

## 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](mailto:kizette_ortizvanger@fws.gov) or 978-562-3527 x. 117

**Nature Hike with a Refuge Ranger: Fridays in February 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11am-Noon** Take a late morning walk with Ranger Bill and learn about our local wildlife. Bring your binoculars, your bird and track guides and warm layers. If you don't have binoculars or guides, we will have some available as well. Please meet in the lobby of the visitor center. Please call to find out about weather cancellations.

**Waterfowl Identification Workshop with Steve Moore: Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7-9pm** Basic 101 workshop on the identification of ducks, geese and swans present in Massachusetts. Workshop is open for up to 25 participants. A field trip will follow on Saturday, February 9, to either Cape Ann or Cape Cod depending on the proximity of ducks, weather and other factors. This workshop is free for members of BBC and Friends of the Assabet River NWR and \$15 for non-members. Please pre-register with the leader Steve Moore at [barb620@theworld.com](mailto:barb620@theworld.com) or [508-393-9251](tel:508-393-9251). Program is offered by the Brookline Bird Club and sponsored with the Friends of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge.

**Family Nature Club: Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 1-2:30pm** Bring your kids and come jump into nature with us as a family! We are starting a family nature club for kids in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades (siblings are welcome). Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month we will get together and explore the outdoors for an hour of fun discovery (this month will be a bit longer)! This month we will put on our Sherlock hats and take out our magnifier to be nature detectives! Our mission will be to tackle: what are animals doing in this cold weather? Appropriate clothes and footwear required – ie things you are okay with getting dirty! Registration is required; please contact Kizette to RSVP by Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**PUDDLESTOMPERS Nature Exploration – February 2013 Drop-Off Vacation Program: Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9am-1pm** Let us lead your children in discovering the beauty and wonder of late winter and early spring during PUDDLESTOMPERS February Vacation Week Drop-Off Program. Activity will be based at Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge in Sudbury where we will venture outside along the adjacent trails as much as temperature and weather allow. Learn about how animals survive the winter and why evergreens keep their leaves. Look for animal tracks and other signs of winter activity. Investigate the reappearance of animals and the new growth of plants as Mother Nature promises warmer weather in the months ahead. We will learn about the day's topic through hands-on exploration, active movement and play, crafts, stories, and songs with our integrated curriculum. 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 2/19, Wednesday 2/20, Thursday 2/21, Friday 2/22 **Ages:** 3-6 year olds, drop-off **Cost:** \$60/day/child; Friends of Assabet River receive 10% discount. Register at [Puddlestompers.com](http://Puddlestompers.com) or 617-527-2000.

**Owl Fun (Craft, Movie, Hike): Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 2pm** We'll start off with making some owl masks we can wear while watching *Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'hoole*. When a young owl is abducted by an evil Owl army, he must escape with newfound friends to seek out the legendary Guardians to stop the menace. (Running Time: 97 mins). After the movie we'll go on a short hike to find owls.

**Refuge Fledgling Hour: Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30am** Nature themed program series that will include crafts, stories, and games or songs that will relate to a different topic each month. This month we'll look at a day in the life of a fish. Programs will be held the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of every month 10:30am – 11:30am for 2 to 5 year olds; siblings welcome.

**Full Moon Owl Hike: Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7-9pm** Have you ever heard or seen an owl before? This time of year when owls begin their mating season and are in full voice is a great way to spend a moonlit night looking for them. Spend an evening at the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge to explore the fascinating world of owls in New England. The program will start with a talk on owl characteristics and identification of owls found in Massachusetts. After the talk we will make our way out on the trails of the refuge and attempt to locate some local owls by both sight and sound. Contact John to **RSVP** by 3pm on Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> by email at [jmilhaven@gmail.com](mailto:jmilhaven@gmail.com) or call 978-201-6028; limited to 30 participants. Be sure to dress warm & you're welcome to bring a headlamp or flashlight though we'll try not to use it.

**We will be open on Wednesday during February School Vacation Week!  
February 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am-4pm**

**(PLEASE TURN PAGE OVER FOR MORE PROGRAMMING INFORMATION)**

**FARNWR February Presentation – Coexisting with Coyotes by John Maguranis: Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** Coyotes are important ecologically and need to be welcomed as a much needed predator. This talk covers natural history, habits, diet, hazing of coyotes, human and pet safety, discusses the unfair press coverage and dispels the myths of the much misunderstood American Song Dog that deserves respect and appreciation. The presentation is filled with great photographs of local coyotes and will answer your questions and concerns about coyotes and will provide information to educate the community about living with coyotes, empowering communities and Animal Control Officers (ACOs) with the tools, information, and resources they need to coexist with coyotes. John's passion and engaging personality have been instrumental in helping to foster educated coexistence and compassionate conservation throughout New England. His ability to distill information from scientists, researchers and biologists and present it in a way that is meaningful and memorable has earned him recognition throughout the North East. For more information, visit his website: [www.ProjectCoyote.org](http://www.ProjectCoyote.org) 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 about our programs, membership and the Refuge please visit [farnwr.org](http://farnwr.org)

**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](mailto:ada@friendsoftheoxbow.org).

**Trees in Winter: Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 1pm** Using the skills of observation and bark identification we will explore the trees of the refuge and identify the common and not so common species found at the refuge. Contact Rona or Ada to register or for more information. Starting point is the Still River Depot Road parking lot.

**Oxbow Winter Nature Photo Contest** To take part in the Photo Contest the photos should be taken at the Oxbow Refuge during **this winter**. Enter one of the following levels: [1] Amateur (18 years old and up with camera experience); [2] Professional; [3] Youth (13 to 17 years old); [4] Children (younger than 17). You may enter up to three nature photos, each one in a different category. Choose from the following Categories: (1) invertebrate animals; (2) vertebrate animals; (3) plants; (4) landscape or scenic; (5) abstract; (6) people enjoying nature and (7) black & white. Only minor adjustments to photos will be accepted. No alterations beyond standard optimization. E-mail your contact information and level + categories and photos by **March 30, 2013** to Dr. Richard Brown at [DrRichardDBrown@aol.com](mailto:DrRichardDBrown@aol.com)

**GREAT MEADOWS NWR** Concord Impoundments on Monsen Road, off Rte. 62 in Concord, MA

**A Haiku Walk: A Sense of Place at Great Meadows NWR (Concord): Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 2-4:30pm** Join naturalist Cherrie Corey and Haiku poet Brad Bennett for a seasonal haiku experience at Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge in Concord. Following a short introduction to the landscape, and the technique of haiku, we will walk in the refuge, deepening our attention, and welcoming its beauty to inspire our writing. We will then travel a short distance to Thoreau Farm, the birthplace of Henry David Thoreau, to share our poems and warm refreshment with each other. No prior haiku experience necessary. *Co-sponsored by Thoreau Farm.* Fee: \$35, please register by January 31<sup>st</sup>. To register, make your check payable to Cherrie Corey and mail to her, along with your address and cell/home phone numbers, at 277 Old Bedford Road, Concord, MA 01742. Please let Cherrie know, by email ([cherrie.corey@verizon.net](mailto:cherrie.corey@verizon.net)) or phone (978-760-1933), that your registration is coming.

**Monthly Winter Nature Walks: A Sense of Place at Great Meadows NWR (Concord): Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:30-4:30pm** Winter is the season when earth and sky merge in a shared palette of color, shadow, and reflections. It is a time when land and waterscapes yield equally for our exploration. Ice and snow give way to myriad forms and ephemeral worlds that reveal themselves only in these silent, frozen months of the year. Join me for walks of winter revelation over these next three months. Dress warmly, head to toe! *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](mailto: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/>



