

April 2022



* * * **UPCOMING EVENTS** * * *

FORBUSH BIRD CLUB



Online program—

**GETTING READY
FOR SPRING:
DRAGONFLIES IN
MASSACHUSETTS**

with Sheila Carroll

Wednesday, April 6th

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Come celebrate spring and learn which early dragonflies to look for, and where and when.

Sheila will share her odonate excitement and beautiful photography in an hour-long introduction to the first damselflies and dragonflies out in May.

Sheila Carroll has been an avid birder and nature photographer for more than 35 years. Besides birds, Sheila is passionate about finding and identifying dragonflies and damselflies.

Click on the link to join the Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84078421070?pwd=bUh5MVcxa0g5ellLVC9PRHdEckVIUT09>

Enter Meeting ID and Passcode if prompted:

Meeting ID: 840 7842 1070

Passcode: 717300

ATHOL BIRD & NATURE CLUB

EARLY-BIRD FRIDAY MORNING BIRDING

with Jeff Johnstone



FRIDAYS: April 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th 7:00 a.m.

Meet Jeff at Miller's River Environmental Center, 100 Main Street, Athol before heading out to explore the North Quabbin area for spring migrant birds. These are great opportunities for novice birders to learn

from one of our best field naturalists,
and experienced birders will enjoy sharing the walk, too.

Come for as long as your schedule allows.

Severe weather cancels.

Info: Jeff Johnstone 978-249-9052.

FORBUSH BIRD CLUB

BIRDING BOLTON FLATS WMA & VICINITY

Sunday, April 10th 7 a.m.- mid-day

Leader: Kevin Bourinot 978-376-1498 kevin.bourinot@gmail.com



Join us to look for returning ducks, shorebirds, raptors, and much more! Meet at the parking lot on Route 117 in Lancaster (¼ mile west of the junction of Routes 117 and 110) at 7:00 a.m. Please wear waterproof knee boots.

Leader: Kevin Bourinot (978-376-1498) [kevin.bourinot@gmail.com]



Nest-building Osprey by Bill Platenik

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB

Special program! USING TRAIL CAMERAS TO STUDY WILDLIFE BEHAVIOR

with Janet Pesaturo

Saturday April 16th 10 a.m.

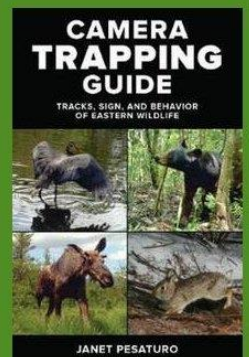
Rutland Public Library 280 Main St. Rutland



Geared to the curious naturalist, this talk covers the basics, and then some. Janet will introduce trail cameras—how they work and how to set them up –and then discuss smart camera placement so that you too can capture photos and videos that reveal the secret habits of animals. These “camera traps” are taking wildlife research by storm because they’re a noninvasive way to literally shed new light on the private lives of wild creatures. But you don’t need to be a scientist. Anyone with curiosity, persistence, and an inexpensive trail camera can study cutting-edge animal behavior topics. Join Janet to learn how!

Janet is a conservation biologist by training, a certified tracker, and a writer who travels around the country tracking and camera trapping everything from mouse to moose. Her book *Camera Trapping Guide: Tracks, Sign and Behavior of Eastern Wildlife* was published in 2018.

Janet will have copies of her book available after the program, and she would be happy to sign copies, too. Cost of the book is \$25.00, payable by cash or check.



This is a LIVE program in a spacious meeting room where participants are requested to wear masks.

We are also planning to offer remote viewing via ZOOM.

To sign up for the ZOOM link, contact:

warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com

The link will be sent to you several days before the program.

HARVARD FOREST

Online seminar—



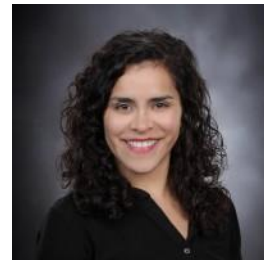
FLOWERS AS THE SOURCE OF POISON AND THE CURE: A TALE OF PATHOGENS IN PLANT-POLLINATOR NETWORKS

by Laura Figueiroa

NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Biology
(Cornell/UMass Amherst)

Wednesday, April 20th

11:00 a.m. - 12:00



Dr. Figueiroa is involved in applied ecological research, much of it involving the conservation biology of pollinators. She has worked with Dr. Scott McArt in the fascinating field of bumble bee epidemiology, with a focus on floral features influencing disease transmission.

[JOIN SEMINAR](#)

Seminars are free and open to the public; no pre-registration is required.

For additional information, contact [Josh Plisinski](#).

PRINCETON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE – PRINCETON HIKES!

HIKE AT CALAMINT HILL CONSERVATION AREA, PRINCETON Wednesday April 20th 1 p.m.



Great Blue Heron by Alan Rawle

This is a 3-mile easy-to-moderate hike around a large wetland.
We should see waterfowl and herons.

For more information or to register:
TrailAroundPrincetonMA@gmail.com



Female Red-winged Blackbird by Doug Wipf



Annual Dinner Meeting & Silent Auction

Sunday April 24, 2022 12-5
Hartman's Herb Farm
1026 Old Dana Road, Barre

GUEST SPEAKERS

Tom Tying, Professor of Environmental Science
Berkshire Community College

HOPE FOR SOME HERPS: THE TWISTING SAGA OF CONSERVATION FOR UN-LOVED SPECIES

In general, the study of amphibians and reptiles has lagged far behind that of other vertebrates, and even of many invertebrates. We still lack basic knowledge of the distribution of many of our species, not to mention their population levels, trends, or natural fluctuations. Yet despite regular setbacks, insights continue to unfold that provide some hope for conservation.



Natasha Nowick & Alexxia Bell
Turtle Rescue League

TURTLE 911: HELPING SAVE OUR MOST ENDANGERED NATIVE CREATURES

Spring is here, and our native turtles are on the move. Learn how we can all help our imperiled wildlife. Learn why turtles are endangered and how we can all play a role in their protection. The Turtle Rescue League is a nonprofit rescue and rehabilitation center dedicated to the protection of our native turtles. Learn how you can make a real difference in your community. Join us and learn to become a turtle Superhero!

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

12:00 p.m. SOCIAL HOUR with beverages and appetizers
SILENT AUCTION BEGINS! Ongoing throughout the afternoon
1:00 p.m. DINNER -- Table service/buffet
2:00 p.m. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
2:15 p.m. Presentation by TOM TYNING: HOPE FOR (SOME) HERPS
Short break
3:30 p.m. Presentation by TURTLE RESCUE LEAGUE: TURTLE 911
4:40 p.m. SILENT AUCTION ENDS!

DINNER & MEETING \$40 member \$45 non-member
PRESENTATIONS ONLY \$20 member \$25 non-member

DETAILS & RESERVATION FORM [HERE](#)



FORBUSH BIRD CLUB



BIRDING AT MASS AUDUBON BROAD MEADOW BROOK WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

414 Massasoit Road, Worcester

Wednesday April 27th

7 a.m. – mid-day

Leader : John Shea 508-667-1982 john@beachwells.com

Join us to welcome spring and the early bird species of the season.

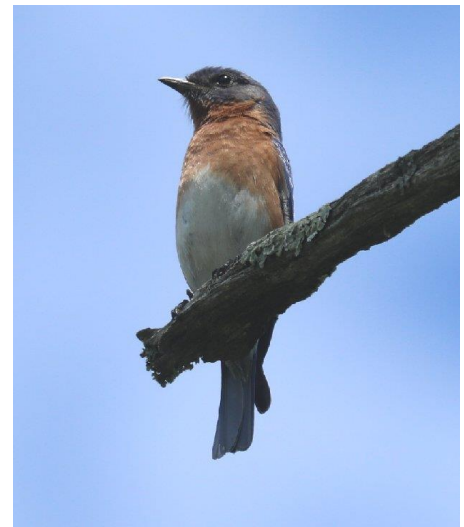
Please be prepared for an easy but extended walk.

BIRDING HIGH RIDGE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

WESTMINSTER/GARDNER

Sunday May 1st 7 a.m. – mid-day

Leader: Jon Skinner jon@jonrisk.com



This large, historic property includes old fields, mature woods, and wetland areas.

Meet at the gated end of Overlook Road in Westminster.

Please be prepared to walk.

Directions: From the Rt. 2/Rt. 140 intersection drive west on Route 2A in Westminster.

Turn right onto Elliott St., then right onto Bacon Street. Bear left at the fork onto Overlook Rd. Continue to the parking area before the gate.

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB

NATURE HIKE

SOUTH END of LONG POND, RUTLAND

Sunday May 1st 9 a.m. – mid-day

Leader: Jim Purington



Join us for a ramble through oak-pine woodland and along wetlands and the pond. We'll watch for birds, early-emerging insects, and whatever else grabs our attention. A portion of the walk will be along the Midstate Trail. Dress for the weather and conditions. Be mindful that ticks are out.

Please contact warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com to sign up so that we can communicate any changes.

Directions:

From Rte. 122 Four Corners in Rutland (Mobil station) take Pleasantdale Rd. south towards Spencer 0.5 mile. Take right onto East Hill Rd.

Follow EHR for 0.3 mile to yellow gate on right.

Continue on EHR another 200 feet to parking area on right.

Map coordinates: (42.3406580, -71.9934494)