

*Central and Western
Massachusetts —
Explore with us!*

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Front cover photos:

Chickadee – Richard Johnson
Snow in Weeds – Michael Walker
February Vacation – Broad Meadow Brook Staff
Winter Field – Michael Walker

Printing:

Turley Publications, Inc.

Back cover photos:

Muskrat at Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary – René Laubach
Winter Wood Sky – Brent Morrisette

This program catalog includes programs offered by Mass Audubon sanctuaries in the Central and Western regions of the state, as well as a listing of our international trips. This spring/summer edition lists programs, classes, and events that take place from January - May 12. Don't forget, you may access information about upcoming Mass Audubon programs across the state on our website at www.massaudubon.org.

The program listings are organized by region (see inside front cover for a map of regions and sanctuaries). In addition, a chronological listing of programs by sanctuary can be found on pages 2 & 3.

Within each region, programs are arranged by audience type and are classified as either Adult programs, or Children, Families, and All Ages programs. All Ages programs are designed for everyone, unless otherwise noted. The programs are then listed chronologically within each region and within each audience category.

When multiple sessions of the same program are offered, they are grouped and listed together.

Program registration is required unless otherwise noted.

Take a moment to browse the catalog and enjoy Mass Audubon's broad array of programs. Please let us know if you have suggestions on how we can make it easier to find programs that interest you.

Mass Audubon's Program Catalog for Central and Western Massachusetts is published 3 times each year in January, April, and August. The catalog is mailed to members who live near Broad Meadow Brook, Wachusett Meadow, Arcadia, or Pleasant Valley.

If you would like to be removed from the catalog mailing list, please contact the Membership Department, 208 South Great Road, Lincoln, MA 01773, 781-259-9500, or membership@massaudubon.org.

 **Mass Audubon**
Protecting the Nature of Massachusetts

**Mass Audubon • 208 South Great Road
Lincoln, MA 01773
781-259-9500**

Funding provided in part by



Audience Key

A / Adult	A/C / Adult-Child Pair
C / Children	All / All
F / Family	HS / Home School

Date	Session Name	Audience	Pg #
5/5/12	Flower Pot Pincushions	F	19
5/12/12	Bird-a-thon Birds and Breakfast	All	19
5/20/12	Twelve Essential Species: Hickory and Hornbeam Natural Community	A	14

Berkshire Wildlife Sanctuaries

1/14/12	Bird Banding Demonstration	All	21
1/21/12	Eagles at Quabbin Reservoir	A	20
1/21/12	Watching Wildlife for Juniors	C	21
1/28/12	Lenox Mountain Snowshoe Hike	A	20
2/11/12	Bird Banding Demonstration	All	21
2/12/12	Eagles at Quabbin Reservoir	A	20
2/21/12	School Vacation Week—Winter Adventures	C	22
3/3/12	Bird Banding Demonstration	All	21
3/9/12	Birding the Rio Grande Valley and Texas South Coast	A	32
3/24/12	Watching Wildlife for Brownies	C	22
3/31/12	Bat House Making Workshop	All	22
4/6/12	Bird Walks at Canoe Meadows	A	21
4/13/12	Bird Walks at Canoe Meadows	A	21
4/14/12	Bird Banding Demonstration	All	21
4/17/12	School Vacation Week—Spring Stampede	C	22
4/18/12	Gardening Organically & Community Gardens Registration	A	21
4/19/12	Evening at the Beaver Ponds	All	22
4/20/12	Bird Walks at Canoe Meadows	A	21
4/21/12	Gardening Organically & Community Gardens Registration	A	21
4/25/12	New Mexico: Rio Grande Lowlands to Rocky Mountain Highlands	A	32
4/27/12	Bird Walks at Canoe Meadows	A	21
4/28/12	Canoe Meadows Cleanup Day	A	21
5/4/12	Bird Walks at Canoe Meadows	A	21
5/5/12	Pleasant Valley Cleanup Day	A	21
5/9/12	Evening at the Beaver Ponds	All	22
5/11/12	Bird Walks at Canoe Meadows	A	21
5/13/12	Wildflowers and Spring Changes	F	22
5/18/12	Bird Walks at Canoe Meadows	A	21
5/25/12	Bird Walks at Canoe Meadows	A	21

Connecticut River Valley

1/13/12*	Nature Photography: Beyond the Novice Level	A	23
1/14/12	Animal Tracking: Porcupine and Fisher	A	23
1/20/12	Mammal Tracking in the Northeast	A	24
1/21/12	Mammal Tracking in the Field	A	24
1/21/12	Tracking and Animals Signs at Laughing Brook	F	29
1/28/12	Owl Moon	A/C	30
1/28/12	Winter Raptors	A	24

2/4/12	Predator Ecology	A	24
2/5/12	Winter Crows	A	24
2/7/12	Evening At the Galápagos	A	24
2/11/12	Winter Wildlife	A/C	30
2/11/12	Project Wild: Mammal Tracking and Mammal Sounds	A	25
2/18/12	Waconah Falls State Forest Snowshoe Trek	All	30
2/18/12	Tracking and Animals Signs At Laughing Brook	F	30
2/21/12	February Vacation Days at Arcadia	C	30
2/25/12	Eagles at Quabbin	A	25
2/25/12	Animal Tracks	F	30
3/2/12*	Novice Digital Capture and Photoshop	A	25
3/3/12	Ecological Management Conference	A	25
3/3/12	Girl Scout Badge: Sky Search for Juniors	C	30
3/24/12	Dance of the American Woodcock	A	26
3/24/12	Spring Fling at Moran Wildlife Management Area	A	26
3/31/12	"The Big Night"	F	31
4/3/12	Vernal Pool Certification	A	26
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4/13/12*	Beyond Novice: Digital SLR and Photoshop Nature Photography	A	27
4/14/12	Ponding for Families	F	31
4/14/12*	Intensive Field Study Program	A	27
4/14/12	Keystone Arch Bridges Trail Hike	A	27
4/14/12	Great Blue Herons	A	27
4/17/12	April Vacation Days at Arcadia	C	31
4/21/12	Hallockville Pond Mill Trail Walk	A	28
4/21/12	Vernal Pools at Laughing Brook	F	31
4/22/12	Trees, Glorious Trees	F	31
4/24/12	Vernal Pool Discovery	F	30
4/28/12	Birding the Amherst Rail Trail	A	28
4/28/12	All State Volunteer Day at Laughing Brook	A	28
4/28/12	Windsor Bush Discovery Hike	A	28
4/29/12	Floodplain Forest Canoe Trip and Great Blue Heron Rookery Viewing	All	31
5/5/12	Spring Wildflowers at Laughing Brook	A	28
5/5/12	Spring Plant and Tree Identification at The Historic Becket Quarry and Forest Preserve	A	28
5/5/12*	Early-Morning Birding	A	29
5/5/12	South Hawley Ghost Town Hike	A	28
5/5/12	Spring Evening in the Meadows	A	28
5/9/12	Spring Wildflowers at Marion Sherman Lynes Wildlife Sanctuary	A	29
5/11/12	Birding by Canoe	A	29
5/19/12	Girl Scout Badges: Daisy Nature Walk	C	31
5/19/12	Spring Wildflowers at High Ledges	A	29
5/19/12	Quabbin Park Bird Walk	A	29

*Multiple sessions, refer to catalog page number for all dates

Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary

113 Goodnow Road, Princeton, MA 01541 / 978-464-2712

Open House Events at Wachusett Meadow, Princeton

WINTER OPEN HOUSE

January 21 / 1:00-4:00 pm

Snow date January 22 / 1:00-4:00 pm



SHEEP SHEARING OPEN HOUSE

April 14 / 1:00-4:00 pm

Rain date April 15 / 1:00-4:00 pm

Berkshire Wildlife Sanctuaries

472 West Mountain Road, Lenox, MA 01240 / 413-637-0320

SPRING CLEANUP DAYS

We need your help! Each spring, we prepare Canoe Meadows and Pleasant Valley for the upcoming busy summer season.

We rely on volunteers to assist us with the various projects. Tools and gloves will be available for use.

Be sure to wear appropriate footwear. A pizza lunch will be provided for all volunteers.

Please let us know if you'll be able to help out (call 413-637-0320 or email berkshires@massaudubon.org).

Canoe Meadows Cleanup Day

At Canoe Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, April 28 / 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Pleasant Valley Cleanup Day

At Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, May 5 / 9:00 am-1:00 pm

SNOWSHOE RENTAL AT PLEASANT VALLEY

Get out and enjoy the crystalline beauty of the winter season on a pair of snowshoes. If you don't have your own, you can rent them for use on the sanctuary. The fee is \$2 for members and \$3 for nonmembers.

Both adult and children's snowshoes are available.

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

127 Combs Road, Easthampton, MA 01027 / 413-584-3009

PUFFINS AND THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE NORTHERN COAST OF MAINE

We are planning a travel program to the coast of Maine where we hope to get close views of Atlantic puffins, razor billed auks,



and common and arctic terns. We will also take a day to explore coastal wetlands focusing on birds, botany and more.

This trip will be led by John Green and Patti Steinman. Watch the website, next catalogue or call for more information.

ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE / MARCH 3, 9:00 AM-NOON

Come listen to the up-to-date research that has been happening both at Arcadia and in the local area.

ARCADIA NATURE PRESCHOOL

Imagine tapping maple trees, looking for salamanders, and raising chickens! These plus more are what our preschoolers are doing daily! We are taking registrations for our unique nature preschool for the 2012-2013 school-year. Children ages

3-5 attend two-three- or five mornings a week from 9:00 am-noon. If your child loves nature and the outdoors, please be sure to call and find out about our informative open houses and meet the teachers.

BIRD-A-THON

The CRVS will once again participate in Mass Audubon's annual Bird-a-thon, held May 11-12.

If you would like to join a team, please call Patti at 413-584-3009 ext. 814. This is a fun competition in which several

Mass Audubon sanctuaries have teams throughout the state counting birds. This is also a fund raiser for each sanctuary. Please consider sponsoring one of our teams which will benefit the programs that we do here.

Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary

414 Massasoit Road, Worcester, MA 01604 / 508-753-6087

PROGRAMS FOR SCOUTS

Broad Meadow Brook offers badge workshops and programs for all levels of scouting, also overnights and service opportunities too! Contact Sheryl or Martha at 508-753-6087 for more information.

Workshop Dates / **January 14**, Brownies: Animals
February 15, Juniors: Sky Search / **March 17**, Brownies:
Eco-Explorer / **April 14**, Juniors: All About Birds
May 19, Brownies: Water Everywhere



BIRDING TRIPS

Leave the driving to us and come explore the coast for winter birds or Mount Auburn for migrating warblers.

Plum Island—January 28
Winter Ducks at Sachuest Point—February 25
South Shore—March 24
Mount Auburn Cemetery—May 6

VOLUNTEER DAYS AT WACHUSETT MEADOW AND BROAD MEADOW BROOK

WACHUSETT MEADOW

Property/Ecological Management Volunteers

Every Tuesday / 9:30 am-12:30 pm
Contact Cindy Dunn, 978-464-2712, ext. 8707

Sanctuary Property Project Volunteers

Third Sunday of every month / 1:00-4:00 pm
Contact Joe Choiniere, 978-464-2712, ext. 8700

BROAD MEADOW BROOK Volunteer Days

Every Wednesday / 10 am-noon
First Saturday of every month / 9 am-noon
Contact Martha Gach, 508-753-6087, ext. 22

TRY SNOWSHOEING

Explore **Broad Meadow Brook**
and **Wachusett Meadow** on snowshoes.

Come on your own or join one of our programs.
Snowshoes are available for rent at both sites. \$2/hour
per members and \$4/hour per pair nonmembers.

Call Broad Meadow Brook at 508-753-6087
or Wachusett Meadow at 978-464-2712

WATERFRONT COTTAGE FOR RENT

Waterfront cottage
at Pierpont Meadow
Wildlife Sanctuary in
Dudley. Available mid-
May through September.
Call 978-464-2712,
ext. 8702, for more information and availability.



BIRD-A-THON!

May 11-12

The great spring fundraiser!

Support your favorite sanctuary or team.
The event raises critical funds that support our
conservation, education, and advocacy efforts.
Learn more at www.massaudubon.org/birdathon

SUMMER DAY CAMPS



Call to learn more or download
brochures and registration forms at
www.massaudubon.org/camp

Broad Meadow Brook 508-753-6087 / Worcester

Camp Discount Day

Saturday, March 10 / 11:30 am-3:30 pm

Register in person at Broad Meadow Brook and
complete your paperwork to receive a discount
on your day camp fee. Questions? Call 508-753-6087.

Wachusett Meadow 978-464-2712 / Princeton

One-week sessions for ages 3.5-17, beginning June 20.

Specialty Camps such as Art & Nature,
Woodworking & Nature, and Digital Photography
& Nature. Sessions fill quickly so sign-up early.

Pleasant Valley 413-637-0320 / Lenox

Nature Camp accommodates children ages 5-14.
Camp begins July 2.

Arcadia

413-584-3009 / Easthampton

Arcadia Day Camp will have one and two week sessions for
children ages 4-12. Sessions are from June 25-August 31.

You can call for a brochure or download one
from the Mass Audubon website.

Connecticut River Valley

Main office: Arcadia, Easthampton
413-584-3009 / 800-710-4550

News&Notes

The Arcadia great blue heron rookery continues to be very active. Last spring **54 nests were occupied with herons while another had a resident great horned owl pair.** Our highest count was in 2009, with 59 active nests. If you would like to visit the rookery, we have several programs included in this catalogue.

Two new endangered plants have been documented at Arcadia: Tuckerman's sedge (*Carex tuckermanii*) and winged monkeyflower (*Mimulus alatus*).

Our grasslands management plan at Arcadia is proving successful. Last spring **we had nesting meadowlarks and grasshopper sparrows, a first for us with the sparrows, as well a first for any of the Mass Audubon sanctuaries.** We certainly hope that these grassland species return this coming spring!

Winter is time for tracking, and several programs can be found in this catalogue. The Valley Environmental Education Collaborate is proud to sponsor expert tracker Susan Morse for an evening slide show on January 20 at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Headquarters in Hadley, as well as two walks at Graves Farm on January 21.

Tropical storm Irene brought the highest floodwaters to Arcadia since the 1984 flood. **This led to some destruction of the agricultural crops grown by the Mountain View Farm CSA.** If you would like a CSA share next year, please check out the farm's website at mountainviewfarmcsa.com.

Mass Audubon's **Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary** is a 2011 recipient of the **Stavros Center for Independent Living's Paul Winske Access Award!** This recognition is given to businesses and organizations that have taken new or innovative steps to improve access. Please visit our beautiful accessible trail and let all your friends know about the cell phone sensory trail tour. And thanks to the Stavros Center for recognizing our commitment to welcoming every visitor.

Wildlife Sanctuaries

Arcadia, Laughing Brook, Graves Farm, Lynes & High Ledges

ADULT

Nature Photography: Beyond the Novice Level

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Friday, January 13 / 7:00-9:30 pm

Friday, January 20 / 7:00-9:30 pm

Friday, January 27 / 7:00-9:30 pm

Friday, February 3 / 7:00-9:30 pm

Cosponsor: Robert Floyd Photo Gallery and Learning Center
4 class sessions

Leader: Robert Floyd, Photojournalist

\$140 members, \$155 nonmembers

Learn the steps involved in defining your own photographic creative image in this four-week workshop. It is easy to find a pretty scene and take a picture of it, but in this workshop we will go beyond that and capture something more in each photograph. The class will discuss quality of light, adding depth to images, focus versus defocus, rules of thumb for exposure, film versus digital, flash techniques, selective focus, and capturing silhouettes and shadows. Let your imagination loose and learn to become a better photographer!

Animal Tracking: Porcupine and Fisher

At Graves Farm Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, January 14 / 9:30 am-noon

Leader: David McLain, Conservation Caretaker, Arcadia

\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

January is usually a good month to look for animal tracks. Graves Farm, with its upland habitat, wetlands, and fields, is home to a variety of species including the porcupine and fisher. Though we can't guarantee that we will find the tracks of these mammals, we will look for these and others. Following tracks can tell us a great deal about the animal that made them.

Please dress warmly and wear sturdy hiking boots. If there is a lot of snow, snowshoes are recommended.

PREREGISTRATION required for all programs unless otherwise stated.

Mammal Tracking in the Northeast

At U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Hadley

Friday, January 20 / 7:00-9:00 pm

Cosponsor: VEEC (Valley Environmental Educational Collaborative)

Leader: Susan Morse, Mammal Tracker and Wildlife Photographer

Free for members and nonmembers

Susan Morse is a wildlife ecologist and science director of Keeping Track, a nonprofit devoted to providing technical training to professional biologists, citizen scientist volunteers, land trust officials, and conservation planners. Multiple stakeholders who use this knowledge are empowered to better detect, record, and monitor the status of wildlife and habitat in their communities. Sue is highly regarded as an expert in tracking and has 37 years of experience monitoring wildlife and interpreting habitat use all over North America. Her research has focused on cougars, bobcats, black bears, and Canada lynx.

Susan's keen wit, personal anecdotes, deep caring for wildlife, and spectacular photographs are sure to provide an inspiring program. She will focus on mammals found in our valley and hill town region, and will introduce us to the tracks, signs, and habitat needs of a variety of familiar species, as well as the exciting range expansion of moose and cougars.

Snowdate for this program will be March 16, 7:00-9:00 pm. This program is free, though donations to VEEC will be welcome.

Mammal Tracking in the Field

At Graves Farm Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, January 21

9:00 am-noon or 1:00-4:00 pm

Cosponsor: VEEC (Valley Environmental Education Collaborative)

Leader: Susan Morse, Mammal Tracker and Wildlife Photographer

\$20 members, \$20 nonmembers

Here is your opportunity to read mammal tracks and signs in the field with Susan Morse. At Graves Farm we hope to find evidence of porcupines, fishers, bears, moose, and more. We will be looking for scat, browse, and barking marks, as well as tracks themselves. Snow date for this program is March 17, 9:00 am-noon or 1:00-4:00 pm.

Please dress warmly and bring a warm drink, snack, and an extra jacket or sweater in your daypack. Please read "How to prepare for a winter outing," which will be provided to you when you register.

DON'T FORGET to check your program's location. Some of our programs are not held at the sanctuaries that are sponsoring them.

Winter Raptors

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, January 28 / 10:00 am-noon

Leader: Dan Russell, Professor, Springfield College

\$8 members, \$12 nonmembers

Winter is a great time to observe raptors (birds of prey) flying over the fields in search of prey. Both the east and west meadows are often ideal spots to view some of these majestic birds such as the red-tailed hawk, the northern harrier, and even the hardier falcons such as the merlin. The forests and suburban areas are good places for the accipiters such as sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawks. Depending on hawk sightings and snow cover, our location may change, requiring us to carpool.

Meeting place depends on snow cover. Please dress to be outdoors. Snowdate for this program is Sunday, January 29, same time.

Predator Ecology

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, February 4 / 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Leader: David McLain, Conservation Caretaker, Arcadia

\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

Winter is a great time to search for animal tracks as well as signs of animals. Sometimes tracks can tell stories of predator/prey interactions. Tunnels of small mammals are abundant under the snow while tracks of larger mammals, both predator and prey, are found on the surface. Learn about the tracks as well as the predators and prey that made them. We hope to see tracks of predators such as the short-tailed weasel, bobcat, coyote, fox, and perhaps the elusive fisher!

Please dress to be outdoors and bring snowshoes if you have them.

Winter Crows

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Sunday, February 5 / 2:00-6:00 pm

Leaders: Patti Steinman, Education Coordinator, Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries, and James Sullivan, Crow Enthusiast and Volunteer, Arcadia

\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

Learn about the natural history of one of our most common birds, the American crow. Join Patti Steinman for a slide show about crows and their relatives, followed by a trip to Springfield where we hope to observe a spectacular natural event as the birds congregate by the thousands at a nighttime roost. Finding such a place is not always easy because the crows often change location, so we will watch the skies as the crows fly and then follow them in cars.



Evening at the Galápagos

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Tuesday, February 7 / 7:00-9:00 pm

Leaders: Anne Lombard and Janet Bissell, Field Walk Leaders, Arcadia

\$5 members, \$8 nonmembers

Join Janet Bissell and Anne Lombard for an evening presentation on the Galápagos Islands of Ecuador. Enjoy slides of the indigenous animal life that inspired Darwin's thinking on adaptation and the evolution of species. Discussion will include the ecological changes over the years and the current political and conservation issues of the archipelago.

Project Wild: Mammal Tracking and Mammal Sounds

At Northfield Mountain

Saturday, February 11 / 9:30 am-3:30 pm

Cosponsor: Northfield Mountain

Leaders: Kim Noyes, Education Coordinator, Northfield Mountain, and Patti Steinman, Education Coordinator, Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries

\$25 members, \$25 nonmembers

Educators of kids in grades K-12 are invited to a special Project WILD workshop at Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center. Project WILD is an award-winning interdisciplinary, conservation, and environmental education program that emphasizes wildlife, people, and the environment. The program guide contains over 100 activities for K-12 educators. We will model several activities to teach about a variety of different Massachusetts mammals, as well as highlighting the tracks and sounds unique to those species. Please plan on being outdoors for at least part of this workshop; we will track animals in the field and learn the different track patterns. Workshop participants will receive a copy of the Project WILD Activity Guide, Pocket Guide to MA Animal Tracks, natural history information about local mammals, a bibliography of mammal sounds, 6 hours toward PDPs, as well as a certificate of completion. Preregistration is required.

To register please contact Northfield Mountain at 800-859-2960. This workshop is part of several tracking programs throughout western Massachusetts this winter, sponsored by VEEC (Valley Environmental Educator Collaborative). Please bring snowshoes if you have them or rent them at Northfield Mountain for \$14.

Eagles at Quabbin

At Quabbin Reservoir

Saturday, February 25 / 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Cosponsor: Department of Conservation and Recreation

Leaders: John Green, Naturalist and Nature Photographer, and Patti Steinman, Education Coordinator, Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries

\$15 members, \$20 nonmembers

Quabbin Reservoir is one of the best locations in the state to look for wintering bald eagles. We will meet at the visitor center, then carpool up to Enfield Lookout. Along with eagles, we will look for common ravens and eastern coyotes, which are often seen when the reservoir is frozen. Depending on conditions, we may take a short walk in search of other birds and animal tracks. Bring a lunch, and we will warm up at the visitor center with a slide show on Quabbin history and the Bald Eagle Restoration Project.



Novice Digital Capture and Photoshop

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Friday, March 2 / 6:30-9:00 pm

Friday, March 9 / 6:30-9:00 pm

Friday, March 16 / 6:30-9:00 pm

Friday, March 23 / 6:30-9:00 pm

Friday, March 30 / 6:30-9:00 pm

Cosponsor: Robert Floyd Photo Gallery and Learning Center
5 class sessions

Leader: Robert Floyd, Photojournalist

\$140 members, \$155 nonmembers

Learn to create stronger nature images immediately in the field. Fundamentals of digital photography with nature as our subject matter will be discussed and reviewed in every session. We will experience the basics of digital capture while we focus on the creative aspects of nature photography. Our camera's various controls and menu selections will be explored step-by-step, including the zoom lens, viewfinder, focus control, ISO, aperture and shutter controls, resolution, and battery power. This is a hands-on workshop, and the "how we use that control now" will be explored outside together.

Then we will walk into Arcadia's indoor classroom. We will immediately learn how to transfer the images in our camera to a laptop computer. Adobe Photoshop Elements 9.0 will be used to demonstrate methods of color correction and some basic image enhancement. We will leave each and every class with an improved version of that night's original capture. This is a learn-by-doing experience. We will be invited to practice at home with fun and creative weekly assignments. Each night our new images are discussed in an informal critique session with warmth and respect.

Participants need to bring an inexpensive flash drive to class. The instructor's laptop will be used to transfer images to our flash drives weekly.

Please bring your camera and manual to all classes.

Ecological Management Conference

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, March 3 / 9:00 am-noon

Leaders: David McLain, Conservation Caretaker, Arcadia, and John Burk, Ecologist, Smith College

Free for members and nonmembers

Throughout the year, many people do research at Arcadia, and in surrounding natural areas. For some this is the first year; for others these projects have gone on for years, or even decades! Join us for our annual gathering to report on ecological management and research projects. Topics this year may include research on habitat management and restoration for birds, rare plants, grasslands, dragonflies, freshwater mussels, amphibians, mammals, and more.

Dance of the American Woodcock

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, March 24 / 6:30 -8:30 pm

Leaders: Nan Childs, Naturalist, and Patti Steinman, Education Coordinator, Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries
\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

Come witness one of the most spectacular dances on earth, the courtship display of the American woodcock. Normally a reclusive forest dweller, the male of this game bird species takes center stage in his springtime dance to attract a female. The male struts and calls out a nasal *peeent*, then suddenly spirals into the air and gives a sweet call before zigzagging down, and then begins the show all over again. We will start with a brief slide presentation, then head outdoors for the show.

Spring Fling at Eugene Moran Wildlife Management Area

At Eugene Moran Wildlife Management Area

Saturday, March 24 / 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Leader: Mike Whalen, Historian
\$15 members, \$20 nonmembers

Celebrate the arrival of spring with a casual exploration of the Berkshire Plateau landscape at Eugene Moran Wildlife Management Area. Open grasslands and boreal forest offer a splendid diversity of flora and fauna on this former Hill Town dairy farm. Stunning westerly views of Mount Greylock, the state's highest peak, and remnants of past agricultural activity make this an idyllic setting for outdoor discovery. This is the perfect hike to revel in the changing season. Sturdy water-proof shoes are recommended for boggy trail conditions.

From Northampton take Route 9 west to the center of Windsor, then north on Route 8A for 1 mile to Moran parking lot on the left. From Route 116 go west to Savoy, then south on Route 8A for 5 miles to the parking area on the right.

Vernal Pool Certification

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 3 / 7:00 pm -9:00 pm

Leader: David McLain, Conservation Caretaker, Arcadia
\$7 members, \$9 nonmembers

Vernal pools are hot spots for biodiversity in the New England woods, but their biological richness may be impaired or destroyed by development. You can help the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program identify and protect these important habitats through certification. Naturalist David McLain will review the ecology of a vernal pool and species that live there, along with the steps to certify a vernal pool.

Please bring boots; if conditions are right, we will go outdoors to see the critters in our pool.

DON'T FORGET to check your program's location. Some of our programs are not held at the sanctuaries that are sponsoring them.

Bear Swamp Reservation Discovery Hike

At Bear Swamp Reservation, Ashfield

Saturday, April 7 / 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Leader: Mike Whalen, Historian
\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

Join us for a moderate 3-mile hike exploring rocky woodlands and an extensive glacial wetland. Here the dense forest shelters ample remnants of both natural and human history. Prominent stone walls built 200 years ago by farmers to mark their fields bisect the property and offer fascinating reminders of dramatic changes in the land. Located on a 1,500 foot ridge, Bear Swamp offers an amazing variety of both flora and fauna. A definite highlight is the Lookout Trail, which affords a wonderful view of the beaver pond directly below the craggy ledge.

From the intersection of Route 112 and Route 116 and Hawley Road, in Ashfield, follow Hawley Road west for 1.7 miles to the entrance and roadside parking on the left. Please bring a lunch and water and wear good hiking shoes.

Ducks in the Valley

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, April 7 / 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Leader: Peter Redfern, Arcadia Field Walk Leader
\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

With the ice melting and the temperatures rising, ducks and other birds are returning to our region. While some stayed around where they could find open water, other species of ducks moved to the coast for the winter. Join Peter Redfern and begin at Arcadia to see what can be found at the Arcadia Marsh and along the Mill River. Depending on where the birds have been recently sighted, we will then carpool either up or down the valley in search of other species.

Bird Sounds... Songs and Calls

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Wednesday, April 11 / 7:00-9:00 pm

Leaders: John Green, Naturalist and Nature Photographer, and Patti Steinman, Education Coordinator, Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries
\$15 members, \$20 nonmembers

Learning to identify the calls of birds can be overwhelming because it sometimes seems as though they sound alike. Many tricks to learn birdsongs do exist, and we will share them in this introduction to bird sound course. Learn the difference between the three mimics and the five robin "sound-alikes." See how listening goes hand in hand with knowing the behavior of certain species for their identification. We will also review some of the resources available in aiding you with your bird sound identification.

Beyond Novice: Digital SLR and Photoshop Nature Photography

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Friday, April 13 / 6:30-9:00 pm

Friday, April 20 / 6:30-9:00 pm

Friday, April 27 / 6:30-9:00 pm

Friday, May 4 / 6:30-9:00 pm

Cosponsor: Robert Floyd Photo Gallery and Learning Center
4 class sessions

Leader: Robert Floyd, Photojournalist

\$150 members, \$165 nonmembers

This workshop is designed for us to learn more than the fundamentals of digital photography with nature as our subject matter. We will walk through the woods with inviting weekly homework assignments, carrying our digital SLR to learn to see nature from a different perspective through different lens choices. Demonstrations and hands-on instructions will be given in class to explore ISO settings, white balance, focus control, digital file formats, and other creative controls. Learn how exposure controls can create mood and add drama to our images in the field. Use our camera controls well and be rewarded with stunning nature images.

Inside Arcadia's classroom, we will import our newly captured images and process some on the instructor's laptop computer. Adobe Photoshop Elements 10 will be demonstrated to improve color cast, alter saturation, and apply the unsharp mask to our digital images. Resize and crop tools will be explored, also. Camera RAW as well as JPEG will be hands-on processed by us all. Assignments will be given weekly and informally critiqued each session with warmth and respect. Participants need to bring an inexpensive flash drive to class. The instructor's laptop will be used to transfer images to our flash drives weekly. Everyone may email the instructor with questions during the workshop period. Feel free to bring in a laptop if available. Tripods are welcomed.

Please bring your camera and manual to each class.

Intensive Field Study Program

At Northfield

Saturday, April 14 / 4:00-7:00 pm

Sunday, April 15 / 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Saturday, May 26 / 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Saturday, June 16 / 3:00-7:00 pm

Sunday, June 17 / 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Saturday, July 14 / 1:00-5:00 pm

Sunday, July 15 / 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Saturday, August 18 / 1:00-5:00 pm

Sunday, August 19 / 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Saturday, September 15 / 10:00 am-4:00 pm

Sunday, September 16 / 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Cosponsor: New England Naturalist Training Center
11 class sessions

Leader: John Foster, Naturalist, New England Naturalist Training Center

\$950 members, \$950 nonmembers

The New England Naturalist Training Center will offer an Intensive Field Study Program during the spring and summer 12 season. This 11-session comprehensive course is taught by Naturalist John Foster and covers topics such as wetland ecology, tracking, predator/prey relations, large mammals, soils, old-growth forests, ecological associations, insects, and more.

The course is designed so that students have the ability to learn at their own pace. Locations for the classes vary. Students will perform independent fieldwork and present during the last two sessions. Classes will be held once a month on Saturday and Sundays beginning April 14-15 and concluding September 15-16. For a detailed syllabus and required application, please go to www.nentc.com/courses.htm.

Great Blue Herons

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, April 14 / 3:00-6:00 pm

Leaders: Patti Steinman, Education Coordinator, Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries, and James Sullivan, Volunteer, Arcadia
\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

The great blue heron, not to be confused with the pterodactyl, is a prehistoric-looking majestic wading bird. Come learn about the ecology and behavior of this bird and other family members through a brief slide show. Afterward, we will drive a short distance and take a walk to view a rookery (communal nesting area), where we should be able to see adults coming in for the night and possibly young in the nest.

Keystone Arch Bridges Trail Hike

At Keystone Arches

Saturday, April 14 / 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Leader: Mike Whalen, Historian

\$15 members, \$20 nonmembers

Explore the natural and historic wonders of the Westfield River Valley along the Keystone Arch Bridges Trail in Chester and Middlefield. This four-mile, mostly level, round-trip hike on MassWildlife conservation land follows part of the original railroad line that includes stone arch railroad bridges, built in 1840, an engineering marvel in their day. Learn about the ecology, fauna, and flora of the Westfield River watershed and the early development of the region's transportation network.

From Pioneer Valley, take Route 20 west to the village of Chester. In Chester center, turn right onto Middlefield Road and follow north for 2.5 miles to Herbert Cross Road on the left. Trail sign can be seen at the entrance to this gravel road.

Hallockville Pond Mill Trail Walk

At Hawley, MA

Saturday, April 21 / 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Leader: Mike Whalen, Historian

\$15 members, \$20 nonmembers

Join historian Mike Whalen for a casual natural and cultural history tour of the former mill village of Hallockville in Hawley. Explore the extensive ruins of several 19th-century mill sites and rediscover the diverse industries that once flourished along King Brook. This easy one-mile excursion will loop around picturesque Hallockville Pond and feature old pine forest, mountain laurel, and massive glacial erratics. Directions will be given upon registration.

Birding the Amherst Rail Trail

At Amherst Rail Trail

Saturday, April 28 / 7:00-10:00 am

Leader: John Green Jr., Naturalist and Nature Photographer

\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

Join John Green for a walk along the Amherst Rail Trail. We will look for both residents and migrants as well as signs of nesting birds. We'll keep an eye and ear out for warblers, woodpeckers, flycatchers, grackles, red-wings, and more.

Meet at the Amherst Rail Trail: Take Route 9 East into Amherst. Go by Amherst College and take a right onto Southeast Street. Florence Saving Bank is at the intersection. Go under two bridges, and continue to the fork in the road. Take an immediate left turn onto Station Road. Drive approximately 5 minutes and you will see a parking area right before the railroad tracks.

All State Volunteer Day at Laughing Brook, Hampden

Saturday, April 28 / 9:00 am-2:00 pm

Please help us on this "all-state" volunteer day. This year staff and volunteers in the Connecticut River Valley will be at Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, which sustained tremendous damage from the October snowstorm. We will clear and clean the trails of branches and debris, and clean bluebird boxes and remove invasive species. Please bring a picnic lunch to enjoy after the hard work. We also welcome you to join in a natural history walk after lunch.

Preregistration is not required

Windsor Bush Discovery Hike

Windsor Jambs State Forest

Saturday, April 28 / 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Leader: Mike Whalen, Historian

\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

Join historian Mike Whalen for an adventurous natural and cultural history hike in the mysterious hills of the Windsor Bush. This moderate-to-difficult trek through highland forest will explore an amazing deep-river gorge, abundant wildlife habitat, and the cultural legacy of 19th-century farms. The "Bush" holds many secrets, and we'll discover such fascinating topics as the making of spruce-oil from local trees and haunting tales of the "Windigo." Bring a lunch and wear sturdy waterproof shoes.

From Northampton, take Route 9 west for 28 miles to West Cummington. Turn right onto West Main Street, then an immediate left onto River Road and go 2.9 miles to the day-use parking area on the right.

South Hawley Ghost Town Hike

At South Hawley

Saturday, May 5 / 10:00 am-3:00 pm

Leader: Mike Whalen, Historian

\$15 members, \$20 nonmembers

Join historian Mike Whalen on a rediscovery of the long-forgotten ghost village of South Hawley. Located deep in the highland forest of southwestern Franklin County, this area was once a thriving farming community of independent pioneers who prospered along a bustling stage road. Today, all that remains are the cellar holes and scattered remnants of a deserted era. This 4-mile moderate hike will explore the archaeology, culture, and dramatic transformation of South Hawley's landscape. Springtime flora and extensive beaver habitat will also highlight the excursion.

Spring Evening in the Meadows

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, May 5 / 6:30-8:30 pm

Leaders: Arcadia Staff and Volunteers

\$8 members, \$10 nonmembers

Join Arcadia staff and volunteers on a visit to our unique grassland at dusk. At this time of the year, many birds are just arriving to establish their territory, beavers may be swimming around the floodplain, and the sounds of amphibians will provide a nice chorus.

Spring Plant and Tree Identification at the Historic Becket Quarry and Forest Preserve

At Historic Becket Quarry and Forest Preserve

Saturday, May 5 / 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Leader: Aimee Gelinas, Teacher-Naturalist

\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

Come explore this 300-acre preserve while learning to identify native plants and trees. This 3-mile, moderate trek features artifacts of the former Hudson-Chester granite Quarry that was in operation from the 1860s to 1960s such as wooden derricks, old rail lines, and jagged granite rock remains, as well as scenic northeasterly vistas and native fauna and flora.

Take Route 20 to Becket. At the intersection of Route 20, Route 8 North, and Bonny Rig Hill Road, turn onto Bonny Rig Hill Road. At a 4-point intersection, turn left onto Quarry Road. Continue on Quarry Road until you come to signs and a parking area on the right.

Spring Wildflowers at Laughing Brook

At Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, May 5 / 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Leader: Connie Parks, Botanist

\$5 members, \$8 nonmembers

Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary in Hampden is home to over 400 plant species. With fields, streams, and fertile soils, a wide variety of wildflowers can be found, especially during this spring ephemeral season. We hope to see species such as Dutchman's breeches, wild leeks, fringed polygala, and red trillium. We'll walk through both field and forest.

Early Morning Birding

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, May 5 / 7:00-8:30 am

Monday-Friday, May 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 / 6:30-8:00 am

Saturdays, May 12 & 26 / 7:00-8:30 am

At Graves Farm

Saturday, May 12 / 7:00-8:30 am

At Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, May 19 / 7:00-8:30 am

Guest Leaders

Free for members, \$5 nonmembers per day

Sharpen your bird identification skills during the spring migration. These programs are open to birders of all levels.

Meet at Arcadia during the weekdays or the designated location on the weekends. Please bring binoculars and a field guide and dress for the weather. Programs will be cancelled if there's heavy rain.

Spring Wildflowers at Marion Sherman Lynes Wildlife Sanctuary

At Marion Sherman Lynes Wildlife Sanctuary

Wednesday, May 9 / 9:00 am-noon

Leaders: Connie Parks, Botanist, and Janet Bissell, Botanist and Volunteer, Arcadia
\$5 members, \$8 nonmembers

Join botanists Connie Parks and Janet Bissell for a walk to learn and enjoy the wildflowers at the Marion Sherman Lynes Wildlife Sanctuary in Southampton. We will visit several habitats in hopes of seeing a variety of species such as gold-thread, bloodroot, spring beauty, and mayflower.

Bring a hand lens and field guide if you have them.

Birding by Canoe

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Friday, May 11 / 6:00-8:00 pm

Leader: David McLain, Conservation Caretaker, Arcadia
\$15 members, \$20 nonmembers

Enjoy canoeing and birding? Why not blend the two?! Naturalist and Ecological Manager David McLain will lead this evening canoe/birding adventure into the Arcadia marsh. By this time great blue herons will have nested nearby so we will keep an eye out for these large wading birds. Kingfishers, yellow warblers, cedar waxwings, and eastern phoebes, along with several species of woodpeckers, are often seen flying or perched by the river. Of course, we'll look at a few vernal wildflowers along the way, and keep our eyes peeled for muskrats, beavers, and otters. This will be an easy paddle; however, prior canoe experience is required.

Participants should have canoe experience.

Quabbin Park Bird Walk

At Quabbin Park

Saturday, May 19 / 7:00-10:00 am

Leader: John Green Jr., Naturalist and Nature Photographer
\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

Join naturalist and photographer John Green Jr. for a walk, looking and listening for resident birds as well as early migrants such as yellow-bellied sapsuckers, eastern phoebes, and red-winged blackbirds. John will focus on listening to individual as well as species' calls and songs.

Meet at the parking lot behind the Quabbin Visitor Center, Route 9, Belchertown.

Spring Wildflowers at High Ledges

At High Ledges Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, May 19 / 9:00 am-noon

Leader: Connie Parks, Botanist
\$5 members, \$8 nonmembers

Join botanist Connie Parks for a morning at beautiful High Ledges Wildlife Sanctuary in Shelburne. Noted for its fabulous views of the Deerfield River valley and Mount Greylock, this sanctuary is home to an extraordinary variety of native flora and fauna. We will look at wildflowers as well as ferns and woody plants. Highlights we hope to see include pitcher plants, uncommon ferns, yellow lady's slippers, and other orchids.

CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND ALL AGES



Tracking and Animal Signs at Laughing Brook

At Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, January 21 / 10:00-11:30 am

Saturday, February 18 / 10:00-11:30 am

Open to families with children ages 5 and up
Leader: Kevin Kopchynski, Naturalist/Educator
\$3 members, \$5 nonmembers
children \$3 members, \$5 nonmembers

At one time, being able to read tracks was vital for survival. Tracking is more than simply finding a trail and following it, and prints aren't always necessary to track an animal. The forest is full of signs that tell us about the wildlife within. Learn to read the tracks and signs left by animals.

Please dress warmly. Restrooms are not available

PREREGISTRATION required for all programs unless otherwise stated.

Owl Moon

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, January 28 / 5:00-7:00 pm

Open to families with children ages 5 and up
Leaders: Patti Steinman, Education Coordinator, Connecticut Valley River Sanctuaries, and Nan Childs, Naturalist/Educator
\$6 members, \$8 nonmembers
children \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers

Come see a magical shadow puppet presentation of Jane Yolen's classic book *Owl Moon* and learn about the seven native owl species in Massachusetts. After the show, we'll take a walk in the dark, brisk, winter woods to call for owls. We can't guarantee that we will see or hear owls, but we will certainly have fun trying. After the walk, we will return indoors to warm up with a cup of hot chocolate and a snack.

Winter Wildlife

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

**Saturday, February 11
10:00 am-noon**

Open to families with children ages 5 and up
Leader: Rebecca Moretti, Naturalist/Educator
\$5 members, \$7 nonmembers
children \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers

In winter we humans can go into our houses, turn up the heat, and stay warm. Outdoors we put on snowsuits, boots, and mittens. But what about wildlife species? Play a game to learn about hibernation, migration, and sleepers. Find out which animals stay around and their strategies for surviving the winter. Make a jello pretend animal and see if it can survive the cold! This is an indoor/outdoor program for families with children ages 5 and over.

Dress warmly and be prepared to be outdoors for most of the program.

Wahconah Falls State Forest Snowshoe Trek

At Dalton, MA

Saturday, February 18 / 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Open to families with children ages 7 and up
Leader: Aimee Gelinis, Naturalist/Educator
\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers
children \$10 members, \$15 nonmembers

Experience deep evergreen forest, glacier erratics, and cascading falls while snowshoeing this easy 1.5-mile trail along Wahconah Falls Brook. Look for signs of the talc mines that once utilized the brook for power and learn how to identify winter trees and animal tracks along the way. This snowshoe trip is easy with some downhill climbs—perfect for families and beginners. Participants should wear warm, layered clothing; sturdy, waterproof boots; and nylon pants.

Discounted snowshoe rentals are available from the Berkshire Eastern Mountain Sports store in Lanesboro. Call 413-445-4967 to reserve/rent a pair. In the event of "no snow," this will be a hike. Directions will be sent upon registration. Please bring water and a snack. Call 413-584-3009 to register.



February Vacation Days at Arcadia

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Tuesday-Friday, February 21-24 / 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Open to children ages 6 to 12
Leaders: Arcadia Staff
children \$48 members per day, \$60 nonmembers per day

Come to Arcadia to explore the natural world during school vacation. Children ages 6 to 12 may sign up for one or all four days since activities will differ. We will begin each day with games, followed by a morning circle that will introduce the themes. Much of each day will be spent outdoors searching for animal tracks and signs, watching birds, and learning about winter adaptations.

Animal Tracks

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, February 25 / 10:00 am-noon

Open to families with children ages 5 and up
Leader: Ruthie Ireland, Arcadia Nursery School Lead Teacher
\$4 members, \$6 nonmembers
children \$4 members, \$6 nonmembers

Identifying and following an animal track can teach us a lot about the animals that live in our area and their behavior. The forest is full of signs of wildlife. Indoors we will play a track game, make a track craft, and then head outdoors using our new knowledge of tracks.

Dress warmly and plan on being outdoors for most of the program.

Vernal Pool Discovery

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, March 24 / 10:00 am-noon

Open to families with children ages 4 and up
Leader: Rebecca Moretti, Naturalist/Educator
\$5 members, \$7 nonmembers
children \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers

Many frogs and salamanders migrate during rainy nights, and many go to the vernal pool where they were born. Learn the difference between a vernal pool and a more permanent pond through games and a slide show. Equipped with new knowledge, we will then venture outdoors to look at our vernal pool, hoping to see wood frogs, peepers, egg masses, and invertebrates.

Girl Scout Badge: Sky Search for Juniors

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, March 3 / 5:00-7:00 pm

Open to children ages 9 to 12
Cosponsor: Girl Scouts of Central and Western Mass
Leader: Kevin Kopchynski, Astronomer/Naturalist
children \$8 members, \$8 nonmembers

Join Kevin Kopchynski to earn your Sky Search Badge. We hope the skies will be clear and we can go out to observe the stars, moon, and constellations firsthand. If not, we will learn about the stars and complete the requirements indoors. Please dress to be outdoors for at least half of the program.

Arcadia does not provide badges.

“The Big Night”

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, March 31 / 5:30-9:00 pm

Open to families with children ages 4 and up

Leaders: Arcadia Staff and Volunteers

\$6 members, \$8 nonmembers

children \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary in Easthampton will offer an enchanted family evening. Guided tours will leave the nature center every 15 minutes to travel a 45-minute enchanted forest trail where participants will meet costumed characters from vernal pools, which are the only places where animals such as spotted salamanders, wood frogs, and fairy shrimp can breed.

Meet some of these critters and learn about their lives through short animated and humorous skits. Indoors, learn more about vernal pools through games, slide presentations, and live pond critters. Prepaid advance registration is required for this event. You can register in person, by mail, or by phone. When you register, please choose your hike time. If it is extremely cold or there is heavy rain, the outdoor portion of this program will be brought indoors. Spaces fill quickly, especially for the early slots, so call today.

Hike times: every 15 minutes beginning at 5:45 pm and ending at 7:45 pm. Dress warmly and wear sturdy footwear.

Vernal Pools at Laughing Brook

At Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, April 21 / 10:00 -11:30 am

Open to families with children ages 4 and up

Leader: Kevin Kopchynski, Naturalist/Educator

\$3 members, \$5 nonmembers

children \$3 members, \$5 nonmembers

Vernal pools are critical habitats that are breeding grounds for many amphibian species. April is the best time to see animals such as spotted salamanders and wood frogs. Join Naturalist Kevin Kopchynski to explore a vernal pool, looking for egg masses, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates. Learn why it's so crucial to protect these small bodies of water and what you can do.

Trees, Glorious Trees

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Sunday, April 22 / 10:00 am-noon

Open to families with children ages 5 and up

Leader: Rebecca Moretti, Naturalist/Educator

\$5 members, \$7 nonmembers

children \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers



Come celebrate glorious trees on Earth Day. Trees are so valuable to us: they provide us with food, shade, and oxygen to breath and help reduce greenhouse gases. Join us to learn about some of the different trees found at Arcadia and how the bark, leaves, and buds are different. We will make bark rubbings and even get dressed up like a tree.

Floodplain Forest Canoe Trip and Great Blue Heron Rookery Viewing

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Sunday, April 29 / 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Open to families with children ages 10 and up

Leader: Aimee Gelinas, Naturalist/Educator

\$20 members, \$25 nonmembers

children free for members and nonmembers

We will weave in and out of trees as we canoe the floodplain forests of Arcadia's Mill River and marsh. Learn how to identify spring plants and shrubs on the shore and look for migrating birds. After canoeing, we will take a short walk to view the great blue heron rookery of nests. This program is geared for the experienced paddler. Directions will be sent upon registration.

Please bring water and a lunch.

Girl Scout Badges: Daisy Nature Walk

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, May 19 / 10:00 am-noon

Open to children ages 5 to 7

Leaders: Arcadia Staff,

children \$8 members, \$8 nonmembers

Daisy Girl Scouts can come to Arcadia, take a hike, and concentrate on the “Make the World a Better Place” petal. We'll play games while visiting the forest, field, and vernal pool. We will learn what lives in each habitat and how we can help to make our world a better place by respecting both plants and animals.

Please dress to be outdoors for most of the program. Arcadia does not provide badges.

Ponding for Families

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, April 14 / 10:00 am-noon

Open to families with children ages 5 and up

Leaders: Arcadia Staff

\$5 members, \$7 nonmembers

children \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers

Come to Arcadia to explore life in a spring pond. After a brief introduction, families will take net in hand and explore what lives beneath the muck of a pond. At this time of year, we hope to find frogs, both tadpoles and adults, along with a huge abundance of aquatic macroinvertebrates. Longtime Arcadia camp counselor and environmental educator Rebecca Moretti will first review pond critters with a fun game, discuss the ecology and unique adaptations animals have to survive in a wet environment, and provide the group with nets and bug boxes to explore what lurks in the pond.

Please wear boots or sneakers that may get wet.

April Vacation Days at Arcadia

At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Tuesday-Friday, April 17-20 / 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Leaders: Arcadia Staff

children \$48 members per day, \$60 nonmembers per day

Come to Arcadia to explore the natural world and celebrate spring during school vacation. We will go on lots of hikes, visit a vernal pool, look for spring wildflowers, and search for early insects. We will have a new theme each day as well as nature riddles, mysteries, and games. A complete list of what to bring will be sent upon registration.

North America: Outside New England

Birding the Rio Grande Valley and Texas South Coast

In South Texas

March 9-17 / 9 days

Cosponsor: Stony Brook Wildlife Sanctuary

Leaders: René Laubach and Doug Williams

\$1,895 members, \$1,995 nonmembers



Our travels will take us to some of the finest birding localities in the most bird-rich state in the union—from the vast salt marshes and bays of Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, where we'll see wintering whooping cranes from aboard the *MV Skimmer*; and the sandy barrier beaches of 100-mile-long Padre Island, where shorebirds and waders abound; to the subtropical Rio Grande Valley, where green jays, Altamira orioles, least grebes, and great kiskadees are common; and the South Texas Plains with their desert-scrub birdlife. The vibrant cultural mix of the border region will also enrich our adventure.

Our departure city is Corpus Christi, Texas. Fee includes double occupancy lodging for eight nights, all breakfasts and lunches, some dinners, entrance fees, and van transportation.

Single supplement \$400 extra. Contact Pleasant Valley for details and an itinerary: 413-637-0320.

New Mexico: Rio Grande Lowlands to Rocky Mountain Highlands

In New Mexico

April 25-May 3 / 9 days

Cosponsor: Wildwood Camp

Leaders: René Laubach and Bob Speare

\$1,850 members, \$1,950 nonmembers

Aptly named Land of Enchantment, New Mexico has it all, except a coastline. This tremendously scenic state encompasses the snow-capped Rocky Mountains, fascinating Chihuahuan Desert, vast plains, the Rio Grande River, ancient Anasazi cliff dwellings, and the multicultural ambiance of Santa Fe and other towns and villages.

Our tour includes visits to the beautiful Gila National Forest, which features Mexican specialties among its birdlife; wildlife-rich Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge on the Rio Grande; and beautiful Bandelier National Monument in the mountains near Los Alamos.

In addition to enjoying the incredible scenery, wonderful birding, and general nature study, we will visit archaeological sites during our tour of this truly enchanting land.

Our departure city is Albuquerque, New Mexico. Fee includes double-occupancy lodging for eight nights (single supplement \$400 extra), all breakfasts and lunches, some dinners, entrance fees, and van transportation.

For more information and to register, contact Berkshire Wildlife Sanctuaries, 413-637-0320.

Natural History Travel / 800-289-9504

For more information and a complete list of our International Tours visit www.massaudubon.org/travel or call 800-289-9504.

Ecuador Birding / February 27 - March 11

Honduras: Copan and Cotingas / March 1 - 9

Peru Tambopata Research Center / March 1 - 11

Panama / March 8 - 16

Death Valley and Mojave Desert: Photography and Nature / March 10 - 17

Jamaica: Birding the Backroads / March 23 - 31

Galápagos / April 13 - 22

Pacific Northwest—North Cascades / June 4 - 15

New Zealand / October 28 - November 14

Trinidad / January 2013

Patagonia / January 2013

... and many more!



Sanctuary Information

Wachusett Meadow

Goodnow Road, Princeton, 1,200 Acres

This picturesque farm with historic house, barns, and resident sheep is surrounded by acres of open meadows, woodlands, and wetlands. Twelve miles of trails include many special features such as 1,300 foot Brown Hill summit, Glacial Boulder, an ancient white oak, and abundant wildlife.

Nature Center and Wildlife Sanctuary
113 Goodnow Road
Princeton, MA 01541
978-464-2712 Office
978-464-5981 Fax
wachusett@massaudubon.org

Hours

Nature Center:

Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm
Saturday and Monday Holidays, 10 am to 4 pm
Sunday: 12:30-4 pm

Trails: Open every day, dawn to dusk.

Admission

\$4 for nonmember adults; \$3 for nonmember children (3-12) and senior citizens (65 and older). Free for Mass Audubon members and Princeton residents.

Western Sanctuaries

Connecticut River Valley Wildlife Sanctuaries:

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Combs Road, Easthampton, 755 Acres

Located in Northampton and Easthampton, this sanctuary protects more than 755 acres of floodplain forest, upland forest, cultivated grassland, and riparian habitat. This site includes a nature center, five miles of trails, and a handicap-accessible boardwalk.

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary
127 Combs Road
Easthampton, MA 01027
413-584-3009 Office
800-710-4550
413-584-0250 Fax
arcadia@massaudubon.org

Directions

Take the Mass. Turnpike (I-90) to exit 4 (Rt. I-91 north) to exit 18 (Rt. 5, Northampton). Take a right onto Rt. 5 south. After 1.4 miles, take a right onto East Street at the sign for Easthampton Center. Follow East Street for 1.2 miles and turn right onto Fort Hill Road at the Mass Audubon sign. Go 0.9 miles and bear right at the next Mass Audubon sign and turn left into the sanctuary.

Hours

Nature Center:

Tuesday through Friday, 9 am to 12:30 pm
Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm
Sunday, Noon to 4 pm

Trails: Open Tuesday through Sunday dawn to dusk

Admission

\$4 for nonmember adults; \$3 for nonmember children (2-12) and senior citizens (65 and older). Free for Mass Audubon members, and Northampton and Easthampton residents.

Graves Farm Wildlife Sanctuary

Adams Road, Williamsburg, 637 Acres

Graves Farm Wildlife Sanctuary in Williamsburg and Whately encompasses 637 acres of upland forest, old fields, and meadows. A figure-8 trail of a little more than a mile leads from the parking area and skirts along a field and into a mixed forest of spectacular pine, oak, and beech trees.

Contact Arcadia for more information.

Directions

From Rt. 9 in Williamsburg, MA take Depot Road (on north side of Rt. 9) to a 4-way intersection. Go right on Adams Road for .6 miles; a small parking lot is on the south side of the road at the Mass Audubon sign. The town does not permit parking along Adams Road.

Hours

Open every day, dawn to dusk

Admission

\$3 for nonmember adults; \$2 for nonmember children (2-12) and senior citizens. Free for Mass Audubon members.

High Ledges

Off Patten Road, Shelburne, 616 acres

Numerous species of wildflowers and ferns can be observed along the four mile trail system. The "ledges" offers panoramic views of the Deerfield River valley and Mount Greylock.

Directions

From Greenfield: At the junction of Rt. 2 and I-91 in Greenfield continue west on Rt. 2 toward Shelburne for 6 miles. Take a right onto Little Mohawk Road and bear left at the next intersection onto Patten Road. Bear left at the following junction and then bear right, continuing on Patten Road. The sanctuary road is the second left (approximately 0.8 miles). A small parking area is located on your left. Parking area may be inaccessible from December to May due to snow or mud.

Lynes Wildlife Sanctuary

Edwards Road, Westhampton, 260 Acres

Marion S. Lynes Wildlife Sanctuary protects 260 acres in Westhampton. This old farm has succeeded to beautiful woodland habitat. Although the sanctuary is not open for general visitation, there is a nature trail and guided walks are regularly scheduled at the sanctuary.

Contact Arcadia for more information.

Directions

From I 91N: Take exit 17B toward Easthampton. Turn slight right onto I41W. Continue 4.8 miles. Turn right on Main St. (Rt. 10N). Continue .3 miles. Turn left on West St. Continue 1.2 mi. Turn right on Loudville Rd. Continue 3.2 mi. Turn left on Main Road (Rt. 66). Continue 2 miles. Turn left on Edwards Road. Continue .7 miles to the intersection of Crowley and Edwards. Mass Audubon Lynes Sanctuary parking is on the left on Edwards Road just past the Crowley intersection.

Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary

Main Street, Hampden, 356 Acres

Located in the town of Hampden, this sanctuary is composed of 356 acres of southern New England forest, meadow, and wetlands in the Scantic River watershed. Four miles of walking trails, a variety of state-listed species, and the former home of children's author and naturalist Thornton W. Burgess are all found there. Laughing Brook is a special place to go birding, enjoy wildflowers, participate in a program, observe wildlife, or photograph nature.

Contact Arcadia for more information.

Directions

From I-91 in Springfield: Take either exit 2 (northbound) or exit 4 (southbound) to Rt. 83. Rt. 83 quickly becomes Sumner Road. Follow Sumner Road/Allen Street for 8.1 miles (Sumner Road becomes Allen Street after 3.5 miles). Note: Allen Street curves to the right at an intersection near a McDonald's restaurant; bear right at that intersection and stay on Allen Street. At the end of Allen Street (just past St. Mary's church in Hampden and by the Shell Station), take a left onto Main Street in Hampden. The sanctuary entrance is two miles down Main Street on the left.

From Boston/Worcester/Palmer: Take the Mass. Pike (I-90) to exit 8 in Palmer. Take a right into Palmer Center, then take Rt. 20 west (toward Springfield) 5.3 miles. Turn left (opposite the Wilbraham Fire Department) onto Main Street in Wilbraham. Go 6.6 miles on Main Street (which turns into Wilbraham Road in Hampden) to the stop sign and turn left onto Allen Street. After 0.2 miles on Allen Street (just past St. Mary's church in Hampden and by the Shell Station), take a left onto Main Street in Hampden. The sanctuary entrance is two miles down Main Street on the left.

Hours

Trails: Open every day, dawn to dusk.

Admission

\$3 for nonmember adults; \$2 for nonmember children (3-12) and senior citizens. Free for Mass Audubon members.

Roads End

Corbett Road, Worthington, 157 acres

An observant walker At Road's End may see signs of black bear on American Beech, ground scrapings of wild turkey or deer, gnawings of beaver or may discover past land uses. The sanctuary features two loop trails through a forested tract.

Directions

From Northampton: Follow Rt. 9 west through Northampton and Williamsburg. Take a left onto Rt. 143 west and follow it for approximately 12 miles to the intersection of Rt. 143 and Rt. 112 (Clark Road). Take a right on Rt. 112 and a quick left onto Corbett Road. There is seasonal parking at the end of Corbett Road.

Berkshire Wildlife Sanctuaries:

Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary

West Mountain Road, Lenox, 1,304 Acres

Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary in Lenox was established in 1929. It features seven miles of trails that wind over 1,300 acres of Berkshire uplands through old fields, northern hardwood forest, and along beaver swamps. It includes part of Lenox Mountain and the Yokun Brook valley, terraced with beaver ponds. The marble bedrock of the Berkshires nurtures rich plant diversity.

Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary
472 West Mountain Road
Lenox, MA 01240-2037
413-637-0320 Office
413-637-0499 Fax
berkshires@massaudubon.org

Directions

From the Mass. Pike (Rt. I-90): Take exit 2 (Lee) and turn right after tollbooths. Follow Rt. 20 west for 6.6 miles (Rt. 20 merges with Rt. 7). Turn left onto W. Dugway Road and the sanctuary is 1.6 miles ahead on the right.

From the North: Take Rt. 7 and Rt. 20 south from Park Square in the center of Pittsfield for 4.9 miles. Turn right onto West Dugway Road and the sanctuary is 1.6 miles ahead on the right.

Hours (year round)

Office: Tuesday through Friday, 9 am to 4 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm. Open Holiday Mondays, 10 am to 4 pm. Open Mondays July through Columbus Day.

Hours

Trails: Open Tuesday through Sunday, and Monday holidays, dawn to dusk. July through Columbus Day, trails open seven days a week, dawn to dusk.

Admission

\$4 for nonmember adults; \$3 for nonmember children (2-12) and senior citizens (65 and older). Free for Mass Audubon members and Lenox residents.

Canoe Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary

Holmes Road, Pittsfield, 262 Acres

Canoe Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary, established in 1975 in Pittsfield, consists of 262 acres of wetlands, fields, and forest along the Housatonic River. The property has three miles of trails and a wildlife observation building. There is a pit toilet and no indoor facilities. Parking is available only at Holmes Road. Note the visitor information board concerning other regulations.

Contact Pleasant Valley for more information.

Directions

From the Mass. Pike (I-90): Take exit 2 (Lee) and turn right after the toll-booths. Follow Rt. 20 north for eight miles (Rt. 20 merges with Rt. 7) to Holmes Road (Mobil gas station on the right). Proceed north on Holmes Road for 2.7 miles to sanctuary entrance on the right.

Hours

Trails: Open every day, except major holidays

Admission

\$3 for nonmember adults; \$2 for nonmember children (2-12) and senior citizens (65 and older). Free for Mass Audubon members and Pittsfield residents.

Lime Kiln Farm Wildlife Sanctuary

Silver Street, Sheffield, 250 Acres

The Lime Kiln Farm Wildlife Sanctuary features two miles of trails that traverse rolling hayfields, wooded and shrub swamps, limestone ridge and outcrops, upland deciduous and conifer forest, and former pastures. The diverse habitat attracts butterflies as well as pileated woodpeckers, alder flycatchers, and eastern bluebirds. White-tailed deer also wander among the trees and fields. Stunning views of nearby Mount Everett can be seen from the parking area and the vista point off the Taconic Vista Trail. For a brief time limestone was quarried and turned into lime in the kiln still standing onsite today. The sanctuary is part of the 14,000-acre Schenob Brook Drainage Basin Area of Critical Environmental Concern.

Contact Pleasant Valley for more information.

Directions

From the Mass. Turnpike (Rt I-90): Take exit 2 (Lee). Turn left onto Rt. 20 and within 0.1-mile turn right onto Rt. 102. Follow Rt. 102 for 4.5 miles to Rt. 7 in Stockbridge. Continue on Rt. 7 through Great Barrington and into the center of Sheffield. From the center of Sheffield (at post office), drive an additional 1.1 miles on Rt. 7, turning right at Silver Street. Follow Silver Street for 1.1 miles to the sanctuary entrance on the right.

From the north: From Rt. 7/20 junction in Lenox, bear right onto Rt. 7 and travel 5.3 miles to Stockbridge. Continue on Rt. 7 through Great Barrington, and into the center of Sheffield. From the center of Sheffield (at post office), drive an additional 1.1 miles on Rt. 7, turning right at Silver Street. Follow Silver Street for 1.1 miles to the sanctuary entrance on the right.

From Connecticut: From the CT/MA border, follow Rt. 7 north for 3.6 miles to Silver Street on the left. Follow Silver Street for 1.1 miles to the sanctuary on the right.

Hours

Trails: Open every day, dawn to dusk

Admission

\$3 for nonmember adults; \$2 for nonmember children (2-12) and seniors (65 and older). Free for Mass Audubon members and Sheffield residents.

Registration Procedures and Policy Guidelines

Registration

Advance registration with full payment is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. You may call in advance to inquire about space availability, but we cannot hold a space for you until we have received your payment in full. Please register early because many programs fill quickly. If you are registering for a class and less than one week remains before the program begins, please call the sanctuary hosting the program to confirm that space is available. If you are not a Mass Audubon member, you may join when you register and pay the member program fee.

Three Easy Ways to Register!

By Telephone: Call the sanctuary that is hosting the program. Our staff will be happy to complete your registration by telephone using MasterCard or VISA. Have your course and credit card information ready.

By Mail: Completely fill out the registration form and return it with your check, money order, or credit card authorization (MasterCard and VISA only) to the sanctuary that is hosting the program you are registering for. All checks and money orders should be made payable to Mass Audubon. You may download additional copies of the registration form at www.massaudubon.org/registrationform.

In Person: Stop by the sanctuary that is hosting the program you are interested in and register in person. Please call ahead to make sure the office is open. Note: Registering in person should be done prior to the program start date because registering the day of, in many cases, will be too late.

Confirmation Information

Written confirmation will not be sent for every program. If you would like to receive written confirmation, please let the sanctuary know at the time of registration. You will be notified if you do not get into a program as a result of restrictions on class size or if your name has been placed on a wait list. Please read all future correspondence carefully because it may contain information pertinent to your program such as what to bring or wear, directions to a location, etc.

Filled Programs/Wait Lists

Most programs have minimum and maximum enrollments depending on the type of class and instructional techniques. Some programs have wait lists. If the program of your choice is full, you will be placed on a wait list when there is one. If you do not wish to remain on the wait list, please notify the sanctuary hosting the program and a refund will be issued. We will notify you at least 24 hours in advance of the program only if space becomes available. If space does not open up, you will receive a full refund within three weeks of the program date.

Cancellation/Refund

To receive a program refund if you no longer plan to attend, you must notify the sanctuary hosting the program at least one week prior to the first class. Each sanctuary reserves the right to change programs, schedules, and instructors or to cancel programs due to low enrollment. A full refund will be processed if the sanctuary cancels the program. Refunds require approximately three weeks for processing. **Please be aware the summer camps and vacation week programs have a separate refund policy.** Please refer to camp brochure or call the specific sanctuary for this information.

Inclement Weather

Most programs are held rain or shine; please dress accordingly. If a program is cancelled as a result of extreme weather conditions, an attempt to notify all participants will be made and full refunds will be issued. If you have any questions about the status of a program, please call the sanctuary hosting the program directly. For programs that list a rain date or cloud date, we recommend that you hold the alternate date open. Refunds will not be issued if the class is switched to its alternate date and you are not able to attend.

Additional Questions?

If you have additional questions about registration policies, or have a question about a particular program, please call the sanctuary hosting the program directly.

Where to Send Registration Forms

Download registration forms at www.massaudubon.org/registrationform

For Berkshire Wildlife Sanctuaries:

Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary
472 West Mountain Road
Lenox, MA 01240-2037
413-637-0320 Office

For Connecticut River Valley Wildlife Sanctuaries:

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary
127 Combs Road
Easthampton, MA 01027
413-584-3009 Office
800-710-4550

For Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary:

Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary
113 Goodnow Road
Princeton, MA 01541
978-464-2712 Office

For Broad Meadow Brook Conservation Center and Wildlife Sanctuary:

Broad Meadow Brook Conservation Center and Wildlife Sanctuary
414 Massasoit Road
Worcester, MA 01604-3546
508-753-6087 Office



Mass Audubon

Protecting the Nature of Massachusetts

REGISTRATION FORM

for Central and Western Massachusetts

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Registration is processed through the sanctuary offering the program. Therefore, please submit a separate registration form for each individual sanctuary. We recommend that you photocopy this form prior to completing it.

Download additional copies:
www.massaudubon.org/registrationform

INDIVIDUAL'S INFORMATION

Circle one: Dr. / Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. / Miss

Adult name / Contact name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (day): _____ Phone (evening): _____

E-mail: _____

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

MASS AUDUBON MEMBER? YES NO

Member #: _____ Membership Exp. Date: ____/____/____

Not currently a Mass Audubon member?

Join now and enjoy membership discounts and other great benefits. For details visit: www.massaudubon.org

INDIVIDUAL (\$48)

FAMILY (\$65)

SUPPORTER (\$70)

FAMILY PLUS (\$80)

SPONSOR (\$250)

SESSION INFORMATION

Program/ Session Name	Date(s) and Time	Participant's Full Name (Adult or Child)	Child's Date of Birth and Age	Session Fee
			/ /	
			/ /	
			/ /	

WHERE TO SEND REGISTRATION FORM

Please send registration/payment to:

For Berkshire

Wildlife Sanctuaries:

Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary
472 West Mountain Road
Lenox, MA 01240-2037
(413) 637-0320 Office

For Wachusett Meadow

Wildlife Sanctuary:

Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary
113 Goodnow Road
Princeton, MA 01541
(978) 464-2712 Office

For Connecticut River Valley

Wildlife Sanctuaries:

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary
127 Combs Road
Easthampton, MA 01027
(413) 584-3009 Office
(800) 710-4550

For Broad Meadow Brook

Conservation Center

and Wildlife Sanctuary:

Broad Meadow Brook Conservation
Center and Wildlife Sanctuary
414 Massasoit Road
Worcester, MA 01604-3546
(508) 753-6087 Office

For your personal, financial security, please do not fax or email credit card information.

Total Program Fee(s)	
Membership Fee	
Total Amount Enclosed	

Check or Money Order
Please make all checks and money orders
payable to Mass Audubon.

MasterCard, VISA, or Discover

Name on
Credit Card: _____

Credit Card #: _____

Credit Card
Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____