



*** * * ANNOUNCEMENTS * * ***

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Do you have about 1-2 hours a month (often much less) that could be spent as a volunteer helping with the administrative tasks of Ware River Nature Club? We are seeking “worker bees” as follows:

Membership Coordinator—Works with Treasurer to maintain Club membership lists; works with Chair and Advisory Group to consider and implement ideas for attracting and maintaining members.

Programs Assistant—Works with Chair to engage monthly program speakers for 7-8 meetings per year; assists with program scheduling; assists with publicity as needed.

Field Trip Assistant—Works with Chair to design and schedule field trips; assists with finding and scheduling field trip leaders; assists with publicity as needed.

Advisory Group Member—Meets 1-3 times per year with Chair and Advisory Group to discuss Club business; assist with decision-making and approval of expenditures; works with Chair and group to develop conservation, educational, and other projects and ideas.

Requirements--Must be a member of WRNC and able to communicate electronically. Preferably able to meet with Chair and Advisory Group 1-3 times per year, usually in Rutland.

Contact us at warivernatureclub@yahoo.com if you're interested.

THANK YOU!

Advisory Group members Anthony Costello (Holden), Pam Landry (Webster), Todd Livdahl (Hubbardston), Linda Mueller (Oakham), Ted Purcell (Rutland), Treasurer Karl Barry and Chair Wendy Howes.

UPCOMING EVENTS SUMMARY

Wednesday, February 12, 2020 10 a.m. – noon Wachusett Greenways

HIKE/SNOWSHOE WHITE OAK TRAIL, HOLDEN

<https://www.wachusettgreenways.org/wordpress/greenways-news/events-2/>

Saturday, February 15, 2020 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Ware River Nature Club

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT in RUTLAND

<http://www.warerivernatureclub.org/upcoming-events.html>

Thursday, February 20, 2020 7 p.m. Forbush Bird Club Monthly program/meeting

BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE RIVER with Mark Lynch and Sheila Carroll

Mass Audubon Broad Meadow Brook Conservation Center, **WORCESTER**

<http://forbushbird.org/text-calendar>

Friday, February 21, 2020 7 p.m. Mass Audubon

Friday Night Speaker Series: **PROJECT DRAWDOWN & CLIMATE SOLUTIONS** by Paige Dolci

Wachusett Meadow Sanctuary, **PRINCETON**

<https://www.massaudubon.org/program-catalog/wachusett-meadow/71060-friday-night-speaker-series-project-drawdown-climate-solutions>

Saturday, February 22, 2020 9 a.m. Princeton Open Space Committee

Princeton Hikes! **QUINAPOXET TRAILS HIKE, HOLDEN**

<https://www.town.princeton.ma.us/open-space-committee/pages/princeton-hikes-schedule>

Sunday, February 23, 2020 12- 5 p.m. **ANNUAL DINNER MEETING & SILENT AUCTION**

INSECTS IN DECLINE IN NEW ENGLAND? LET'S FIND OUT! with Sarah Haggerty

CATERPILLARS AND MORE: UNCOVERING THE WHOLE STORY with Sam Jaffe

Hartman's Herb Farm, **BARRE**

<http://www.warerivernatureclub.org/2020-annual-meeting.html>

Thursday, February 27, 2020 2 p.m. Princeton Hikes! **RAIL TRAIL HIKE-GLENWOOD ROAD, RUTLAND**

<https://www.town.princeton.ma.us/open-space-committee/pages/princeton-hikes-schedule>

Sunday, March 1, 2020 2-3 p.m. DCR Office of Watershed Management-Quabbin Interpretive Services

VOYAGERS, VISITORS AND HOME with Dale Monette

Quabbin Visitor Center, 485 Ware Road, **BELCHERTOWN**

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/quabbin-visitor-center-programs-winter-2020/download>

Saturday, March 7, 2020 9:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Ware River Nature Club

LICHEN IDENTIFICATION WALK with Joe Choiniere Location TBA

<http://www.warerivernatureclub.org/upcoming-events.html>

Saturday, March 7, 2020 11 a.m. Ashburnham Conservation Trust Annual Meeting

ALL ABOUT BATS by Jennifer Longsdorf, Bat Program Coordinator, MassWildlife

Stevens Memorial Library, **ASHBURNHAM** <http://www.ashburnhamconservationtrust.org/Contact.html>

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/masswildlife-calendar>

Sunday, March 8, 2020 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Mass Audubon 28th **Annual Birders Meeting- EPIC JOURNEYS:**

FOLLOWING BIRD MIGRATION *Early Bird prices run until February 24th*

College of the Holy Cross, **WORCESTER** <https://www.massaudubon.org/news-events/special-events/general-special-events/birders-meeting>

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

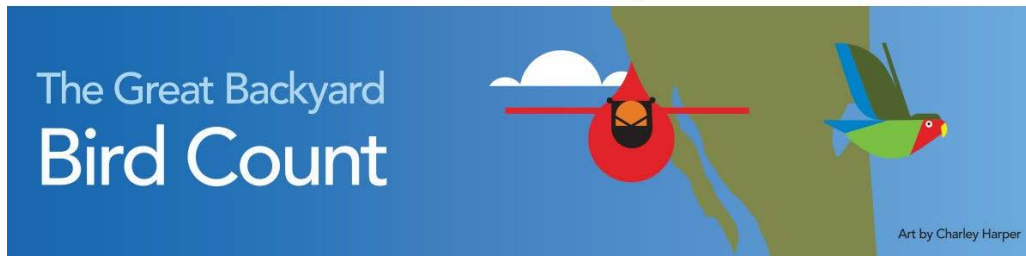
WACHUSETT GREENWAYS

**HIKE/SNOWSHOE WHITE OAK TRAIL
HOLDEN**

Wednesday, February 12, 10 a.m. - noon

Leader: Colleen Abrams

Let's go for a snowshoe walk on the White Oak Trail in Holden! If there is not enough snow, we'll hike. Contact Colleen Abrams to sign up at 508-479-2123 or colleen.abrams@verizon.net. If you need snowshoes, let Colleen know.



JOIN WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB FOR THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT! Saturday February 15th 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Rutland

Leaders: Ted Purcell & Wendy Howes

How many species of birds can we find in Rutland in mid-February? Now *that's* a challenge! Come along with us as we drive to several locations and fan out to see just what we can find. We'll search various habitats, count birds we find at birdfeeders, and watch the skies in an effort to document the winter populations and diversity of birds in this central MA town. Along the way we'll

be keeping track of sightings for eBird, the Cornell Lab's on-line tool for reporting and record-keeping.

Birders of all levels of experience are welcome!

Plan to dress for the weather and bring snacks and beverages if you wish. Don't forget binoculars, camera, and field guide.

Contact warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com to let us know you're coming and get directions to the meeting place.



EAST QUABBIN LAND TRUST



HIKE AT PATRILL HOLLOW PRESERVE

Wednesday, February 19th at 1pm
1050 Hardwick Rd, Hardwick, MA.

RSVP to youtheducation@eqlt.org

Please meet at the Preserve Entrance

Looking for something to do over February vacation? Walk this 1.5 mile loop through the woods of Hardwick looking for wildlife signs and exploring the natural history of this 136-acre conservation area in the heart of Hardwick. Appropriate for all ages and family members ready for a hike. Dress for the weather, will be cancelled for extreme weather.



Conserving the land. Preserving our heritage.



FORBUSH BIRD CLUB

BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE RIVER

with

Mark Lynch and Sheila Carroll

Thursday, February 20th 6:30 p.m. Social hour

7 p.m. Program

MassAudubon Broad Meadow Brook Conservation Center
414 Massasoit Road, Worcester

Join Mark and Sheila as they share some of their favorite spots for birding between the western edge of Worcester County and the Connecticut River. This is an area with a lot of species diversity that few birders visit regularly. There are great spots for breeding warblers, migrating waterfowl, and hawk watching --- and it's all just across the border!

Mark Lynch is a long-term teacher and trip leader for Broad Meadow Brook. He was one of the founding members of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee and is currently the book review editor for the journal *Bird Observer*.

Mark was a regional editor for *The Bird Finding Guide to Western Massachusetts* and contributed many chapters. For over 30 years, Mark was a teacher and docent at the Worcester Art Museum and has done extensive research and lecturing about using art museums as important resources in natural history studies. Mark also hosts INQUIRY on WICN (90.5 FM), a weekly interview that marries his interests in art, nature, and science.

Sheila Carroll has been an avid birder and photographer for more than 35 years. She does all the photography for Mark's birding classes and programs and co-leads trips with him. Besides birds, Sheila is passionate about finding and identifying dragonflies and damselflies.

Mark and Sheila were the Central Massachusetts Regional Coordinators for the massive multi-year Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas II conducted by Mass Audubon.

MASS AUDUBON

Friday Night Speaker Series

**PROJECT DRAWDOWN
& CLIMATE SOLUTIONS**

by

Paige Dolci

Central/MetroWest Regional Coordinator

Shaping the Future of Your Community Program

Friday, February 21st 7-8 p.m.

WACHUSETT MEADOW WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

113 Goodnow Road, Princeton

MassAudubon members: \$7.00 Non-members: \$10.00

Registration is required.

Register online or call 978-464-2712 to register by phone.

For more information, contact: wachusett@massaudubon.org

PRINCETON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Princeton Hikes!

QUINAPOXET TRAILS HIKE, HOLDEN

Saturday February 22nd 9 a.m.

Moderate 4-mile hike.

Meet at Post Office Place in Princeton to carpool to trailhead.

The Open Space Committee is leading a series of hikes on the large number of trails around Princeton. The committee wishes to showcase

Princeton area hiking trails, foster a community hiking group, and provide a safe way to explore Princeton and surrounding towns.

For more information, check Trail Around Princeton on Facebook or contact TrailAroundPrincetonMa@gmail.com.

You can ask to be put on the mailing list.

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB

Please join us!

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING & SILENT AUCTION

Sunday February 23rd 12-5

RSVP by February 18th

Hartman's Herb Farm

1026 Old Dana Rd Barre

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Sarah Haggerty

Conservation Biologist/GIS Manager, Maine Audubon Society
presenting

INSECTS IN DECLINE IN NEW ENGLAND?

Sam Jaffe

Founder and Director of The Caterpillar Lab
presenting

CATERPILLARS AND MORE:

→SEE DETAILS AT <http://www.warivernatureclub.org/2020-annual-meeting.html>

DCR Office of Watershed Management-
Quabbin Interpretive Services

VOYAGERS, VISITORS AND HOME

with

Dale Monette

Sunday, March 1st 2-3 p.m.

Quabbin Visitor Center

485 Ware Road, Belchertown

Join our former colleague Dale Monette as he debuts his newest book of wildlife images.

This book focuses on birds that visit New England just for a stopover during migration and birds that spend months here, as well as permanent resident birds and mammals that call New England home.

This project was five years in the making and many miles were traveled. The effort also resulted in gallons of blood lost to mosquitoes in ponds and swamps!

Here are the images and the stories behind the making of this book.

Also included is a section on MassWildlife's successful bald eagle introduction as a nesting species to Massachusetts, a project that took place at Quabbin Reservoir during the 1980s.

This program is free and open to all.

For more information, call (413) 323-7221

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB

LICHEN IDENTIFICATION WALK

with Joe Choiniere

Saturday March 7th 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Location TBA

Come along with us to learn to identify some of the most common lichen species. Joe will present some basic information about lichen biology, ecology, growth forms, and substrates. We'll learn a few identification features, including color and reproductive structures.

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ASHBURNHAM CONSERVATION TRUST
ANNUAL MEETING

ALL ABOUT BATS

by

Jennifer Longsdorf

Bat Program Coordinator, MassWildlife

Saturday, March 7th 11 a.m.

Stevens Memorial Library, 20 Memorial Drive, Ashburnham

Bats are fascinating and unique creatures that play a critical role in many environments around the world. However, dramatic population declines have put bats in the spotlight recently. The Ashburnham Conservation Trust Annual Meeting will feature MassWildlife's Jennifer Longsdorf, Bat Program Coordinator. She will talk about the nine species of bats found in Massachusetts, common myths and facts, their ecological contributions, threats to their survival, and conservation efforts being made to protect bats. You will also learn all about bat houses and how to safely deal with bats in your home. For more details: ACT at 978-827-6427



EPIC JOURNEYS: FOLLOWING BIRD MIGRATION

March 8, 2020

College of the Holy Cross in Worcester

Bird migration is one of the most amazing phenomena on the planet. Millions of birds annually fly countless miles between their breeding and wintering areas in search of longer days, warmer climes, and abundant food.

Discover some of the reasons why birds migrate, the technology behind the study of migration, and how to plan the best birding days to appreciate and observe migration in Massachusetts.

Early Bird prices run until February 24th

<https://www.massaudubon.org/news-events/special-events/general-special-events/birders-meeting>