Central & Western Massachusetts

Programs & Events

JANUARY – MAY 2020

Mass Audubon
Your Guide to Wildlife Sanctuaries in Central & Western Massachusetts

Central MA

1. Broad Meadow Brook, Worcester
2. Burncoat Pond, Spencer
3. Cook’s Canyon, Barre
4. Eagle Lake, Holden
5. Flat Rock, Fitchburg
6. Lake Wampanoag, Gardner
7. Lincoln Woods, Leominster
8. Pierpont Meadow, Dudley
9. Poor Farm Hill, New Salem
10. Rutland Brook, Petersham
11. Wachusett Meadow, Princeton

Western MA

Connecticut River Valley

12. Arcadia, Easthampton & Northampton
13. Conway Hills, Conway
14. Graves Farm, Williamsburg & Whately
15. High Ledges, Shelburne
16. Laughing Brook, Hampden
17. Lynes Woods, Westhampton
18. Richardson Brook, Tolland
19. Road’s End, Worthington
20. West Mountain, Plainfield

Berkshires

21. Canoe Meadows, Pittsfield
22. Lime Kiln Farm, Sheffield
23. Pleasant Valley, Lenox

Staffed wildlife sanctuaries with accessible features.
Greetings!

This catalog includes seasonal programs and events offered by Mass Audubon wildlife sanctuaries in Central and Western Massachusetts. You can also access this information on our website, massaudubon.org/programs.

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BIGGEST BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL YET!
This year’s Barbara J. Walker Butterfly Festival attracted more families and friends than ever before, and many new faces too. People came from many different avenues, with the net result of a wonderful gathering of new and returning members and families, including people who had never been to Broad Meadow Brook before. Thanks to our many sponsors, this FUNdraising event helps support sanctuary programs and operations. Please join us in applauding the following sponsoring companies: Peterson Oil, Sims Metal Management, Linder’s Inc., The Caterpillar Lab, Lauring Construction, UNFI United Natural Foods Inc., Worcester Credit Union, National Grid, EcoTec Inc., and Bee Wear.

BROAD MEADOW BROOK GROWS BY 5 MORE ACRES
With a recent donation, Broad Meadow Brook has grown to 435 acres of protected land right in the heart of Worcester. From a single house and barn in 1990, through a tremendous collaborative effort with the City of Worcester, National Grid (then known as Mass Electric), and hundreds of local area donors and Worcester-based philanthropic foundations, Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary opened its doors to the public in 1991 with 272 acres of wildlife sanctuary lands managed by Mass Audubon. Since then, lands have been added through donation, state grants, and private fundraising. The most recent addition is a five-acre parcel on the west side of the sanctuary very generously donated by Karen Faler. Karen remembers the rural nature of this area and felt strongly about helping preserve the land. We are very grateful to her for this wonderful addition!

Deb Cary, Central Sanctuaries Director
Lisa Carlin, Broad Meadow Brook Assistant Sanctuary Director
Meet Andrew Ahern
Community Engagement Coordinator

Andrew comes to Broad Meadow Brook from TerraCorps as our new Community Engagement Coordinator. He is passionate about educating folks about climate change, and inspiring hope and action among concerned youth and adults. He’s looking forward to getting to know the Worcester community, next time you’re at the sanctuary, say hello to Andrew!

How did you get involved with TerraCorps? I got involved in TerraCorps as I was searching for environmental jobs this summer after I finished the bulk of my thesis work. I have done AmeriCorps previously and thought TerraCorps would be a good introduction to getting my foot in the environmental door.

What have you enjoyed most while getting to know our Worcester community? I have really enjoyed seeing the passion the Worcester community has demonstrated toward the climate crisis. It’s also exciting to be in an area with many colleges, and I am looking forward to working with youth and established environmental groups in the area.

What do you do in your free time? I like to play music, read philosophy, and explore various cities and natural landscapes. I really want to get a dog soon too!
Preregistration required · M: Mass Audubon Members, NM: Nonmembers

**Friday Morning Bird Walks**

*Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester*

**Fridays, January 3; February 7; March 6 / 7:30–9:00 am**
**Fridays, March 27–June 5 / 7:00–9:00 am**

Led by Martha Gach, Sanctuary Conservation Coordinator
Free for M, $7 NM, per session

Enjoy a guided walk, sharpen your birding skills, and help track migrating and resident birds. Explore different trails and habitats at the sanctuary as the birds change through the season. You never know what we may find! *Birders of all levels are welcome. Wear sturdy shoes and bring binoculars if you have them (or borrow ours).*

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**Owl Prowl for Adults**

*Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester*

**Friday, January 17 / 5:00–7:00 pm**

Led by Martha Gach, Sanctuary Conservation Coordinator
$18 M, $23 NM

Owls are a prominent part of our folklore, and for good reason. Learn all about our native New England owls, including their behavior, adaptations, and ecology. You'll become acquainted with some of our local owls, learn their calls, and walk nearby trails to search for Eastern Screech and Great Horned Owls. Afterward, enjoy light refreshments and learn more about these fascinating creatures of the dark. *Dress to be outdoors for part of this program. Program involves moderate walking at dusk.*

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**Winter Birding at Plum Island**

*Joppa Flats Education Center & Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Newburyport; Salisbury Beach State Reservation, Salisbury*

**Saturday, January 25 / 9:00 am–5:00 pm**

Led by Sheryl Pereira, Sanctuary Birding Instructor
$75 M, $95 NM

Give "snowbirds" a new meaning and explore the coast to experience birds that visit in winter. We'll search Parker River National Wildlife Refuge and Salisbury Beach State Reservation for Snowy Owls, Northern Harriers, Pintail Ducks, and others that can only be seen this time of year. Program includes short walks and is suited for novice-to-moderate birders. *Dress for the weather and bring a lunch, drink, and snacks. Bring binoculars if you have them (or borrow ours). Space is limited; early registration is encouraged.*

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**Snow Tracking & Winter Animal Activities**

*Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester*

**Sundays, January 26; February 9, 23 / 1:00–3:30 pm**

Led by Joe Choiniere, Sanctuary Property Manager
$20 M, $24 NM, per session

Many animals are active all winter. Learn to use tracks and other clues to explore the winter landscape. What are rabbits, deer, and weasels doing and where? Are bobcats here to stay on the sanctuary? *Sign up for one or more dates.*

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**A Year in the Natural World of Central Massachusetts**

*Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester*

**Wednesday, February 12 / 7:00–8:30 pm**

Led by Mark Lynch, Radio Host and Naturalist, & Sheila Carroll, Photographer
$10 M, $14 NM

The diverse landscape of Central Massachusetts supports plants and animals that must thrive in hot summers, frigid winters, rainy springs, and the colorful slowdown of fall. Enjoy a visual tour of the natural changes and surprises that make Central Massachusetts special.

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**Saturday Morning Bird Walks**

*Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester*

**Saturdays, March 7; April 4; May 2; June 6 / 7:00–9:30 am**

Led by Sanctuary Staff & Volunteers
Free for M, $7 NM, per program

Discover the immense variety of birdlife at our large urban sanctuary as you explore with an expert guide. Learn the basics of bird identification and birdwatching during this easy-to-moderate walk along sanctuary trails. *Wear sturdy shoes and bring binoculars if you have them (or borrow ours).*

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**Understanding & Enjoying Dragonflies**

*Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester*

**Tuesday, March 10 / 7:00–8:30 pm**

Led by Sheila Carroll, Photographer
$10 M, $14 NM

More than 150 species of dragonflies and their damselfly cousins occur Massachusetts—start learning about them in this photography talk! Get ready for spring and find the best places in Central Massachusetts to see these fascinating creatures.
Early Spring Birding in Rhode Island
Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge; Colt State Park, Rhode Island
Saturday, March 14 / 9:00 am–5:00 pm
Storm Date: Sunday, March 15 / 9:00 am–5:00 pm
Led by Sheryl Pereira, Sanctuary Birding Instructor
$75 M, $95 NM
Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge is a wild place of rocky cliffs and salt marshlands, and the winter home of rare and beautiful Harlequin Ducks. At Colt State Park, a stunning gem with panoramic views of Narragansett Bay, Horned Larks and Buffleheads can be found on the same day. We'll explore along ocean trails at Sachuest Point and bird by van at Colt State Park. Suitable for novice-to-expert birders.

Enigmatic Lichens
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester
Sunday, March 15 / 10:00 am–3:30 pm
Storm Date: Sunday, March 29 / 1:00–3:30 pm
Led by Joe Choiniere, Sanctuary Property Manager
$60 M, $75 NM
Lichens are everywhere—those grayish, greenish, occasionally orange splotches on tree limbs, boulders, and stone walls that brighten in wet weather. These symbiotic colonies of fungus and an alga are pioneer organisms, growing in the most extreme conditions. Learn to recognize some of the most common of the 1,200 species found in New England. Indoor and outdoor class.

Birding by Ear
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester
Tuesdays, March 17–April 7 / 7:00–8:30 pm
Led by Martha Gach, Sanctuary Conservation Coordinator, & Sheryl Pereira, Sanctuary Birding Instructor
$65 M, $90 NM, entire series
Get your ears ready for spring with this fun four-session series! Learn to decipher the songs and calls heard now and in coming months, including Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Carolina Wrens, and Blue-wing Warblers. Don't miss this chance to learn how, why, and most importantly, which birds are singing.

Nature Observation Journaling
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester
Sundays, April 12 & 26 / 1:00–3:30 pm
Led by Joe Choiniere, Sanctuary Property Manager
$70 M, $85 NM, entire series*
Observe and document fascinating seasonal changes in your own personalized nature journal! You needn't be an artist or writer—only curious to study your surroundings and record what you find. We'll try out simple sketching and writing techniques while studying everyday nature objects, including shrubs and trees in bloom, spring wildflowers, and landscapes around the sanctuary. Journaling fosters observation skills and reveals what we often overlook. Through sketching and writing, you'll discover what's hiding in nature, and develop a style of journaling that fits your interests, experience, and abilities. *Price includes $10 materials fee; all materials provided.

Spring Bird Migration in Central Massachusetts
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester
Wednesdays, April 22–May 20 / 7:00–8:30 pm
(plus weekend field trips)
Led by Mark Lynch, Naturalist and Radio Host, & Sheila Carroll, Photographer
$120 M, $170 NM, entire series
Spring pulses with waves of vocal feathered migrants. Waterfowl and hawks pass through rapidly, shorebirds drop in on wet fields, and new neotropical migrants arrive weekly. In this five-session series, we'll learn migration dynamics and birdsong, and explore great regional birding areas close to home. Suitable for moderate-to-advanced birders. Field trip transportation not provided; carpooling is encouraged. Bring binoculars, a field guide, and a notebook. Weekend trips will be weather dependent and times will vary depending on location.

Spring Warblers at Mount Auburn Cemetery
Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
Sunday, May 17 / 7:00 am–12:00 pm
Led by Martha Gach, Sanctuary Conservation Coordinator
$32 M, $45 NM
Visit this national landmark, founded in 1831, that is a mecca for birds and birders. May is Mount Auburn's glory month, with an impressive variety of migrants that rest and feed on their way to northern breeding grounds. Your expert guide will help you spot vibrantly colored Scarlet Tanagers and listen for the sweet songs of Baltimore Orioles. Meet at Broad Meadow Brook at 6:45 am for van transportation, or at 8:00 am outside Story Chapel near the Mount Auburn Cemetery entrance. Program involves walking along easy terrain with periods of standing. Bring binoculars if you have them, or borrow ours.

Walk & Watch:
Dance of the Woodcock
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester
Wednesday, March 25 / 6:30–8:30 pm
Led by Martha Gach, Sanctuary Conservation Coordinator
$15 M, $19 NM
Love is in the air! In spring's dusk, American Woodcocks perform a spectacular aerial mating display. Learn about this peculiar member of the sandpiper family, then witness the “peenting,” spiral flights, and flybys of courting males. This will be an easy walk along level trails at dusk.
Hike into the New Year
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Wednesday, January 1 / 9:30 am–12:00 pm
Adults and families with children ages 8 & up
Led by Lisa Carlin, Assistant Sanctuary Director and Camp Director
adults Free for M, $7 NM
children Free for M, $4 NM

Start 2020 off on the right foot! We will hike or snowshoe the sanctuary trails looking for tracks and other signs of wildlife as we ring in the New Year. Hot cocoa and coffee will warm us up back at the Visitor Center. Bring snowshoes if you have them, or borrow ours. Hiking distance is three miles total.

Owl Prowl for Families
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Saturday, January 18 / 5:00–7:00 pm
Families with children ages 5 & up
Led by Martha Gach, Sanctuary Conservation Coordinator, & Kathy Kennedy, Sanctuary Education Coordinator
adults $15 M, $19 NM
children $5 M, $8 NM

Are owls really wise? How do they fly so silently? Can they actually turn their heads all the way around? Find out at this early-evening program for families. We’ll practice owl calls and search the sanctuary trails for these magnificent creatures of the night, finishing up with hot chocolate and games. Program takes place indoors and outdoors, walking the trails at dusk. Dress to be outdoors for part of this program.

Nature Drop-in Days for Families
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Families with children of all ages

Stop by our Education Center for a day full of nature activities. Enjoy self-directed themed crafts and activities and come along for one of our guided one-hour hikes.

NATURE DROP-IN DAY: TRACKS & TRACES
Monday, January 20 / 9:30 am–3:00 pm
Led by Kathy Kennedy, Sanctuary Education Coordinator
$5 M, $6 NM, per person

What’s going on at the sanctuary in winter? Learn how to identify and interpret tracks and other clues left behind by animals to see what they’re up to. Create your own tracking story and enjoy self-directed crafts. Guided one-hour hikes leave from the Education Center porch at 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, or 2:00 pm.

NATURE DROP-IN DAY: SIGNS OF SPRING
Friday, April 10 / 11:00 am–3:00 pm
Led by Lisa Carlin, Assistant Sanctuary Director and Camp Director
$5 M, $6 NM, per person

Have you been noticing the first signs of spring? Stop by the Education Center for a full day of nature activities, and learn to identify clues that spring has arrived. Enjoy self-directed crafts including trying your hand at making a bird nest. Join us for a guided one-hour hike at 12:00 or 2:00 pm as we search for signs of spring.

Preschool Story Hour
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Select Wednesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays / 10:00–11:00 am
Children ages 3–5, accompanied by an adult
Led by Darlene O’Connor & Kathy Kennedy, Sanctuary Education Coordinators
adult/child pair $3 M, $4 NM, per session

Bring your favorite adult for a thematic hour that includes a story, activity, and naturalist-led walk along the trails and grounds at Broad Meadow Brook. Choose from Wednesday, Thursday, or Saturday. Dress for the weather and be prepared to go outside.

December 18, 19, 21: Snowflakes
January 15, 16, 18: Ice
February 12, 13, 15: Animal Tracks
March 18, 19, 21: Nests
April 15, 16, 18: Rainbows
May 13, 14, 16: Bees & Butterflies
Discovering Nature for Preschoolers
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Tuesdays, January 28–May 19* / 9:30 am–12:00 pm
Wednesdays, January 29–May 20* / 9:30 am–12:00 pm
Thursdays, January 30–May 21* / 9:30 am–12:00 pm

Children ages 4–5
Led by Tammy Fleming-Maus, Sanctuary Teacher Naturalist
(Tuesdays, Thursdays), & Rhiannon Dugan, Sanctuary Teacher Naturalist (Wednesdays)

$300 M, $375 NM, per series

Each day we will explore nature through self-discovery, games, activities, stories, and crafts. Our trained teacher naturalists will guide children through hands-on, inquiry-based explorations of nature. Join other children as we learn and play together and foster a lifelong love of nature in a safe, caring environment. This 15-week series is designed for children ages 4 and 5 unaccompanied by an adult. Choose which day best fits your schedule! *No class the week of February and April vacations. Storm dates are the week of May 24. Financial aid and payment plans are available.

Discovering Nature for 5- to 8-Year-Olds
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Tuesdays, January 28–May 19* / 1:00–3:30 pm

Children ages 5–8
Led by Tammy Fleming-Maus, Sanctuary Teacher Naturalist

$300 M, $375 NM

In this 15-week series, we’ll explore nature in-depth through hands-on experiments, activities, and investigations. Children will learn, play, and be guided by our trained teacher naturalists through hands-on, inquiry-based explorations designed to foster a lifelong love of nature in a safe, caring environment. We’ll spend much of our time outdoors, putting our learning into action on Broad Meadow Brook’s trails. *No class the week of February and April vacations. Storm date is the week of May 24. Financial aid and payment plans are available.

Live Animal Presentation: The Nature of My Backyard
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester
Presented by Creature Teachers

Saturday, February 15 / 11:00 am–12:00 pm
or 1:00–2:00 pm

Adults and families with children ages 2.5 & up
adults $6 M, $8 NM, per session
children $4 M, $6 NM, per session

Want to meet some of the wild creatures living in your own backyard? Creature Teachers will introduce you to some common animals we share space with. You might meet a fisher, skunk, turtle, fox, or even a flying squirrel! This presentation features live animals and explores the lives of these fascinating creatures.

School Vacation Weeks at Broad Meadow Brook
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Children ages 6–11
Led by Sanctuary Teacher Naturalists

$50 M, $58 NM, per day
$225 M, $275 NM, per week

Have fun at Broad Meadow Brook during school vacation week! Every day will feature a new theme, and each week promises new discoveries and friends! Early drop-off (8:00 am) and late pick-up (4:00 pm) options available for $5 M, $8 NM, per hour.

FEBRUARY VACATION WEEK
Monday–Friday, February 17–21 / 9:00 am–3:00 pm
Explore the sanctuary by foot (or snowshoe, if we have enough snow). Experiment with snow, follow wildlife tracks and trails, and discover where animals go in winter.

APRIL VACATION WEEK
Monday–Friday, April 20–24 / 9:00 am–3:00 pm
Now that spring is here, let’s see what’s waking up at the sanctuary! Search for new growth in the woods, meadows, and vernal pools; capture rain; and be on the lookout for migrating creatures.
Child & Family Programs

Broad Meadow Brook

Preregistration required - M: Mass Audubon Members, NM: Nonmembers

Girl Scout Workshops
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester
Led by Sanctuary Staff

Broad Meadow Brook offers workshops for Brownie and Junior Girl Scout badges and journeys. All workshops meet in the Visitor Center and include both indoor and trail activities. Space is limited and early registration is encouraged. To register, contact Sheryl Pereira at spereira@massaudubon.org or 508-753-6087, ext. 5015. Have a large troop? Call to arrange special dates.

JUNIOR GIRL SCOUT WORKSHOPS
Select Saturdays / 10:00 am–12:30 pm
Children ages 9–11
$9 M & NM

January 4: Detective Badge
Investigate fingerprints, learn observation skills, and write in secret code. Then explore the trails to look for wildlife clues! How many can you find?

February 8: Get Moving Journey
Take a solar panel tour, create upcycled beads, hike trails to observe wildlife movement, discover ways to save energy, calculate your carbon footprint, or go on an energy-saving scavenger hunt. Do at least four for your journey, or move fast and do them all!

March 7: Animal Habitats Badge
Learn about wild animals that live on the sanctuary and investigate an animal habitat. Is your backyard a habitat for animals?

BROWNIE SCOUT JOURNEY WORKSHOP:
WONDERS OF WATER (WOW)
Saturday May 2 / 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Children ages 6–9
$8 M & NM

Work on your WOW journey and have fun with indoor and outdoor activities. Explore a watershed model, learn about water conservation, and visit a wetland to discover what lives there. Explore the sanctuary after you work on your journey!

Biodiversity of Broad Meadow Brook
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

WINTER SESSION
Wednesdays, January 15–February 12 / 1:00–3:00 pm

SPRING SESSION
Wednesdays April 29–May 27 / 1:00–3:00 pm
Children ages 7–13
Led by Elizabeth Broughton, Sanctuary Homeschool Coordinator
$75 M, $90 NM, entire series

Take a deeper scientific look into the biodiversity of Broad Meadow Brook habitats in this five-part series. Each week we will investigate a different part of the sanctuary, looking at plants and animals, the habitats they live in, and changes through the season. Examine soil composition and measure water levels in our streams, ponds, and vernal pools. Record your findings in a nature journal each day, and compare data across habitats and seasons.

Walk & Watch: Dance of the Woodcock for Families
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Wednesday, April 1 / 6:30–8:30 pm
Families with children ages 6 & up
Led by Sheryl Pereira, Sanctuary Birding Instructor
adults $15 M, $19 NM
children $4 M, $6 NM

Love is in the air! In the gentle dusk of early spring, American Woodcocks perform a spectacular aerial mating display. We will gather indoors to learn a bit about this peculiar member of the sandpiper family, then drive to the trailhead and walk a short distance to witness “peenting,” spiral flights, and flybys of courting male woodcocks. This will be an easy walk along level trails at dusk.

Do Woodpeckers Get Headaches?
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Saturday, May 2 / 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Adults and families with children ages 8 & up
Led by Sheryl Pereira, Sanctuary Birding Instructor
adults $15 M, $19 NM
children $5 M, $8 NM

Learn all about the woodpeckers at Broad Meadow Brook. Find out how these birds jackhammer trees for their dinner, then walk the trails to search for five different woodpecker species. From the tiny Downy Woodpecker to the crow-sized Pileated Woodpecker, learn all about the special qualities that allow these birds to eat, communicate, and shape the forest as you enjoy a spring day at the sanctuary.
Nature Adventures for Children
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Thursdays, January 9, 23; February 6, 27; March 12, 26; April 9, 30; May 14 / 1:00–3:00 pm
Children ages 5–7
Led by Tammy Fleming-Maus, Sanctuary Teacher Naturalist
$10 M, $14 NM, per session

We’ll explore seasonal nature topics through hands-on investigations, crafts, activities, and a short hike in Broad Meadow Brook’s beautiful wildlife sanctuary. These programs provide in-depth, nature-based learning in a supportive, social environment. For those with older children: Homeschool programs for ages 8–12 meet at the same time.

Homeschool Programs
Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Worcester

Select Thursdays / 1:00–3:00 pm
Children ages 8–16
Led by Elizabeth Broughton, Sanctuary Homeschool Coordinator
$10 M, $14 NM, per session

Learn natural science concepts in a social environment. Students receive information and activities following each program so learning can continue at home. Parents are welcome to attend, or students may stay on their own if a medical form is on file. Advance registration is encouraged. Note: Nature Adventures for Children (ages 5–7) meets at the same time, perfect for siblings.

January 9: Mammals in Winter
Where do deer, fox, rabbit, and other mammals go in winter? How do they survive? Learn about the cold months in the life of a mammal and how they adapt to their habitat to survive. Go on a hike and look for signs that mammals have been active.

January 23: Snowshoe the Sanctuary
Here’s your chance to try snowshoeing! After some practice, we’ll snowshoe the trails and look for overwintering songbirds, active mammals, and tracks in the snow. No experience is necessary; snowshoes and basic instruction are provided. If there’s no snow cover, we will take a winter ecology hike.

February 6: Build an Igloo
Using safe tools and hard-packed snow, we’ll work together to build an igloo. If all goes well, we can celebrate with a snow story or a snow game inside our completed structure! As you build, learn Inuit facts, igloo myths, and winter survival strategies. If there is no snow, we will build an alternative structure.

February 27: Wave Goodbye to Winter
Will the snow be melting or will we be preparing for another storm? The weather isn’t always predictable, but we'll still look for signs that indicate the departure of winter and arrival of spring.

March 12: Wild about Wind
Learn how to harvest the wind for fun and function. Explore green energy, fold paper airplanes, and test out kite designs.

March 26: Spring Peepers
What’s that sound? Learn about frogs, the sounds they make, and their habitats. Learn the characteristics of Massachusetts frog species, then hike the sanctuary in search of them.

April 9: Hey Bud, What Kind of Tree Are You?
Learn about tree buds and how they can be used to identify a tree before it leafs out. Use bark patterns and branch analysis to determine tree species. Make friends with a new tree and keep track of it each time you visit the sanctuary.

April 30: Jet Stream
How fast is the water flowing in Broad Meadow Brook? Measure stream width and depth and use a ping-pong ball, measuring tape, and stopwatch to determine the speed of the water.

May 14: Macroinvertebrates
Look at some baby bugs and talk about their life cycles and why they are important for a healthy ecosystem. Scoop water from different water sources to see what critters we can identify.
Reminders
Preregistration is required unless otherwise noted.
Please check program location, as some are held off-site.
The cost of program materials is included unless otherwise noted.
**M:** Mass Audubon Members, **NM:** Nonmembers

This sanctuary has accessible features.

Connect with Us

Facebook & Instagram: @massaudubonwachusettmeadow

Weather & Gear

Most programs take place outdoors, rain or shine.
Participants will be notified ahead of time if a program is canceled due to inclement weather. Please bring water and wear sturdy, closed-toe footwear (sneakers or hiking shoes). Sunblock and insect repellent are recommended.

Hey Day

Mark your calendars for the next Hey Day: Saturday, September 12, 2020. Hayrides, pony rides, pumpkin painting, and more are in store!

Wachusett Meadow for Everyone—Accessible Trail Phase III Update

Thank you Scott Olson for the wonderful donation of five acres at the west end of the sanctuary next to the Midstate Trail on Gates Road.

**Deb Cary, Central Sanctuaries Director**

**Cindy Dunn, Wachusett Meadow Assistant Sanctuary Director**

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**Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary**

massaudubon.org/wachusettmeadow

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

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**News & Notes**

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Snowshoe Rentals
November–April
$3/hour M, $5/hour NM
Explore the sanctuary by snowshoe this winter. Adult and children’s sizes available.

Wish List
Your gifts mean so much! Donations we could use at the sanctuary include:
- Birdseed, including black oil seed and mixed seed
- 18-gallon plastic totes with lids
- Lantern-style flashlights
- Kid-sized canoe paddles
- Ponding nets
- Books of stamps
- Gifts or bequests to increase our sanctuary endowment

February & April School Vacation Weeks
Tuesday–Friday, February 18–21 / 9:00 am–3:00 pm
Tuesday–Friday, April 21–24 / 9:00 am–3:00 pm
Turn out-of-school time into out-of-doors time: explore sanctuary trails, learn about wildlife, and fulfill your nature curiosities. Register for one, some, or all four days! See page 16.

Special Event: Sheep & Wool Festival
Saturday, April 18 / 1:00–4:00 pm
You’re invited to this annual celebration of our sheep flock featuring shearing, fiber arts, and local agriculture. See page 14.

Meet Jenn Reilly
Group Program Coordinator
Jenn Reilly has been Wachusett Meadow’s Group Program Coordinator for the past year. She works part-time year-round coordinating our group programs such as scouts and birthday parties. Get to know Jenn and say hi next time you’re at the sanctuary!

How did you first get introduced to Wachusett Meadow?
I first visited the sanctuary for a winter tracking hike with Central Sanctuaries Property Manager Joe Choiniere. His depth of knowledge was astounding and encouraged me to keep up with animal identification. I had no idea a year later I would start working at the sanctuary myself!

What does your job entail?
I work with Kristin Steinmetz in education, primarily coordinating scout visits, birthday parties, and other types of non-school programs. I’ve also hosted Wachusett Meadow’s first Climate Cafes and had a blast helping out with camp this summer.

What are your interests outside of work?
I try to get out in nature as often as I can, especially with hiking and biking. I really enjoy exploring Worcester and other new towns. I am a big animal lover and am always on the lookout for critters—meeting new dogs is one of my favorite hobbies!
New Year’s Hike
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Saturday, January 4 / 1:00–3:00 pm
Led by Sanctuary Staff
$9 M, $13 NM

Whether your resolution is to spend more time outside or to get in shape, there’s no better way to start the new year than with a hike! Enjoy the fresh air, Wachusett Meadow’s beautiful trails, good company, and some seasonal natural history along the way. We will either hike or snowshoe, depending on conditions. **Snowshoes available for rent for an additional $3/$5 per hour (M/NM).**

Hands-on with Fiber Arts
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Select Fridays / 1:00–3:00 pm
Led by Chris Eaton, Sanctuary Lead Educator
$10 M, $14 NM, per session

Explore the traditional art of washing and carding wool, spinning with spindle and wheel, and dyeing fibers with plant colors to create a unique finished piece. Develop new skills with fellow enthusiasts in the beautiful setting of Wachusett Meadow, a former farmstead with historic barns and a resident flock of sheep. Come for one, some, or all programs. **No experience required.**

- **January 24: Sheep Shearing & Wool Carding**
  Meet the sanctuary flock and learn how a sheep is shorn. Using sheep wool, learn how to clean, sort, and card wool to prepare it for spinning.

- **February 28: Learn the Art of Spinning**
  After wool is washed and carded, the next step is to spin it. Explore several types of spinning wheels, practice different spinning techniques, and take home a simple spinning tool.

- **March 27: Learn the Art of Weaving**
  Weave spun wool on your own frame loom. Practice weaving on several different types of looms and take home a unique woven wall hanging.

- **April 17: Dye Wool with Natural Materials**
  Learn techniques for dyeing wool with natural materials, such as rock tripe, walnut hulls, and goldenrod. Practice dyeing unspun and spun wool to experiment with different effects.

Relax in Nature...

Shinrin-Yoku “Forest Breathing”
Guided Sanctuary Walks
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Saturdays, January 25; February 29; March 28; April 25; May 30 / 10:30–11:30 am
Led by Dr. Roxanne E. Daleo, Ph.D. and Health Educator
$5 M, $7 NM, per session

Connect with the natural world in a healing, calming, and replenishing way through a series of gentle guided walks with Dr. Roxanne Daleo, a renowned health educator who specializes in relaxation and stress reduction. Look to the wisdom of nature for effective ways to relax and reinvigorate yourself, and learn methods for revisiting and reliving these calming experiences when you are feeling anxious, lonely, or depressed. Dr. Daleo trained at Harvard Division of Behavioral Medicine and has more than 25 years of experience as a clinician, instructor, and consultant in a variety of business and health care settings. Slow down and breathe in the “medicine” of nature.

Yoga & Winter Hike
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Sunday, February 2 / 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Led by Jen Songer, Certified Yoga Instructor
$16 M, $22 NM

Connecting with nature increases our level of awareness and appreciation of the world around us. We will begin with an indoor yoga session where you will connect with your breath, body, and mind. Afterward, we’ll take to the sanctuary’s trails by snowshoe to explore the outdoors. This class is appropriate for all levels, as modifications will be given for each pose. **Bring a yoga mat and water. Snowshoes available for rent for an additional $3/$5 per hour (M/NM). Program will take place with or without snow. If there is no snow cover, this will be a hike.**
Moonlight Winter Walk  
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton  
Saturday, January 25 / 6:00–8:00 pm  
Led by Sanctuary Staff  
$9 M, $13 NM  
Hiking by moonlight connects you to the landscape in an entirely different way than hiking during the day. We'll explore with our ears as much as our eyes, perhaps getting the chance to hear howling coyotes or hooting owls, as well as appreciate the peaceful hush of the winter woods. Here is your chance to explore the sanctuary after dark at a time when we are normally closed to visitors. Bring a flashlight, though we will try not to use them. Snowshoes available for rent for an additional $3/$5 per hour (M/NM).

Woodcock Watch  
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton  
Thursdays, March 26; April 2 / 7:00–8:00 pm  
Led by Alison O'Hare, Mass Audubon Birder's Certificate Program, & Sanctuary Staff  
$4.50 M, $6.50 NM, per session  
American Woodcocks are inland relatives of coastal shorebirds, favoring wet forests and fields, and spending much of their time incredibly well-hidden by their cryptic plumage. However, from late March to late April, woodcocks put on incredible courtship flight displays during their mating season, spiraling 300 feet into the air before descending rapidly to the ground. Witness this not-to-be-missed sunset display during one or both of these evenings.

Friday Night Speaker Series  
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton  
Select Fridays, February–April / 7:00–8:30 pm  
$7 M, $10 NM, per session  
Our popular speaker series continues! Learn something new as guest lecturers who share an enthusiasm for nature present on a variety of subjects. Small groups allow easy opportunities for questions and a chance to meet and talk with the speakers after the program. Join us for one, some, or all!  
**February 7: How Birds Get Their Names**  
Alison O'Hare, Mass Audubon Birder's Certificate Program Graduate  
**February 21: Project Drawdown & Climate Solutions**  
Alexandra Vecchio, Mass Audubon Climate Change Program Manager  
**March 27: The Amazing World of Bird Behavior**  
Gail Hansche Godin, Photographer and Naturalist  
**April 10: You're Invited to a "Moth Ball"**  
Loree Griffin Burns, Science Author

Learn more and register: massaudubon.org/wachusettmeadow
Programs for Adults
Wachusett Meadow

Wachusett Meadow Nature Walks
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Thursdays, April 30, May 14 / 10:30 am–12:00 pm
Led by John Ryan, Sanctuary Teacher Naturalist
Free for M and Princeton residents, $5 NM, per session
Enjoy Wachusett Meadow’s beautiful trails during these guided, relaxed-pace walks. Our Teacher Naturalist guide will help you spot and learn more about a variety of wildlife that live in Central Massachusetts.
   April 30: Vernal Pools
   May 14: Spring Wildflowers

Sunday Morning Bird Walks
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Sundays, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 / 8:00–10:00 am
Led by Alison O’Hare, Mass Audubon Birder’s Certificate Program Graduate
$9 M, $13 NM, per session
Join our expert guide for a morning walk in search of Wachusett Meadow’s diverse birdlife. We’ll look for spring migrants as well as breeding species, and practice identification based on sight and sound. Especially suitable for backyard birders, and beginner and intermediate birders. Bring binoculars and field guide, if you have them, or borrow some of ours.

School Groups!
Pre-K–Grade 12
Engage your students in hands-on explorations of nature and science at our sanctuary, in your classroom, or in your schoolyard. Programs are aligned to state STEM standards.

Community Groups!
Presentations, guided hikes, themed series, and more for libraries, senior centers, clubs, and community groups.

Scouts!
Guided hikes, badge, journey programs, and overnights for all levels of Boy and Girl Scouts.

Add canoes or snowshoes to your programs seasonally—ask us how!

Special Events

Bird-a-thon Walk & Breakfast
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Saturday, May 16 / 7:30–10:30 am
Adults & families with children of all ages
Led by Sanctuary Staff
adults $11 M, $15 NM, walk & breakfast
children $6 M, $8 NM, walk & breakfast
adults $6 M & NM, breakfast only
children $4 M & NM, breakfast only
Bird-a-thon is Mass Audubon’s longest-running fundraiser, and this program is the tastiest way to support Wachusett Meadow’s Bird-a-thon team! Come for an early-morning bird walk (7:30–9:00 am), followed by a delicious pancake breakfast (and a chance to share what you saw on the trail).

Sheep & Wool Festival
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Saturday, April 18 / 1:00–4:00 pm
Rain Date: Sunday, April 19 / 1:00–4:00 pm
Adults & families with children of all ages
Led by Sanctuary Staff
adults $7 M, $10 NM
children $4 M, $5 NM
Sheep grazing led to the development of many meadows on the sanctuary. Today, our team of woolly grazers helps us maintain open habitats for wildlife. Come meet Finch, Willow, Hickory, and the rest of the flock. Learn how sheep are sheared, and how their fleeces eventually become warm hats and mittens. Local vendors and crafters, kids’ activities, and more will make this a fun weekend event for all.
Pop-Up Snowshoeing
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

TBA in January, February, and March
Families with children ages 5 & up
Led by Sanctuary Staff
adults $10 M, $12 NM, per session
children $4 M, $6 NM, per session

When snow is predicted January through mid-March, look for announcements of snowshoe programs on our Facebook page (@MassAudubonWachusettMeadow). Snowshoeing is fun and easier than you may think! Learn how to look for signs of wildlife while experiencing the beauty of the sanctuary in winter. Enjoy hot cocoa and coffee after. Bring your own snowshoes or rent snowshoes for an additional $3/$5 per hour for adults (M/NM), children free.

Preschool Story & Nature Hour
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Select Fridays / 10:30–11:30 am
Children ages 2.5–5 accompanied by an adult
Led by Chris Eaton, Sanctuary Lead Educator
adult/child pair $3 M, $4 NM, per session

Visit Wachusett Meadow for an hour of nature-themed fun with your youngster. We'll read an engaging storybook, make a take-home nature craft, and walk on one of the sanctuary's beautiful trails. Stick around afterward for play and socialization in the classroom or play yard. Dress for the weather.

January 10: The Mitten
January 24: Ice & Its Crystals
February 14: Red in Winter
February 28: Snow & Its Wonders
March 13: Winter Birds
March 27: Salamander Migration–Big Night
April 10: Wind as a Pollinator
April 17: Rain Showers
May 8: Turtles
May 22: Frogs

Homeschool Programs
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Select Fridays / 1:00–3:00 pm
Children ages 5 & up
Led by Chris Eaton, Sanctuary Lead Educator
adults Free
children $10 M, $14 NM, per session

Join us for hands-on, cooperative learning in a beautiful natural setting. We'll even supply materials to keep the learning going at home! The entire family is welcome, although content is usually geared to ages 5 and up. Students may stay on their own if a medical form is on file.

January 10: Earth on the Move
We'll use models and fun, hands-on activities to learn about earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, and geysers—our four geological catastrophes.

February 14: Rocks & Minerals
Learn what rocks and minerals are made of and how they form. We'll look at different types of rocks from the instructor's extensive collection and then look for some of our own on the sanctuary trails.

March 13: Grow Some Crystals
Grow a "magic crystal garden" while learning about the different shapes of crystals and how they form.

April 10: Fossil Hunt
Where do you find fossils? In what kind of rock? We'll examine some fossils and then make a few plaster fossils to take home.

May 8: Shaping the Landscape
Examine the forces that wear down landforms—and build them back up—through indoor activities and an outdoor scavenger hunt on the trails.

Family Owl Prowls
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

Saturdays, January 18; February 22 / 5:00–7:00 pm
Families with children ages 5 & up
Led by Sanctuary Staff
adults $7 M, $9 NM, per session
children $4 M, $6 NM, per session

Owls are fascinating birds. Did you know that some species breed in winter? Or that they can be very vocal as they establish territory and communicate with mates? Learn all about owls in an indoor introduction followed by a short hike to listen for owls whoo might be nearby, and other nighttime wildlife.

Learn more and register: massaudubon.org/wachusettmeadow
**Nature Adventures for Young Folks: Spring Series**  
_Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton_

Children ages 3.5–6  
Led by Chris Eaton, Sanctuary Lead Educator, & Peg Spaulding, Teacher Naturalist

16 SESSIONS:  
Tuesdays, January 28–May 26 / 9:30–11:30 am or 12:45–2:45 pm  
or Thursdays, January 30–May 28 / 9:30–11:30 am or 12:45–2:45 pm

$225 M, $290 NM, per series

32 SESSIONS:  
Tuesdays & Thursdays, January 28–May 28 / 9:30–11:30 am or 12:45–2:45 pm

$450 M, $515 NM, per series

Discover all the outdoors has to offer on guided nature walks. We'll do fun nature activities, sing songs, play games, eat a snack, and have Circle Time together. We'll also look at letters, make rhymes, practice counting, and learn about the natural world. **Please note there are no classes during public school vacation week. Lunch not provided, but a lunch option is available for an additional $7/day. Each class has a 10-minute leeway for pick-up. Please call for more information.**

**Salamander & Frog Search**  
_Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton_

_Saturday, May 2 / 1:00–3:00 pm_

Families with children ages 5 and up  
Led by Sanctuary Staff  
adults $9 M, $13 NM, per session  
children $6 M, $8 NM, per session

Frogs and salamanders are fascinating critters that vary in their life cycles, habits, and habitats. We'll start things off with an indoor introduction to the sights and sounds of several of our amphibian neighbors, then investigate woodland and wetland areas together to see how many species we can find.

**School Vacation Days at Wachusett Meadow**  
_Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton_

Children ages 5–11  
Led by Jenn Reilly, Sanctuary Group Program Coordinator and Chris Eaton, Sanctuary Lead Educator

$50 M, $60 NM, per day  
$200 M, $240 NM, per week

Explore what is happening at the sanctuary over school vacation! Come for one day or all four. **Dress for the weather, and bring two snacks and a lunch. Preregister for all four days and receive a discount of $5 per day. Extended-day option available from 3:00–4:00 pm for $5/$8 per day (M/NM).**

**February Vacation Days**  
Tuesday–Friday, February 18–21 / 9:00 am–3:00 pm  
Can you imagine living outside the entire winter? How do animals stay warm and find food? What are plants doing during this sleepy time? We'll play games, hike, do craft activities, and learn more about plants, insects, and animals in winter.

**April Vacation Days**  
Tuesday–Friday, April 21–24 / 9:00 am–3:00 pm  
How does spring change fields and forests? Who is awake or back from the south? What is moving in the trees? Are insects around yet? We'll play games, hike, do craft activities, and spend a lot of time outdoors.

**Make Recycled Flower Presses & Bookmarks**  
_Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton_

_Saturday, May 9 / 1:30–3:30 pm_

Families with children ages 6 & up  
Led by Kathy Richards, Sanctuary Teacher Naturalist  
adults $9 M, $13 NM  
children $6 M, $8 NM

Learn to make flower presses from cardboard, paperboard, and newspaper to create beautiful take-home bookmarks. We will head out on Wachusett Meadow's trails to enjoy and identify spring wildflowers. Back inside, we'll create and use our flower presses, and (using pre-pressed flowers) make naturally beautiful bookmarks, perfect for Mother's Day gifts.
Scout Programs

GIRL SCOUTS

Winter Exploration
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton
Saturday, January 11 / 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Children ages 5–12 accompanied by an adult
Led by Jennifer Reilly, Sanctuary Group Program Coordinator, & Sanctuary Staff
adults Free
children $8 M & NM
Try out snowshoes, and experience winter like a snowshoe hare, whose large feet keep it from sinking into the snow! Go on a guided hike, search for animal tracks and other signs of wildlife, and discover how animals and plants have adapted to survive winter weather. This program meets the requirements of the Trail Adventure badge for Daisies and Brownies, but is open for all levels. If no snow we’ll learn about the different types of snowshoes and get to try them on. Snowshoes available for rent for an additional $3/$5 per hour (M/NM). Program will take place with or without snow.

GIRL SCOUTS

Outdoor Adventurer
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton
Sunday, February 2 / 1:00–3:00 pm
Children ages 5–12 accompanied by an adult
Led by Jennifer Reilly, Sanctuary Group Program Coordinator, & Sanctuary Staff
adults Free
children $8 M & NM
Come for an outdoor adventure on our 1,100-acre wildlife sanctuary while fulfilling your “Outdoor Adventurer” badge requirements for Brownies (also open to all other levels). Go on a guided nature hike, play a survival game, learn how to prepare a campfire, and help care for the sanctuary sheep. Space is limited; early registration is encouraged.

GIRL SCOUTS

Buggin’ Out!
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton
Saturday, April 18 / 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Children ages 5–12 accompanied by an adult
Led by Jennifer Reilly, Sanctuary Group Program Coordinator, & Sanctuary Staff
adults Free
children $8 M & NM
Take a trip to the miniature world of bugs on this guided nature walk along sanctuary trails. We’ll roll logs and peek under leaves for signs of insect activity. Explore the sanctuary's bug collection, and create a new bug species via our "inventing a bug" craft. This program meets the requirements for the Brownie "Bugs" badge but is open to all levels. Space is limited; early registration is encouraged.

GIRL SCOUTS

Hike Brown Hill
Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton
Sunday, May 3 / 1:00–3:00 pm
Children ages 5–12 accompanied by an adult
Led by Jennifer Reilly, Sanctuary Group Program Coordinator, & Sanctuary Staff
adults Free
children $8 M & NM
Learn to read a trail map, pick the right gear for a given outing, and prepare to hike safely. Then hike to the top of Brown Hill on a moderate summit trail and enjoy the view! We will search for wildlife, play nature games, and get comfortable hiking in new places. Program meets the requirements for the Brownie "Hiker" badge but is open to all levels. Pack a snack for the summit if desired.

Private guided hikes and overnights that meet journey, adventure, and badge requirements are available for all levels of Boy and Girl Scout troops.

To request a scout program brochure and for more information please contact Jennifer Reilly, Group Program Coordinator, at jreilly@massaudubon.org or 978-464-2712.
PIERPONT MEADOW WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 211 ACRES
Marsh Road, Dudley | 978-464-2712
massaudubon.org/pierpontmeadow

Nature has reclaimed parts of this former farmland, once entirely cleared for agricultural purposes. Stone walls still stand amidst pine groves and along the edge of meadows. Valuable shrubland provides nesting habitat for a number of declining bird species such as the Brown Thrasher and Eastern Towhee. Please note: Sanctuary is located on Marsh Road and not Henry Marsh Road.

POOR FARM HILL WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 53 ACRES
West Main Street, New Salem | 978-464-2712
massaudubon.org/poorfarmhill

Poor Farm Hill Wildlife Sanctuary is part of a large mosaic of conservation land located in New Salem. The expansive area provides forest habitat for warblers and ground-nesting birds as well as large mammals including bobcat, black bear, and moose.

ROCKY HILL WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 441 ACRES
Cardinal Lane, Groton | 978-464-2712 | massaudubon.org/rockyhill

Located on the Groton-Ayer town line, this sanctuary has impressive ledges, large boulders, beaver ponds, vernal pools, and extensive uninterrupted woodlands. It lies within a state-designated Area of Critical Environmental Concern and supports moose, beavers, porcupines, nearly 100 species of birds, and more than 240 plant species. Please note: Parking area may not be plowed in winter.

RUTLAND BROOK WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 1,779 ACRES
Off of Pat Connor Road, Petersham
978-464-2712 | massaudubon.org/rutlandbrook

Combined with neighboring conservation lands, Rutland Brook is part of one of the most extensive parcels of uninterrupted protected land in central Massachusetts. Here, moderate-to-strenuous interlinking trails wind though stands of hemlock and white pine and along boulder-strewn Rutland Brook.

WACHUSETT MEADOW WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 1,130 ACRES
113 Goodnow Road, Princeton
978-464-2712 | wachusett@massaudubon.org
massaudubon.org/wachusettmeadow

Wachusett Meadow is a former farmstead that offers spectacular scenery and supports abundant wildlife throughout woodlands, wetlands, and meadows. Historic buildings and barns are still in use for educational programming and resident sheep graze the pastures. Trails traverse many interesting features including Brown Hill Summit, Glacial Boulder, ancient trees, and beaver ponds.

NATURE CENTER HOURS:
Tuesday–Friday, 10:00 am–2:00 pm; Saturday, 10:00 am–4:00 pm; Sunday and Monday Holidays, 12:30–4:00 pm; Closed Mondays

TRAIL HOURS: Daily dawn to dusk

ADMISSION: Mass Audubon members and Princeton residents: Free Nonmembers: $4 adults; $3 children (2–12); $3 seniors (65 and older)

Western MA

ARCADIA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 728 ACRES
127 Combs Road, Easthampton | 413-584-3009
arcadia@massaudubon.org | massaudubon.org/arcadia

Spanning Easthampton and Northampton, Arcadia’s diverse terrain (forest, meadows, grasslands, marsh, and wetlands) attracts an extraordinary variety of wildlife. You will also find a thriving population of wildflowers, thanks to its rich, loamy soil, which is characteristic of the Connecticut River floodplain.

NATURE CENTER HOURS:
Monday–Saturday, 9:00 am–3:00 pm; Sunday, seasonally

ADMISSION: Members and Northampton & Easthampton residents: Free Nonmembers: $4 adults; $3 children (2–12); $3 seniors (65 and older)

CANOE MEADOWS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 253 ACRES
Holmes Road, Pittsfield | 413-637-0320
massaudubon.org/canoomeadows

Located just one mile from the center of Pittsfield, Canoe Meadows brings wildness to Berkshire County’s largest city, attracting warblers, turtles, ospreys, otters, and the occasional bear. Gentle, flat trails wind through the sanctuary’s scenic woods, fields, and wetlands, and along the edge of the Housatonic River.
CONWAY HILLS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 105 ACRES
South Deerfield Road (Route 116), Conway
978-464-2712 | massaudubon.org/conwayhills
Once, cow pastures along with hay and tobacco fields covered much of the area. Now, many of the fields have reverted to forests, which provides habitat for coyotes, bears, moose, and bobcats. A single loop trail with a moderate ascent takes you through a previously harvested white pine and hemlock forest, past aging stone walls, by a large sugar maple “wolf” tree, and over some rocky ledges. Please note: Only roadside parking available.

GRAVES FARM WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 633 ACRES
Adams Road, Williamstown | 413-584-3009
massaudubon.org/gravesfarm
For more than 125 years, this property was managed as a dairy farm. The now-protected wildlife sanctuary is complete with mixed forest, dramatic geologic features, pristine cold-water streams, and serene pastoral landscapes.

HIGH LEDGES WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 792 ACRES
Off of Patten Road, Shelburne | 978-464-2712
massaudubon.org/highledges
Enjoy the spectacular panoramic views of the Deerfield River Valley and Mount Greylock from the ledges. Spring is the best time to see many wildflowers, although the entire flower season offers both common and uncommon wildflowers and ferns. Some trails may be strenuous, but the views are worth it. Please note: Parking area is not plowed in winter.

LAUGHING BROOK WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 367 ACRES
793 Main Street, Hampden | 413-584-3009
massaudubon.org/laughingbrook
Fans of Thornton W. Burgess are no strangers to the setting at Laughing Brook; the children’s author wove his tales around the wild animals that live here. The “laughing” brook has at times become a roaring river, depositing sand used by turtles. Strong winds have downed trees, leaving behind new shelter for salamanders.

LIME KILN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 363 ACRES
Silver Street, Sheffield | 413-584-3009 | massaudubon.org/limekiln
Lime Kiln Farm hosts more than 500 species of plants including many rare varieties. A key tract of land within the 14,000-acre Schenob Brook Area of Critical Environmental Concern, the rolling hayfields, limestone ridge, conifer forest, and former pastures attract more than 50 species of butterflies as well as Pileated Woodpeckers, Alder Flycatchers, and Red Foxes.

LYNES WOODS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 188 ACRES
Edwards Road, Westhampton | 413-584-3009 | massaudubon.org/lynes
Forest, shrubby fields, wetlands, and old stone walls tell the story of Lynes Woods’ past as a former working farm and orchard. You can take an easy one-mile loop walk along a woodland path to crystal clear Lyman Brook and listen for the music of water rushing over rocks. Please note: Parking area is not plowed in winter.

PLEASANT VALLEY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 1,405 ACRES
472 West Mountain Road, Lenox
413-637-0320 | berkshires@massaudubon.org
massaudubon.org/pleasantvalley
Set amidst more than 1,300 lush acres in the Berkshires, Pleasant Valley’s varied trails wind through forests, meadows, wetlands, and along the slopes of Lenox Mountain, making this an excellent location for easy-to-strenuous hiking. While exploring, there’s a good chance you will see evidence of the sanctuary’s most visible wildlife resident, the beaver, via dams, dens, or lodges.

VISITOR CENTER HOURS:
May (Memorial Day)–October (Columbus Day) Daily, 8:00 am–4:00 pm; October (Columbus Day)–May (Memorial Day), Tuesday–Sunday, 10:00 am–4:00 pm; closed Mondays.
TRAILS: Dawn to dusk on days Nature Center is open
ADMISSION: Members and Lenox residents: Free
Nonmembers: $5 adults; $3 children (2–12); $3 seniors (65 and older)

ROAD’S END WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 190 ACRES
Corbett Road, Worthington | 978-464-2712 | massaudubon.org/roadsend
An abandoned farmstead that was once selectively lumbered and cleared for agricultural purposes. A white pine forest now stands in an old field, and pastures have become beaver meadows. Two gentle loop trails through the fields, forests, and along a brook quickly transport you to the “middle of nowhere.” Please note: Parking area is not plowed in winter.

WEST MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, 1,812 ACRES
Prospect Street, Plainfield | 978-464-2712
massaudubon.org/westmountain
West Mountain, situated within the watershed of the federally designated Wild and Scenic Westfield River, is part of one of the largest aggregations of conserved land in Massachusetts. The sanctuary provides valuable habitat for moose, black bears, otters, fishers, bobcats, a number of state-listed rare plants and animals, and nesting sites for threatened ground-nesting birds. Please note: Only roadside parking available; parking area is not plowed in winter.

Registration Procedures & Policy Guidelines

THREE EASY WAYS TO REGISTER!
Advance registration with full payment is required for all programs unless otherwise noted.

Online: Register online at massaudubon.org/catalog. Please note: Some programs and trips do not take online registration. In these instances, please call the wildlife sanctuary that is hosting the program during business hours.

By Phone: Please call the sanctuary hosting the program to complete your registration with a credit card by phone.

In Person: Stop by the wildlife sanctuary that is hosting the program to register in person. Please note: In-person registration should be done prior to the program start date to ensure space availability.

CANCELLATION/REFUND
To receive a refund for a program you no longer plan to attend, you must notify the wildlife sanctuary that is hosting the program at least one week prior to the program start date. Each wildlife 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 wildlife sanctuary cancels the program. Refunds require approximately three weeks for processing. Please be aware that summer camp and vacation week programs have a separate refund policy. Please refer to the camp brochure or call for this information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
If you have additional questions about registration policies or a particular program, please call the wildlife sanctuary that is hosting the program.