

Stewart B. McKinney

National Wildlife Refuge



Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge
Announces **FREE PUBLIC EVENTS** for 2014

The following information is sometimes subject to change,
so please call 860-399-2513 to verify events.

DATE/TIME	EVENT NAME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
Saturday March 22 nd 6:30-8pm	<u>Presentation/Walk</u> Discover the Woodcock	Witness the unusual mating ritual flight of the Woodcock on the grounds of the refuge. There will be a PowerPoint presentation before the walk outside at dusk which will provide you with information about this incredible and elusive bird. Lead by naturalist Patricia Laudano.	Salt Meadow Unit 733 Old Clinton Rd. Westbrook, CT
Thursday March 27 th 6:30-7:30pm	<u>Presentation</u> TICKED OFF!: Invasive Plants and Lyme Disease – A Surprising Connection	Join Dr. Scott Williams from the CT Agricultural Experiment Station as he talks about the invasive plant <i>Japanese Barberry</i> and its strong connections to ticks, deer and the spread of Lyme Disease.	Salt Meadow Unit 733 Old Clinton Rd. Westbrook, CT
Thursday April 10 th 6-7pm	<u>Presentation</u> Invite Birds and Butterflies to Your Yard	Join refuge staff as they lead a how-to presentation on attracting these colorful creatures to your back yard. Free booklets provided to first 30 attendees.	Westbrook Public Library
Saturday May 10 th 1:00-3:30pm	<u>Nature-Based Presentations and Activities:</u> Walk on the Wild Side	Walk the one mile trail to encounter presenters along the way who will show and tell you about their LIVE ANIMALS (and some taxidermy animals). There will also be a drawing demonstration, a nature game along the path, mystery boxes, and complimentary refreshments.	Salt Meadow Unit 733 Old Clinton Rd. Westbrook, CT
Sunday May 11 th 2:30-3:30pm	<u>Presentation</u> The Evolution of a Forest	Salt Meadow in Westbrook has some of the oldest maritime forest left in our state. Join refuge staff to see how this forest has evolved and changed with different land uses over four	Salt Meadow Unit 733 Old Clinton Rd. Westbrook, CT

		centuries – and learn how healthy the forest is today.	
Saturdays and Sundays June through August, Hours vary	<u>Guided Island Tours</u> Learn about Outer Island’s birds, plants, sea creatures and interesting human history	Come to Outer Island in the Thimbles, to get a free guided tour and enjoy the beautiful scenery. You can even pack lunch and eat it at the new pavilion. Take a kayak, boat or call the ferry service at (203) 889-8365	Outer Island Unit Stony Creek, Branford, CT
Saturdays and Sundays mid-June through mid-August, Hours vary	<u>Guided Nature Walks</u> Learn about Sheffield Island’s birds, plants, pollinators and sea creatures	These short and interesting walks along the trail at Sheffield Island will take place throughout the day each Saturday and Sunday. For ferry tickets/information, go here: www.seaport.org	Sheffield Island Unit Norwalk, CT (Leave from Seaport Assoc. dock. www.seaport.org)
Daily mid-June through mid-August, Hours vary (Reservation required)	<u>Guided Island Tours</u> Learn about Calf Island’s birds, plants, and sea creatures	Take a kayak or sailboat to Calf Island in Greenwich and get an educational tour from one of our friendly Island Keepers. Perfect for kayak/sailing clubs or other organizations. Reservations are required and can be placed by calling 860-399-2513.	Calf Island Unit Greenwich, CT
Saturday June 7 th 1-2:30pm	<u>Guided Nature Walk</u>	Join State Parks Ranger and Naturalist Russ Miller for a trail tour and nature walk at the refuge’s Salt Meadow Unit.	Salt Meadow Unit 733 Old Clinton Rd. Westbrook, CT
Saturday June 7 th 8:30am-2:30pm	<u>Volunteer Event and Guided Tour</u> Sheffield Island Trail Cleanup	Join this National Trails Day event to help weed and clean the island’s short trail. Free narrated ferry ride and tour of the historic lighthouse provided to volunteers. Pre-registration is required: email shaun_roche@fws.gov	Sheffield Island Unit Norwalk, CT
Saturday July 26 th 2:30-4:30pm	<u>Fun Nature-Based Activities for Children</u> <u>Ages 8-15</u> “Refuge Hunger Games”	Come to the refuge and enjoy some fun (and entirely safe!) activities from the popular story <i>Hunger Games</i> . Learn about edible plants, play the predator/prey game, create art/crafts with camouflage and try your hand at	Salt Meadow Unit 733 Old Clinton Rd. Westbrook, CT

		archery. Activities are appropriate for ages 8-15. Parents must accompany children. Pre-registration is required: email shaun_roche@fws.gov	
Sunday May 11 th 2:30- 3:30pm	<u>Presentation</u> A Key for Wildlife Survival: Fall Forage Plants	Ever wonder how animals are able to survive a long New England Winter? Well, one answer is that they take advantage of many plants that are edible in Autumn, just before the cold sets in. Learn about these plants with refuge staff.	Salt Meadow Unit 733 Old Clinton Rd. Westbrook, CT
Saturdays and Sundays in September	<u>Presentation/Tour</u> Falkner Island Open House	Take advantage of this once a year opportunity to visit Falkner Island. See the historic 1802 Faulkner Lighthouse inside and out, and learn why the island is so important as a home for thousands of terns each summer. For details visit www.faulknerslight.org	Falkner Island Unit Guilford, CT (Leave from Town dock)
Sunday October 19 th 2:30- 3:30pm	<u>Presentation/Walk</u> The Colors of Fall: How and Why Our Trees Change Color	Ever wonder how and why the leaves of so many trees change color in the fall? Join refuge staff for a presentation on autumn foliage and a walk through the colorful fall woods.	Salt Meadow Unit 733 Old Clinton Rd. Westbrook, CT
Fall 2014	<u>Presentation/Walk</u> Owl Prowl	TBA in summer	

For more activities on the refuge, visit our partners' websites and look for "Events":

www.calfisland.org

www.faulknerslight.org

www.friendsofouterisland.org

www.friendsofthenorwalkislands.org

www.seaport.org

www.potapaugaudubon.org