

*** * * ANNOUNCEMENTS * * ***

YES!! WE ARE HAVING OUR ANNUAL MEETING

Who would have guessed that Ware River Nature Club's 7th Annual Meeting was destined to take place in cyberspace?!? But, yes, we're going forward with this special event, which will be held at the end of February, with the help of the technological wonders of ZOOM, PowerPoint, PCs, and various mobile devices. The negative aspect: the inability to interact in-person with Club friends while enjoying the delicious fare of Hartman's Herb Farm. The silver lining: no need to drive in potentially stormy weather!

Presently we're in the process of lining up guest speakers and appraising some wonderful donations that have been made to our popular silent auction. This year the auction will be offered on-line via our web-site.

We're also putting together a challenging "mystery photo" quiz that will appear on-line a couple of weeks prior to the meeting. Anyone will be able to take part in the quiz and have an opportunity to have some fun and win (modest) prizes.

There will be no charge to attend the annual meeting this year. Details are forthcoming. We hope you'll plan to join in all or part of the "festivities."

Meanwhile, the 2021 membership year begins February 1st, and dues reminders will be sent out soon. We welcome your continued support through 2021!

COMING SOON: CLUB DECALS

The hot new WRNC item that will debut with the 2021 membership year is a custom decal featuring the colorful Club logo seen at the top of this newsletter. The decals are designed to stick on the inside of a window. Members automatically receive one decal (unless you tell us you don't want one), and additional decals will be available at cost as long as the supply lasts.

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

ATHOL BIRD & NATURE CLUB

**ZOOM Meeting:
2020: BIRDING AROUND A PANDEMIC
with Jeff Blanchard
Wednesday January 13th 7 p.m.**



Join ABNC member and photographer Jeff Blanchard as he takes us on a tour of some of the interesting and unexpected birds that have appeared in our region amid the 2020 pandemic.

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://www.google.com/url?q=https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JyqhkSOBQG-3dWVUaTOe-Q&sa=D&source=calendar&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw3eb5ZhnGYAsxOFLBhni8tG

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB



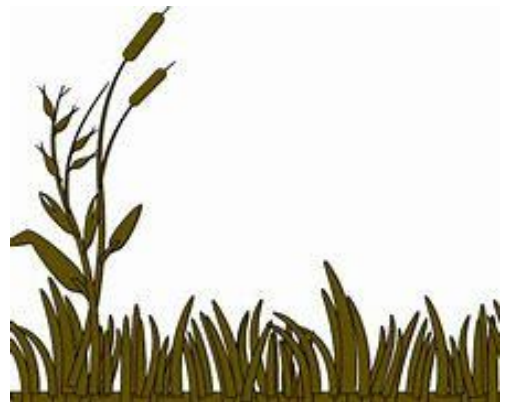
EMPTY (BIRD) NEST EXPLORATION WALK

Ware River Watershed
“Prison Camp” Area
Rutland

Sunday January 17th
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Join us for a winter walk during which we'll keep a look out for last year's bird nests and try to identify the former occupants. The ramble will be along wide, mostly-flat dirt roads through mixed habitats. We'll also keep an eye out for winter birds and mammal tracks and sign. The roadways provide ample room for physical distancing, and we'll follow the masking protocol. Bring binoculars, cameras, snacks, and beverages if you wish. Number of participants will be limited.

Pre-register at
warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com
to receive directions and updates.
Plans may change with regard to weather
and trail conditions.



WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB

**ZOOM Meeting:
COMICS AND CRITTERS
WITH *BIRD AND MOON*
with Rosemary Mosco**

**Wednesday January 27th
7 p.m.**



Need a mid-winter laugh? Join Rosemary Mosco, creator of the nature-based *Bird and Moon* comics, to learn why cartoons and conservation are a natural fit. You'll get a chuckle out of her clever combination of engaging images and nature observations.

Rosemary blends science, humor, and heart to create books and comics about wildlife. Her *Bird and Moon* comics are collected in the book *Birding Is My Favorite Video Game*, a 2019 ALA Great Graphic Novel for Teens, and have appeared in publications ranging from the scientific journal *Nature Ecology & Evolution* to the children's magazine *Ranger Rick*.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85234575387?pwd=OXZVROhUUTRHejZMWUJyZjFkUnp5QT09>

Meeting ID: 852 3457 5387

Passcode: 909224

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

February 12th -15th



The **Cornell** Lab  of Ornithology



The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the four-day event and report their sightings online at birdcount.org.

Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts, and you can participate from your backyard, or with a Ware River Nature Club group exploring a defined area with a team traveling in separate vehicles. Stay tuned for Club plans for this event.

