

Natural Selections

Newsletter of the Penobscot Valley Chapter of Maine Audubon



Spring 2019
Supplemental Issue

MAINE
AUDUBON

Penobscot Valley Chapter

Natural Selections

Natural Selections is published four times a year by the Penobscot Valley Chapter of Maine Audubon. Maine Audubon members living in the Penobscot Valley region automatically become chapter members and receive *Natural Selections* at no additional charge. Membership in Maine Audubon costs per year:
\$50 household; \$40 individual
\$30 senior/volunteer

Membership benefits include a discount on programs and purchases at all Maine Audubon stores as well as a subscription to the quarterly periodical *Habitat*.

The chapter offers a weekly email service to remind members about upcoming events in our region plus electronic delivery of this newsletter upon request. Please email Jim Zeman, kjzeman@hotmail.com to sign up for these services.

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Natural Selections

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PENOBSCOT VALLEY CHAPTER PROGRAMS

With so many exciting activities planned for this spring, there wasn't enough room in the newsletter to list them all! We invite you to join your fellow chapter members to explore Maine's natural history, discuss key environmental concerns, and celebrate the abundant wildlife and diverse ecosystems within the Penobscot Valley region. Free monthly programs that follow the school year calendar (September through May, no January) are one of the many benefits of your membership in the Penobscot Valley Chapter of Maine Audubon. All chapter programs are open to the general public, so feel free to bring a friend or an out-of-town guest!

Friday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.

BASICS OF BIRDING BEHAVIOR
Fields Pond Audubon Center

On a typical birding expedition, you might only spend a few seconds observing an individual bird. This program by Maine Audubon's Staff Naturalist, Doug Hitchcox, will help you understand what a bird may be doing during that short window into its life. Doug will cover topics such as bird song (including female vocalizations), roosting and where birds choose to sleep, the marvelous feats of migration, and many other surprising behaviors by our feathered friends.



American Woodcock by Bob Duchesne

Friday, May 10

**PVC ANNUAL MEETING and
STUDENT PRESENTATION:
"TRACKING THE
TIMBERDOODLE"**

Fields Pond Audubon Center
6:00 p.m. potluck supper / 7:00 p.m.
meeting and program

Calling all woodcock fanciers – we know you're out there! Please join us for a potluck supper to celebrate spring and conduct the PVC Annual Meeting. Following the election of officers and board members for 2019, we will hear a presentation from Alexander Fish, a doctoral candidate in Wildlife Biology at University of Maine and PVC's Inez Boyd Environmental Research Award (IBERA) winner for 2018. Alex will describe his ongoing research project, partially funded by PVC, that uses GPS tracking to study the migratory patterns and year-round field ecology of the American woodcock. He hopes through his research to be able to identify some of the causes for recent population declines in this enigmatic shorebird species.

*Mission of the Penobscot Valley Chapter:
Conserving wildlife and wildlife habitat by
connecting people to our regional natural heritage,
through enjoyable and meaningful activities
that educate and promote greater environmental
awareness.*



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Neighborhood Bird Walks May 2019

SPECIAL SPRING SUPPLEMENT ISSUE! Four of the Neighborhood Bird Walk dates were listed incorrectly in the spring issue of Natural Selections. Please use this list with corrected dates.

Unless otherwise indicated, all walks are from 7:00 – 8:30 AM. Rubber boots or waterproof shoes are recommended due to wet grass and occasional muddy conditions. In consideration of wildlife and fellow birders, no pets please on the bird walks.

*Monday, May 6: **Indian Trail and Penobscot County Conservation Association, Brewer***

Leaders: Gordon Russell, Jane Rosinski

Meet at Penobscot County Conservation Association, North Main St.

*Wednesday, May 8: **Kenduskeag Stream Trail, Bangor***

Leaders: Hope Brogunier, Gordon Russell, Jane Rosinski

Meet in the 2nd parking lot upstream of the intersection of Valley Ave. and Bruce Rd.

*Saturday, May 11: (World Migratory Bird Day): **Fields Pond Audubon Center, Holden***

Leaders: Nick Lund, David Lamon

Meet in Fields Pond Audubon Center parking lot for a Birding Blitz to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day!

Please note that this walk will start at 8:30 rather than 7 a.m., and it will run for approximately two hours. Refer to FPAC program listing in this newsletter for more details.

*Wednesday, May 15: **Mt. Hope Cemetery, Bangor***

Leaders: Jim and Kathy Zeman

Meet in the parking area inside the State St. entrance.

*Friday, May 17: **Saxl Park, Bangor***

Leaders: Laura Levinson, Elizabeth Payne

Meet in Cascade Park parking lot, just off State St.

*Monday, May 20: **Leonard's Mills, Bradley***

Leaders: Bob Duchesne

Meet at the junction of Government Rd. and Rt. 178

*Tuesday, May 21: **Essex Woods, Bangor***

Leaders: Robert Ostrowski, Steve Mierzykowski

Meet in the parking lot at the end of Watchmaker Rd.

*Wednesday, May 22: **University of Maine, Orono***

Leader: Sandi McRae Duchesne

Meet near the Arboretum, in the parking lot between Emera Astronomy Center and Jordan Observatory.

*Thursday, May 23: **West Penjajawoc Preserve, Bangor***

Co-sponsored by Bangor Land Trust

Leaders: Elizabeth Payne, Lucy Quimby

Meet at the dead end of Fox Hollow Lane, off Essex St.

*Saturday, May 25: **Technology Park, Orono***

Leaders: Jerry Longcore, Jim Bird

Take Godfrey Drive in Orono. Meet in the parking lot behind the building (formerly Nexx-Linx call center) across the road from Black Bear Inn.

*Friday, May 31: **Bangor City Forest, Bangor***

Leaders: Paul Markson, Gloria Vollmers

Meet at parking lot in Bangor City Forest at end of Kittredge Rd.