out, Friday morning pick up at 9am, no camp on Friday.*

July 20 - 24 (ADV 3): Rip Roaring Raptors

Osprey, Red-tailed hawks, and Barn Owls are just a few of the raptors that soar above Felix Neck. These birds of prey can cause quite a ruckus as they screech and squawk to let others know the important role they play in the ecosystem. *Thursday night camp-out, Friday morning pick up at 9am, no camp on Friday.*

July 27 - 31 (ADV 4): Wetland Wonders

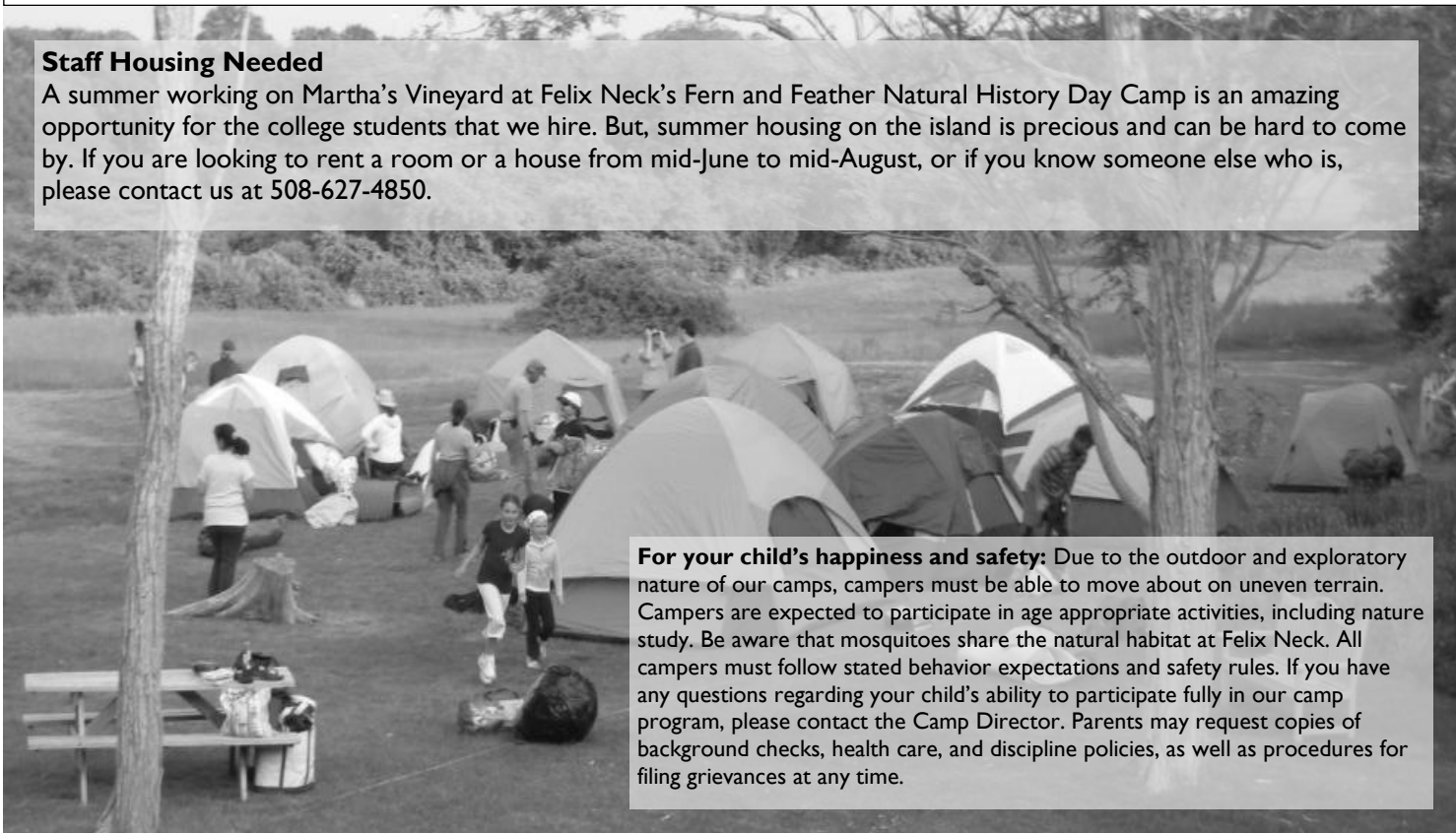
Marshy and murky, wet places are wonderful areas to look for frogs, herons, and dragonflies. Don't be a stick in the mud, but be prepared to maybe get stuck in the mud! As campers muck through the marsh and snorkel in the pond they will discover the importance of wetlands. *Thursday night camp-out, Friday morning pick up at 9am, no camp on Friday.*

***August 3 - 7 (ADV 5): Marine Life Mania**

From salt marsh to island harbors, by seining, dipping, snorkeling, and digging, we'll take a closer look at the marine life around Felix Neck. *Includes an evening Marine Discovery Tour out of Oak Bluffs Harbor.*

Staff Housing Needed

A summer working on Martha's Vineyard at Felix Neck's Fern and Feather Natural History Day Camp is an amazing opportunity for the college students that we hire. But, summer housing on the island is precious and can be hard to come by. If you are looking to rent a room or a house from mid-June to mid-August, or if you know someone else who is, please contact us at 508-627-4850.



For your child's happiness and safety: Due to the outdoor and exploratory nature of our camps, campers must be able to move about on uneven terrain. Campers are expected to participate in age appropriate activities, including nature study. Be aware that mosquitoes share the natural habitat at Felix Neck. All campers must follow stated behavior expectations and safety rules. If you have any questions regarding your child's ability to participate fully in our camp program, please contact the Camp Director. Parents may request copies of background checks, health care, and discipline policies, as well as procedures for filing grievances at any time.



ECOLOGISTS: 9 am - 3 pm
 (Friday pickup at 9 am, no camp on Friday)
 Fee: **\$319 members, \$384 non-members**

Entering grades 6th, 7th, & 8th (Ages 11-13): Campers are involved in inquiry-based projects both on and off the sanctuary that introduce the methods and techniques that scientists use to study and interpret nature. Programs include field trips off-site and overnight campouts.

July 13 - 17 (ECO 1): Eco-Seekers

Eco-Seekers begin to understand ecological changes, local environmental issues, and how they can make a difference through stewardship. This week includes snorkeling and kayaking excursions on Sengekontacket Pond and participation in a group designed stewardship project. This session also takes a field trip to another conservation property on the island and includes a camp-out at the Sanctuary. All trip fees are included. *Thursday night camp-out, Friday morning pick up at 9am, no camp on Friday.*

July 20 - 24 (ECO 2): Flying Machines

Look up to the sky! It's a bird, it's a butterfly, it's a dandelion seed! Explore the world of animals and plants that depend on flight for their survival. Learn about insects, birds, mammals, and plants that use the wind for transportation. By designing their own flying animal, campers will understand the magic of flight. Campers will look for birds flying over head as they kayak on Sengekontacket Pond. *Includes a trip to the World of Reptiles and Birds Park and a Thursday night camp-out. Friday morning pick up at 9am, no camp on Friday.*



July 27 - 31 (ECO 3): Sealife Scientists

Sealife Scientists actively explore current marine ecology and environmental issues. Using scientific methods and equipment, campers will learn about the water quality of the fresh and saltwater ponds at Felix Neck. This week includes snorkeling and kayaking excursions on Sengekontacket Pond. This session also takes a field trip to another conservation property on the island and has a camp-out at the sanctuary. All trip fees are included. *Thursday night camp-out, Friday morning pick up at 9am, no camp on Friday.*

Too old for camp but still love it and want to be involved?



LEADERS-IN-TRAINING (LIT):
 for young adults, ages 14-18

LIT's assist Counselors in planning and teaching lessons. This is an opportunity for young adults to develop leadership skills, foster personal growth, and develop an environmental ethic to carry throughout their lives. LIT's participate for week long sessions, and can do as many weeks as they would like.

Contact the Camp Director for more information.
 508-627-4850



A Mass Audubon Camp for Outdoor Exploration

There's more to explore at Wildwood, Mass Audubon's only overnight camp, in Rindge, New Hampshire. Choose 1- or 2-week overnight camp sessions for campers aged 9-14, Teen Adventure Trips for campers aged 14-17, or Leader-in-Training programs for campers entering grades 10-12. Everyone is welcome at our 4-day Family Camp programs. Go wild this summer! Call toll-free 866-MAS-CAMP for more information, or visit Wildwood online at www.massaudubon.org/wildwood.

CAMP STAFF POSITIONS: Junior Counselors (ages 16+) & Instructor Counselors (ages 18+)

Every year we hire enthusiastic people who want to enrich the lives of children through hands-on nature activities, games, and crafts. Have fun exploring our trails and various field, marsh, forest, pond, and shoreline habitats and be mentored by our year round staff. Instructors supervise campers' health and safety, promote positive youth development, teach nature-based activities and communicate with parents as well as staff. Applicants for instructor counselor positions must be at least 18-years old (Junior counselors must be at least 16-years old) and have experience working with and enjoying being with children. Preferred applicants are studying or have a degree in a science or education. For some positions lifeguard certification is required. Current CPR and first aid certifications are required for all positions. Contact the Camp Director at 508-627-4850 for more information.

2009 Fern & Feather Registration - One camper per form please

Phone: 508-627-4850 Fax: 508-627-6052

Please return registration form with a check payable to Mass Audubon to the address below:

Fern & Feather Camp, Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, P.O. Box 494, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568.

Camper's name _____ Birth date _____ Sex M / F Grade entering Sept. '09 _____

Dates	Session (i.e. PATH 4)	Topic (i.e. Crafty Critters)	Fee
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____

Would you like to be on and receive a carpool list? YES NO

Parent/Guardian _____	Email address _____
Mailing Address _____	Home phone _____
_____	Cell phone _____
Island Address _____	Island phone _____

Mass Audubon Member

_____ Exp. _____

\$58 Family, \$70 Supporter, \$80 Family Plus, \$100 Contributor, \$150 Protector, \$250 Sponsor

* To qualify for camp tuition discounts you must be a current Mass Audubon member at the \$58 Family level or above, and the parent or legal guardian of the camper being enrolled. If you are unsure of your membership status please call Member Services at 781-259-9500, Monday—Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Subtotal Program Fees: \$ _____

Mass Audubon membership*: \$ _____

Fern & Feather Scholarship Fund Contribution: \$ _____

Year-round Vineyard Resident Discount (- \$15/ session): -\$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Method of Payment: Cash Check Credit Card (Visa, Mastercard, Discover)

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____



Refund Policy: The camp fee includes a \$75 enrollment fee that is non-refundable. Full payment is due with registration. Cancellations must be received in writing four weeks prior to your child's camp session in order to receive a refund (less the \$75 enrollment fee). A refund will not be issued if notice is less than four weeks. Refunds are not given for sick or absent days. We appreciate your careful registration planning. We reserve the right to cancel sessions that do not fill.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



Scholarships are available through the Dooley-Rosenwald Fund, the Ellen Eberhardt Memorial Scholarship Fund, and generous individual contributions. To apply for a scholarship, send a letter stating your need and your child's interest in camp with your registration. Scholarship money is given on a first come, first served basis. Contributions are always needed.

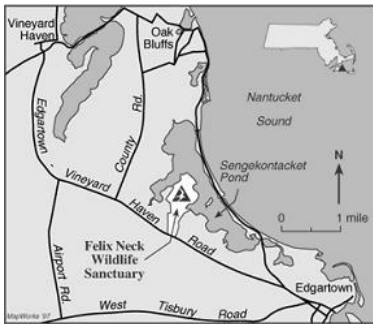
Year-round Vineyard Resident Discount: \$15 off per session with proof of enrollment in a Martha's Vineyard school. Please provide a copy of a report card, progress report, or letter from the school with your registration to receive the discount.



Mass Audubon
 Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
 P.O. Box 494
 Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

NONPROFIT
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 OAK BLUFFS, MA
 PERMIT NO. 8

FELIX NECK FERN & FEATHER DAY CAMP 2009 BROCHURE



Directions: Felix Neck is located on the Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road approximately two miles from the Edgartown triangle intersection of Beach Road in Edgartown and four miles from State Road in Vineyard Haven. Look for a blue and white sign with the Mass Audubon logo. Follow the wooded drive 3/4 of a mile to the parking lot.



This camp must comply with regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and be licensed by the Edgartown Board of Health.

Mass Audubon works to protect the nature of Massachusetts for people and wildlife. Together with more than 100,000 members, we care for 33,000 acres of conservation land, provide educational programs for 200,000 children and adults annually, and advocate for sound environmental policies at the local, state, and federal levels. Mass Audubon's mission and actions have expanded since our beginning in 1896 when our founders set out to stop the slaughter of birds for use on women's fashions. Today we are the largest conservation organization in New England. Our statewide network of 45 wildlife sanctuaries welcomes visitors of all ages and serves as the base for our conservation, education, and advocacy work. To support these important efforts, call 800-AUDUBON (283-8266) or visit www.massaudubon.org.

