

2023



MOOSE HILL NATURE CAMP

Discover. Explore. Be Outside.



Welcome to Moose Hill Nature Camp

Every day is an adventure at Moose Hill Nature Camp in Sharon! Campers ages 4.5-16 get outdoors and learn about nature through trail explorations, hands-on activities, themed games, and more.

During each weekly session, campers explore the sanctuary, have free choice time, catch insects in the camp yard, experiment with science, dabble in art, and venture to new places. Small group sizes ensure that campers stay safe and engaged.

We provide opportunities for structured free play, during which campers of various ages and developmental stages interact, learn important social skills, and gain appreciation for nature. We also believe in connecting people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities with nature to enhance quality of life and to spark an interest in preserving nature for future generations.

At Moose Hill Nature Camp, we believe it's important that children learn and grow through their interactions with nature as well as with each other through three leading concepts:

Community

Campers feel free to try new things and make new friends in our welcoming, supportive community.

Interdependence

Campers learn about natural cycles and the interconnectedness of people, agriculture, wildlife, and habitats.

Stewardship

Campers discover how they can care for the world around them as they learn about the importance of wild spaces and the benefits of sustainable farming

OUR CAMP STAFF

Our caring, well-prepared counselors are actively engaged in teaching and playing with campers. All staff members bring their enthusiasm for outdoor exploration, a desire to educate, and a compassionate heart for children. Counselors are 18 years of age or older. Junior Counselors are 16 or older.

The majority of our staff were campers here at Moose Hill Nature Day Camp. Many have grown up here. And now, they are in a position to give back to the camp that helped them grow and develop connections to nature, their community, and a greater understanding of themselves. Our staff have a wide range of backgrounds and interests. Our staff have studied Biology, Mathematics, History, Environmental Stewardship, American Sign Language, and Teacher Education. We have staff who are dancers, actors, leaders at school, artists, and members of 4-H. And they bring their passion for working with kids and nature together here at camp.

All staff are CPR and first-aid certified and trained in the use of EpiPens. Junior counselors are at least 16 years of age. Prior to the start of camp, all staff members undergo background checks and participate in training, including COVID-19 safety protocols.

OUR CAMP DIRECTOR

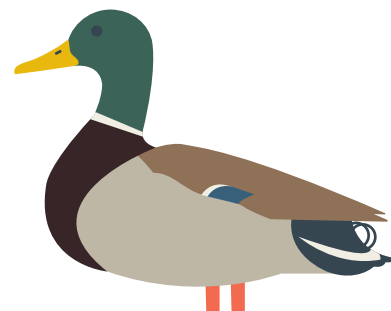
Moose Hill's camp director, Shawn Moriarty (he/him), grew up in Storrs, CT, and attended the University of Connecticut. He has worked with summer camps and outdoor education programs for 40 years around the country. Shawn holds a BA in Asian American Relations and a MA in Environmental Education. Shawn is a firm believer that children need to spend time in nature as often as possible and that time at camp can play an incredibly important role in the development of a child.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call 781-486-3064

Email moosehillcamp@massaudubon.org

Visit massaudubon.org/moosehillcamp



A DAY AT CAMP

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 8:45–9:20 am | Camper check-in & Choice Time |
| 9:20–9:35 am | Opening Circle & songs |
| 9:35 am–12:00 pm | Theme introduction, snack, activities, explorations, & hikes |
| 12:00–1:15 pm | Lunch & Choice Time |
| 1:15–3:40 pm | Activities, explorations, crafts, snack, & reflection |
| 3:40–3:55 pm | Closing Circle & songs |
| 3:55–4:15 pm | Camper pick-up |

SLIDING SCALE PRICING

Mass Audubon is committed to ensuring that every family that wants their child to experience summer camp has the opportunity to do so. A sliding scale model helps us work toward that goal through an easy and dependable process for families. If cost is still a barrier under the sliding scale structure, financial assistance is also available. See page 8 to learn more.

COVID-19 SAFETY

The health and welfare of our campers and staff remains our highest priority. We feel confident that the success of Mass Audubon Camps in designing and offering safe summers of camping for the past three years will guide us into another great summer in 2023. We will continue to stay informed and engaged with the work of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the American Camp Association to ensure best practices with regard to staying safe as we continue to navigate COVID-19. For the latest information on COVID-19 safety at Mass Audubon Camps, please visit massaudubon.org/camps.

OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

At Mass Audubon Camps, we strive to create a safe, inclusive, and caring camp environment where each person is respected and supported in their learning and growth. We believe that diversity—both in nature and in our human communities—is essential to strength, resilience, and innovation, and we are committed to recognizing the unique contributions of each community member.



NATURE CAMP

Themes & Dates for Nature Camp

Please visit our website for details on each week's theme.

Avian Adventures

June 26–June 30

Powerful Predators

July 5–7 (half-week camp, Wednesday–Friday)

Nature's Superpowers

July 10–14

Spineless Species

July 17–21

Our Amazing Planet

July 24–July 28

Bird-tastic

July 31–August 4

Hide and Seek

August 7–11

The World of Nature Adaptations

August 14–18

What Makes the Earth Awesome

August 21–25

Ages 4.5–12

Weekly Sessions

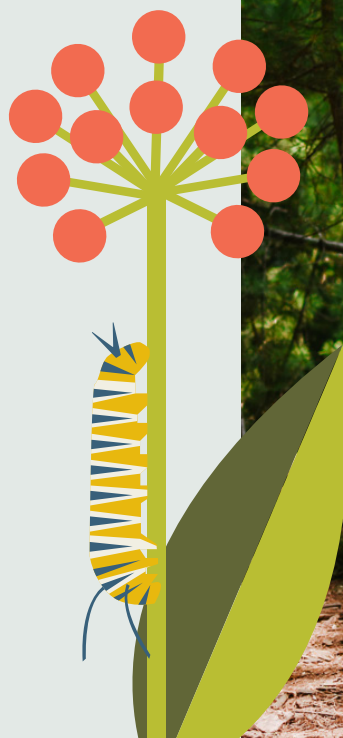
June 26–August 25

9:00 am–4:00 pm

Nature Camp connects children with the world around them through outdoor explorations, hands-on activities, fun games, and creative crafts. Weekly themes are explored by all, but activities differ for each age group.

Whether hiking in the woods, bird watching, exploring vernal pools, or catching insects, campers at Moose Hill have fun while learning about nature. Every day, children discover the world around them through an engaging nature-inspired curriculum and in a safe, inclusive camp community.

Campers are placed by age into small, counselor-led groups. Each group has their own weekly curriculum based on a nature theme and age-appropriate framework, which they explore through a combination of observations, investigations, group projects, nature journals, walks on the trails, art activities, related group games, songs, and more.



Discoverers

Ages 4.5–6 (Entering grades K–1)

Counselor-to-Camper Ratio: 1 to 5

Learn about native animals, hike the property, use your senses to explore the environment, and play with new friends. Small group size ensures that each child is heard and has opportunities to contribute.

Explorers

Ages 7–8 (Entering grades 2–3)

Counselor-to-Camper Ratio: 1 to 6

Work cooperatively to explore Moose Hill's various ecosystems, play interactive games, and dig deeper into native species' adaptations, behaviors, and food webs. Learn about our climate here in Massachusetts and how you can play a role in conserving the nature of our state.

Investigators

Ages 9–12 • Grades 4–7

Counselor-to-Camper Ratio: 1 to 6

Delve deeper into the web of life, comparing native wildlife species to those found in other ecosystems. Act as mentors to younger campers and explore the sanctuary on and off-trail. You will also have the opportunity to learn more about Earth Science topics like geology, weather, and the water system.

“ This is the only camp where I feel like kids are really free to explore and interact with nature! My kids loved catching frogs and making friends. ”

—2021 Camp Parent



“ Our children have loved Moose Hill Nature Camp! All kids should get to spend time playing outside and being kids! ”

—Camp Parent



TEEN PROGRAMS

Environmental Leadership for Teens

Ages 13-16 (Entering grades 7-10)

July 3-7, July 17-21,
July 31-August 4, August 14-18

Counselor-to-Camper Ratio: 1 to 6

Nature needs the next generation of environmental leaders to be ready. The goal of Mass Audubon's Environmental Leadership for Teens (ELT) program is to equip and encourage teens to be effective environmental advocates, learn about civic action, and be conservation leaders in their homes and communities.

During each 1-week session, camp educators will guide teens as they develop leadership and community-building skills and support them as they develop their own style and voice as environmental leaders.

Each group of ELT participants will also focus on learning about and taking action on an environmental challenge or environmental justice issue and how to best apply their community-building and leadership skills to make a positive impact on their community and the world.

Each week the ELTs will also get their hands dirty on-site while learning about Moose Hill's farming program and issues around food justice.

Nature Adventure Camp

Ages 13-16 (Entering grades 7-10)

June 26-30, July 10-14, July 24-28,
August 7-11, August 21-25

Counselor-to-Camper Ratio: 1 to 6

Curiosity and a love of adventure do not go away when you get older. Enter, Nature Adventure Camp! Get out and explore parts of the sanctuary that most people never get to see.

Learn place based and navigation skills as part of each week. In addition, you will explore skills and techniques that you can use to interpret the natural world.

Nature Adventure Camp participants will also learn skills around taking extended camping trips. Using camp stoves, useful knots, knives, and tents, you will get some solid practice that will help make your hiking trips more rewarding and safer. You will also get to put together a personal safety kit to take with you when you head out to explore.

In Nature Adventure Camp, participants will get to experience what it's like to develop a strong camp community by doing group activities and projects. In these 1-week sessions you will learn a bunch of new skills and get outside and be a little wild!



Counselors-in-Training

Ages 14–16 (Entering grades 9–11)

Weekly Sessions: June 26–August 25

8:45 am–4:15 pm

If you're a teen who enjoys being outside in nature, working with children, and wants to learn leadership skills, then apply to be in our CIT program! Participate in training sessions and assist counselors by creating activities and helping with camp activities. You will develop leadership and educator skills while honing your natural history knowledge in small groups of no more than 8 peers, ages 14–16.

If CITs sign up for multiple weeks, they will be given additional tasks and more responsibility to help them develop their skills further with each successive session. Visit massaudubon.org/moosehillcamp to fill out an application form.

Please note: CITs must be at least 14 years old by the start of camp.



“ I love your camp and truly believe the work you are doing creates environmental stewardship. ”

—Camp Parent

BEFORE CAMP PROGRAM

7:45–9:00 am | \$50/week or \$10/day

AFTER CAMP PROGRAM

4:00–6:00 pm | \$75/week or \$16/day



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

TO REGISTER FOR CAMP

Visit massaudubon.org/moosehillcamp

Call 781-784-5691 x8102

Email moosehillcamp@massaudubon.org

REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION

A confirmation e-mail containing important documents and information will be sent once your camper's registration has been processed.

DEPOSIT

A nonrefundable deposit of \$75 is required to register for camp. The deposit will be 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 contact Mass Audubon Member Services by calling 781-259-9500 or emailing membership@massaudubon.org.

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 their spot is not guaranteed until all forms, waivers, and payments are completed (or a payment plan has been established).

COVID-19 SAFETY

The health and welfare of our campers and staff remains our highest priority. We feel confident that the success of Mass Audubon Camps in designing and offering safe summers of camping for the past three years will guide us into another great summer in 2023. We will continue to stay informed and engaged with the work of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the American Camp Association to ensure best practices with regard to staying safe as we continue to navigate COVID-19. For the latest information on COVID-19 safety at Mass Audubon Camps, please visit massaudubon.org/camps.

CAMPER REQUIREMENTS

Campers are expected to be able to follow all safety protocols, including COVID-19 policies, which will be determined by the start of camp based on the latest guidelines from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Visit massaudubon.org/camps for the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 safety at Mass Audubon Camps.

All campers must follow stated behavior expectations and safety rules. To ensure a successful camp experience, please discuss any pertinent information regarding your child's needs with the Camp Director. We strive to make camp a great experience for all, and we can accommodate on a case-by-case basis. The Camp Director reserves the right to dismiss a camper when, in their judgment, the camper's behavior interferes with the rights of others or violates the camp's safety and behavior policies. 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.

BUDDY REQUESTS

One buddy request per camper will be honored when possible. Both campers must be the same age and both must request each other. Please indicate on the online registration form or on the paper registration form the buddy name. After registration we can accept buddy requests in writing up to one week prior to the first day of your camper's session.

SESSION TRANSFERS

Session transfer requests will be honored if there is space available and if a request is made at least two weeks prior to the session start date, after which time transfers may not be possible.

CAMP LICENSE

Our camp complies with the regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (105 CMR 430) and is licensed by the Sharon 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, 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.



KIDS TO CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Help make camp attainable for even more kids with a gift to the Kids to Camp Fund.

DETAILS AT

massaudubon.org/kidstocamp

FINANCIAL AID

We believe connection with the natural world should be available to all. If finances are getting in the way of a summer at any Mass Audubon Camp, financial assistance is available based on demonstrated financial need and available funds. Scholarships are limited to one session per child; however, all applications are considered and will be accepted on a rolling basis. Payment plan options are also available. Please visit massaudubon.org/campforms to download a financial aid application.



SLIDING SCALE PRICING

Under the sliding scale model, every family will enroll for camp at a tuition rate based on their annual gross income. At registration, you will have the opportunity to select the pricing tier that best fits your family's gross income. If you select Tiers 1-4, you will be asked to upload income verification documentation at a later time. Registrants at Tier 5 do not need to provide income verification. A deposit is due at the time of registration; the final balance and all paperwork are due by May 15. If cost is still a barrier under the tiered structure, financial aid is also available.

| | Tier 1 <i>member/nonmember</i> | Tier 2 <i>member/nonmember</i> | Tier 3 <i>member/nonmember</i> | Tier 4 <i>member/nonmember</i> | Tier 5 <i>member/nonmember</i> |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| Family Adjusted Gross Income | <\$50,000 | \$50,000–\$94,999 | \$95,000–\$124,999 | \$125,000–\$159,999 | No financial verification required |
| Nature Camp | \$95/\$115 | \$240/\$280 | \$315/\$370 | \$410/\$480 | \$480/\$565 |
| Teen Programs | \$95/\$115 | \$240/\$280 | \$315/\$370 | \$410/\$480 | \$480/\$565 |
| CIT | \$55/\$75 | \$140/\$180 | \$185/\$235 | \$240/\$310 | \$280/\$365 |
| Before Camp (per week) | \$12/\$12 | \$30/\$30 | \$40/\$40 | \$50/\$50 | \$60/\$60 |
| After Camp (per week) | \$21/\$21 | \$54/\$54 | \$70/\$70 | \$90/\$90 | \$106/\$106 |
| Before Camp (per day) | \$3/\$3 | \$6/\$6 | \$7/\$7 | \$10/\$10 | \$12/\$12 |
| After Camp (per day) | \$5/\$5 | \$10/\$10 | \$13/\$13 | \$18/\$18 | \$21/\$21 |



WE'RE HIRING!

For information on employment opportunities, visit massaudubon.org/jobs.

WHERE TO FIND US

Moose Hill Nature Camp

293 Moose Hill Parkway
Sharon, MA 02067

781-784-5691 x8102

moosehillcamp@massaudubon.org

massaudubon.org/moosehillcamp

MORE FOR MEMBERS

Mass Audubon membership benefits don't end when the summer's over; Membership includes year-round free admission to our statewide network of wildlife sanctuaries, where the whole family can explore and enjoy the outdoors. Members also enjoy great savings on nature programs and gift shop purchases. Learn more at massaudubon.org/membership.



*There's more to explore at Wildwood,
Mass Audubon's overnight camp in
New Hampshire:*

- Overnight Camp, ages 7-15
- Teen Adventure Trips, ages 14-17
- Environmental Leadership for Teens, ages 16-17
- Family Camp, all ages!

Visit massaudubon.org/wildwood or call 866-627-2267 to learn more.



Mass Audubon is the largest nature-based conservation organization in New England. Founded in 1896 by two women who fought for the protection of birds, Mass Audubon carries on their legacy by focusing on the greatest challenges facing the environment today: the loss of biodiversity, inequitable access to nature, and climate change.

With the help of our 160,000 members and supporters, we protect wildlife, conserve and restore resilient land, advocate for impactful environmental policies, offer nationally recognized education programs for adults and children, and provide endless opportunities to experience the outdoors at our wildlife sanctuaries. Explore, find inspiration, and take action at massaudubon.org.

