

November 2021



*** * * ANNOUNCEMENTS * * ***

WINTER FINCH FORECAST 2021-2022

After the first hard frost and the return to Eastern Standard Time, many birders' thoughts turn to possible winter visitors such as Pine Grosbeaks, Common Redpolls, and Bohemian Waxwings. One resource is Tyler Hoar's (formerly Ron Pittaway's) *Winter Finch Forecast*, a summary applying mainly to Ontario and adjacent provinces and states but with information applying to New England states as well.

According to the forecast, some southward movement of boreal-nesting finches should be into normal southern wintering areas in southeastern Canada and northeastern United States. However, the movement of most finches will vary by species and where they're located in the boreal forest. We should be able to find most species, but it won't be like last year when they came to so many backyards; this year we'll very likely need to search for them.

The full forecast: <https://finchnetwork.org/winter-finch-forecast-2021-2022-by-tyler-hoar>

ADVISORY GROUP UPDATE

Although the Club continues to function without elected officers, coordinator Wendy Howes carries out the Club duties with the help of treasurer Karl Barry, membership assistant Anthony Costello, and an Advisory Group [AG] that meets 2-3 times a year (and communicates electronically throughout the year). Additional members of the AG are Ted Purcell of Rutland, Pam Landry of Webster, Todd Livdahl of Hubbardston, and Anne Greene of Rutland. Currently we're making plans for our annual dinner meeting and silent auction, which will be in February 2022. Our usual meeting place, Hartman's Herb Farm, has understandably had to raise its rates, so we need to evaluate this with respect to our budget. We're also discussing the pros and cons of continuing to accept on-line payment methods in addition to good old-fashioned checks; PayPal's fees have increased. There is a theme here-- we're committed to solvency but want to offer high-quality experiences. Stay tuned!

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

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB

**HARVARD POND NATURE HIKE
PETERSHAM**

Sunday November 7th 9:30 a.m.



Join us for a leisurely morning hike of about 3 miles around this picturesque pond. We'll look for waterfowl and typical birds of the mixed habitats around the pond as well as wildlife tracks and sign. Plan to dress for the weather, and bring snacks/beverages if you wish.

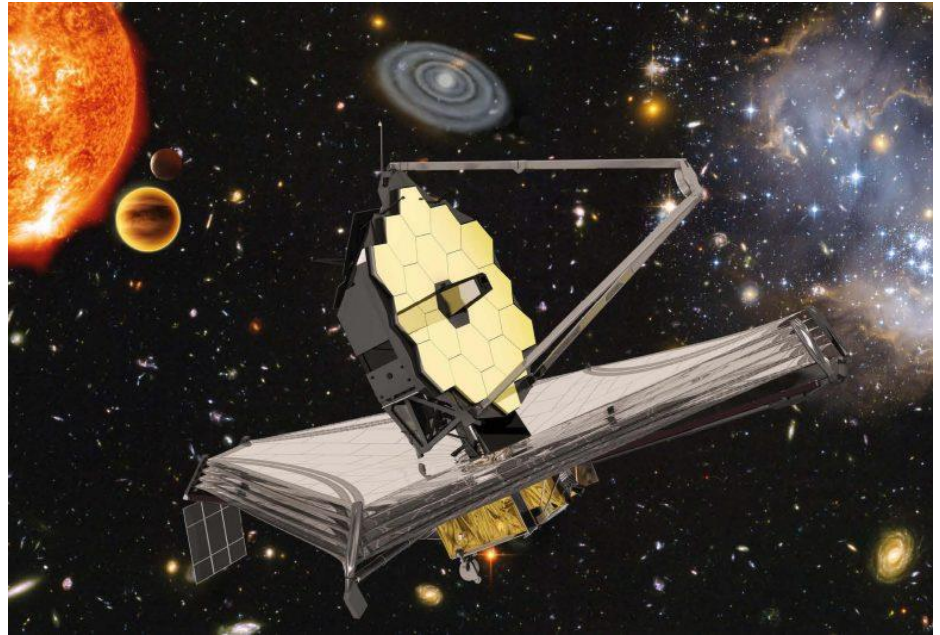
We'll postpone in the event of foul weather.

Note that Daylight Savings Time ends the night before.

To sign up: warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com

ATHOL BIRD & NATURE CLUB

ZOOM Program— UPCOMING LAUNCH OF THE JAMES WEBB SPACE TELESCOPE: EXOPLANETS AND THE COSMOS



*Artist's impression of the NASA/ESA/CSA James Webb Space Telescope.
Credit: ESA, NASA, S. Beckwith (STScI) and the HUDF Team, Northrop
Grumman Aerospace Systems / STScI / ATG medialab*

Jim Zebrowski

Wednesday, November 10th 7 p.m.

The James Webb Space Telescope is scheduled to head to space on December 18, 2021. With it, astronomers hope to find the first galaxies to form in the universe, will search for Earthlike atmospheres around other planets and accomplish many other scientific goals. To see deep into the universe, the telescope has a very large mirror and must be kept extremely cold. But getting a fragile piece of equipment like this to space is no simple task. Jim Zebrowski of Aldrich Astronomical Society will tell us more about this endeavor to gather information about the farthest reaches of space.

There will be a “bonus” portion of the program when Jim fills us in on what to look for in the November night sky.

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5U8-U35fRf-9STOqy4KNIQ

FORBUSH BIRD CLUB



BIRDING WORCESTER'S PONDS

Saturday November 13th
8 a.m.

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

Join the Club for this morning outing and discover some of the beautiful natural ponds within the city.

Meet inside the entrance to All Faith's Cemetery at 8:00 a.m.
Contact the leader to register or for more information.

PRINCETON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE--PRINCETON HIKES!

EXPLORING PRINCETON LAND TRUST PROPERTIES

Saturday, November 13th
9 a.m.



On this hike we'll visit several properties owned and managed by Princeton Land Trust. We'll start out at Princeton center.

It will be a moderate, 4-5 mile trek with other hiking enthusiasts.

To register: TrailAroundPrincetonMA@GMail.com



Cedar Waxwing, Rutland, November 2, 2021 Photo by Doug Wipf

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Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center

Virtual Program—

BATS OF NEW ENGLAND

with Erin Ruggiano, MassAudubon

Tuesday November 16th

5:30 -6:30 p.m.

Bats are vital to our world's ecosystems and economy.

Join us to learn about their natural history and

ecological importance as well as conservation threats.

Bats can be one of the most misunderstood wild animals.

Learn how you can help these heroes of our Massachusetts landscape.



Registration requests must be received at least 24 hours before the program begins.

<https://www->

[151q.bookeo.com/bookeo/b_northfield_start.html?ctsrc2=H37GBSnKPh1tH4lw%2BnPChHOhm1R3wmFDs%2Bm7ZBp6CN4%3D&src=02h](https://www-151q.bookeo.com/bookeo/b_northfield_start.html?ctsrc2=H37GBSnKPh1tH4lw%2BnPChHOhm1R3wmFDs%2Bm7ZBp6CN4%3D&src=02h)

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB

REACHING 4,000 MILES:
A DECADE OF HIKING AND PHOTOGRAPHING
THE QUABBIN WOODS

by Jim “Hikingcamera” Morelly

Wednesday, November 17th 7 p.m.

Rutland Public Library, 280 Main St. (Rte.122A)



It's November and time to think about hunting. . .with cameras!

Jim is a passionate hiker and outdoor enthusiast who has thoroughly explored “The Quabbin” and captured many amazing photographs along the way.

Besides his portable equipment, Jim deploys a number of remote trail cameras, and he has a lot to share about what he has learned about the animals that call the Quabbin Reservation home. He also has some thoughts about hiking the area as well as tips for successful camera-trapping. Join us for this entertaining program and these highlights: top wildlife experiences; unique found objects; worst wildlife experience; longest/coldest hikes; interesting wildlife photo captures (DLSR & trail cams).

FORBUSH BIRD CLUB

VOYAGERS, VISITORS AND HOME

by Dale Monette

Thursday November 18th

7 p.m. (Social hour 6:30 p.m.)

Mass Audubon Broad Meadow Brook Conservation
Center, 414 Massasoit Road, Worcester

Join Dale Monette for this window on the world of New England wildlife. The program focuses on birds that visit New England just for a stopover during migration, birds that spend months here, birds that show up for only a few days far out of their range, or birds and mammals that live here and call New England home. From great gray owls to red-backed voles, here is what Dale found in his travels around New England.



Dale is an expert in the nature and history of the Quabbin Reservoir. An avid birder since his youth, he has lived within 2 miles of the Reservoir since the 1970's and spent 30 years with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation working at Quabbin as an educator and a naturalist.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS



National Audubon Society's 122nd Christmas Bird Count will take place Tuesday, December 14, 2021 through Wednesday, January 5, 2022.

[Click here for a map view of the circles expected to be included in the 122nd CBC.](#)

If you would like to participate, please contact compiler(s) for details.

WORCESTER Saturday, December 18th
Compiler: John Liller (508-877-5770) Email:
john.liller@worcesteracademy.org
>> snow/ice date: Sunday, December 19

ATHOL Saturday, December 18th
Compiler: David Small (978-413-1772) Email:
dave@atholbirdclub.org
The Athol CBC has been conducted since the mid-1960's, making it the longest continuously-running bird data study in the North Quabbin area. Athol Bird & Nature Club follows all Covid-19 rules in effect at the time. All activities must meet local and state guidelines.

QUABBIN Date to be announced
Compiler: Scott Sumner Email: ssumner@aol.com

WESTMINSTER Date to be announced
Compiler: Charles Caron (978-874-5649) Email: caronenv@aol.com

