

AUDUBON GREENWICH NATURE PROGRAM CALENDAR

W I N T E R 2 0 0 6 - 2 0 0 7

D E C E M B E R

Saturday, December 2

Trees in Winter – How to tell them apart? 1:00-2:30 pm

Now that the leaves have fallen, naturalists will take a closer look at trees and teach visitors how to identify them by their buds, bark, fruit, and winter silhouettes. We will learn how to use a basic key to help us sort trees and then take a walk to find out how people and wildlife use them. Ages 5 and up.



Audubon Center in winter

Saturday, December 9

Family Bird Watch and Walk 1:00-2:30 pm

Join us for an introduction to common winter birds. We'll begin indoors learning about local birds and watching them at our bird feeders. After we will take a short walk outdoors to see what the birds are up to in Audubon's fields and forests. Bring binoculars and field guides, if you have them, or borrow them from us. Ages 5 and up.

GREENWICH POINT BIRD WALKS

December 3 • January 7 • February 4

On Sundays from 9:00 to 11:00 am

Join the local birders for a walk along the shoreline and in the coastal woodlands of Greenwich Point. Bring binoculars and field guides. Meet at the second concession stand.

For more information call Brian O'Toole at 203-869-5272. Ages 8 and up.

Sunday, December 10

FIELD TRIP: Cove Island Park's IBA (Stamford) 9:00-11:00 am

Prepare for the Christmas Bird count on Sunday, December 17 during a visit to a key part of the Greenwich/Stamford Bird Count Circle. Join the Quaker Ridge Bird Club in looking for wintering ducks, gulls and land birds. We will meet just before 9 AM at the gate to Cove Island Park's Bird Sanctuary. After visiting the Sanctuary, the group will head over to the Holly Pond area. RSVP to Brian O'Toole.

Sunday, December 17

FIELD TRIP: Annual Christmas Bird Count 7:00 am-5:00 pm (Owling occurs pre-dawn)

Bird count teams will be outdoors counting birds in several different towns in our 15-mile Christmas count circle. You can also count at home – call us for a Bird Count Data Sheet to be a part of this great citizen science program. To join a count team or get a form for a home-based count, contact Ted Gilman or Brian O'Toole at 203-869-5272. RSVP required.

Sunday, December 17

Christmas Count Compilation Meeting Starting at 5:00 pm

Join Audubon Greenwich in an annual tradition as birders and guests meet in Kiernan Hall to tally up reports of bird observations for all bird count teams. To RSVP or volunteer with the Bird Count Potluck Dinner Committee, please contact Brian O'Toole at 203-869-5272.

J A N U A R Y

Saturday, January 6

New Year Hike at Fairchild Garden 1:00-2:30 pm

Start the New Year off with a great fresh-air hike as we search for winter birds, animal foods, and wildlife tracks and patterns in the snow.

Saturday, January 13

FIELD TRIP: Edith Read Sanctuary Coastal Birding Trip 9:00 am-12:00 pm

In search of winter visitors, Ted Gilman and other hardy birders will set off to walk the beach and inland trails of this rarely visited sanctuary located behind Rye Playland. Please RSVP.

Saturday, January 13

Great-horned Owl Search 4:30-5:30 pm

Come and visit a nearby Audubon site as we head to Audubon Lane a.k.a. Hemlock Gorge Trail for a twilight (sunset 4:48 pm) walk. We will look and listen for resident Great-horned owls and try to attract other owls by imitating their calls. Wear warm clothes and bring a flashlight. Ages 8 and up. Please RSVP.

Saturday, January 20

Insects on the Snow 1:00-2:30 pm

While not as obvious in winter, insects are alive and active during every season. Search the winter landscape with Audubon naturalists as we look for birds, animal tracks, winter stoneflies, 'snow fleas' and a variety of plant galls (strange growths caused by insects living inside). All ages.

Saturday January 27

Winter Seeds & Weeds 1:00-2:30 pm

Take a closer look at the seeds in winter weeds and search for the sparrows, juncos and other birds that eat them. All ages. Call the store to sign up at 203-869-5272.

Sunday, January 28

All About Owls 12:30-2:00 pm

Have you ever wondered what the smallest owl in North America is or what owls eat? Come to the Audubon Center and learn about the natural history and anatomy of these amazing raptors. We will listen to their calls, take a close look at a variety of specimens, and view a small slide show before dissecting owl pellets. Ages 7 and up. For more information, contact Lindsey at 203-869-5272 x235.



Catkin

Sunday, February 4

BIRD TALK: "Three Decades of Rare Birds In Connecticut" with Frank Mantlik 3:30-5:00 pm

After birdwatchers become proficient at identifying common birds, many find that they want to search for more rare or unusual species. Join Mr. Mantlik as he discusses how and why people go about these endeavors and recounts many noteworthy "finds" from his thirty years of birding in Connecticut. This presentation will also discuss the advent of the internet and cell phones, and how they have facilitated the hobby of following rare sightings and adding new bird species to "life lists." No charge. All welcome at this event supported by the Quaker Ridge Bird Club.

Sunday, February 11

Deer Hike on Old Pasture Trail 12:00-2:00 pm

Explore one of the less-traveled trails at Audubon Greenwich in search of white-tailed deer. We will look for antler rubbings and other signs of the behavior of this abundant species. Dress warm and wear hiking boots for a two-mile hike beyond Mead Lake and along Old Pasture Trail. Ages 8 and up. To sign-up up, contact James at 203-869-5272.

Saturday, February 17

Family Bird Count & Walk 1:00-2:30 pm

Help find, identify, and count our local wintering birds. Learn to use a home computer to enter our reports for the nationwide bird count this holiday weekend. Ages 5 and up.

February 16-19

The Great Backyard Bird Count

Call Ted Gilman at the Audubon Greenwich Center to learn more about this national bird counting event. Or, visit our website: www.audubon.org/gbbc to learn more.

Saturday, February 24

Animal Tracks and Traces 1:00-2:30 pm

Learn how to be a detective and read footprints and other clues & stories left behind in the snow, mud or other area where squirrels, mice, coyotes, deer and birds are active. Please RSVP.

WINTERTIME MOVIE & STORY SERIES On Sundays from 2:00-3:00 pm

Come on out for double the fun when the Audubon Society shows educational nature videos and shares short nature stories with children of all ages. Videos will run for 30 minutes each, followed by approximately 30 minutes of storytelling with an Audubon naturalist. All movies are included with visitor fees and free for Audubon members. Please RSVP for Storytime session by calling the nature gift shop at 203-869-5272.

Jan. 28: "Eagle Adventures" plus Nature Stories
Feb. 4: "Wolf Adventures" plus Nature Stories
Feb. 11: "Puffin Adventures" plus Nature Stories
Feb. 18: "Bat Adventures" plus Nature Stories
Feb. 29: "Whale Adventures" plus Nature Stories

For extra fun in the winter, bring warm clothes and plan a short walk before or afterwards in the nearby meadows, woodlands and apple orchard.

F E B R U A R Y

Sunday, February 4

Animal Skull Lesson 12:30-1:30 pm

This indoor program will teach young aspiring naturalists how to identify a variety of skulls from local species. After learning a few techniques, visitors will apply their new skills and examine skulls at various stations. Ages 8 and up. Sign up with James at 203-869-5272.

Programs are suitable for all ages unless otherwise indicated. Please register by calling 203-869-5272. Programs start at the Kimberlin Nature Center at Audubon Greenwich, 613 Riversville Rd. Program fees: \$3/adult members; \$5/adult non-members; \$1.50/member children and seniors; \$3/non-member children and seniors; no charge to Teacher Naturalists as part of their ongoing training.

Audubon Greenwich • 613 Riversville Road • Greenwich, CT 06831 • 203-869-5272 • greenwich.center.audubon.org