2020
Mass Audubon’s
NATURE DAY CAMP
in Chatham

Welcome to Nature Day Camp!

Mass Audubon’s Nature Day Camp in Chatham inspires a child’s curiosity and excitement about nature. Campers ages 4 to 13 have fun and make friends as they explore the nature of Cape Cod. Our goals are to instill a sense of place and an awareness and appreciation for nature. Above all, we create happy and memorable outdoor experiences for our campers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call 508-349-2615
Email mpeck@massaudubon.org
Visit massaudubon.org/chathamcamp

LOCATION
Camp headquarters is located at Chatham Elementary School. Each camper group will have a classroom to store belongings and use as a place for activities when there's inclement weather.

OUR CAMP STAFF
Our staff members are chosen for their enthusiasm, experience, natural history knowledge, and ability to work with children in the outdoors. They are college graduates or undergraduates currently enrolled in environmental and/or educational fields of study. All are certified in first-aid and CPR and participate in a pre-camp training in safety, child development, and natural history.

OUR CAMP DIRECTOR
Morgan Peck has been an educator with Mass Audubon for eight years, spending the past five at Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. Throughout the year, Morgan teaches and coordinates educational programming for local and visiting schools to Wellfleet Bay. Her specialty is marine organisms, and when not teaching, Morgan helps with local stranded/entangled sea turtles, and other marine mammals.

“Our camper liked everything! He came home very happy, he loved the counselors, the friends, and the nature.”

—2019 Camp Parent
A CLOSER LOOK • July 6–10
Using field microscopes and magnifiers, take a closer look at what’s right at your eye level! Sand, feathers, insects, leaves, and so much more. As you explore, see what often goes unnoticed and take the time to touch and feel. Walk through various habitats nearby, and build a collection of natural treasures.

MAMMALS: THEY’RE JUST LIKE US! • July 13–17
Surviving in the wild is no easy task, and each animal has its own unique skills to make sure it doesn’t end up as someone’s lunch! Explore traits other mammals have that are similar to our own, as well as what makes each mammal different and unique. How long can a Humpback Whale hold its breath? Why do a raccoon’s hands make it such a good omnivore? Observe and uncover how humans fit into the mammal puzzle!

SHARK ENTHUSIASTS!* • July 13–17
$320 members; $385 nonmembers
Immerse yourself in shark biology and marine science during field trips to several local destinations. Learn about the special adaptations and anatomy of a shark by completing a shark dissection, and observe the Great White Shark’s primary food source—seals! Build a shark tooth necklace and complete giant Great White puzzle. There’s lots of fun to be had this week as we team up with the Atlantic White Shark Conservancy. *Turtles only

SIX-LEGGED FRENZY • July 20–24
Overturn logs to look for our crawling friends hidden away in the ground, catch butterflies and dragonflies, and create an insect zoo. Head to the pond to find camouflaged bugs, and sing songs to remember their special body parts. It’ll be a frenzy learning about insects’ weird ways!

CRAFTY CRITTERS • July 27–31
Imagine sculpting a fiddler crab, painting turtles on a log, or creating a paper mâché whale. Spend time exploring nature for artistic inspiration! Be crafty with clay, watercolors, and the materials you’ll find outside, and play plenty of games along the way!

MARINE LIFE MEANDERS • August 3–7
Have a blast at the beach! Get mucky, salty, and wet! Meander along the shores in search of crabs, snails, and fish. Lean all about marine animals' special adaptations: a fish’s scales, a clam’s foot, or a sea star’s arms. Spend a day building your dream sand castle with new friends, and then find out where all that sand came from.

INTERESTING INVERTEBRATES • August 10–14
What do you have that jellyfish, oysters, and crickets don’t? A backbone! Learn about these spineless creatures that make up a large portion of the animal world. Use dip nets, butterfly nets, basins, and magnifiers to find interesting inverts!
The Seals program brings science and nature together with field activities, in-depth exploration, and scientific methods. Full-day sessions include time for a mid-morning snack and lunch. Seals go off site on field trips by van to learn more about their subject being studied.

**NATURE HEROES**  
**July 6–10**  
Learn to be a protector of the earth. Hike trails without leaving a trace, build a solar powered oven, create art using recycled materials, and assist with invasive species removal. Most important, educate other day campers about how you’re being a nature hero! **Field Trip: Horseshoe Crab Tagging**

**WILDERNESS WANDERINGS**  
**July 13–17**  
Get comfortable with wilderness techniques and be prepared for anything as you roam our nearby wild spaces. With a focus on team building, spend time in various habitats using new outdoor orienteering skills. Build a fort out of driftwood, play “capture the resources,” and complete daily group challenges by relying on each other. **Field Trip: Cape Cod National Seashore in Eastham**

**FANTASTIC FRESHWATERS**  
**July 20–24**  
Discover what leaps through ponds, crawls from vernal pools, or migrates to streams by visiting these habitats on foot and by boat. Gain a new perspective on the organisms that live there. Follow freshwater systems to catch frogs and Painted Turtles, set fish traps, and look for aquatic insects. Will our explorations eventually lead us to the ocean? Find out! **Field Trip: Nickerson State Park in Brewster**

**OPEN OCEAN OBSERVATIONS**  
**July 27–31**  
See all the wonders the open ocean have to offer! Jellyfish, sea turtles, pelagic birds, and countless others make their home in the vast blue waters. Discover the differences between bayside and ocean side beaches, measuring water temperature and salinity content. Comb the shores making observations with your binoculars, and see seal populations up close. **Field Trip: Seal Cruise**

**MAGNIFICENT MIGRATORS**  
**August 3–7**  
The late summer marks the middle of the shorebird migration season as well as the beginning of the whale and butterfly migrations. Some species head to South America, the Caribbean, or Mexico. How do they know when to leave and where to go? Tag Horseshoe Crabs with Wellfleet Bay’s research staff to help track their migration, and visit protected beaches to view seabirds. **Field Trip: Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary in Wellfleet**

**BRACKISH BIOLOGISTS**  
**August 10–14**  
Explore the areas where land meets sea and that unique spot in-between. Estuaries are some of the most special habitats in the world. Slop through the salt marshes, and see one of the largest estuaries on the Cape from kayak. Learn what causes “that smell,” and dissect a block of peat! **Field Trip: Seal Cruise**

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### CITIZEN SCIENCE at CAMP SEALS

**BEACH CONSERVATION CLEAN-UP**  
As developing nature stewards, Seals partake in a beach debris clean-up.

**SHARKS**  
**SNORKELING SHELLFISH SURVEYS**  
Sharks survey an abundance of underwater organisms on weekly snorkeling trips.

**WATER QUALITY TESTING**  
Partake in important water quality testing at local freshwater swimming holes. Offered in partnership with the Association to Preserve Cape Cod.
The Sharks program nurtures environmental stewardship and education through fun and exciting hands-on activities, including off-site field trips to explore Cape Cod’s varied habitats. Every week includes a snorkeling trip. Full-day sessions include time for a mid-morning snack and lunch. Participants must be able to demonstrate strong swimming skills in order to snorkel.

ENDANGERED SPECIES
July 6–10
Southeastern Massachusetts is home to the greatest number of endangered species in the state, with most of them living on the Outer Cape. Find out what is effecting these animals populations and what we can do to help. Monitor Piping Plovers and their nests with guidance from Mass Audubon’s Coastal Waterbird Program staff, button tag Horseshoe Crabs with our research team, and observe a necropsy of a turtle that stranded on Cape Cod this past fall. Field Trips: Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary and Brewster Museum of Natural History

ANIMAL ASSISTANTS
July 13–17
Team up with other campers to help take care of the various wildlife that is exhibited at Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary and our very own aquariums in Chatham. Work with our aquarist to help feed saltwater fish, manage a freshwater tank, and look after turtles. What does it take to create a happy, and safe, temporary home for these organisms before they are released back to their habitats? Find out this week as you make a special critter connection! Field Trips: Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary and Brewster Museum of Natural History

LEADERS-IN-TRAINING
Ages 14–17
$150 members; $215 nonmembers per week
Chatham’s Leaders-in-Training (LIT) Program is for teens who are looking to gain experience working with children in a camp setting. Participate in trainings in natural history topics and teaching skills, assist camp groups, and learn to teach nature-themed lessons, games, and activities.
An application is required and space is limited. For more information and to request an application, contact Camp Director Morgan Peck at mpeck@massaudubon.org.

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY
August 3–7
Set your focus on photographing turtles, frogs, crabs, and other Cape Cod wildlife this week. Photograph wildlife both on and off Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. You’ll have the opportunity to take pictures aplenty and identify and document as many plants and animals as possible during a bio-blitz. Use your cell phone or one of our provided point and shoot cameras. Invite your friends and family to a gallery exhibit of your photos on the last day of camp. Field Trips: Cape Cod Lavender Farm in Harwich and Morris Island in Chatham

CARNIVORES OF THE CAPE
August 10–14
Eat or be eaten is the rule in the world of wildlife. Observe the ways animals attract, capture, and eat their prey, from snails that spit acid to sharks that rule the sea. See what scientists learn from examining the stomach contents of sea turtles. Dissect owl pellets, set out flour traps to see who’s hunting along the trails, and watch seals from a boat. Observe some predator/prey relationships while hiking and paddle boarding. Field Trips: Paddle Boarding in Orleans and Seal Cruise
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

TO REGISTER FOR CAMP
Visit massaudubon.org/chathamcamp
Call 508-349-2615

Mail the attached registration form and payment to: Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, P.O. Box 236, South Wellfleet, MA 02663

REGISTRATION POLICY
Registration begins January. Mailed registrations will be stamped with the date of receipt and processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION
A confirmation letter/email containing important documents and information will be sent once your camper’s registration has been processed.

DEPOSIT
Registration must include payment for 50% of the total camp fees and includes a nonrefundable deposit of $50 per camper, per session. This deposit is applied to your camp tuition and cannot be transferred to another camper, family, or camp location. If registering after May 15, payment in full is required (unless a payment plan has been established with the Camp Director).

REFUND POLICY
A full refund, minus the nonrefundable deposit, is provided to camp families who cancel in writing on or before May 15. After May 15, no refund is available. Deposits are not transferable, and refunds are not given for participant dismissal, failure to attend, absence, or sick days. If we must cancel a session, you will receive a full refund.

MEMBERSHIP & DISCOUNTS
Mass Audubon members at the Family level or above receive a discounted rate. To qualify, your membership must be current through your camper’s last session, and you must be the parent, grandparent, or legal guardian of the camper being enrolled. Membership can be purchased or renewed at the time of registration. If you are unsure of your member status, please call 508-349-2615.

Campers who reside on Cape Cod year-round receive a $50 discount on half-day programs, and a $70 discount on full-day programs. Proof of the camper’s enrollment in a Cape Cod school district in the form of a report card, progress report, or letter from the school must accompany registration in order for the camper to receive the discount.

FINANCIAL AID
Financial assistance is available based on demonstrated economic need and available funds, and is generally limited to one session per child; however, all applications are considered. Applications are due by May 1. Please call the Camp Director to request an application or download one at massaudubon.org/campforms.

PAYMENT PLANS
Payment plan options are available. Please contact the Camp Director for more information.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES
All camp forms, waivers, and the balance of your camp tuition are due by May 15. If registering after May 15, payment in full is required and a specific camp form deadline will be set for you. A camper cannot attend camp and his/her spot is not guaranteed until all forms, waivers, and payments are completed (or a payment plan has been established). A fee of $75 per camper will be charged for incomplete or late forms and waivers.

CAMPER REQUIREMENTS
Campers are expected to meaningfully participate in age-appropriate activities, including outdoor exploration and nature study. To ensure a successful camp experience, please discuss any pertinent information regarding your child’s special needs with the Camp Director. We can accommodate on a case-by-case basis in order to establish the best strategy for a great summer camp experience. All campers must follow stated discipline expectations and safety rules. The Camp Director reserves the right to dismiss a camper when, in his/her judgement, the camper’s behavior interferes with the rights of others or the smooth functioning of the group or activity, or violates the camp’s behavior policy. In such cases no refunds will be provided. If you have any questions regarding your child’s ability to participate in our camp program, please contact the Camp Director.

CAMP LICENSE
Our camp complies with the regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (105 CMR 430) and is licensed by the Wellfleet Board of Health.

ACA ACCREDITATION
We are proud to be accredited by the American Camp Association. Developed exclusively for the camp industry, this nationally recognized program focuses on program quality, and health and safety, management, and camp operations.

CAMP POLICY REQUESTS
You may request copies of our background check, healthcare, discipline, bullying, and grievance policies at any time.

AGE/BUDDY REQUESTS
If a camper is younger than the outlined age group of a session, we do not typically accept moving a camper up to an older age group to be with a buddy. The Camp Director is happy to discuss these decisions on a case by case basis.

SESSION TRANSFERS
Session transfer requests will be honored if there is space available.

CAMP CONTACT INFO
Morgan Peck, Camp Director

Camp Location (June–August)
Nature Day Camp in Chatham
Chatham Elementary School
147 Depot Road, Chatham, MA 02633

Mailing Address (Year-Round)
P.O. Box 236
291 State Highway Route 6
South Wellfleet, MA, 02663

508-349-2615
mpeck@massaudubon.org
massaudubon.org/wellfleetbaycamp
Nature Day Camp Registration Form

Through May 15, registrations will be accepted by mail or online. After May 15, registrations will be accepted by mail or phone. For identity safety assurances, fax and e-mail submissions are not permitted.

Send registration form with payment to
Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, P.O. Box 236, South Wellfleet, MA  02663. Phone: 508-349-2615

Please use a photocopy for additional children or camp weeks.

CAMPER
First Name__________________________  Last Name__________________________  Gender__________
Street Address__________________________  City__________________________  State_______  Zip____________
Birth Date__________ Age as of June 1______ Grade as of September 2020_______ Returning Camper □ YES □ NO
☐ Peeps (half day)  ☐ Peeps (full day)  ☐ Turtles (full day)  ☐ Seals (full day)  ☐ Sharks (full day)  ☐ LIT Program

Dates
Session Name(s)

Person Completing This Form
Name__________________________
Relationship to Camper__________________________
Member #__________
Phone 1__________________________Phone 2__________________________
Email__________________________Add to Carpool List? YES / NO
Address (if different)__________________________
City__________________________State_______Zip__________

Parent/Guardian (if different)
Name__________________________
Relationship to Camper__________________________
Member #__________
Phone 1__________________________Phone 2__________________________
Email__________________________Add to Carpool List? YES / NO
Address (if different)__________________________
City__________________________State_______Zip__________

PAYMENT INFORMATION
Total Camp Session(s) $________
*Mass Audubon Family Membership
  if Joining/Renewing ($65):———
Cape Cod Year-round Resident Discount* -$———
Tax-Deductible Campership Fund Donation: $———
TOTAL DUE: $———
Amount Paid Today (Full or 50%): $———
Balance Due by May 15: $———

PAYMENT METHOD
Check Included (payable to Mass Audubon, include child’s name and session dates in subject line) OR Credit Card
DISC/MC/VISA #__________________________
Exp. Date:______ Verification Code:__________________________
Signature:__________________________

*include copy of camper report card as proof of residency

There’s more to explore!

KIDS TO CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND DETAILS AT massaudubon.org/kidstocamp

wildwood
Mass Audubon’s overnight camp in New Hampshire massaudubon.org/wildwood
Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary welcomes more than 1,100 campers and 32,000 visitors annually. We protect and conduct research on a number of Cape Cod’s endangered, threatened, and at-risk species. Our robust science program enables us to bring research into all of our education programs, including day camp. To support Wellfleet Bay’s education and conservation work, call 508-349-2615, extension 6109 or go to massaudubon.org/wellfleetbay.

Mass Audubon protects more than 38,000 acres of land throughout Massachusetts, saving birds and other wildlife, and making nature accessible to all. As Massachusetts’ largest nature conservation nonprofit, we welcome more than a half million visitors a year to our wildlife sanctuaries and nature centers. Today, Mass Audubon is a nationally recognized environmental education leader, offering thousands of camp, school, and adult programs. With more than 135,000 members and supporters, we advocate on Beacon Hill and beyond, and conduct conservation research to preserve the natural heritage of our beautiful state. We welcome you to explore a nearby sanctuary, find inspiration, and get involved. Learn how at massaudubon.org.