



July 2023

* * * **ANNOUNCEMENTS** * * *

SOCIAL MEDIA FOR WRNC: YES OR NO?

Recently the Club's Advisory Group took up the question of whether or not to open a social media account. . .again. Those of you who have been with us from our humble beginnings may recall that WRNC had a Facebook account for a few years. The account was closed for a number of reasons, but primarily because it added too much extra work for the Club's coordinator and failed to attract new members or significantly increase attendance at programs and field trips, which was what we had hoped. But there are now other options.

The idea of getting the Club "out there" on a social media platform such as Instagram has been raised again. Our Advisory Group wants to hear from readers of this newsletter, whether or not you are Club members. Do you use social media to keep in touch with other clubs or organizations? Would you follow us on Instagram if we had an account? If so, what would you like to see posted? Would you share content with others? Would you suggest using any other social media options? Do you think a social media account would influence your involvement in Club activities?

Please let us know what you think! We would appreciate comments to warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com with *Social Media* in the subject line.



EAST QUABBIN LAND TRUST SEEKS TERRACORPS/AMERICORPS YOUTH EDUCATION COORDINATOR

East Quabbin Land Trust, based in Hardwick, is seeking applicants to fill the 2023-2024 Youth Education Coordinator position. What does a Youth Education Coordinator (YEC) do? The coordinator helps build the long-term capacity of the land trust by engaging youth in science and nature learning projects. Typically the YEC collaborates with local schools, libraries, and youth groups on projects that connect young people to the natural world. The desired qualifications include strong writing and verbal communication skills; the ability to work both independently and as a team member; some experience in training and educating community members and volunteers; a strong interest in/experience with hands-on land management or stewardship projects; and more.

This is a TerraCorps/AmeriCorps service position that offers a modest living allowance, a \$6,895 Education Award upon completion of 1700 hours of service, individual health care coverage, and many other benefits.

For further details about this opportunity, visit:

<https://eqlt.org/apply-for-terracorps-position/>



House Wren

Photo by Doug Wipf

* * * UPCOMING EVENTS * * *

PRINCETON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE - PRINCETON HIKES!

BICKFORD POND LOOP HIKE

Saturday July 8th 9 a.m.

This is a 4-mile moderate hike in
northwestern Princeton.

Bickford Pond is on the
Princeton/Hubbardston border and is a
pretty area that many have never seen,
with a view out to the back side
of Mount Wachusett.



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



Oval Ambersnail (?)

Photo by Alan Rawle

DCR-DIVISION OF WATERSHED PROTECTION-QUABBIN REGION

**PROGRAM & WALK:
BARRENS HABITAT RESTORATION
ON BARRE HEATHLAND
Hubbardston**

Saturday July 15th 9 – 11 a.m.



How can forest management and prescribed fire programs support rare plant and animal habitats? Since 2008, DCR-DWSP has worked with the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) to restore and maintain

this heathland habitat. Take a moderate, 1-mile walk with DCR-DWSP staff to learn how our management of this area is protecting an imperiled habitat and how we will continue to restore and maintain it for rare species and ecosystem diversity. Dress for the weather. Dogs not allowed.

Meet at the Intersection of Rt. 62 and Barre Rd in Hubbardston

<https://goo.gl/maps/XgcGPEuf5SP8QK8MA>

Register **HERE**

Questions? Email QuabbinVisitor.Center@mass.gov

FORBUSH BIRD CLUB ~ MASSACHUSETTS BUTTERFLY CLUB

BIRDS & BUTTERFLIES

Sunday July 16th 9 a.m. – noon

Leader: Dolores Price

pricedolores884@gmail.com 508-839-2299



Meet at the Route 56 overlook to Worcester Airport in Leicester, where we'll start our search. We'll also walk the wooded trail from Mulberry Street to Kettle Brook/Manville Street. Binoculars that allow close focus recommended but not necessary. Prior years' butterfly highlights have included fritillaries, monarchs, swallowtails, Black Dash skipper, and Appalachian Brown.

PRINCETON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE - PRINCETON HIKES

HIKING THE MASS CENTRAL RAIL TRAIL / RIVER ROAD

Tuesday July 18th 10 a.m.

We'll also explore some other interesting trails!

A 4-mile easy-moderate level hike.



Photo by Alan Rawle

LEOMINSTER STATE FOREST CROW HILLS & MIDSTATE TRAIL

Saturday July 22nd 9 a. m.

This will be a moderate hike of about 5 miles.

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

FORBUSH BIRD CLUB

BIRDING & BIRD CENSUS
WACHUSETT RESERVOIR
IMPORTANT BIRD AREA (IBA)

Saturday July 22nd 7 a.m. – mid-day

Leader: Kevin Bourinot

kevin.bourinot@gmail.com 978-376-1498



Photo by Doug Wipf

Forbush Bird Club's annual census of the Wachusett Reservoir IBA focuses on breeding birds including the Common Loons. We will hike shady trails to the Wood Island overlook, then drive to various gates to view the water. Meet at the intersection of Route 110 and Chace Hill Road (Gate 35) in Sterling, at 7:00 a.m.

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB

“SLOW BIRDING” & NATURE WALK WARE RIVER WATERSHED, BARRE

Sunday July 23rd 8 a.m.- noon



Wilson's Warbler

Photo by Ted Purcell

Join us for some slow-paced birding and a look for mid-summer wildflowers, butterflies, and other things of interest to nature-lovers. We'll try a different style of birding that integrates many pauses and some observations without binoculars into the process.

This is a good time of year to encounter adult birds with their fledglings as well as solitary adults that have dispersed from their breeding grounds.

We'll also hope to encounter a few species of butterflies and typical summer flora.

Plan to dress for the weather. Bring your favorite insect repellent and drinks/snacks if you wish.

Contact warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com to sign up and get directions. In the event of foul weather, the walk will be cancelled or postponed.

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB

INTRODUCTION TO MOTHS & “MOTHING”

Willow Farm, Ware

Wednesday July 26th 7:30 p.m. – dark

Leader: Brian Klassanos



Photos by Brian Klassanos

After several years of dedicated hard work and study of hundreds of moths found on his property, Brian has become a self-taught expert on techniques for attracting and identifying moths. His ID skills are top-notch, and he's found many rare and locally-uncommon species on his property.

Join us for a casual evening of learning about the important and fascinating connection between moths and the other plants and animals that share their habitat. Moths are beautiful, too, so we'll talk about attracting and photographing them.

Brian will fill also us in on some identification techniques and resources.

He'll have his sheets and lights set up so we can experience “mothing” firsthand as dark sets in. Participants may leave at any time or stay to look for and photograph moths until 10 or 10:30 p.m.

We never know what may show up!

Contact warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com to register.

If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll postpone to another evening.