

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT YOUR LOCAL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES



ASSABET RIVER NWR

Visitor Center at 680 Hudson Road, Sudbury, MA. For questions about programs or to register contact Kizette at kizette_ortizvanger@fws.gov or 978-562-3527 x. 117

Spring Nature Walks: Fridays in April at 11am-12pm Explore the different habitats on the refuge. We will search for evidence of amphibian activity as well as the emergent plants in the forest. We will seek out returning birds, insects, etc. that become active at this time. All ages are welcome; walks will be an hour long, weather permitting. Please wear appropriate clothing and shoes to be on hiking trails.

PUDDLESTOMPERS Nature Exploration – April 2013 Drop-Off Vacation Program: Tuesday, April 16th – Friday, April 19th at 9am-

1pm Let us lead your children in discovering the beauty and wonder of new life in the spring during PUDDLESTOMPERS April vacation week drop-off program! Learn how plants grow and look for rainbows after April showers. Search for signs of animals and their food sources. Investigate birds building their new nests. Discover worms and other exciting life in the soil. We'll explore a different topic each day through hands-on exploration, active movement and play, crafts, stories, and songs. A snack will be provided each day, as well as a take-home craft and handout with additional activities and information to extend learning and nature discovery into your home. Bring a nut-free lunch. Min. 4 children/Max. 20 children. **Dates:** Sign up for 1, 2, 3 or all 4 days! Tuesday 4/16, Wednesday 4/17, Thursday 4/18, Friday 4/19 Ages: 3-6 year olds, drop-off **Cost:** \$60/day/child; Friends of Assabet River receive 10% discount. Register at Puddlestompers.com or 617-527-2000.

Bird Movie & Game: Thursday, April 18th at 2-4pm We'll show *Paulie* a movie about life from a parrot's point of view (Running Time: 91 mins). After the movie we'll play a game that will teach you about migration.

Leave No Trace Youth Training: Friday, April 19th at 2-3:30pm and Adult Training : Sunday, April 28th at 10-12pm Join the Subaru/Leave No Trace Traveling Team and learn more about protecting your outdoor recreational areas. Participants will explore the principles of Leave No Trace through hands-on, engaging activities. By practicing Leave No Trace, we can preserve and protect our public lands for future generations. **Registration required**, contact Kizette. Share with your scout groups and environmental organizations!

Bird Walk Co-sponsored with Brookline Bird Club: Sunday, April 21st at 7am Join the Friends of Assabet River NWR for a birding and interpretive walk. Be prepared to walk. Meeting place: Visitor's center parking lot. For questions or to register, please contact David Lange at 978-287-0781 or delange005@earthlink.net

Family Nature Club: Sunday, April 21st at 1pm Bring your kids and come jump into nature with us as a family! We are starting a family nature club for kids in 1st and 2nd grades (siblings are welcome). Every 3rd Sunday of every month we will get together and explore the outdoors for an hour of fun discovery! This month-we will put on our rain boots and explore the amphibian activity in and around a vernal pool. Appropriate clothes and footwear required – ie things you are okay with getting dirty! **Registration required**; please contact Kizette to RSVP by Friday, April 15th.

FARNWR April Presentation – Outdoor Cats and Biodiversity: What Are The Ethical and Policy Implications: Wednesday, April 24th at 7pm The controversy over outdoor cats and native wildlife illustrates the public policy and its inherent ethical dilemma. For well over a decade a bitter argument has raged between conservation biologists and animal welfare communities; the first argues that outdoor cats are a mortal threat to biodiversity and the latter claim that cats are the scapegoats for a problem of human making. Bill Lynn will explain the scientific facts and discuss the ethics and moral responsibilities of cat owners, but with local communities, wildlife agencies, and society at large and the way to develop environmental and social policies to meet obligations on both sides. William Lynn is a research scientist in the George Perkins Marsh Institute at Clark University, where he focuses on ethics and environmental policy. You can read about his work on outdoor cats, wolves and other subjects at his blog, www.practicaethics.net. Friends of the Assabet River NWR hold its monthly members meeting every fourth Wednesday of the month. Talks are free and open to the public. A short business meeting will take place before the presentation. For more information please visit farnwr.org

**We will be open on Wednesday during April School Vacation Week!
April 17th at 10am-4pm**

(PLEASE TURN PAGE OVER FOR MORE PROGRAMMING INFORMATION)

Refuge Fledglings: Friday, April 26th at 10:30am This month's program will be about vernal pools! Nature themed program series that will include crafts, stories, and games or songs that will relate to a different topic each month. Programs will be held the 4th Friday of every month 10:30am – 11:30am for 2 to 5 year olds; siblings welcome. Please bring appropriate clothing.

Annual Spring Cleanup for Earth Week: Saturday, April 27th at 10am-12pm It's Sudbury's Annual Spring Cleanup Day! Help clean up the boundary of the refuge. Meet at Hudson Road entrance. Dress for the weather; bring gloves, water and an orange vest! Contact Sally Wadman at 978-443-9320 or Kizette for further details.

Mass Audubon Summer Day Camp at Assabet River NWR – Sign up now!
http://www.massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/Sanctuaries/Drumlin_Farm/camp.php

OXBOW NWR Entrance: Still River Depot Road parking lot (at end of Still River Depot Road in Harvard, MA). For questions about programs, contact Rona Balco, President of Friends of Oxbow NWR, 978-779-2259 or Ada at ada@friendsoftheoxbow.org.

Vernal Pool Field Trip: Date TBA A field trip, will be at an appropriate vernal pool somewhere nearby yet to be finalized. Since what happens in vernal pools depends on the weather, we cannot predict when **Big Night** will take place and what day would be good to explore the pools. Please register with Rona or Ada and for further details. Events sponsored by The Friends of the Oxbow NWR

Trees in Winter: Sunday, April 14th at 1pm How can one identify a tree when it is not wearing its lush clothing, its catkins or flowers? Why do some trees drop their leaves while others keep their green seemingly all year round? Our guide, arborist and landscaper Denis Wager, will explain the tricks to identify trees and bushes using other clues than the common ones we might have learned in school. Wear sturdy clothing and footwear; depending on the weather, the going might be muddy and wet. Bring a pencil and paper or tracing paper index cards are great, if you are planning to start creating your own guidebook. Children are welcome. This is a free program; donations are appreciated. Please call Rona or email Ada to RSVP.

Earth Day at the Oxbow: Saturday, April 20th at 2pm Celebrate Earth Day with our Native American neighbors. What does this modern event share with the ancient observances? What can we learn from and respect in the old traditions of the Micmac in New England? How can we help conserve their history? Ask Chief Roland Jerome and other members of the UNACC (Untied Native American Cultural Center, Inc in Devens) your questions. From 2-3pm, Chief Jerome will lead the drum group NUGUMIJ (Mother). Depending on the weather, there will be a display of crafts. Additionally, Bolton Local will take part in the celebration with displays and information about sustainability and about what you can do personally to reduce your carbon footprint. Naturalists will be on hand to give you a guided tour of the refuge. Bring a chair/stool to sit on or a warm blanket. Children are welcome. This is a free program offered by the Friends of the Oxbow and partnered by Freedom's Way; donations are appreciated. Please call Rona or email Ada to RSVP.

GREAT MEADOWS NWR Concord Impoundments on Monsen Road, off Rte. 62 in Concord, MA
Sudbury Headquarters: 73 Weir Hill Road in Sudbury, MA

Woodcock Walk: Saturday, April 6th at 7-8:30pm The earliest signs of spring are here! Join us for a dusk walk to see the male woodcock's aerial courtship display at Weir Hill, Great Meadows NWR in Sudbury. Listen for the woodcock "peents" and see the male in full flight in display. Contact John to **RSVP** by 3pm on Thursday, April 4th by email at jmilhaven@gmail.com or call 978-201-6028; limited to 20 participants.

Monthly Nature Walks: A Sense of Place at Great Meadows NWR (Concord): Sunday, April 21st and May 19th at 3-5pm April brings swelling rivers, first buds opening, and returning birds. In May, the most delicate flowers open in the woodlands and sheltered edges of trails and marsh. Greet the refuge's glorious awakening to greener seasons. Dress in layers for varying temperatures. *No pre-registration required. A \$5/person voluntary donation will be gratefully accepted.* Led by Cherrie Corey, local naturalist and photographer; *Co-sponsored by Musketaquid Arts and Environment Program and FARNWR.* For questions, email cherrie.corey@verizon.net or call 978-760-1933 <http://sense-of-place-concord.blogspot.com/>

REMINDER: PETS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE REFUGES

Contact Us:

680 Hudson Road Sudbury, MA 01776 978-562-3527

Facebook: Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge

Twitter.com/assabetrivernwr

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/easternmanwrcomplex>

Friends of Assabet River: <http://www.farnwr.org/>

Friends of the Oxbow NWR: <http://www.friendsoftheoxbownwr.org/>

