

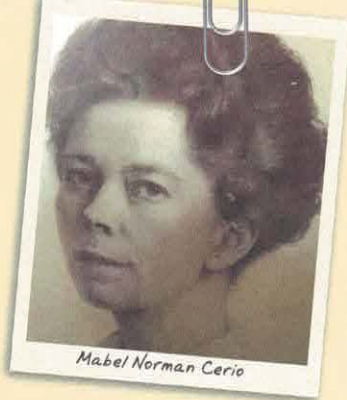
NORMAN BIRD SANCTUARY

THE FLYER

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WINTER/SPRING 2013





Mabel Norman Cerio

The **Norman Bird Sanctuary** was established in 1949 at the bequest of Mabel Norman Cerio. Its mission, under the charge of her will, was to maintain 235 acres of land "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."

Over the years, NBS has grown to include more than 325 acres of diverse habitats, and its mission remains true to Mabel Norman Cerio's original vision. Today, the mission of the Norman Bird Sanctuary is to preserve and protect its habitats and resources for the benefit of birds and other wildlife, and for people's education and enjoyment.

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Americorps Staff:

Danielle Leitao
Rachel Katler
Jennifer Sliney
Sydney Rose Davis

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www.NormanBirdSanctuary.org



Dear NBS Friend,

Here we are, putting together our "Winter" newsletter, and it is sunny and quite warm outside today. Go figure. Climate change is on our minds quite a bit these days here at NBS although we don't complain about the mild temperature, as we benefit from the warmth here on our property. In our hoop house, the greens have been planted and have begun to sprout in the warm, humid mini-climate that we have created. In about a month, we will be feasting on fresh lettuce, spinach and pea sprouts. We are very fortunate to have volunteers who have helped us create and maintain our garden and greenhouse area. Volunteerism is alive and well here at NBS! We have a small staff of 8 full-time employees and 4 Americorps volunteers who work as a team to oversee and implement all aspects of the Norman Bird Sanctuary. It would be impossible for us to welcome over 30,000 visitors a year, educate over 12,000 students, hold large scale events such as the Harvest Fair, or maintain 325 acres without the tremendous effort of scores of volunteers. That spirit of volunteerism never ceases to amaze me. There is rarely a day that I don't see someone embarking out on the trails to do some work. Every day, our educational animals are cared for by many dedicated volunteers who do an amazing job providing the highest level of care for their health, safety, and happiness. Their dedication reminds me that people do care, are committed to their community, and want to help. In fact, I hear over and over from our volunteers how they get a tremendous amount of satisfaction from being able to lend a hand. I am eternally grateful to all those who have done more than their share of work to make the Norman Bird Sanctuary what it is today. I invite you to reach out and see what kind of helping hand you can lend here at NBS, or at any of the amazing non-profits in our area who do wonderful work in our community. You might find that volunteerism does as much for your spirit as it has for mine!

Natasha Harrison, Executive Director



NBS Animal Ambassador
"Micah" - Barred Owl

News from NBS

Rachel Holbert, *Education Coordinator, OSEEC Site Supervisor*

Fall is a special time of year in the NBS Education Department. Not only do we lead seasonal hikes through the colorful leaves and brisk air, but we also welcome our new team of AmeriCorps volunteer members each year. Our small full-time staff of three is augmented by four AmeriCorps members. These talented people are part of the Ocean State Environmental Education Collaborative (OSEEC), which includes Roger Williams Park Zoo, Save the Bay, and the Audubon Society of RI as partners. OSEEC AmeriCorps members are college-educated, passionate about the environment, and committed to teaching children about nature.

This year, Danielle Leitao returns for a second year of service at NBS. She has a new-found love of organic gardening. Danielle designed and constructed a large composting system in conjunction with the Good Gardens project. She has also established a vermicompost bin, also known as a "worm bin," which has already been used in some environmental education programs.

Jenn Sliney is also a familiar face around the NBS campus, though this is her first year as an AmeriCorps member. Jenn was an energetic camp counselor during the 2012 summer season, and we look forward to many engaging school programs led by her in the future months. She has volunteered with the Aquidneck Land Trust, and currently enjoys working with our "Animal Ambassadors."

New AmeriCorps member, Rachel Katler, comes to us from Mass Audubon's Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary. She has great naturalist and teaching skills, and is working to expand her skill set to reflect the unique geology and other features of this area. Rachel's interest in creating custom rabbit enclosures for our furry Ambassadors will be an asset to the department.

Our fourth AmeriCorps member is new to New England, but not AmeriCorps. Sydney Davis has previously served in a Seattle-based Jumpstart AmeriCorps program, as well as a term with Youth Village in Georgia working with at-risk youth. She is actively learning the Eastern flora and fauna around NBS, and is interested in enrichment opportunities for the three snakes in our education animal collection.

This dynamic team will be going out to schools, libraries, and senior centers, as well as teaching on-site during camp, public programs, and other events. They are looking forward to teaching a wide variety of programs for students, ranging from Pre-K through high school. We invite you to come meet these sharp and energetic educators on your next visit to NBS!



TRAILS & TIDES

Joseph McLaughlin, *Director of Properties*

DUCK DUCK GOOSE

Counting birds for fun, research, and education is an activity that Norman Bird Sanctuary has participated in for over 60 years. To start out, each summer, 3-6 year old Chickadees and Fledglings (NBS campers), sit in a circle and duck-goose their way around and around. At our 30th annual Birds & Breakfast in 2012, NBS participants identified 46 species of birds on the 325 acre property. The tree swallow nest box program has been going on for two decades at NBS, providing nesting habitat for thousands of tree swallows returning from the Southern United States and South America in the spring. On Display in the loft of the NBS Barn Museum, is the Sturtevant Natural History Collection. This exhibit represents a sampling of birds & animals found on Aquidneck Island in the late 1800's and early 1900's. One of the first methods used to study birds by naturalists such as Audubon, Peterson, Sturtevant, and others, was to trap or shoot the specimen for closer observation, perform taxidermy, and display the mount; a practice that has greatly declined in America. The scientific information collected using this method, was beneficial to scientists and the lay person alike, and still provides an up-close look at hundreds of species of birds in the United States.



Today, data is collected from birds on Aquidneck Island and around the globe with less invasive practices. One example is The Christmas Bird Count (CBC). This event covers America, Canada, the Caribbean, and Latin America. The CBC count historically takes place between mid-December and the beginning of January. Each count circle chooses one day during this period to look high, low and in-between for feathered friends. The CBC has grown overall through the decades but has also waned in some regions. To give an idea of the scope, in 2012 there were 63,227 observers, in 2000 locations, finding 64,989,719 birds; 60,502,185 in America alone, and 2,298 species over all. In the United States, 666 species, and 48 infraspecific forms (some of those potential future splits), were identified.

A second great count, the Great Backyard Bird Count, is an annual 4-day event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds in order to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are hanging out. Beginning in 2013, each participant must set up a free GBBC account to submit their checklists. You'll only need to do this once to participate in all future GBBC events. As the count progresses, anyone with Internet access can explore what is being reported in their own town or anywhere in the world. Participants may also post photographs of the birds they see, for the GBBC photo contest. A selection of images are posted in the online photo gallery.

Everyone is welcome; from beginning bird watchers to experts. Birders may spend as little as 20 minutes just one day, or an entire day, each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy, and it helps the birds in the long run. Participants tally the number of individual birds of each species they see

during their count period. They enter these numbers on the GBBC website. The data helps scientists track broad scale movements of winter bird populations and long-term trends in bird distribution and abundance. **The 2013 GBBC will take place February 15th - February 18th.**

Another note-worthy count is Project Feeder Watch. It is a winter-long survey of birds that visit feeders in urban and suburban areas. Periodically the birds you see are counted at feeders from **November through early April**, and their counts are entered at the Project Feeder Watch website. This is operated by Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Bird Studies Canada.

Bird populations are constantly in flux. No single scientist or team of scientists could hope to document and understand the complex distribution and movements of so many species in such a short time. Scientists use the data along with observations from other citizen-science projects mentioned above, and eBird, to get the "big picture" of what is happening to bird populations. The longer these data are collected, the more meaningful they become in helping scientists investigate far-reaching questions.

How are bird diseases, such as West Nile Virus, affecting birds in different regions? What kinds of differences in bird diversity are apparent in cities versus suburban, rural, and natural areas? Why do some species appear in large numbers during some years but not others? How will the timing of birds' migrations compare with past years? What effects do pesticides have on the food these birds eat?

So, get involved. Start a count in your own yard or come volunteer at the Norman Bird Sanctuary and help us with ours. Remember: what we do in our own back yard affects our resident and migratory bird populations across the world.



photographs: Bob Weaver

Spotlight On The Rhode Island Foundation

Suzanne Garvin, *Director of Development*

The Rhode Island Foundation is one of the largest and oldest community foundations in the United States. Founded in 1916, the Foundation continues to this day to find solutions and promote positive change in our communities.

With a spirit of cooperation, their initiatives are improving our work here at the Norman Bird Sanctuary and shaping such key issues as:

Education: Through the Newport County Fund, Teen Green: NBS Environmental Service-Learning Collaborative, was able to expand programming for students in grades seven through twelve by providing high quality environmental service learning, stewardship-based programs, and reduced or no cost options for underserved Newport County residents. The Newport County Fund awards small grants for strategic assistance to nonprofits serving one or more of the six cities and towns of Newport County.

Environment: Maidford River Watershed Education Initiative. Current issues regarding the Maidford River, and its future, provide NBS an opportunity to inform and educate via our educational programs, and bring public awareness of the importance of our environment and the impact we can make every day – both negative and positive.

Animal Welfare: In support of our mission to teach thousands of children and adults about animal welfare and wildlife conservation, and to provide quality care to our educational animals by offsetting the costs of food, routine veterinary care, daily maintenance and enrichment training.

Strategic Planning: The Norman Bird Sanctuary Strategic Plan 2012-2017, will express our priorities, identify objectives, and outline measurable progress while reaching to attain these objectives. It will guide our annual planning. It is a statement of where we are headed and represents our commitment to serve our community through preservation and education.

The support of the Rhode Island Foundation to the Norman Bird Sanctuary has been and remains indispensable to our success. We are so appreciative of this special partnership.

The calendar is full of exciting times for experienced birders:

The excitement of the spring migration, the unpredictability of the fall migration and winter rarities; but the time of year that belongs to those who are interested in becoming birders is February and March. The same reasons making these two months perhaps the cruelest months of the year, are the same reasons this is the time to venture outdoors and discover the hardy birds that live here in the winter and see the changes they are undergoing in their lives.

The first thing we notice in February and March is that the days are appreciably longer. In response to the longer daylight hours, our winter birds are starting to experience the stirrings of the breeding season within them. The song sparrows and black-capped chickadees in the fields and woods of NBS begin to expand their vocal repertoire, from individual call notes to full songs ("Please, please put on the te-e-e-a kettle" and "fee-bee/spring's here" respectively). The common goldeneyes in the waters off Third Beach break out in their courtship ritual of kicking their heads back and forth at a pace and frequency that would create a worldwide

shortage of chiropractors if we humans were to attempt it.

Despite the longer days, February and March are still cold, raw, and subject to stormy weather. Again, this is another opportunity to meet and learn about the birds of winter. During the summer months, birds tend to travel in single species family units, as adults try to raise chicks and teach fledglings to survive on their own. In winter, a bird's focus becomes one of individual survival. This leads to the formation of mixed species flocks in the pursuit of food. Learn what a chickadee looks and sounds like, wait a few minutes, and you may be rewarded with the opportunity to learn what a tufted titmouse, white-breasted nuthatch, downy woodpecker and/or a golden-crowned kinglet look and sound like. There is nothing like a wet snowstorm in March to increase the density of these mixed species flocks. Plus, your view won't be obscured by those pesky leaves on the trees. Many of the "sightings" during the spring migration are actually identifications made through the song of a particular bird simply because it cannot be viewed through the foliage.

Too often, people who really want to get into birding wait until the warmer months of April and May to begin, only to become discouraged by the sheer volume of species and their related vocalizations. Of the nearly 300 species of birds that can reliably be seen in Rhode Island, many are only present in May. This is akin to attempting to run a marathon within a couple weeks of beginning to run. While conceivable, it is not recommended because a proper base or foundation has not been established. A wood thrush is easier to find in a bird book when one knows what its cousin, the American robin, looks like. Picking out the "witchety-witchety-witch" of the common yellowthroat's spring dawn chorus is much less daunting if you have learned the songs of the northern cardinal and white-throated sparrow over the preceding two months.

Jay Manning

Don't let the winter doldrums of February and March get you down. A world of excitement and discovery awaits you from outside your living room. The thrill of finding a new species of bird, or the feeling of satisfaction gained from identifying a bird through persistent observation is uplifting. Each bird added to one's life list represents an increase in both confidence and knowledge. For those who venture into birding through the slush of February and the wind of March, a sense of wonder will be kindled, and that wonder will explode into bloom with the arrival of the spring migrants in May.

The Norman Bird Sanctuary conducts free Sunday morning bird walks throughout the year. Led by expert birder, Jay Manning, walks are scheduled for February 3rd & 17th and March 3rd, 17th & 31st.



photographs: Bob Weaver

VACATION CAMP

Summer Camp is a longstanding tradition at the Norman Bird Sanctuary. This past summer marked our 53rd year of camp. Over 370 children from grades Pre-K through 12 joined us for 8 fun filled weeks of nature exploration, hikes, games, songs, crafts and much more. If your child missed out on the fun this summer, or just can't wait a whole school year to return, check out our exciting School Vacation Camps!

FEATHERED FRIENDS

Grades K - 6

February 18th - 22nd

8:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Monday - Friday

\$215; Registration opens mid-January

During this weeklong adventure, we'll learn all about our feathered friends. Campers will discover the unique characteristics of birds and how birds survive cold winters in Rhode Island through games, crafts, guided hikes, experiments and much more. We'll even do some bird watching of our own!

TEEN GREEN TEACHING CAMP

Grades 7 - 12

February 19th & February 21st

Tuesday & Thursday

8:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

\$90; Registration opens mid-January

During this two day program, campers will have the chance to share their love of nature with young children. On Tuesday, teens will work in groups to create nature related lesson plans to share with younger campers on Thursday. We'll also take time to enjoy the NBS property through hikes, games and teambuilding activities.



THE BLUE PLANET

Grades K - 6

April 15th - April 19th

Monday - Friday

8:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

\$215; Registration opens mid-January

Get ready for Earth Day during this weeklong celebration of the earth and its water. This action packed week will include pond and coastal exploration as we focus on the earth's water supply and the fascinating underwater world around NBS.

SUMMER CAMP

The Norman Bird Sanctuary offers day camp programs through the summer for children from age 3.5 through 18. Our age-appropriate and innovative camps offer a unique blend of hands-on learning, games, animal encounters and team building. Camp groups utilize our 325 acre outdoor classroom and are held in small groups with caring, enthusiastic and professional Teacher Naturalists.

SESSION DATES

Session 1: June 24 - June 28

Session 2: July 1 - 5 (no camp Thursday, July 4th)

Session 3: July 8 - 12

Session 4: July 15 - 19

Session 5: July 22 - 26

Session 6: July 29 - August 2

Session 7: August 5 - 9

Session 8: August 12 - 16

**FLEDGLINGS (3.5 - 5yrs)
& CHICKADEES (4 - 6yrs)**

Fledglings:

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Chickadees:

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

These half-day programs are the perfect introduction to camp for your young learner.

Together, we'll explore the Sanctuary's trails, beach and tidepools, meet education animals, listen to stories, play with puppets, create crafts, and sing songs.

Fledglings:

\$155 for Sessions 1, 3 - 8; \$125 for Session 2

Chickadees:

\$215 for Sessions 1, 3 - 8; \$175 for Session 2

NATURE DAY CAMP (Entering Grades K - 4)

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Join us in our 325-acre outdoor classroom, as we hike along trails, investigate life in and around ponds, get eye-to-eye with snakes and salamanders, and much more! All camps include hiking, songs, spirited group games, and a trip to Third Beach. Children are grouped by age and led by trained educators.

Nature Day:

\$215 for Sessions 1, 3 - 8; \$175 for Session 2

EXPLORERS (Entering Grades 4 - 6)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday Friday

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sessions 3, 4, 7, 8

These exciting sessions for older campers are filled with hiking, teambuilding activities, nature discovery, crafts, a trip to Sachuest Point, and a Wednesday evening campfire.

Explorers: \$240

COASTAL CAMPS

(Entering Grades 2 - 3; 4 - 6; 7 - 8)

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sessions 2 - 6, 8

In this popular program, campers have the opportunity to explore tide pools, catch fish, and conduct experiments at our newly furnished Third Beach Education Center. Our Coastal Camp is now offered for three different age groups in six one-week sessions.

Coastal Camps: \$245

Camp fee includes: 2 NBS Camp T-shirts

SUMMER CHALLENGE

(Entering Grades 5 - 6; 7 - 8)

Monday - Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday 12:00 p.m. - Friday 12:00 p.m.

Session 5: Entering Grades 5 - 6

Session 6: Entering Grades 6 - 8

This challenging camp for students entering grades 5-8 provides hiking, outdoor adventure, and an overnight experience at NBS! Monday and Tuesday follow the regular 9:00-3:00 schedule, but campers arrive on Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. for two nights of camping. This summer, we are offer two sessions of Summer Challenge; Session 5 is for campers entering Grades 5-6 and Session 6 is for campers entering Grades 7-8.

Summer Challenge: \$355; Camp fee includes NBS Camp T-shirt, overnight costs, transportation, and all outside program fees.

HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE CAMP

(Entering Grades 9 - 12)

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Session 7

Earn your service hours for school while having fun and helping your community! Traditional camp activities such as hiking, beach exploration, and paddling will make this an exciting week. Each week will include 3 off-site trips and approximately 15 hours of service.

High School Service Camp: \$295

Camp fee includes NBS Camp T-shirt, transportation, and all outside program fees

INTERESTED IN CAMP?

Program descriptions, weekly themes and additional information can be found on our website, www.normanbirds sanctuary.org

Online Registration opens
Friday, February 1st

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

WINTER/SPRING 2013

Registration required for all programs
401.846.2577

STORYTIME AT NBS

Every Other Friday, 10 - 11 a.m.

\$3 Members, \$6 Non-members

Surrounded by the beauty of NBS, each program will feature a story followed by a game, craft, or short hike.

January 25 - What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?

February 8 - The Bugliest Bug

February 22 - Owl Moon

March 8 - Animals in Winter

March 22 - Rainbow Crow

April 5 - In a Nutshell

April 19 - Dear Children of the Earth

May 3 - The Tiny Seed

May 17 - On One Flower: Butterflies,
Ticks and a Few More Icks

NBS UNPLUGGED

Third Sunday of every month, 12 - 1 p.m.

Free for Members and all Parents,

\$4 for Non-members

February 17 - Animal Tracks: Come look for clues of the critters here at NBS. We will travel down our Gray Craig trail keeping a sharp eye out for tracks and scat!

March 17 - Winter Shore: It may be winter time, but the beaches are still full of life! With warm clothes and binoculars, we will learn how to identify some of our favorite birds at Third Beach.

April 21 - SPECIAL EARTH DAY UNPLUGGED:

Join us for a presentation on how Rhode Island wildlife is being affected by litter. Meet a live turtle and discuss ways we can all help to keep our habitats safe and clean.

May 19 - Nature Journaling: If you like creative writing and being outdoors, this Unplugged program is for you. Make a nature journal of your own and head out on to Red Fox Ridge to write a short story from the point of view of an NBS Tree. If we like your story it may even end up on our Facebook page!



OWL PROWL

February 1, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

\$8 Members, \$10 Non-members

Winter months are the best time to go out in search of owls. During this time of year they are hooting and screeching in search of mates, in defense of their territories, and are preparing for the nesting season. The program will start indoors where you will learn about the different species of owls in Rhode Island, and their unique adaptations. You will then be introduced to one of our birds of prey. Following the presentation, we will head out on the trails in search of owls. This program is appropriate for ages 8 and up.

LANGUAGE OF LOVE

Wednesday, February 13, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

\$4 Members, \$7 Non-members

Discover the bizarre and fascinating world of animal mating rituals during this not-so-romantic Valentine's Day tribute. Appropriate for ages 12 and up.

BEAUTY AND THE BEES

Thursday, February 21, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

\$7 Members, \$10 Non-members

Here is your chance to learn some natural, organic ways to stay beautiful with recipes that have been used for centuries. You will make your own facial scrub, lotion, and hair conditioner and will learn all about the benefits of bees and honey.

WOODCOCK WALK WITH A TWIST

Friday, March 8, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

\$6 Members, \$8 Non-members

Join Education Coordinator, Rachel Holbert, for an indoor slide show on woodcocks, followed by an evening interpretive walk to witness the wonderful "sky dance" of this amazing, aerial acrobat. This program is appropriate for ages 8 and older. Space is limited, so please call to register in advance. For a twist, we will have snacks and drinks for all, including adult beverages for those over 21 to enjoy during the indoor presentation.

EYES ON AMPHIBIANS

Thursday, March 28, 5:30 - 7 p.m.

\$4 Members, \$7 Non-members

Kim Botelho and Nicole Souza will lead this evening of amphibian fun. Learn all about the natural history of amphibians, which species can be found in Rhode Island, meet our frog and toad animal ambassadors, then hike out to Red Maple Pond to listen for frog calls and search for egg masses. Appropriate for ages 7 and up.

CARE FOR SOME BUNNY

Saturday, April 6, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

\$4 Members, \$7 Non-members

Spring is here and we will soon be seeing baby Cottontail rabbits. Join NBS Educator, Beth Alaimo, for an in-depth look at the natural history of wild rabbits and learn what you should do if you find stranded babies in your yard. During this one-hour program, learn about the importance of rabbits in the wild, including the endangered New England Cottontail, then meet one of our own animal ambassador rabbits up-close. A bunny craft will be included in the program. Appropriate for ages 7 and up.

CONSCIOUS CRAFTING

Thursday, April 18, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

\$6 Members, \$10 Non-members

Join Education Director, Kim Botelho, for an afternoon of creative crafting using recycled and reusable materials. In honor of Earth Day, we'll explore the spectrum of reusing and transforming ordinary objects and materials into treasured keepsakes and functional art. Learn how to make envelopes, paper bead jewelry, magnets and more. This is a perfect time to make an early Mother's Day gift. Appropriate for ages 8 and up if accompanied by an adult.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Save the Date - Saturday, April 20

This event will include a beach clean-up, composting workshop, and more.

Watch for details!

MOTHER'S DAY TEA AND TURTLES

Sunday May 12, 10 - 11:30 a.m.,

\$8 Members, \$10 Non-members

Moms and Children under 3 are FREE

Join NBS for our 3rd Annual Mother's Day Tea and Turtles. Bring your entire family and join us for tea, coffee, scones, and other treats. While you enjoy breakfast, you'll have the opportunity to see several of our live turtles up close and learn about their home ranges, adaptations, and interesting turtle facts. Following the presentation, we'll take a leisurely stroll to the pond and back.

IN SEARCH OF HORSESHOE CRABS

Wednesday, May 22, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

\$4 Members, \$7 Non-members

Horseshoe crabs congregate on shores across RI during the full moon high tides of May and June in order to lay their eggs. Join Director of Education, Kim Botelho, for a discussion on the unique history and adaptations of this local ancient mariner. The presentation will begin at the Third Beach Education Center. The group will then head out for a hike along Third beach in search of these fascinating animals. Appropriate for ages 8 and up.





FIRE AND FIREFLIES!

Thursday, June 6, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

\$5 Members, \$7 Non-members

Are your favorite memories from childhood catching fireflies in early summer? Come to NBS for a special nighttime presentation and hike, as we unlock the secret world of these mysterious creatures. In this program, we will explain the flashing patterns and mating techniques of these awesome insects and explain how you could become an integral piece of the puzzle as a citizen scientist! After our hike, we'll make a fire of our own, roast marshmallows, and tell campfire stories.

FATHER'S DAY HIKING AND HAMBURGERS

Saturday June 15, 11:30 - 1:00 p.m.

\$10 Members, \$12 Non-members

Dads and Children under 3 are FREE

Begin Father's Day weekend with an interpretive hike along the scenic trails of Norman Bird Sanctuary. Following the hike, we will gather by the studio for a cookout with hamburgers, hot dogs, salad, and much more. The entire family is welcome and Dads are free-of-charge. Vegetarian options are available.

ECOTOURS

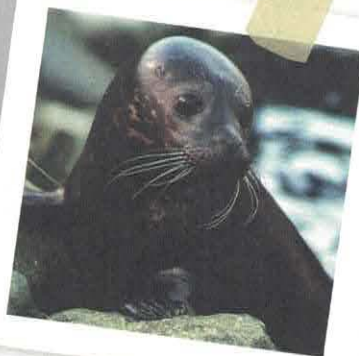
CT River Eagles Trip

Saturday, February 16, 6:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

\$60 Members, \$70 Non-members

Rain date: February 23

The Connecticut River has long been recognized as a winter gathering spot for bald eagles. Travel with the Norman Bird Sanctuary to observe these majestic birds as they soar over the water, or as we observed one winter, catch a ride on a raft of ice! Warm clothing and appropriate footwear is required. Please bring a bag lunch and binoculars.



SEAL TOUR TO PRUDENCE ISLAND

Saturday, March 9, 9:30 - 4:30 p.m.

\$70 Members, \$80 Non-members

Rain date: March 23

Join Kim Botelho, NBS Director of Education, for a day trip to one of Rhode Island's most beautiful islands. Upon arrival, we will head to the south end to see the seals. We will then go to the Narragansett Bay Research Reserve for lunch and to check out their learning center. Afterwards, we will tour the island in search of waterfowl and scenic vistas. We will also walk the beautiful sunset trail on the west side. Price includes all transportation costs. Please dress appropriately and bring your lunch, camera, and binoculars.

ANNUAL SPRING MIGRATION TRIP

Save the Date - Saturday, May 8th

Watch for Details!



2013 NBS ANNUAL EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar!



SUNDAY, MAY 19TH: 31st Annual Birds & Breakfast - A perfect way to spend a spring morning with guided bird walks, activities for children, and a legendary fresh breakfast buffet prepared by local Executive Chefs!



SATURDAY, JUNE 15TH: 7th Annual 5K Run, Walk, and Kid's Run - Voted "Best 5K Race" by Rhode Island Monthly, this scenic run begins and ends at NBS. Prizes awarded for all age groups. Frosty Freez sponsors the very popular Kid's race. A great way to begin the Father's Day weekend!



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH & SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH : 39th Annual Harvest Fair - The most anticipated fall fair in the area with food, children's entertainment, music, games, crafts, country store, home & garden competition, pony rides, hay rides, and more! Come make this a tradition in your own family!



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26TH: NBS Annual Meeting & Appreciation Party. NBS's success depends on the generous participation of many people. To show our gratitude, NBS throws a thank you party after the Annual Meeting. All members, volunteers, and friends are welcome!



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH: Holly Days - Celebrate the holiday season with fun, family activities including nature crafts, Mabel's Polar Express, stories by the fireside, marshmallow toasting over an open fire, games, and more!



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Middletown, RI 02842

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