



Spring Public Programs

Volunteer Orientation - Saturday, April 10th 10am – 1pm

Join us for a fun-filled morning to learn about upcoming volunteer opportunities at YOUR local national wildlife refuge. Light refreshments will be served. Newcomers and current volunteers are encouraged to attend. Program will be held at 73 Weir Hill Road, Sudbury, MA.

Springtime at the Oxbow - Saturday, April 17th 10am – 12pm

Come explore the refuge with the Friends of the Oxbow and look for the signs of spring. As birds arrive, flowers bloom and beavers build, discover the beauty of nature and all its marvels while being led by local naturalist and Friends President, Rona Balco. Please pre-register by calling Rona at 978-779-2259.

Dinosaurs in Massachusetts - Wednesday, April 21, 10AM - Noon

What kinds of dinosaurs did we have here in Massachusetts and how do we know about them? Come see some real dinosaur footprint fossils from the Connecticut River Valley and learn how scientists use tracks to learn about how dinosaurs lived. Join Sarah Doyle (from the Friends of Great Falls Discovery Center / Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge) for stories and hands-on activities that are all about dinosaurs in Massachusetts. Please bring a tape measure, your curiosity and enthusiasm! Limited enrollment of 8 kids. Please contact neeladez@gmail.com for registration and **register by April 15th**. Fee \$10 for members and \$ 15 for non-members. Checks to be made out to FARNWR and mailed to FARNWR, P.O Box 5729 Marlborough MA 01752.

Friends of Assabet River NWR Annual Meeting - “American Dinosaurs: Discovery of Fossils in the Connecticut River Valley” on Wednesday, April 21st at 7pm

The talk will describe early events in American paleontology when footprints were found in South Hadley in 1802 thought to be tracks left by the raven that disappeared from the Noah's ark. Later in 1835, tracks on a stone slab in Greenfield were thought to be turkey traces or a chance arrangement of geologic features. Those discoveries became the first dinosaur footprints ever studied by scientists, long before the word "dinosaur" was coined and the animals not even known to have existed! As the 19th century progressed, the Connecticut River Valley became one of the world's premier sites for what scientists eventually realized was evidence of a lost world of awe-inspiring reptiles. Sarah Doyle is president of the Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center in Turners Falls and the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge that showcases the Connecticut River Valley Watershed. For more information see: www.greatfallsma.org. The Friends' monthly meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters, 73 Weir Hill Road in Sudbury, MA. Each meeting starts with a brief discussion of the Refuge status, followed by our featured presentation.

Summer Camp: space still available - Registration now due by April 25th

Weds, July 21st – Fri, July 23rd 9am – 4pm Summer Day Camp being held at Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge Join us for three days of nature exploration and an opportunity to connect your child with his or her local refuge. This is a pilot program the refuge will be hosting for 8 – 12 yr olds and is limited to 20 participants. Each day children will learn about the local habitats at the refuge and their role in conservation. A special 2-hour photography workshop conducted by local photographer Dave Griffin will be part of the programming. The fee for registration will be \$150 to cover supplies and the hiring of local teen counselors. Each registrant gets a complimentary one year family membership to the Friends groups. Call 978-443-4661 x34 to register.

Sense of Place at Great Meadows NWR - Sunday, April 25th 9am – 11am

A continuing series of monthly walks exploring the landscape, plants, and seasonal wonders of Great Meadows NWR in Concord. The warming earth gives way to the first delicate blossoms, perfect new leaves, greening shoots, and the hot pink buds of our own Concord grape. Come explore the year's renewal. Dress for muddy trails. No pre-registration required. A \$5/person voluntary donation will be gratefully accepted. Led by Cherrie Corey, local naturalist, botanist, and photographer. Co-sponsored by Musketaquid and the Friends of the Assabet River NWR. Meet at Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Concord, MA. Take Mosen Road, off Rte. 62 to the driveway on left where the road curves right.

Visit <http://sense-of-place-concord.blogspot.com/> online for updated information on walks and events, rain/flood dates, seasonal photos, and reference links. For more information email cherrie.corey@verizon.net or call 978-760-1933.

(Birding Programs on reverse side of flier)

Spring Birding Programs

Birding with Alan – Wednesdays: April 14th, 21st, 28th and May 5th and 12th at the Concord Impoundments, Monsen Rd, Concord, MA: Bird walks led by Alan Bragg in partnership with the Friends of the Assabet River NWR and the Menotomy Bird Club. Meet by the tower in the parking lot at 7:30 am.

Saturday, April 3 - Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord. This is an easy walk in search of early spring migrants such as Wood Duck, Pied-Billed Grebe, Eastern Phoebe, Tree Swallow, and Rusty Blackbird. Meeting place: Refuge parking lot on Monsen Road (off Route 62). 8 A.M. Leader: Jonathan Center. Sponsored by the Brookline Bird Club.

Wednesday, April 21 - Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord, and Nine-Acre Corner. We will walk easy trails looking for residents and early migrants. Take Rte. 62 to Monson Road in Concord. We'll move on from there to Nine-Acre Corner with possible extension to Drumlin Farm. Meeting place: Refuge parking lot off Monsen Road. 7:30 A.M. Leader: Clayton Swanson. Sponsored by the Brookline Bird Club.

Sunday, April 25 - Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge, Sudbury, Stow. Walk the trails at the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge. Join the Friends of ARNWR for a birding and interpretive walk on this refuge. Be prepared to walk. Meeting place: 680 Hudson Road entrance in Sudbury, about 2.7 miles west of route 27 and just east of the Stow line. 7 A.M. Leader: David Lange. Cosponsored by the Brookline Bird Club.

Sunday, May 2 - Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge, Sudbury, Stow. Walk the trails at the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge. Join the Friends of ARNWR for a birding and interpretive walk on this refuge. Be prepared to walk. Meeting place: 680 Hudson Road entrance in Sudbury, about 2.7 miles west of Route 27 and just east of the Stow line. 7 A.M. Leader: David Lange. Cosponsored by the Brookline Bird Club.

Saturday, May 8 - Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge, Harvard. We will walk 2-3 miles on easy paths through woodland as we search for migrant and breeding songbirds. Trip will be cancelled in the event of steady rain. Meeting place: Parking lot near the refuge gate at the end of Still River Depot Road (off Rt. 110), Harvard. 7 A.M. Leader: Jonathan Center. Sponsored by the Brookline Bird Club.

Friday, May 14 - Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord. Take Rte. 62 to Monsen Road in Concord. Meeting place: Refuge parking lot off Monsen Road. 7 A.M. Leader: Sabrina Hepburn. Sponsored by the Brookline Bird Club.

Sunday, June 6 - Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord. Meeting place: Refuge parking lot on Monsen Road (off Route 62). 6:30 A.M. Leader: Jason Forbes. Sponsored by the Brookline Bird Club.

Wednesday, June 16 - Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord. We will walk easy trails looking for birds and butterflies. Beginners welcome. Take Rte. 62 to Monson Road in Concord. We'll move on from there to Nine-Acre Corner with possible extension to Drumlin Farm. Meeting place: Refuge parking lot off Monsen Road. Sponsored by the Brookline Bird Club. 7 A.M. Leader: Clayton Swanson. Sponsored by the Brookline Bird Club.

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 12TH AS WE HOST RIVERFEST AT GREAT MEADOWS NWR WITH A FISHING EVENT, GAMES, CRAFTS, MUSIC AND INVASIVES SPECIES REMOVAL.

For more information, call 978-443-4661 x34 or please visit <http://www.farnwr.org> or <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/easternmanwrcomplex>

