



UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT YOUR LOCAL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

ASSABET RIVER NWR

Visitor Center at 680 Hudson Road, Sudbury, MA.

Volunteers Needed! Visitor Survey Sampling Training: Thursday, April 5th at 6pm Are you a people person and love being outside? We are trying to reach out to as many visitors that visit the refuge on 4/12-4/26. Volunteers will hand out surveys to visitors during a 3-4 hour shift to find out what they do on the refuge. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Kizette at kizette_ortizvanger@fws.gov or 978-562-3527 ext 117.

Tours of the Visitor Center, every Saturday at 11am & Sunday at 2pm Take a guided tour of the building and exhibits and learn about our programs. Bring a friend or family that might never have been to the refuge or inside the visitor center.

Waiting for Spring: Every Thursday and Friday in April at 10am Explore the different habitats on the refuge. We will search for evidence of amphibian activity as well as the emergent plants in the forest areas. We will seek out returning bird species and the numerous insects, etc. that become active at this time. All ages are welcome; walks will begin at 10am and we'll travel appx. 1.5 miles total; we will return to the visitor center before noon time, weather permitting. Please wear appropriate clothing to be on hiking trails.

Kids crafts and activities: Sunday, April 8th at 11-3pm Our multipurpose room will be transformed into a fun, activity-filled room to help kids learn about spring migration. Come make a watercolor of some of the waterfowl seen around here and try matching chick to bird – it's tough, but so much fun! Ask for an outdoor rabbit investigation sheet.

Nature Hike for Families: Sunday, April 15th at 1:30pm (Rain Date Saturday, April 21st) Join refuge staff and one of our youth volunteer's for a 1.5 mile walk to explore the refuge and learn about local animals and habitats. This walk is being created and led by Arnav Mehra (co-founder of Supreme Animal League & refuge volunteer). It will include a presentation about the refuge, a light hike and followed by a social with light refreshments. Program geared towards 5-10 yr olds, siblings are welcome. Meet at the visitor center. There will be a small fee for registrants \$8 per a family – all proceeds go to the Friends to provide refuge support. Please pre-register by contacting Susan_J_Russo@fws.gov. Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Assabet River NWR.

Spring Family Nature Walk: Thursday, April 19th at 1pm A family nature walk to explore wildlife on the refuge in spring by a volunteer of the Assabet Keeping Track team at the refuge. You will be sure to find some sign of wildlife during this active season at the refuge. Please dress for the weather.

Bunker Tour: Sunday, April 22nd at 11am Join local historian Jan Wright for an informative hour talk and tour of one of the ammunitions storage bunkers at Assabet River NWR. **Only 30 Spots are available**, to register please contact Jan Wright at janmariew@netzero.net or 508-485-4170.

"BioMap2": Conserving the Biodiversity of Massachusetts in a Changing World: Wednesday, April 25th at 7pm
"BioMap2" is the latest conservation blueprint designed to protect the State of Massachusetts' biodiversity to meet the challenges of the changing climate. Sarah Haggerty will describe the process of identifying, mapping and geographically balancing habitats for the creation of Core Habitats and Critical Natural Landscapes across the state. This includes the state's rare species and habitats of conservation concern as described in the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife's State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP). With the vernal pool season upon us, she will also describe the new data gathering system being put in place by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP).

(PLEASE TURN PAGE OVER FOR MORE PROGRAMMING INFORMATION)

Refuge Fledgling Hour: Friday, April 27th 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. **Programs will be held the 4th Friday of every month 10:30am – 11:30am for 2 to 5 year olds;** siblings welcome.

Spring Historical Bus Tour: Sunday, May 20th at Noon Join Maynard Historian Paul Boothroyd for our popular bus tour of the historical sites of the Assabet River NWR. Visit sites dating back to Native Americans, Washington and the War of Independence, and World War II for many entertaining stories and anecdotes. Tickets at \$9.00 per person in advance only. Reserve your space early by calling Paul Boothroyd at (978) 835-4515. Tickets go on sale March 1, 2012.

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

<http://www.friendsoftheoxbownwr.org/>
Entrance: Still River Depot parking lot (at end of Depot Road in Harvard, MA)
For questions about programs, contact Rona Balco, President of Friends of Oxbow NWR, 978-779-2259 or Ada at awoolston1@yahoo.com



GREAT MEADOWS NWR

Volunteer Orientation at Great Meadows NWR (Sudbury): Saturday, April 14th at 1-3pm Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work with the US Fish & Wildlife Service? Are you someone who likes to spend spare time in the outdoors? Do you like working with people? Have you ever felt like giving back to your community, but just haven't found the right opportunity? If you answered YES to any or all of these questions, then you'd make a fabulous refuge volunteer!!! This is a great way to meet other dedicated people in the community and build lasting friendships, all while making YOUR local national wildlife refuges a happier and healthier place Whether you are a current volunteer or interested in becoming one, please join us on Saturday! All ages welcome. Held at 73 Weir Hill Road, Sudbury, MA 01776. Contact Susan_J_Russo@fws.gov or 978.443.4661 x34 for information.

Nature Walk: A Sense of Place at Great Meadows NWR (Concord): Sunday, April 15th at 3-5pm The warming earth gives way to fattening buds, delicate blossoms, and greening shoots. Swallows swoop and dive over the impoundments and birdsong fills the air. Muskrats get busy, migrating waterfowl fill the marshes, and spring frogs trill from woodland and shoreline pools. Come explore and celebrate the floodplain's renewal. Rubber boots or waterproof footwear is recommended. Held at Concord Impoundments on Monsen Road, off Rte. 62 in Concord, MA. *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 Friends of Assabet River NWR.* 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 and Twitter.com/assabetrivernwr
<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/easternmanwrcomplex>
Friends of Assabet River: <http://www.farnwr.org/>

