



The Norman Bird Flyer

Volume 17, No. 1

Spring 1996

Wild Canines of Aquidneck Island

For thousands of years wild canines have roamed throughout our continent. Wolves, foxes, coyotes and wild dogs have been a part of life throughout the United States, New England, and Aquidneck Island. Part of the same family of Canidae, the domestic dog possesses many of the

same qualities, characteristics and instincts as its more wild counterpart, the wolf. The stalking, hunting, play and sleep behaviors we find endearing in our own pets have also been observed in canines in the wild.



Upcoming Special Events

*Feather Your Nest Auction
Birds & Breakfast*

Environmental Programs

*Birding by Ear
Preschoolers with Parents
Spring Egg Hunt
April Vacation Week
Geology of Hanging Rock
Spring Nature Club
World Astronomy Day
Down to Earth Day
Seashore Exploration
Spring Night Hike
Native American Medicine Bag
Salt Marsh Exploration
Wild Medicinal Herb Walk*

And Much More Inside...

Although gone from Aquidneck Island and Rhode Island for several centuries, the Gray Wolf was plentiful and caused considerable trouble for the colonists here in Newport County. Over 350 years ago it was recorded in *A Key into the Language of America* that Roger Williams consulted with the Narragansett Indians concerning the control of wolves on Aquidneck Island. Wolves were said not to be compatible with civilization and were greatly feared. Most towns paid a bounty for wolves and they were consistently

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(Canines - cont'd from pg. 1)

hunted. Edward H. West mentioned in a paper given before the Fall River Historical Society on May 27th, 1935 of a record stating that many sheep were killed by wolves in Portsmouth, Rhode Island during the winter of 1633. Extensive trapping, poisoning and hunting drove the Gray Wolf out of Rhode Island and eventually most of the United States.

A cousin of the wolf and also a member of the Canidae family is the Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*). The fox poses little threat to man and therefore has been able to maintain its niche on Aquidneck Island. The Red Fox resembles a small, slim dog with a narrow muzzle, pointed ears, reddish coat with a long bushy white-tipped tail and usually weighs between 10 and 15 pounds.

It's rare that we are able to observe creatures in their natural habitat, especially predators. We usually catch sight of one in the beam of our headlights while driving home at an early evening hour. The Red Fox favors urban and suburban areas to those of wilderness. Largely a nocturnal hunter, the Red Fox avoids contact with human beings, aiding in its survival.

Early this winter some of the NBS staff were able to take advantage of one of those rare opportunities to observe fox behavior in its natural habitat. As we were hiking the trails at the intersection of the Main Trail and the Quarry Trail, not 50 yards from us, was a beautiful Red Fox feasting on a bird that it had found or caught. The sun was in its eyes and the wind was in our favor because it did not see us for about five minutes. Not sensing danger, the fox stayed in our path eating its prey. Eventually, we were discovered and the fox trotted off toward the adjoining field to finish its meal.

Within the past 2 years, we have witnessed the introduction of a new

canine resident to Aquidneck Island, the coyote (*Canis latrans*). Coyotes are believed to have travelled over the Mount Hope Bridge or across the frozen Narragansett Bay during the extremely cold winter two years ago. Since their arrival, sightings have become increasingly more common.

Eastern Coyotes are somewhat larger than the Western Coyote weighing about 35 to 40 pounds. Coyotes vary in color. The coyotes I observed have had buff or light fawn on the face and underparts with a dark brown to black coloring on the back and top of the tail. The fur color blend is mixed giving it a grizzled appearance. They have large, pointed ears with thin muzzles and a ruff of fur around their face, and in the flash of an eye, can easily be mistaken for a medium sized dog.

I have spotted coyotes crossing the property where I live more than a dozen times within the past year. Perhaps I have seen the same one repeatedly, for I have never seen it in pairs or as a family unit. I can tell from its behavior and appearance that it is definitely a coyote (it helps to know that others have been sighted in the general area). The formation of coyote packs is rare. When they find a mate, a coyote will stay with the same mate for a long period of time, sometimes for life.

Coyotes communicate through vocal expressions and scent marking. Their bark is different from that of dogs. It has a much higher pitch and almost sounds like a scream rather than a bark. Their diet consists of a wide variety of small mammals such as mice, squirrels and rabbits, and unlike their smaller cousins, the Red Fox, birds make up only a small part of their regular diet.

Continued on pg. 8

Director's Report

NBS & THE OIL SPILL

We all watched in horror as the environmental crisis of the North Cape oil spill unfolded. Like many Rhode Islanders, the NBS staff wanted to assist in any way possible. In order to help afflicted wildlife, some of the NBS staff attended a special training session and assisted the US Fish and Wildlife Service by combing the beaches of South County to retrieve oiled birds, alive or dead. Dead birds were entered into evidence for damage assessment. In addition to scheduled "shifts" on the beaches of South County, we were also poised to respond quickly if oiled birds began showing up on Aquidneck Island's shores.

Other NBS staff participated in a preliminary survey of birds, organized by the RI Audubon Society, along the coast of Aquidneck Island, and Jamestown. The bird count was done in order to assess the number of birds that might be affected if the oil slick had drifted to this area when the wind shifted to the southwest and drove the oil eastward.

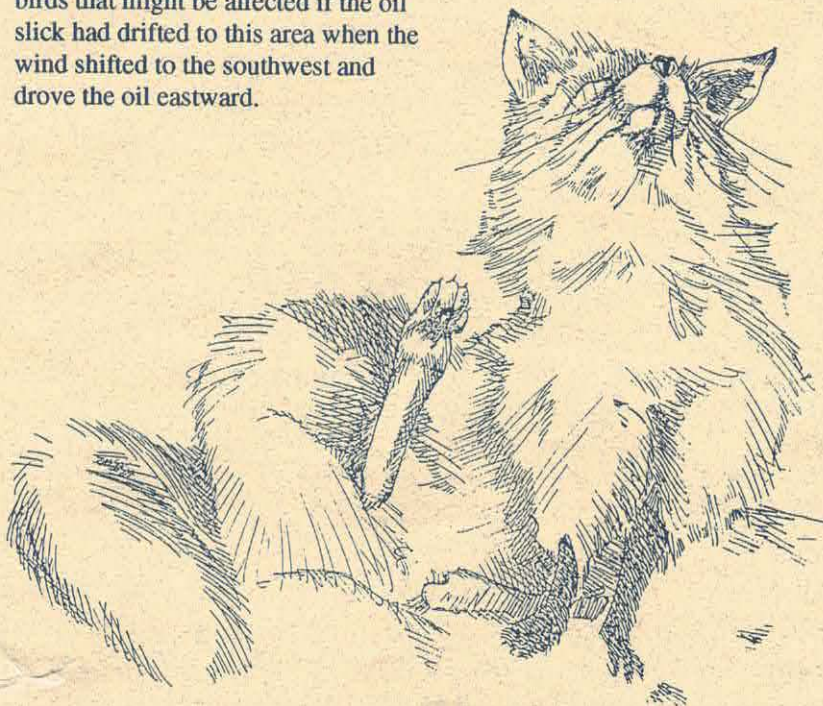
We all watched in horror as the environmental

We were glad to be called upon to assist in what way we could in this crisis, we applaud the well organized efforts the many agencies and volunteers involved.

WILDLIFE PLANTINGS

Visitors to the Norman Bird Sanctuary will be treated to two new attractions this Spring. First, in the field formerly occupied by the community gardens there will soon be a "Wildlife Garden". The area will be planted with sunflower, millet, and other plants bearing seeds that attract birds as well as flowering plants to attract humming birds and butterflies. This "garden" will also be the first stop along a new 1/2 mile long self-guided trail, which will interpret the natural features along a path, that follows the quarry trail, down to Maple Swamp Pond and back up to Indian Rock. The installation of these two new features is scheduled to begin as soon as the weather permits.

Visitors to the Norman Bird Sanctuary will be treated to



SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Program participants will work in a crew of 4-6 teens (ages 14-17) in trail maintenance and wildlife conservation projects for a period of 4 weeks under the guidance of a program supervisor.

Applicants should be at least 14 years old, have an interest in natural history, and be able to perform vigorous outdoor work.

The position is 20 hours per week, Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. The wage is \$4.50/hour. Please call the Sanctuary office at 846-2577 or stop by to pick up an application. Application deadline is April 30, 1996.

TEACHER NATURALISTS

Teacher/Naturalists are needed to work with children in grades K-7 in a summer day camp. Responsibilities include planning and carrying out a well-rounded program in natural history, Native American lore, nature crafts, sensory awareness, group cooperation, problem solving, and adventure activities for a group of approximately ten to twelve children per week.

The position is 35 hours per week and runs from June 17th to August 23rd. The salary is \$7.50 per hour. Please submit a resume and references by April 19th for consideration.

Environmental Programs

Preschoolers with Parents

Day: Wednesday

Dates: Session 1 - April 3, 10, 17, 24

Session 2 - May 1, 8, 15, 22

Time: 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Fee: \$25 Non-Members per session

\$20 Members per session

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Explore nature with short walks, simple nature crafts, stories, songs and lots of joy and silliness. With teacher Marilyn Lyell, kids ages 3 and 4 are sure to have fun! These one hour programs meet weekly for four weeks and will explore the Bird Sanctuary in Spring. Please be sure to dress for the weather!

Fledglings (No parent required)

Day: Wednesday

Dates: Session 1 - April 3, 10, 17, 24

Session 2 - May 1, 8, 15, 22

Time: 9:30 - 11:00 am

Fee: \$25 Non-Member per Session

\$20 Member per Session

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

This fun program with teacher Marybeth Hunte, is geared for those 4 and 5 year olds who are ready to venture out on their own. Games, nature stories, crafts and hikes along the Sanctuary's trails will be featured in this nature exploration class. The one and a half hour class meets weekly for four weeks.

Spring Egg Hunt For Members Only

Date: Saturday, April 6th

Time: 1:00 pm

Fee: \$7 per child, \$11 per family

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

It is time once again to celebrate the return of Spring and warm weather! Come and join us for our annual Spring Egg Hunt. Search the orchard, barn and upper trails for chocolate eggs and other goodies. Special "Earth Eggs" will be filled with earth-friendly surprises. Children ages 3-10 may participate in this members-only Sanctuary event. Please bring your own collecting basket. Early registration is suggested for this popular event.

April Vacation Week

Date: April 16th -19th

Time: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Fee: \$50 Non-Members, \$40 Members

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

With all of the snow we've had this past winter, let's not forget how exciting Spring is! Birds are migrating, insect eggs are hatching, and trees and plants are budding. Spend Spring vacation at the NBS; Spring only comes once a year! Open to grades K-4.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Unless stated otherwise, pre-registration is required for programs. Fees for programs requiring registration must be paid in advance by cash, check or Mastercard/Visa. Registration can be made by mail or by phone (with credit card payments). **Fees will be refunded in full up to five days before the program. With less than five days notice, fees will be refunded only if you can be replaced with a person from the waiting list.** Please use the registration form on page 13 if registering by mail.

(Programs Continued)

Spring Nature Club

Day: Saturdays

Dates: April 13, 20, 27, & May 4, 11, 18, 25

Time: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Fee: \$84/session or \$15/class Non-Member
\$70/session or \$12/class Member

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Spring is a wonderful time of the year to explore the Sanctuary. Become a member of our Saturday morning Nature Club and enjoy crafts, stories and a lot of energetic hiking. These classes are open to children in grades K-4. Nature Club will be held rain or shine, so please dress for the weather.

April 13th

Wolves, Coyotes & Foxes

The fascinating world of canines in the wild

April 20th

Down to Earth Day

Learn some fun easy ways to become more earth friendly

April 27th

Puddingstone Play

Become a junior geologist and learn about this fantasiticrock

May 4th

Birds are Back!

Find out who's back in town and how they build their nests

May 11th

Big on Bugs

A search for our warm weather friends

May 18th

Puddlin' around the Pond

Pond exploration with nets and microscopes

* May 25th

Seashore Scavengers

Hike to the Third Beach and explore crabtown and shoreline

* This is not a swimming trip. Please bring an extra pair of shoes that can get wet, a small towel and something to drink. Children will not be allowed in crabtown with bare feet. Please pick up at Third Beach.

Geology of Hanging Rock

Date: Saturday, April 13th

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Fee: \$6 Non-Member, \$4 Member

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

ADULT PROGRAM

The geology of southeastern Aquidneck Island is both beautiful and wonderfully unique. The 250 million year old rock formation called Hanging Rock has a very long earth history and it has fascinated geologists, artists and nature lovers for more than two centuries. Join us for a field trip out to this ridge and learn about the powerful forces which helped create this prominent landmark. Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable hiking shoes.



Drumlin Farm Trip

Date: Sunday, April 14th

Time: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Fee: \$5 Adults

\$3 Children 3-15 and Seniors

Free to children under 3

\$1 per person charge for optional hay ride.

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

FAMILY PROGRAM

Come explore Drumlin Farm in Lincoln, MA as Spring begins. Drumlin Farm is a working farm with barns full of sheep, chickens, cows, pigs and horses, and with gardens and hayfields that will delight the nature lover in all of us. The new Spring lambs and baby chicks will have just arrived. The special program offering for the day is "What are toads and what are they singing about?" Our group will meet at the Norman Bird Sanctuary parking lot, and caravan up to the Farm (approx. 1 hour). A brief introduction will be followed by plenty of time for exploration.

(programs continued)

Earth Day Clean-up



Date: Saturday, April 20th

Time: 12:00 noon - 4:00 pm

Fee: FREE to Members and Non-Members

Pre-registration required

FAMILY PROGRAM

Earth Day is coming on Monday, April 22nd. Why not spruce up our local environment a few days before with the Norman Bird Sanctuary's Earth Day Clean-up? We will supply the trash bags and refreshments. We will be cleaning the Sanctuary grounds and our boundaries along Third Beach and Hanging Rock Roads. Let's all pitch in for Earth Day 1996!

World Astronomy Day

Saturday, April 20, 1996

3:00 PM

Gaudet School Planatarium, Middletown

FREE to the Public

Come and enjoy solar viewing, computer software demonstrations, telescope displays, astrophotography & much more. Following, join astronomy enthusiasts at NBS for night sky viewing.

For more information, call 846-6395

Seashore Exploration



Date: Saturday, May 4th

Time: 2:00 pm

Fee: \$6 Non-Member, \$4 Member

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

FAMILY PROGRAM

The warm weather is back and a day at the beach is not far away. Come and explore the rocky and sandy seashore with NBS Nature Guide Susan Kevin. Susan has been leading seashore walks for several years and is an expert at finding and identifying just about anything which washes up onto the beach. Seaweeds, seashells, crustaceans, smelly fish; you find it, Susan will identify it! Sign-up now before the Summer crowds swarm our beaches. Please wear old sneakers or water shoes.

Down to Earth Day

Date: Saturday, May 11th

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Fee: \$10 Non-Members, \$8 Members

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

We can't forget that every day is Earth Day! Let's celebrate by taking a Spring hike down to the salt marsh. Using a sein net, we will get a closer look at the animals which live in this fascinating ecosystem. Make sure to wear old clothes and shoes that can get wet. Grades 2-5.

Spring Night Hike

Date: Thursday, May 16th

Time: 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Fee: \$10 Non-Member Family

\$8 Member Family

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

FAMILY PROGRAM

There is nothing quite like a stroll through the Sanctuary on an evening in May. Join us while we identify the sounds, sights and smells of a warm Spring night. The Sanctuary is open at night only for special programs, so don't miss this great opportunity!

Native American Medicine Bag

Date: Saturday, May 18th

Time: 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Fee: \$15 Member, \$10 Member

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Please join us for a very special program with Native American Indian Julie Jennings (Strong Woman) of the Aquidneck Indian Council as she teaches us about the Native American Indian Medicine Bag. Create your very own personal Medicine Bag and then walk through the Sanctuary's forest and fields with Strong Woman collecting natural elements from the Earth and placing them in your newly made Medicine Bag. Open to Grades K-4.

(Programs continued)

Call It By Its Indian Name

Date: Saturday, May 25th

Time: 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Fee: \$10 Non-Member, \$8 Member

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

FAMILY PROGRAM

Learn the names of the trees, rocks and birds from the local American Indians. Nature will come alive for you when Native American educators Strong Woman and her husband Moon Dancer of The Aquidneck Indian Council lead you along the trails of the Norman Bird Sanctuary. How exciting it is to learn the language of North America's first people. Strong Woman and Moon Dancer are currently completing the book, *Understanding Algonquian Indian Words*.

Birding By Ear

Date: Sunday, May 26th

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Fee: \$6 Non-Member, \$4 Member

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

ADULT PROGRAM

Join us for an afternoon of bird songs. In the summer when plant life is full and green, it can be quite difficult to spot a bird. Can you identify a bird without having seen it? Let's find out!! This is a great way to sharpen your identification skills.

Pond Safari

Date: Saturday, June 1st

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 am

Fee: \$10 Non-Member Family

\$8 Member Family

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

FAMILY PROGRAM

Sunlight glistens on the pond, insects flying all around....Have you ever wondered where all the insects started out? In our pond, of course! Many flying insects spend a great deal of their lives as aquatic creatures and play an important role in the food chain. Be prepared to meet these minute wonders up close and personal. Please wear shoes that can get wet.



Wild Medicinal Herb Walk

Date: Wednesday, June 19th

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Fee: \$4 Non-members, Free for Members

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

ADULT PROGRAM

Summer is near and it's time to explore the Sanctuary forest and field for wild medicinal plants which may be used for simple home remedies. Wildcrafting techniques will be discussed for the proper gathering and storing of herbs. Handouts of local herbs and herbal recipes for salves, liniments and teas will be supplied. Dress for the weather, and wear comfortable hiking shoes. Insect repellent recommended.

Salt Marsh Exploration

Date: Wednesday, June 26th

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Fee: \$4 Non-Members, Free for Members

Pre-registration and pre-payment required

FAMILY PROGRAM



Life in and around the salt-marsh is quite amazing. Serving as a nursery for countless numbers of fish and shellfish, this ecosystem is important to fishermen and all seafood lovers! The surrounding grasses are equally important, producing nutrient rich soils and breaking down pollutants. Join us for a summer evening of seining and meet some of the salt marsh's incredible inhabitants!

Astronomical Society of Southern New England Viewing Dates at NBS

April 20 at 7:30 pm

April 26 at 7:30 pm

May 24 at 8:00 pm

June 28 at 8:30 pm

July 26 at 8:30 pm

Join Astronomical Society members as they explore the Spring and Summer skies!

ANIMAL PAUSE

BY
DANA CHROSTOWSKI

This has been a beautiful but difficult winter. We have had countless cross-country skiers, snowshoers, and hikers at the Sanctuary enjoying the snow covered trails. The abundance of animal tracks draws my thoughts to thinking about how animals survive such a brutal season. The winter helps keep our animal life healthy. Many old or sick animals perish during the harshness of winter. Only the strong and healthy will survive to produce and raise young.

Extra care must be given to our animals at the Sanctuary and at home during winter's bitterly cold days. You can help by bringing in pets which spend most of their time outdoors such as rabbits, cats, or dogs. Providing a water source and dry seed for birds is also helpful.

One of our most treasured animals did not survive this season. Our only remaining raptor passed away during the Blizzard of '96. Sachuest, our Red-tailed hawk, was known by all who visited the Sanctuary. She was brought to NBS in 1986 after a careless hunter shot her. Her wing was left permanently damaged rendering her flightless for the rest of her life. Sachuest lived at the Sanctuary for 10 years, enriching both visitors and our education programs.

Many animals are injured every year due to human influence, just as Sachuest was. In the near future we are hoping to acquire two more birds to aid in our educational programs. They will be raptors that are permanently disabled and can not be rehabilitated for release back into the wild. Be sure to watch future newsletters for notices regarding new arrivals.



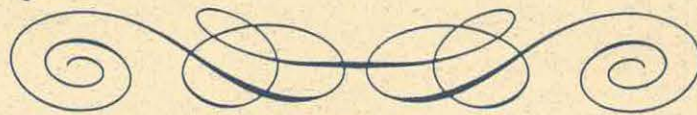
(Canine Article Cont'd)

Many claim that the coyote is one of the smartest wild animals in North America. This seems so since it has lived on Aquidneck Island relatively unseen and undetected. In fact most people I've spoken with did not even know of their presence here. What future do the wild Canines of Aquidneck Island have? I hope not the same as the Grey Wolf's 350 years ago.

Article written
by
Dede Forker
NBS Education Specialist

References

God's Dog
The Mammals of Rhode Island
A Guide to Animal
Tracking and Behavior



Spring Wildlife Tips

1. If you find a baby bird (not yet ready to fly), place it back in its nest (birds do not have a good sense of smell). If the nest can not be located, or you can't reach it, a make-shift nest can be made and placed in a tree or bush in close proximity to where the nest is believed to be. The parents will care for two separate nests.
2. If you find a baby bird that appears to have most of its feathers, you may have found a fledgling bird, or one that is just learning how to fly. Make sure the bird is not in immediate danger and leave it where it is. Even though it appears to be abandoned, the bird's parents are in the trees directing and protecting it. It will soon be flying on its own.
3. Although the Sanctuary will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the care of wildlife, we are not equipped as a rehabilitation center, and are therefore unable to care for injured wildlife. When you find an injured animal it is most often best to leave the animal where it is. The circle of life depends on these animals to continue through the food chain.
4. Remember that keeping wildlife in captivity is against the law!

UPCOMING
SPECIAL EVENTS

Feather Your Nest Auction

Friday, April 26th

With Auctioneer
**Charlie Hall of the
Ocean State Follies**



7:30 Silent Auction & Preview
8:30 Live Auction

From a week in Kiawah Island, South Carolina to bareboat charters, camps for kids and gardening packages, there is something for everyone. Come join us for an enjoyable evening and help support the Norman Bird Sanctuary!

Limited Seating is available

To purchase tickets, please use order form on page 13 or you may order over the phone by credit card.

Ticket Price
\$15.00 per person
\$25.00 per couple

Sunday, May 19th

A spring morning of guided bird walks, bird exhibits and educational activities for the entire family. After your walk, join us for a scrumptious breakfast buffet.



Birdwalks Begin at 6:30 am and Breakfast Seatings Are
7:30 8:30 9:30 & 10:30

Tickets may be purchased in advance by using the registration form on page 13 or over the phone with a credit card.

Ticket Price
Adults: \$8.00 (\$10 at the door)
Children: \$4.00 (under 3 free)

ALL PAID TICKETS WILL BE HELD AT THE DOOR

WELCOME TO ALL OF OUR NEW MEMBERS

Thank you to all of our joining (and rejoining) members for making our first membership drive such a success!

STUDENT

Samantha Berger
Judy J. Elsbury
Melanie Flowers
Eric Kravitz
Karl W. Nelson

INDIVIDUALS

Carol Allwell
Edward Anderson, Jr.
Jen Andersen
Marguerite Bailey
Joan Bartram
Elisabeth Breed
Thomas Brown
Richard Child
Robert Cilette
Matthew Coffin
Mary Comeau
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Mr. & Mrs. Peter Dunn



National Volunteer Week April 21st - 27th

The Norman Bird Sanctuary wishes to take this opportunity to thank the hundreds of volunteers who make managing this refuge possible. Some we see every week and some only once a year, but every hour you give does make a difference and allows the NBS staff to accomplish so much more than we ever thought possible.

If you would like to join our volunteer team, take a look at the opportunities available on this page and then call the NBS office for more information.

Visitor Center

A great opportunity for a people person to spend part of his/her weekend greeting our visitors, making store sales, as well as helping with a variety of other office and store related jobs if willing. Needed on weekends.

Trail Rangers

Head out on the NBS trails on a Spring weekend with a walkie-talkie and first-aid kit to assist visitors with questions and directions. With our small staff, Rangers perform an invaluable service in keeping our trails safe and looking for trouble spots.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of the following volunteers who made it possible for the Norman Bird Sanctuary to be present at the Rhode Island Flower Show. It was a great opportunity for us and would not have been possible without the help of Fran Holmes, Jean Smith, Jane Burdick, Ginny Hinds, Cheryl Cox, Doris & Fred Midgley, Lauren Carson, Mary Louise Taft, Jocelyn Sherman, Marianne Tomassone, Marybeth Hunte, Callie Clarke, Mary Talbot, Morag Charmatz, and Karin Lucci.

Stonewall Builder

Do you have experience or expertise in building stone walls? If you do, there is a spot at NBS for you. There are several old stonewalls in need of repair/rebuilding and your experience would be invaluable to insure they are reassembled correctly.

Teacher Naturalist Assistants

Are you a teen looking for something fun and challenging to do during your summer vacation? If you are, then you might want to consider applying to be a Teacher Naturalist Assistant (TNA) with our summer camp program. A love of the outdoors and working with children is all you need. Please call for more information and to arrange an interview.

Trail Maintenance

Are you stuck behind a desk all week, or just love being outside? Here is your chance to get out in the sunshine and help NBS at the same time. Work with caretaker Nikki Hinds to maintain our beautiful trails, clearing brush, repairing boardwalks, rebuilding stone walls, etc. You can work out a flexible schedule with Nikki or call to sign up to work on one of the Stewardship Days listed below.

Saturdays
9am to 12 noon
April 13th
May 18th
June 15th

The Barn Owl Shop Welcomes Spring!

Open during Sanctuary hours, Tuesday through Sunday 9 am to 5 pm.

Kid's Binoculars

These rugged, red plastic binoculars are perfect for the beginning bird watcher. They come complete with carrying cord and lens protectors. The perfect companion to Peterson's First Guide to Birds.

Only \$10.25!



Folkmanis Finger Puppets

These adorable finger puppets are perfect for your child's Easter basket! Choose from a ladybug, bumble bee, spider, turtle, rabbit in hat or the brand new monarch butterfly and multi-colored frog.

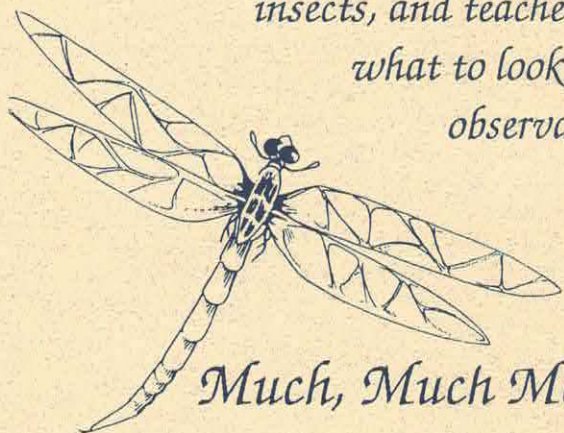
Priced from \$3 to \$6.



The Bug Bottle and Book

As we welcome Spring,
we welcome the return of BUGS!

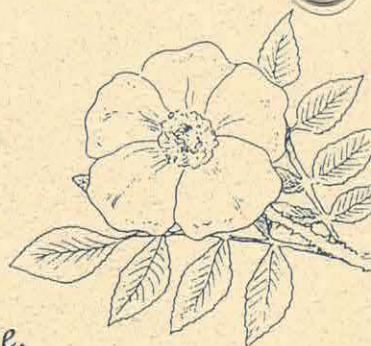
The Bug Bottle and Bug Book provides an excellent introduction to the Order Insecta. This illustrated field guide and activity book introduces 24 of the most common insects, and teaches your child what to look for during observation. \$9.95



Get a head start
on summer! Plant
flowers in your own
miniature Green House.

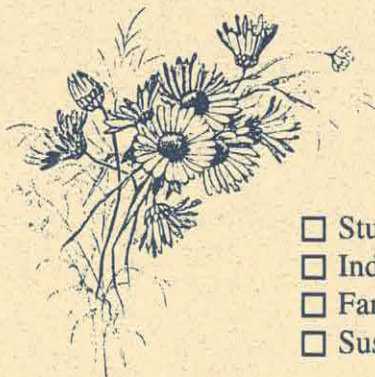
The complete Green House Kit includes seeds, peat packets, green house and a book that describes how to sow, grow and tend your plants.

\$11.95



Much, Much More Available! Come Visit us Today!

REGISTRATION/MEMBERSHIP FORM



PLEASE JOIN US!
NBS Membership Form

- ☐ Student (\$10)
- ☐ Individual (\$20)
- ☐ Family (\$30)
- ☐ Sustaining (\$50)

- ☐ Patron/Business (\$100)
- ☐ Supporting (\$250)
- ☐ Benefactor (\$500)
- ☐ Osprey Circle (\$1,000)

ADDRESS & PAYMENT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Phone #: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Form of Payment: CHECK VISA MASTERCARD

Card # _____ Exp. _____

Signature: _____

Please Make Check Payable to: Norman Bird Sanctuary
583 Third Beach Road, Middletown, RI 02842

Program Fees \$ _____
Membership \$ _____
Auction Tickets \$ _____
Birds & Breakfast*
Adult Tickets \$ _____
Child Ticket \$ _____

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

*Seating Time: 7:30 8:30 9:30 10:30

Please Register the Following:

Name	Age & Grade	Program	Fee
_____ Name	_____ Age & Grade	_____ Program	_____ Fee
_____ Name	_____ Age & Grade	_____ Program	_____ Fee
_____ Name	_____ Age & Grade	_____ Program	_____ Fee

Please list any medical conditions/problems we should be aware of including allergies & medications:

Waiver: In the event that I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give my permission to the Norman Bird Sanctuary staff or medical personnel to take emergency measures as necessary.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

OR TO CURRENT RESIDENT

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Newport, RI 02840
Permit No. 43

COMMUNITY CALENDER

MARCH

3/29 - Seedling Sale
Soil Conservation District
Order Deadline - March 29th
Pickup Date - April 27th
A variety of tree, shrub,
ground cover and fruit
seedlings available. Call
847-9196 for information.

APRIL

4/1 - Bogs After Winter Walk
Sponsored by the RI Wild
Plant Society. Call (401)
949-0195 for more info.

4/26 - NBS Auction 7:30 pm
A wide selection of items go
on the auction block. Order
your tickets now! Limited
Seating is available

MAY

5/4 - DEM - Hooked on Fishing Day
Fun for the entire family. Call
DEM at 294-4662 for more
information

5/11 - Blithewold Plant Sale
Over 100 varieties of annuals and
200 varieties of perennials. Call
253-2707 for more information.

**5/11 - South Side Community
Center Plant Sale**
Call 273-9419 for information.

5/19 Birds & Breakfast
Order your tickets by using the
registration page in this
newsletter.

Sunday Morning Birdwalks Begin April 14th

Experience the spring migration every Sunday
morning at 8:00 am (weather permitting) with
Executive Director, Larry Taft as he guides
you through the Sanctuary. The walks are free
and open to the public.

Norman Bird Sanctuary
583 Third Beach Road
Middletown, RI 02842

HOURS

Tuesday - Sunday
9 am to 5 pm

BEGINNING MEMORIAL
DAY OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Call
846-2577

OUR MISSION

To preserve the 450 acre Norman Bird
Sanctuary for the protection of animals
and birds and for the enjoyment of the
public; to assist the Trustee in the overall
management and development of the
Sanctuary; to conduct programs for
children and adults in environmental
education and natural sciences; to work
with individuals and groups in the
region in the preservation of natural
habitats and open space.