VOLUME 30 ISSUE 4 FALL 2009



The Flyer

NBS Celebrates 35th Annual Harvest Fair

October 3rd & 4th 10am - 5pm





















NORMAN BIRD SANCTUARY HARVEST FAIR — HOME & GARDEN COMPETITION OCTOBER 3-4, 2009

The Home & Garden Competition is open to amateur gardeners, growers, canners, cooks and bakers of all ages.

Each entry must be grown, or cooked from scratch, solely by the contestant. One entry per category per person. Entries must be registered at the Home & Garden Tent between 8-9:30 a.m. on the day of the judging, and must be removed by 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 4th.

The Home & Garden Tent has a NEW location Please enter through the fair gate and follow signs for Home & Garden

-All entries should be labeled discreetly with the contestant's name, address, phone number and competition category -Young grower or baker contestants (including group entries) must be 14 years old or younger

-After judging, all food entries will be sold at the Country Store

PRODUCE

Saturday judging, 11:00 a.m.

Best Single Fruit

Best Single Vegetable

Best Collection

Biggest Pumpkin

Most Unusual Vegetable /Edible Plant

Young Grower-Best Produce

Best Jack-o'-Lantern

FLOWERS

Saturday judging, 11:00 a.m.

Best Single Rose

Best Single Dahlia,

Best Fresh Arrangement

Best Dried Arrangement,

Tallest Sunflower

Email:

Biggest Sunflower Face

Young Grower-Best Arrangement

Questions visit www.normanbirdsanctuary.org

FOOD

Saturday judging, 11:00 a.m.

Best Apple Pie

Best Pesto

Best Salsa

Best Savory Relish/Preserves

Best Jam/Jelly

Best Quick Bread/Muffins

Best Cookies/ Dessert Bars

Young Baker-Baked Goods

GROUP / CLASS ENTRIES

Saturday judging, 11:00 a.m.

Best Produce

Best Flowers

Best Baked Goods

SCARECROW CONTEST

Sunday judging, 3:00 p.m.

Spook the crows with your original creation. Bring your entry, or make one at the Fair. Straw and a limited number of poles will be available on Saturday. A great group, class or family activity!

Help us to welcome back the COUNTRY STORE to the 35th Annual Harvest Fair!!!!

Your donation directly supports Norman Bird Sanctuary programs!

We welcome muffins, cookies, breads, cakes, brownies, jams, jellies, pies and etc....

DONATION FORM - Please return by September 30

Detach and mail to the Norman Bird Sanctuary, 583 Third Beach Road, Middletown, RI 02842 fax to 401-846-2772, or email form to: sdeleiris@normanbirdsanctuary.org

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Donation items:



Norman Bird Sanctuary Public Programs September - December 2009

Join us for outdoor exploration and discovery, hands-on animal presentations, music, art, and more!

Unless otherwise indicated, pre-registration is required. Please call (401) 846-2577 for more information or to register.

SEPTEMBER

Guided Bird Walks (Every other Sunday - September 6 and 20—8:00 A.M.): Jay Manning leads these popular guided walks. Open to beginners or experienced birders. Bring your binoculars, and meet in the NBS parking lot. Program Cost: Free; registration not required.

Rainbow Garden Kids Club (Every other Saturday, September 12 and 26—10:00-12:00): Hey, kids! Here's your chance to grow your very own garden, from start to finish! Best yet, you'll be helping to support a good cause—the NBS animal care program! The fruits and veggies we grow will go to feed our non-releasable wild animals. Don't miss this chance to get muddy and messy in the great outdoors! This club will meet every other week on Saturdays and is open to kids of all ages. Program Cost: Free; please call for more information.

Gentle Yoga (Mondays, September 14– October 19, October 26-November 23 (6-7:30 P.M.) Wednesdays, September 2-30, October 7-November 4 (9-10:30 A.M.): Certified yoga teacher Clara Lasagni Morgan, M.A., offers an energizing, gentle and relaxing yoga session that can benefit people of all ages. Beginners and walk-ins are welcome. *Program Cost:(per class) Members- \$8; Non-members- \$10; Seniors (over 65)- \$5.*

Yoga for Young People (Mondays, September 14 – October 19, October 26-November 23 (4:45-5:45 P.M.): Clara Lasagni Morgan teaches this yoga program designed for children, which includes games and activities that are age-appropriate. Program Cost: (5 classes) Members - \$40; Non-members - \$50. Registration is required.

Mission Monarch Migration (Thursday, September 17—7:00 P.M.): The Monarch butterfly is on a Mission; to migrate to Mexico before winter arrives. Every year, millions of Monarchs migrate south using the coastline as their guide. Following the lecture, participants will learn how to 'tag' Monarchs, raise caterpillars at home, and discover ways to use Monarch in the classroom. Participants will receive education materials and 5 Monarch Watch tags. Program Cost: Members - \$6 adults, \$4 kids; Non-members - \$8/\$6. Pre-registration required. Geared towards adults and older children.

International Coastal Cleanup (Saturday, September 19—9:00-12:00): Be a part of this worldwide effort to clean shorelines around the globe—during the cleanup, each volunteer will help to collect data on the trash that they discover. We will also have beach ecology activities, conservation exhibits, and earth-friendly crafts. ICC T-shirts are available on a first come/first served basis. Program Cost: Free (please call to register).

Green Team Kickoff! (Saturday, September 19 –10:00-12:00): New—Grades 3-6! Learn how you can make a difference in helping our local environment. This monthly series features environmental action projects for children in grades 3-6. Each month students will explore NBS trails and take an active role in helping to protect our natural resources. The September Green Team Kickoff participants will get involved in the International Coastal Cleanup! Students are encouraged to sign up for the entire series, but may join for a prorated fee if they cannot attend every session. The Green Team will generally meet on the third Saturday of every month, but dates may vary according to holidays and other schedules; an optional overnight will be held for Green Team participants in May. Program Cost: (9 classes) Members-\$50; Nonmembers-\$65.

Bird Tales (Every other Wednesday - Beginning September 23—10:00-11:00 A.M.): Our nature storytime features animals, authors, and rt! We'll read a story, meet an animal or go on a discovery hike, and complete a craft project. This hands-on program is perfect for the reschool child, or any parent-child pair. A complete reading schedule is posted on our website, www.NormanBirdSanctuary.org. Program Cost: Suggested donation of \$2 per child (members), \$4 per child (non-members.) Adults free. Registration encouraged but not required.

NBS Fall Programs





OCTOBER

35th Harvest Fair (Saturday and Sunday, October 3-4—10:00-5:00): Our old fashioned Harvest Fair features hay and pony rides, food, games, live entertainment, and much more! Visit the Education Tent for live animal presentations, games, low ropes challenge elements, and earth-friendly crafts.

Baking Competition (Saturday, October 3—11:00 A.M.): We are looking for bakers and gardeners to enter the Home and Garden Competition at the Harvest Fair! Enter your produce, flowers and baked goods! Check our website for more details and rules, at www.NormanBirdSanctuary.org.

Bird Tales (Wednesdays - October 7 and 21—10:00-11:00 A.M.): Our nature storytime features animals, authors, and art! We'll read a story, meet an animal or go on a discovery hike, and complete a craft project. This hands-on program is perfect for the preschool child, or any parent-child pair. A complete reading schedule is posted on our website, www.NormanBirdSanctuary.org. Program Cost: Suggested donation of \$2 per child (members), \$4 per child (non-members.) Adults free. Registration encouraged but not required.

Family Nature Night: Bats, Man! (Friday, October 9—7:00-8:30 P.M.): Go batty for bats, as we uncover the secrets about this often-misunderstood mammal. This exciting program begins with a short presentation and crafts indoors, followed by an outdoor night hike With the help of a bat detector, we'll learn about local species and study their natural history and amazing adaptations, like echolocation that help them to survive. Program Cost: Members- \$6 adults 13+, \$4 children 3-12; Non-members \$8 adults 13+, \$6 for children 3-12 One adult free per each paid child.

Animal Care Volunteer Training (Saturday, October 10—2:00-4:00 P.M. and Wednesday, October 14—6:00-8:00 P.M.): Interested in helping care for the NBS animals, like mammals, reptiles, and birds of prey? We are searching for dedicated volunteers who volunteer at least once a week for 3+ months. Seasonal training is required (volunteers must attend at least one of these two sessions. Program Cost: Free, but pre-registration is required.

Rainbow Garden Kids Club (Every Other Saturday, October 10 and 24—10:00-12:00 A.M.) Hey, kids! Here's your chance to grow your very own garden, from start to finish! Best yet, you'll be helping to support a good cause—the NBS animal care program! The fruits and veggies we grow will go to feed our non-releasable wild animals. Don't miss this chance to get muddy and messy in the great outdoors. This club will meet every other week on Saturdays and is open to kids of all ages. Program Cost: Free; please call for more information.

Holiday Camp: Fall Fiesta! (Monday, October 12—9:00-3:00): On this Columbus Day, use your day off from school to explore the natural world and make new friends at NBS vacation camp! We'll trek the trails in search of seasonal surprises and celebrate fall with animal presentations, crafts, and special snacks. Don't spend the day stuck indoors—celebrate the change in seasons with Fall Fiesta Vacation Camp! Morning snacks are provided, but campers should bring their own peanut-free lunch. Vacation Camps are available for children ages 4-12. Program Cost: Members - \$40 per child; Non-members - \$50 per child. Partial scholarships available.

Neighborhood Naturalists Afterschool (6 weeks; Thursdays, October 15-November 19—4:00-5:30 P.M.): Looking for something new and exciting to do after school? Join the NBS Neighborhood Naturalist Club! We'll explore a variety of habitats, meet animals, and explore the environment through hands-on experiments and activities. Two age-appropriate sessions are available for students in grades K-2 and 3-5 Program Cost (6 weeks): Members-\$35; Non-members-\$40.

Wildlife Speaker Series and Workshops (Thursday, October 15—7:00-8:30 P.M.): Don't miss this in-depth series geared towards adults and older teens. Each month, we'll go behind-the scenes to explore local conservation issues with the help of local researchers and scientists. Lectures, hands-on workshops, and other presentations will be featured. This series meets every third Thursday; check NormanBirdSanctuary.org for monthly topics. *Program Cost: Free, though donations are accepted to benefit the NBS animal care fund.*

Green Team (Saturday, October 17—10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.): Monthly environmental club for grades 3-6. Get involved and maldifference by helping the environment. Cost (September-May): Members - \$50; Non-members \$65; please call for single program cost.



September—December 2009



Nature Journaling and Creative Arts Workshop (Saturday, October 24—1:00-3:00 P.M.): Take a closer look at the world around us, as you learn the techniques of nature journaling. Participants in grades 3-7 will each create their very own journal to keep, and take part in creative arts projects. Program Cost: Members - \$6 per child; Non-members - \$8 per child.

Homeschool Adventures (5 weeks: Mondays, October 26-November 23—9:30-12:00): Join us for our Fall session of Homeschool Adventures, an environmental education program designed specifically for homeschooled students. Session themes include Fall Ecology, Animal Adaptations, and other multidisciplinary programs. Students will be taught in three age-appropriate groups for children ages 3-5, 6-9, and 10+. Groups may be combined based on registration. *Program Cost: One Child- \$35; Families with two children- \$60 (\$30 per child); Each additional child in the same family may attend for \$25 each.*

Birding for Beginners: Lecture Part 1 (Tuesday, October 27—7:00-8:00 P.M.) Field Part 2 (Saturday, October 31—9:00-11:00 A.M.): Join us for this two part workshop for beginning birders! The first evening session, (Birding 101), will feature an interactive powerpoint, with techniques for identifying birds and an overview of common local species. The following Saturday morning, (Birding 102), you'll put your new techniques to use in the field during a guided hike with Weekend Naturalist (and expert birder) Rachel Holbert. This is a great opportunity to learn the basics or refresh your skills. Program Cost: Members - \$12 adults 13+; Non-members - \$16 adults 13+. This program is geared towards adults and older teens, though aspiring birders of all ages may attend.

Halloween Family Nature Celebration (Saturday, October 31—1:00-3:00 P.M.): Bring your costume and join us for Halloween-themed fun as we make seasonal crafts, journey deep into the forbidden forest, and make our own holiday treats with a natural flair! Kids will each have their own pumpkin to decorate and visit with NBS animals. Program Cost: Members- \$6 adults 13+, \$4 children 3-12; Nonmembers \$8 adults 13+, \$6 for children 3-12. One adult free per each paid child.

NOVEMBER

Bird Tales (Wednesdays - November 4 and 18—10:00-11:00 A.M.): Our nature storytime features animals, authors, and art! We'll read a story, meet an animal or go on a discovery hike, and complete a craft project. This hands-on program is perfect for the preschool child, or any parent-child pair. A complete reading schedule is posted on our website, www.NormanBirdSanctuary.org. Program Cost: Suggested donation of \$2 per child (members), \$4 per child (non-members.) Adults free. Registration encouraged but not required.

Teaming With Nature: Super Seasons (Saturday, November 7—10:00-11:00 A.M.): For young children aged 2-4 and their parents or caregivers, Teaming with Nature includes age-appropriate songs, craft projects, animals, and outdoor exploration. This month, join us as we celebrate the sights and sounds of the fall season! Program Cost: Members-\$4 per child; Non-members-\$6 per child. Adults are free.

Family Nature Night: Backyard Astronomy (Friday, November 6—7:00-8:30 P.M.): Bring your family to study the fall skyscape, learn about constellations, and unlock the secrets of the nighttime world! We'll stroll beneath the stars, meet nocturnal animals, and create our own "constellations" to take home. Program Cost: Members- \$6 adults 13+, \$4 children 3-12; Non-members \$8 adults 13+, \$6 for children 3-12. One adult free per each paid child.

Rainbow Garden Kids Club (Every Other Saturday, November 7 and 21—10:00-12:00 A.M.) Hey, kids! Here's your chance to grow your very own garden, from start to finish! Best yet, you'll be helping to support a good cause—the NBS animal care program! The fruits and veggies we grow will go to feed our non-releasable wild animals. Don't miss this chance to get muddy and messy in the great outdoors! This club will meet every other week on Saturdays and is open to kids of all ages. Program Cost: Free; please call for more information.

Holiday Camp: Window on the WILD! (Wednesday, November 11—9:00-3:00): During the Veteran's Day school holiday, take a walk on the wild side with NBS vacation camp! This day-long program will feature live animal presentations, exploration in the great outdoors, and interactive science experiments. Snack will be provided, but campers should bring their own peanut-free lunch. Vacation Camps are available for children ages 4-12. Program Cost: Members - \$40 per child; Non-members - \$50 per child. Partial scholarships available.

Mark your calendars! Special Series at NBS



Bird Tales
Join us for our fun-filled
nature storytime every other
Wednesday at 10:00 A.M.
Please see website for book
selection.

Wildlife Speaker Series and Workshops

Highlighting local ecology and conservation issues, every 3rd Thursday night at 7:00 P.M.

Family Nature Nights
Fun for the entire family! Join
us on the first Friday night of
every month at 7:00 P.M.

Bird Walks with Jay Manning Meet at NBS every other Sunday for free guided bird walks.

Gentle Yoga and Yoga for Young People with Clara Morgan

Certified yoga teacher Clara Lasagni Morgan offers an energizing, gentle, and relaxing yoga session that can benefit people of any age!

To register or for more information about any NBS education program, please call (401) 846-2577 or e-mail education@ normanbirdsanctuary.org

Green Team (Saturday, November 14—10:00-12:00): Monthly environmental club for grades 3-6. Get involved and make a difference by helping the environment. Students are encouraged to sign up for the entire series, but may join for a prorated fee if they cannot attend every session. The Green Team will generally meet on the third Saturday of every month, but dates may vary according to holidays and other schedules; an optional overnight will be held for Green Team participants in May. Series Cost (September-May): Members - \$50; Non-members \$65; please call for single program cost.

Wildlife Speaker Series and Workshops (Thursday, November 19—7:00-8:30 P.M.): Don't miss this indepth series geared towards adults and older teens. Each month, we'll go behind-the scenes to explore local conservation issues with the help of local researchers and scientists. Lectures, hands-on workshops, and other presentations will be featured. This series meets every third Thursday; check NormanBirdSanctuary.org for monthly topics. *Program Cost: Free, though donations are appreciated to benefit the NBS animal care fund.*

DECEMBER

Bird Tales (Wednesdays - December 2 and 16—10:00-11:00 A.M.): Our nature storytime features animals, authors, and art! We'll read a story, meet an animal or go on a discovery hike, and complete a craft project. This hands-on program is perfect for the preschool child, or any parent-child pair. A complete reading schedule is posted on our website, www.NormanBirdSanctuary.org. Program Cost: Suggested donation of \$2 per child (members), \$4 per child (non-members.) Adults free. Registration encouraged but not required.

Family Nature Night: Naturally Crafty (Friday, December 4—7:00-8:30 P.M.): Create your own nature-themed crafts in time for the holiday season. We'll use a variety of natural and recycled materials to create earth-friendly gifts from the great outdoors! Perfect for all ages and skill levels. Program Cost: Members - \$6 adults 13+, \$4 children 3-12; Non-members - \$8 adults 13+, \$6 children 3-12. One adult free per each paid child.

Teaming with Nature: Homes for the Holidays (Saturday, December 5—10:00 A.M.-11:30 A.M.): B. Rabbit! It's cold outside! Our monthly program for preschoolers and parents celebrates the winter season, with crafts, songs, and more. We'll bundle up to go in search of animal homes and habitats along the NBS trails, then warm up inside with animal presentations and wintery crafts. Program Cost: Members - \$4 per child; Non-members - \$6. Adults free.

Holiday Owl Prowl (Saturday, December 12—7:00-8:30 P.M.): Join our naturalists as we learn why we should give a hoot about our feathered friends! You'll meet one of the Sanctuary's live birds, dissect owl pellets, and venture out in search of nocturnal birds of prey along the NBS trails. Don't miss out on this exciting nighttime adventure! Program Cost: Members - \$6 adults 13+, \$4 children 3-12; Non-members - \$8 adults 13+, \$6 children 3-12.

Green Team (Saturday, December 19—10:00-12:00): Monthly environmental club for grades 3-6. Get involved and make a difference by helping the environment. Students are encouraged to sign up for the entire series, but may join for a prorated fee if they cannot attend every session. The Green Team will generally meet on the third Saturday of every month, but dates may vary according to holidays and other schedules; an optional overnight will be held for Green Team participants in May. Series Cost (September-May): Members - \$50; Non-members - \$65; please call for single program cost.

Holiday Camp: The Big Chill (Monday-Wednesday, December 21-23—9:00-3:00): Kids, leave the parents to their holiday shopping as we explore the wonders of wintertime here at NBS. We'll make seasonal ornaments and crafts, study the science of snowflakes and hot chocolate, and stay busy with winter hikes and hands-on animal presentations. *Program Cost: Members-\$120; Non-members - \$150; a pro-rated day fee is also available.*

Holiday Camp: Nature and the New Year (10 Things You Never Knew about the Great Outdoo (Monday-Thursday, December 28-31—9:00-3:00): As we prepare for a new decade, join us at NBS as we uncover nature's best kept secrets. In honor of 2010, we'll learn at least 10 new fascinating facts, complete amazing experiments, and go behind-the-scenes with NBS animals. Program Cost: Members - \$160; Nonmembers - \$200; a pro-rated day fee is also available.

Harmony between Humans and Nature

By Joseph McLaughlin

radise Farm " for the propagation, preservation and protection of birds, and where birds and bird life may be observed, studied, taught and enjoyed by lovers of nature and by the public generally so interested in a spirit of humanity and mercy." - Mabel Norman Cerio's vision from her Last Will and Testament written November 2, 1949

One of the greatest challenges facing the Norman Bird Sanctuary (NBS) and other nature preserves is maintaining a balance between erty. We follow our process to make the best decision possible to humans and nature. Observing our impact is so critical to ensuring the viability of our habitats. In addition, our job as stewards is more complex as human beings become further removed from the natural world. At NBS, the Director of Properties and the Properties Committee are responsible for making stewardship decisions.

NBS provides a place for people to connect with the out-of-doors. This is a place where all of us may experience the fundamentals of all living things; the birds and bees. For example, we offer programs like "Preschoolers with Parents". This program in particular engages young and old, stimulates the five senses and nurtures a lifelong connection with nature.

"Every action has an equal and opposite reaction" "Less is more"

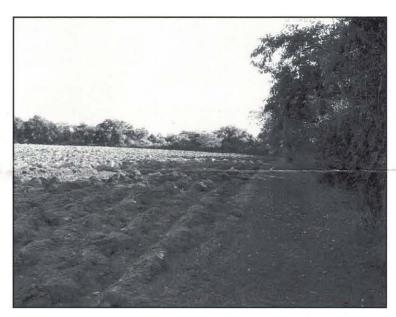
"Err to the side of caution"

I use these simple concepts when making informed decisions that directly or indirectly affect the Sanctuary. When a new or even existing issue arises at NBS, we follow a thoughtful process before ing a decision. The first step in the process explores the effect ative plants and wildlife. We ask questions, debate options and constantly keep the above statements in the forefront of our minds. Often times we ask very specific questions like "is a hiker every 40 minutes a disturbance enough to displace a Black Crowned Night Heron from Red Maple Swamp Pond?" "Did noise and activity related to construction displace a Baltimore oriole from its usual nesting site?" Many times we can't answer a specific question so we use the information we gather to adjust and improve our future pursuits. When I think about our actions here on the property, I think about how each thing relates to everything

else; I think about interconnectedness and long-term effects. At the end of the process we decide on one of three courses of action: move forward, stop and do nothing, or look further at the situation. We strive to make the right decision every time and we recognize when we have failed and when we have succeeded.

NBS works on hundreds of real and potential impacts on the propstrike that balance between nature and humans. Some of the issues we have recently debated include alternative energy, pesticides, and the volume of trail walkers.

In the next issue of The Flyer, I will continue this article with a focus on energy, chemicals, and hikers. In the meantime, I invite you to come to the Norman Bird Sanctuary and enjoy the great outdoors. Fall is an excellent time to re-connect with nature.



Harvest Fair parking field spring 2008

*****MABEL NORMAN CERIO'S PARADISE GARDEN RESTORATION*****

On a picture perfect Wednesday afternoon in September, a gathering took place to dedicate the newly restored Paradise Garden. During the last 2 years many people contributed countless hours turning an overgrown tangle of vines and weeds into a garden that invites people of all ages to enjoy the serene beauty that Mabel Norman Cerio cultivated while living at Paradise Farm. With guidance from Jocelyn Sherman, the Newport, Middletown, Seaside, and Overlook Garden Clubs tackled the daunting task of restoring this special area surrounded by stone walls. A number of local businesses donated plants and labor to execute the garden plans drawn up by Bob Buchanan, who spent many volunteer hours researching the plants in the original garden. Our thanks to all involved.

An endowment has been established for the maintenance of Paradise Garden. A very generous "friend" of the Sanctuary has agreed to match any funds, dollar for dollar, contributed to the fund by December I, 2009. Anyone interested in contributing may contact NBS at 401-846-2577. We invite you to come walk, sit and take in the spectacular landscape of Paradise Garden overlooking the fields and ean. It is truly a special place.







Non-Profit Org U.S. Postage PAID Newport, RI Permit # 43

Our Wish List!

- Plastic storage bins/ Rubbermaid bins
- Hand towels and blankets
- Microscopes
- · Children's games, puzzles, and toys
- Children's storybooks
- Puppets
- Craft and art materials
- Gift cards to PetCo, Acorn Naturalists, or Amazon.com
- · Blender, food processor, hot plate
- New microwave
- Bee keeping veils
- Baby food jars
- Bird seed and suet or gift card to JobLot





HARVEST FAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

It's that favorite time of year again — the air is brisk, the leaves are beginning to fall, and the NBS Harvest Fair is just around the corner! Every year NBS relies on hundreds of volunteers to tend the gates, sell tickets, help with children's crafts and games, direct parking, and staff a variety of other areas. Year after year, people of all ages return to volunteer at this much anticipated annual event. Are you a student needing community service hours, a senior

looking to get involved in the community, or a group of friends wanting to share in the fun of a traditional New England afternoon?

The Norman Bird Sanctuary is the place to be on October 3rd & 4th. All volunteers receive lunch sponsored by Pizza Hollywood & Coca-Cola. The first 250 volunteers to sign up receive a Harvest Fair t-shirt. Register to volunteer at www.normanbirdsanctuary.org.

Set aside Saturday, October 24th from 4—6 pm. The NBS Annual Meeting & Appreciation Party invites all volunteers, members, and sponsors who have supported the sanctuary throughout the year to celebrate with us. Special thanks to Tito's Cantina for sponsoring a delicious Mexican feast for the 3rd year in a row!

NBS was voted one of the "10 best places to volunteer" by ServeRI