



# The Chickadee



Jun - Jul - Aug 2011

Newsletter of the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, Mystic, CT

Vol 39 No 4

## Herbal Eco-Luncheon and Sustainability Awards

at Ender's Island

Tuesday, June 21 12-2 pm  
Cost \$25 members \$30 non-members

With special guests Michael Steven Ford, MS, MA of Apollo Herbs, Peacedale, Rhode Island and Mary Ann Nash, MS, RD

This year's summer eco-event takes place outside under a tent in the colorful rock gardens at Ender's Island, overlooking Fisher's Island Sound.

Celebrate the Summer Solstice, long summer days and all the beauty and gifts that plants have to offer including food & nourishment, beverages, seasonings, tonics, medicines, body-care, perfumes, dyes, flowers, crafts and folklore traditions. Enjoy a delicious lunch of locally grown foods while you deepen your understanding and respect for nature and the use of herbs to promote good health as part of a holistic lifestyle.



## Nature Photography

co-sponsored by the Mystic Arts Center  
with Caryn Davis

Sun, June 5 10:30 am- 4 pm  
(Raindate: Sat, June 11 - 10:30 am- 4 pm)  
Adults or Interested Mature Youth  
Member \$70/person Nonmember \$80/person

Mystic Arts Center and Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center collaborate for a day of photographic fun and instruction in the woods. Begin at the Nature Center to learn a few technical tips. Continue with a guided walk for hands-on experience in close-up, blurred motion, and landscape photography. Class will conclude with a critique of the day's captured images. Mature youth interested in the subject matter are welcome to register. Please bring a bagged lunch to enjoy on the trail.

Call the Mystic Arts Center to register:  
860.536.7601 x213.

## Return of the Eagle Lady

Doris Mager

Thursday, June 16 1:30 pm  
\$5 members \$8 nonmembers  
\$20 member family max \$25 nonmem fam max

Meet the infamous Great Horned Owl E.T., Cara, the Crested Caracara, Digger, the Burrowing Owl and several other live birds of prey during this favorite annual "hands-on" program.



### IN THIS ISSUE

Hikes in the Region.....	page 3
Family.....	page 4
Paddle Trips.....	page 5
Children's Programs.....	page 6
Birding walks.....	page 7
Programs at a Glance.....	page 9
DPNC News.....	page 11

### Adults

#### Paddle Trips

page 5

#### Day Lillies at

#### Blue Flag Farm

page 3

### Programs for Children

#### Summertime

#### Drop-In Programs

page 6

#### Family Explorations

page 4

## Message from the Director



Maggie Jones

There's no place on earth quite as nice as the southern New England coast, especially during the summertime. It is why tourists visit, seasonal residents retire here, and why some of us have never left! Our little corner of the country has incredible history, culture and nature, and while our fishing villages and working farms have become increasingly gentrified, fishing and farming still happen here.

The communities along the shoreline, including the Mystic and Pawcatuck rivers, give us a strong sense of place that is distinctive. Yes, we have McDonalds and Starbucks, but we also have our own local ice cream, coffee, book and clothing shops. The fact that most of our local businesses are independently owned further contributes to the sense of uniqueness in our towns. How can we keep it that way?

For one thing, we can buy local, whether it is groceries, shoes or furniture. By the time you read this, outdoor farmer's markets like the Denison Farm Market, will be open for the season. One might think that eating more locally grown fresh food, fruit and vegetables helps sustain our local fishermen and farmers and thereby protect existing farmland, but that is not the case. We need to take further action to protect open space.

Connecticut ranks 50th out of all 50 states in preserving farmland! We are losing farmland faster than any other state and we should be ashamed. Every chunk of land carved up into house lots and paved over is gone for good. At the writing of this letter, major site work for an infestation of luxury homes is occurring on former farmland along the south side of Quoketaug Hill, close to the origin of the Pequotsepos Brook. The Perkins farm will be next. What will be left? Why are we allowing the development of farmland and places in our community that are so rich in history, culture and nature? Because both the state and municipalities rely on property taxes to support everything from education to roads and infrastructure, an emphasis is put on development as the highest and best use of our remaining open spaces, especially farmland which is the easiest and least expensive type of land to develop. This is short-sighted and appalling, especially considering that we are one of the wealthiest communities in



## Many Thanks

to our Earth Week Sponsors

Earth Day 2011 fell during public school vacation week, presenting us with a unique opportunity to expand our programming beyond the scope of a typical one-day festival. This year's programs included adult and family hikes, full-day science exploration camps for elementary students, daily two-hour classes for young children, and a "Build a Bluebird House" workshop. These activities encouraged people to get outside, get moving, and recognize how time outside in nature improves overall health and well-being. The highlight of the week was a live bird presentation by Marcia and Mark Wilson, noted wildlife photojournalists and naturalists, held at StoneRidge Auditorium.

Many thanks go to our Earth Week sponsors, who made all of these activities possible.

one of the most densely populated and wealthiest states. While many argue that the economic benefits outweigh those of preserving open space, more development is ultimately a financial burden to our municipalities at the expense of preserving our natural heritage.

Connecticut ranks 48th in per capita spending on wildlife. Ouch! These statistics (from the Connecticut league of Conservation Voter's Environmental Briefing Book: 2010) spell trouble for organizations like DPNC whose mission and work depend on large intact open spaces and their associated wildlife. But more significantly, it is a wake up call to all of us who live in, work and love this region. Our health and well-being, the food we eat, the air we breathe, the water we drink all depend on protecting the environment, yet these most elemental benefits of preserving farmland and open space are often dismissed in favor of development.

*Maggie*

# Hikes Around the Region

If you have a question about whether a hike is canceled due to weather, please call (860) 536-1216. If after hours, please select a transfer to extension 30 for the latest program message.

To assist hikers with difficulty and pace, we are rating the hikes as described below:

## Full Moon Hikes

Adult & Family



All Full Moon Walks are Free

### Full Planting Moon

June 15 7:30 pm  
ALC's Darling Hill Preserve

### Full Thunder Moon

July 15 7:30 pm  
GOSA Sheep Farm

### Full Dog Moon

August 13 7:30 pm  
Barn Island WMA

Free guided walks led by DPNC staff every full moon! Walks take place even on overcast nights, and are suitable for adults and older, interested children. *Steady rain cancels.*

## 1. Hike Difficulty

The following guidelines for hikers will help you decide which hikes/locations are right for you.

- E** - Easy. Relatively flat even terrain. (Ex: Haley Farm)
- M** - Moderate. A mix of flat and hills with some uneven, perhaps rocky sections (Example: Bluff Point)
- D** - Difficult. Lots of ups and downs with rocky sections (Example: Lantern Hill).

## 2. Hike Pace

The pace of a given hike will vary with the leader, place and conditions, but generally hikes are either:

- S** - Slow. Stopping often to observe.
- M** - Medium. A comfortable walk with stops to observe.
- F** - Fast. Enjoying the outdoors and moving right along at a brisk pace. Of course we always stop if we see or hear something special!

## Pequotsepos Hikers

Led by DPNC educator/naturalists, the Pequotsepos hiking group meets on alternate Mondays and Saturdays. Join us for one, all, or as many as you wish. Babies in front or back carries are welcome except on starred hikes (\*). Steady rain cancels. Please call DPNC if you wish to carpool. Hikes start at 9:30 am.

### June

13 Mon Gungywamp, Groton . . . . . MM  
25 Sat TNC Burnham's Brook Preserve- East Haddam . MM  
27 Mon WLT Riverwood – Westerly, RI . . . . . MM

### July

9 Sat ALC Knox Family Farm Preserve, Stonington . . . EM  
11 Mon Pitch Pine Forest, Groton . . . . . MM  
23 Sat Lantern Hill, North Stonington\* . . . . . DM  
25 Mon Avery Woods, Groton . . . . . EM

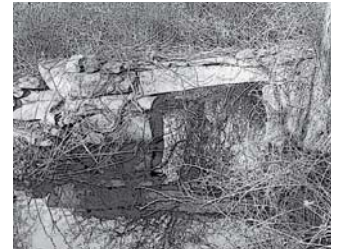
### August

6 Sat ALC Yannatos Preserve, North Stonington. . . . . EM  
8 Mon Rose Hill WMA, Ledyard. . . . . MM  
20 Sat ALC Tefftweald at Bircheturn, North Stonington EM  
22 Mon Bluff Point State Park, Groton . . . . . MM

\* not recommended for babies in front or back carriers

ALC = Avalonia Land Conservancy  
GOSA - Groton Open Space Association  
TNC = The Nature Conservancy  
WMA = CT State Wildlife Management Area  
WLT = Westerly Land Trust

## CT Trails Day Stone Bridges Trail at DPNC



Sat, June 4  
9:30 - 11:30 am

Led by Kim Hargrave  
Adult and Family Members and Nonmembers Free

Join us as we hike the Stone Bridges Trail. This trail follows the Pequotsepos Brook and across lands owned by Avalonia Land Conservancy, the Denison Society and the Mystic Aquarium. As we hike we'll take note of interesting plants and wildlife in addition to an abandoned quarry.

## Daylilies

at Blue Flag Farm

Fri, July 15 9 am  
Led by Maggie Jones Adults  
Members \$5 Nonmembers \$8

Meet at DPNC

Witness a spectacular display of colorful and carefree perennials on this morning outing to the garden of local daylily aficionado, Marion Miller. After a guided tour of the beds, organized by color palette, participants will have an opportunity to purchase interesting and unusual varieties of daylily plants. Here's a chance to get some gardening tips from a pro!

# Family - Simple Summer Pleasures

Pre-registration is necessary to ensure that classes are neither cancelled nor over-subscribed. See cancellation policy p. 11.

## Explore a Salt Marsh

**Sat, June 11**      **10-11:30**      **At Barn Island**  
**Adults and Families**  
*FREE Sponsored by Avalonia Land Conservancy*

From crabs to cord grasses a salt marsh is like no other ecosystem and Barn Island is one of the biggest and best in the state. Learn about the plants, animals and ecology of the salt marsh by getting a little mucky looking for coffee bean snails, fiddler crabs, amphipods, glassworts and other inhabitants of this unique environment. Be prepared to get your feet wet!

## Horseshoe Crab Walk

**at Napatree Point**  
*Co-Sponsored by the Mystic Aquarium*  
**Sat, June 11**      **7 - 9 pm**      **Adult and Family**  
**Member \$5/Person**      **Nonmember \$7/person**

This time each year thousands of horseshoe crabs crawl on to the beaches of New England. Join DPNC and Mystic Aquarium educators on a full moon walk at Napatree Point, Watch Hill, RI to observe this natural wonder and to discover why this phenomenon occurs. Be prepared to get wet feet and hike 2-3 miles round trip!

## Fireflies

**July 2**      **8 pm**      **Families**  
**Members \$5/ person**      **Non-members \$7/person**  
**Member max \$20/family Non-members max \$28/family**

Spend time inside learning about these fascinating bioluminescent insects before heading out through the woods and meadows of the Nature Center to catch and study fireflies up close.

## Family Overnight

**Sat, August 6**      **6:30 - 8:30 am**      **Family**  
**Member \$50/Family**      **Nonmember \$75/Family**  
*Come early if you need to set up a tent.*

Spend the night at the Nature Center with your family. Learn about nocturnal animals like bats, owls and moths, test our night senses and enjoy s'mores around the campfire. In the morning you can join an early morning walk or sleep in and have a quick breakfast before packing up. You can sleep inside the Nature Center or set up your own tent on the Nature Center's grounds.



## Family Crabbing

**August 10**      **6 p.m.**      **Led by Steve Sarnoski**  
**Members \$5**      **Non-members \$8**  
**Member family max \$20 Nonmember family max \$32**

*Meet at the Nature Center, carpool to secret crabbing location*

After a brief intro to basic techniques of crabbing and crab ID, we'll head out to put our new knowledge to work. We'll provide nets, bait and lines but please bring a head lamp or flashlight to help spot crabs. Wear appropriate shoes (e.g. no Crocs or flip flops)- we will be in the water and standing and walking on wet, slippery rocks. Bring your own equipment if you wish.

## Family Explorations

**Thursday**      **10am -11:30am**      **Families**  
**Members \$10/family**      **Non-members \$15/family**

Grab the kids and head outdoors to discover some of our favorite local natural areas. Each Thursday we'll investigate a different habitats in Southeastern CT and neighboring RI. We'll flip over logs looking for salamanders, scramble over boulders, wade through streams, use seine nets and much more. Join us for one or all of these child-paced explorations.

- Jun 23** ALC's Teftweald at Bircheturn, N. Stonington\*
- Jun 30** Glacier Park, Ledyard
- Jul 7** Spellman Pond, Stonington \*
- Jul 14** Pequot Woods, Groton
- Jul 21** Hartman Park, Lyme
- Jul 28** ALC's Pafford Marsh & Woodlands, Stonington
- Aug 4** High Ledges, North Stonington
- Aug 11** Trustom Pond NWR, Charlestown, RI
- Aug 18** Manatuck Preserve, Stonington
- Aug 25** Bluff Point State Park, Groton \*

*\* be prepared to get wet feet*

# float the Pawcatuck & Wood Rivers

Pre-registration is necessary to ensure that classes are neither cancelled nor over-subscribed. See cancellation policy p. 11.

Join us for another season of exploring with veteran kayaker, Al Brown on the water ways of the region. The Wood and Pawcatuck Rivers are still wild and scenic local resources that run through woodlands, farmlands and areas of cultural interest. All trips are bring your own

kayak or canoe and a lunch. We set up a vehicle at the downriver take out location so we can enjoy going with the flow. Most of the trips are gentle waters with occasional more memorable stretches.

*All trips depart the Nature Center at 9am or at the put-in at 9:30*

*The actual duration of the trip depends on many things including the speed of the water.*

## Worden Pond to Biscuit City on the Pawcatuck

<b>Sat, June 18</b>	<b>9 - 3 pm</b>
<b>Led by Al Brown</b>	<b>Adults</b>
<b>Member \$20/person</b>	<b>Nonmember \$25/person</b>

Worden Pond is a 1000 acre pond and the headwaters of the Pawcatuck River. Then we go into the heart of darkness of the Great Swamp Wildlife Management Area in a sinuous path to join the Queen River and take out at the Biscuit City Landing. We expect calm water on the pond and slow flowing in the river.

## Switch Road to Alton Pond on the Wood River

<b>Sat, July 23</b>	<b>9 - 3 pm</b>
<b>Led by Al Brown</b>	<b>Adults</b>
<b>Member \$20/person</b>	<b>Nonmember \$25/person</b>

We continue down the Wood River for about 7.5 miles. There is one portage at Woodville and the take out is at another dam in Alton. The two dams make for quiet water paddling nearer the dams and an active flowing stream further upstream. We will have a vehicle at the take out to complete the return.

## Rt. 165 to Wyoming Pond on the Wood River

<b>Sat, June 25</b>	<b>9 - 3 pm</b>
<b>Led by Al Brown</b>	<b>Adults</b>
<b>Member \$20/person</b>	<b>Nonmember \$25/person</b>

The Wood River is a beautiful wooded stream with a couple of dams that form ponds along the way. There are lots of fun riffles along this shallow river and plenty of sun while crossing the ponds. There is a short portage around the Barberville Dam. A vehicle shuttle will enable us to float one-way downstream.

## Richmond Landing to Bradford on the Pawcatuck

<b>Sat, August 6</b>	<b>9 - 3 pm</b>
<b>Led by Al Brown</b>	<b>Adults</b>
<b>Member \$20/person</b>	<b>Nonmember \$25/person</b>

This is approximately a 9 mile downstream trip. There is a low rubble dam at Burdickville that can be run or avoided, as you wish. The lowest section above the Bradford dam is quiet water paddling along scenic forested banks. This is a one-way trip downriver with a return shuttle.

## Shannock Falls to Burdickville on the Pawcatuck

<b>Sat, July 9</b>	<b>9 - 3 pm</b>
<b>Led by Al Brown</b>	<b>Adults</b>
<b>Member \$20/person</b>	<b>Nonmember \$25/person</b>

This 10.5 mile section of the Pawcatuck has a nice mix of calm flowing water punctuated with one little section of Class II whitewater, but fear not, it just makes it a trip to remember! Much of the river flows through forests with occasional beaver, deer or otter signs along the banks. We also get a chance to examine the restoration of this natural falls after the recent removal of the old dam above the falls.

## Bradford to Potter Hill on the Pawcatuck

<b>Sat, August 20</b>	<b>9 - 3 pm</b>
<b>Led by Al Brown</b>	<b>Adults</b>
<b>Member \$20/person</b>	<b>Nonmember \$25/person</b>

We portage around the Bradford Dam and go downstream to Potter Hill. Along the way we will pass conservation lands owned by The Nature Conservancy and the Westerly Land Trust. This is a one-way trip downriver with a return shuttle.

# Children's Programs

Pre-registration is necessary to ensure that classes are neither cancelled nor over-subscribed. See cancellation policy p. 11.

## This summer's program series meets on

Wednesdays 1 – 3pm  
Ages 4-10 years (will be split into 2 groups)  
Members: \$15/class Non-members: \$20/ class

*Please dress to get messy and bring a water bottle to each class.*

### Dining on Dirt

June 22

We may not like to find our food in the dirt, but there are many creatures that do. Discover these fascinating animals and create your own dirt snack!

### Science Time

June 29

Have fun with science. Create slime to take home, learn how birds fly, make a flower change color and do many more cool science experiments.



### Nature Crafts

July 6

Using gifts from nature including acorns, shells, sticks and more, we'll create beautiful crafts to bring home and share.



### Smelly Skunks

July 27

Everyone knows that a skunk can spray, but *what else do you know?* Learn where skunks live, what they eat, and what animal eats them!

### Pond Life

July 13

Find out who's living in the pond. Learn about fish, insects, tadpoles and turtles before heading down to the pond to try to catch them with a dip net.



### Turtles & their Friends

July 20

Snakes, frogs, salamander and turtles- this class will cover all of Connecticut's herps. Meet live reptiles and amphibians before searching the sanctuary to see which ones we can find in the wild.

### Miniature Gardens

August 3

Plants come in all shapes and sizes and help all different shaped and sized creatures. Create a mini garden for your house and see who comes to visit.

### Fantastic Fish

August 10

Fish come in all different colors, shapes and sizes. Learn about their unique adaptations and try to catch sunfish and bass living in the pond.

### Letterboxing

August 17

Follow the clues to find a letterbox hidden at the Nature Center in addition to creating your own stamp and notebook.

### Sensational Spiders

August 24

Late summer is the best time to look for spiders and their prey. Learn more about these 8 legged creatures and see how many we can find.

### Summertime Hummingbirds

Fridays 10am – 11:30 Session 1 June 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22

For pre-schoolers & their families Session 2 July 29, August 5, 12, 19, 26

Members: \$70/ session or \$15/family /class

Non-members: \$90/ session or \$20/family/class

Each Friday discover something new with preschooler Hummingbirds. Learn about fish, frogs, birds, bats and so much more during circle time, crafts and lots of time outside. This popular class takes on a summertime twist, by having our big (or little) brothers and sisters join us. *Sign up for the entire session or just one class.*

## Summer Birding

### Devil's Hopyard State Park, East Haddam

Fri, June 3                      8 am  
Led by Maggie Jones            Adults  
Member \$7/person                Nonmember \$10/person

*Van leaves DPNC at 8 am*

Devil's Hopyard is one of the best local destinations for migrant and resident forest interior birds. We will listen and look for a variety of flycatchers, warblers, vireos and others.

## In Search of **MIGRATORY BIRDS**

### Copp Preserve, Rte 184 Groton

Fri, June 10                      8 – 10 am  
Led by Maggie Jones            Adults  
Member \$7/person                Nonmember \$10/person

By June colorful warblers, vireos, cuckoos, tanagers, swallows and other migrants are winging their way North. Some will stay here for the summer, others will continue on to the boreal region. The diverse habitats of the Copp preserve offer opportunities to see a good variety.

## Making Shell flowers

Tue, June 14                      7 pm  
Adults and older children  
\$8 members                      \$12 non-members  
Led by Lois Poinier



Create beautiful realistic and colorful bouquets using shells. They will never wilt or need water! All supplies provided, just bring your imagination.

## Shorebirds of Summer at Barn Island

Fri, August 19                      8 – 10 am  
Led by Maggie Jones            Adults  
Member \$7/person                Nonmember \$10/person

By mid-summer, migratory shorebirds are moving southward. We will explore the marshes of Barn Island to look for egrets, terns, sandpipers, sparrows and others.

## Tour de Mystic

June 11  
(rain date  
June 12)  
\$10 individual  
\$15 couple  
\$25 family



A self-guided bicycling tour for locals and visitors of all ages and abilities. Support biking in your community for the environment health, and fun!

**Registration/parking:**  
6 am to 3:30 pm at the  
Mystic Fire Dept.  
Hoxie Engine Co.  
34 Broadway Avenue  
Mystic, CT

Sponsored by Mystic Community Bikes, Inc., with generous support from the Ocean Community YMCA Mystic branch and the Society of Women Environmental Professionals (SWEPE).

Explore the best of Mystic and neighboring villages by bike! Visitors will discover our "hidden treasures" – the special spots that are often missed by passing motorists, while locals will enjoy a truly memorable "stay-cation".

Create your own ideal itinerary from a selection of planned routes of different distances that include rich historic sites, scenic vistas, world-renowned attractions, excellent eateries, delightful shops and galleries, brewery and winery tours, beaches and much more. Many local attractions and businesses will offer special discounts and promotions for TDM participants.

Registered riders will receive a numbered TDM ticket and maps showing participating businesses, attractions and routes. Bicycle touring information, bicycling-related displays, friendly advice and assistance will be provided at the registration area.

For more info: visit [www.mysticcommunitybikes.org](http://www.mysticcommunitybikes.org).

# Summer Camp & Birthday Parties

Pre-registration is necessary to ensure that classes are neither cancelled nor over-subscribed. See cancellation policy p. 11.

## DPNC Summer Camp

Summer is the perfect time to get outside and back to nature. Our camp strives to get children ages 3 – 15 outside in a play-based environment, where having fun and playing in nature come first. In our planned neighborhoods and scheduled lives, unstructured outdoor play is often overlooked, but our camp provides this opportunity for all our campers. DPNC summer camp builds the foundation for a lifetime of love and respect for the environment.

Children will hike, pond dip, seine for fish and crustaceans, learn about the area's frogs, butterflies, rock formations and more! We have several new camps this year including Swamp Stompers and Nature Girls.

*Camp sessions fill up quickly, so register early!*

Brochures and registration forms are available at:  
[www.dpnc.org/summer\\_camp.html](http://www.dpnc.org/summer_camp.html)

We encourage you to print, fill out and fax your child's camp & medical form to (860) 536-2983.

## DPNC Summer Camp Scholarships This program needs your support!

This year we have received more scholarship requests than ever before from parents of well-deserving kids interested in science and nature. Your donation will give these children an unforgettable experience spending time outdoors and developing a sense of wonder. *No donation is too small, and 100% of your contribution goes directly into the camp scholarship fund.* We appreciate your support of our programs on behalf of the area children who benefit from them.



*Adventurers launching in the Pawcatuck River.*



## BIRTHDAY PARTIES YOU'LL NEVER FORGET... NATURALLY!

*All Ages*

**Meet the Animals**  
Meet the Nature Center's resident animals, explore the trails, visit the birds of prey and make a craft to bring home.

**Scavenger Hunt on the Trails**  
Meet the Nature Center's resident animals and head out on the trails to complete a nature scavenger hunt.

**Fairy Houses**  
After reading the story *Fairy Houses* by Tracy Kane, party goers search the trails for materials to make their own fairy house to bring home.

**Peek into a Pond (May - Sept)**  
Learn about turtles, frogs, bugs and more, then head to the pond with nets to see what creatures we can catch and release. *Be prepared to get muddy!*

**Inspect an Insect (June - Oct)**  
Learn about insects and try your hand at catching butterflies, beetles and all sorts of other bugs in our meadow.

**Turning 6 and Up**

**All about Owls**  
Meet an owl up close and learn about its special characteristics before visiting the Nature Center's resident owls. End the party by dissecting an owl pellet!

**Rocks and Minerals**  
Sift through sand looking for beautiful rock and mineral pieces to start your own rock collection, followed by exploring the trails to look at all the amazing rocks around the Nature Center. There's an additional \$20 fee for this party.

**Turning 8 and Up**

**Nocturnal Notions**  
Learn about the special adaptations nocturnal animals have and take a night hike where we will test your night time senses. Complete the evening around a campfire with marshmallows. This party is scheduled on Friday and Saturday evenings with a start time between 5 and 7 p.m. and an end time between 7 and 9 p.m.

*We can also do programs for teens and adults. Please contact us for details.*

**BOOK YOUR PARTY TODAY!**

Give us a call at **860.536.1216**

Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center  
109 Pequotsepos Road • Mystic, CT 06355  
Visit our website: [www.dpnc.org](http://www.dpnc.org)



# Programs at a Glance

date	for ages	title	time
6/2	Thu	Ages 5 - 12. . . . . Homeschool - Field Trip to Devil's Hopyard - Ecosystem Studies . . . . .	1:30 - 3:30 pm
6/3	Fri	Adults . . . . . Summer Birding - Devil's Hopyard State Park, East Haddam . . . . .	8 am
6/4	Sat	Adult and Family. . . CT Trails Day - Stone Bridges Trail at DPNC . . . . .	9:30 - 11:30 am
6/5	Sun	Adults or Mature Youth . . . . .	Nature Photography with Caryn Davis 10:30 am - 4 pm
6/9	Thu	Ages 5 - 12. . . . . Homeschool - Field Trip to Devil's Hopyard - Ecosystem Studies . . . . .	1:30 - 3:30 pm
6/10	Fri	Adults . . . . . In Search of MIGRATORY BIRDS - Copp Preserve, Rte 184 Groton . . . . .	8 - 10 am
6/11	Sat	Adult and Family. . . Horseshoe Crab Walk at Napatree Point . . . . .	7 - 9 pm
6/11	Sat	Adult and Family. . . Explore a Salt Marsh at Barn Island WMA. . . . .	10 - 11:30 am
6/13	Mon	Adults . . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - Gungywamp, Groton . . . . .	9:30 - 11am
6/14	Tue	Adults and older children . . . . .	Making Shell Flowers 7 pm
6/15	Wed	Adult and Family. . . Darling Hill Preserve - Full Planting Moon Hike . . . . .	7:30 pm
6/16	Thu	Family . . . . . The Eagle Lady Returns! Live birds of prey program with Doris Mager . . . . .	1:30 pm
6/18	Sat	Adults . . . . . Float the Pawcatuck River - Worden Pond to Biscuit City . . . . .	9am - 3 pm
6/21	Tue	Adults . . . . . Herbal Eco-Luncheon at Ender's Island - To Benefit DPNC Environmental Programs . . . . .	Noon - 2 pm
6/22	Wed	Ages 4 - 10. . . . . Childrens Programs - Dining on Dirt . . . . .	1 - 3 pm
6/23	Thu	Family . . . . . Family Explorations - ALC's Teftweald at Birchenturn, North Stonington* . . . . .	10 - 11:30 am
6/24	Fri	With a Caregiver 2-3 Summertime Hummingbirds for preschoolers and family . . . . .	10 - 11 am
6/25	Sat	Adult. . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - TNC Burnham Brook Pres, East Haddam . . . . .	9:30 - 11am
6/25	Sat	Adults . . . . . Float the Wood River - Rt. 165 to Wyoming Pond . . . . .	9am - 3 pm
6/27	Mon	Adult. . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - WLT Riverwood Preserve. . . . .	9:30 am
6/29	Wed	Ages 4 - 10. . . . . Childrens Programs - Science Time . . . . .	1 - 3 pm
6/30	Thu	Family . . . . . Family Explorations - Glacier Park, Ledyard . . . . .	10 - 11:30 am
7/2	Sat	Adult and Family. . . Family Firefly Night . . . . .	8 pm
7/6	Wed	Ages 4 - 10. . . . . Childrens Programs - Nature Crafts . . . . .	1 - 3 pm
7/7	Thu	Family . . . . . Family Explorations - Spellman Pond, Stonington* . . . . .	10 - 11:30 am
7/9	Sat	Adults . . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - Darling Hill Preserve, Stonington . . . . .	9:30 - 11am
7/9	Sat	Adults . . . . . Float the Pawcatuck River - Shannock Falls to Burdickville . . . . .	9am - 3 pm
7/11	Mon	Adults . . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - Pitch Pine Ridge, Groton . . . . .	9:30 - 11am
7/13	Wed	Ages 4 - 10. . . . . Childrens Programs - Pond Life. . . . .	1 - 3 pm
7/14	Thu	Family . . . . . Family Explorations - Pequot Woods, Groton . . . . .	10 - 11:30 am
7/16	Sat	Adults . . . . . Daylilies at Blue Flag Farm . . . . .	9 am
7/15	Fri	Adult and Family. . . GOSA Sheep Farm - Full Thunder Moon Hike . . . . .	7:30 pm
7/20	Wed	Ages 4 - 10. . . . . Childrens Programs - Turtles and their Friends . . . . .	1 - 3 pm
7/21	Thu	Family . . . . . Family Explorations - Hartman Park, Lyme . . . . .	10 - 11:30 am
7/23	Sat	Adults . . . . . Further Down the Wood River - Switch Road to Alton Pond . . . . .	9 am - 3 pm
7/23	Sat	Adults . . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - Lantern Hill, North Stonington. . . . .	9:30 - 11am
7/25	Mon	Adults . . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - Avery Woods, Groton . . . . .	9:30 - 11am
7/27	Wed	Ages 4 - 10. . . . . Childrens Programs - Smelly Skunks . . . . .	1 - 3 pm
7/28	Thu	Family . . . . . Family Explorations - ALC's Pafford Marsh and Woodlands, Stonington. . . . .	10 - 11:30 am
7/29	Fri	With a Caregiver 2-3 Summertime Hummingbirds . . . . .	10 - 11 am
8/3	Wed	Ages 4 - 10. . . . . Childrens Programs - Miniature Gardens . . . . .	1 - 3 pm
8/4	Thu	Family . . . . . Family Explorations - High Ledges, North Stonington . . . . .	10 - 11:30 am
8/6	Sat	Adults . . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - ALC Yannatos Preserve, North Stonington . . . . .	9:30 - 11am
8/6	Sat	Adults . . . . . Return to the Pawcatuck River - Richmond Landing to Bradford . . . . .	9am - 3 pm
8/6	Sat	Family . . . . . Family Overnight - Simple Summer Pleasures . . . . .	6:30 - 8:30 am
8/8	Mon	Adults . . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - Rose Hill Wildlife Management Area, Ledyard . . . . .	9:30 - 11am
8/10	Wed	Ages 4 - 10. . . . . Childrens Programs - Fantastic Fish . . . . .	1 - 3 pm
8/10	Wed	Family . . . . . Family Crabbing . . . . .	6 pm
8/11	Thu	Family . . . . . Family Explorations - Trustom Pond NWR, Charlestown, RI. . . . .	10 - 11:30 am
8/13	Sat	Adult and Family. . . Full Dog Moon Hike - at Barn Island. . . . .	7:30 pm
8/17	Wed	Ages 4 - 10. . . . . Childrens Programs - Letterboxing . . . . .	1 - 3 pm
8/18	Thu	Family . . . . . Family Explorations - Manatuck Preserve, Stonington . . . . .	10 - 11:30 am
8/19	Fri	Adults . . . . . Shorebirds of Summer at Barn Island . . . . .	7:30 - 9am
8/20	Sat	Adults . . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - ALC's Teftweald at Birchenture, North Stonington . . . . .	9:30 - 11am
8/20	Sat	Adults . . . . . Paddle the Pawcatuck - Bradford to Potter Hill . . . . .	9am - 3 pm
8/22	Mon	Adults . . . . . Pequotsepos Hikers - Bluff Point State Park . . . . .	9:30 - 11am
8/24	Wed	Ages 4 - 10. . . . . Childrens Programs - Sensational Spiders . . . . .	1 - 3 pm
8/25	Thu	Family . . . . . Family Explorations - Bluff Point State Park, Groton* . . . . .	10 - 11:30 am

\* with a caregiver    ~bathroom independent    #ALC = Avalonia Land Conservancy    ~GOSA = Groton Open Space Assoc.    ^Westerly Land Trust    +TNC = The Nature Conservancy

## Denison Farm Market

Located on the scenic fields below the Denison Homestead, the Denison Farm Market is an ideal place to purchase the freshest in local produce and baked goods from community farmers while children play outdoors.

Every Sunday from 12 pm – 3 pm, from May to November you will find a wide variety of in season fruits, vegetables and local products ranging from honey and jams to herbal soaps.

Offerings include:

**Fresh or frozen seafood products caught locally, Lamb, Goat, Pork and Beef, Certified Humane Broiler chickens, Cornish Broilers, Dressed Pheasants, Eggs.**

**Organic veggies of all sorts, herbs, cut flowers, sprouting lentils, mung beans, garbanzo beans, red winter wheat berry, pea shoots, buckwheat, lettuce, spicy Asian mix, Thai basil, and potatoes.**

**Salt Marsh Hay, corn, Maple syrup products, Beauty products. Handcrafted natural herb products, including hand lotions, lipbalms, soap, herbal pillows, garlic and specialty container gardens, seedlings, fruit.**

**Jams, jellies, relishes, organic blueberries , baking mixes, Johnny Cake meal, salsa, honey & beeswax.**

**Assorted bread, Portugese sweet bread, cookies, fruit pies, sweet bread, anginetti and vienna cookies, peanut butter balls, apple strudel, stuffed breads, and cannoli.**

**Ice Cream, Fudge, Smoothies**

These products are grown, produced or prepared by your friends and neighbors. If you come to Mystic for the weekend, why not stock up on fresh food before you hop on I-95?



### John Wiellette and Bill Ricker

The Nature Center is indebted to the efforts of John and Bill for all the work they have done around the buildings and grounds.

## Welcome to new staff

### Rose Huysman



We are delighted to have Rose Huysman working at the front desk at DPNC. Rose graduated from Stonington High School and went on to earn her BS in Natural Resource Economics and MBA from UConn. Her family instilled in her an appreciation of the natural world from an early age; taking annual summer camping trips, hiking and canoeing on the weekends, and sailing on Little Narragansett Bay.

For many years, Rose has had a desire to put her educational and professional experience to work for a conservation related organization. While she has extensive experience working with the public at other local area attractions and in other industries, DPNC's mission statement speaks to her heart.

Rose currently resides in Groton, sings with the Mystic River Chorale and volunteers as a Board Member of the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District.

### Liz Kawabata



This month we welcome a very familiar face to the DPNC staff. Liz Kawabata, a DPNC volunteer for the past 2 years, has joined us at the front desk. Liz grew up in West Virginia where she earned a BS in accounting from West Virginia Tech and an MBA from Virginia Commonwealth University. She worked as an accountant in Virginia, Ohio, and Pennsylvania before moving to Mystic in 2000. She enjoys working with people who care about the environment, and loves learning new "nature facts" daily at DPNC. Liz lives in Mystic with her husband, son, dog, and cat.

## Wish List

Markers	Baby Wipes	Children's scissors
Crayons	Brads (paper fasteners)	Hole Punchers
Glue sticks	Feathers	Tissues
Construction Paper	Pine Needles	Insect Repellent

## Online Membership & Donation Option

Joining, renewing a membership, and supporting the DPNC just got much easier with the introduction of our new online membership and donation options. Go to [www.dpnc.org](http://www.dpnc.org) and click on the "Ways to Contribute" tab. You can safely and securely buy a new membership, gift membership, renew a membership or make a donation. Thank you for your support!

## June is Leave-a-Legacy Month

### What does the Nature Center mean to you?



June is Leave a Legacy month, and a wonderful time to think about the way you may be able to support organizations such as DPNC that are important to you.

A bequest reduces your taxable estate, thereby reducing estate taxes and administration fees on both the federal and state levels. In addition to bequests there are many types of planned gifts including gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, and gifts of real estate or life

insurance. DPNC wants to recognize the importance and generosity of those who have decided to give to the future today. As a member of our Legacy Society you enjoy the satisfaction of seeing your support play a key role in continuing improvement of the Nature Center.

Leave a Legacy™ is a statewide public awareness effort to encourage people to leave something in their wills to a cause they care about.

## Cancellation Policy

Pre-registration allows DPNC to secure staffing and materials for programs so that we may best serve you and your children.

We require preregistration and payment for most DPNC programs in order to reserve a space. If the DPNC cancels a

program, you will receive a full refund. If you withdraw from a program more than four days in advance, you will receive a refund less a 15% administrative fee. Withdrawals within four days of a program are not refundable unless we fill the vacancy.

## Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center

109 Pequotsepos Road  
P.O. Box 122  
Mystic, CT 06355

Phone: (860) 536-1216  
Fax: (860) 536-2983

e-mail: [info@dpnc.org](mailto:info@dpnc.org)  
[www.dpnc.org](http://www.dpnc.org)

Monday – Saturday  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

### Staff

Margarett Jones - Executive Director  
Al Brown - Publications & Tech Support  
Suzanne Burns - Educator  
Sanny Chacanaca - Front Desk  
Mame Courtney - Preschool Teacher  
Laura Craver - Educator-  
Kim Hargrave - Director of Education  
Kim Henderson-Signor - Educator  
Rose Huysman - Front Desk  
Jennifer Johnson - Dir. of Communications  
Liz Kawabata - Front Desk  
Katie McCann - Preschool Teacher  
Sarah Kohrs-Monroe - Educator  
Steve Sarnoski - Educator/Animal Care  
Davnet Schaffer - Preschool Dir & Teacher  
Mayada Wadsworth - Finance Director

### Board of Trustees

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# Chickadee Patrons

Chickadee Patrons help defray the cost of this newsletter. Patron donations are \$135 per year for individuals and \$175 for businesses, and are invaluable to the Nature Center. *Thanks to all our patrons!*

## New Newsletter Patron

**Your Name or Company**  
Can be here in the next issue

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## Businesses

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**Children's Dental Associates  
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[www.childrensdentalnlc.com](http://www.childrensdentalnlc.com)

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**The Fisherman Restaurant**  
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**Frank's Service Station**  
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860.536.0393

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860.445.4148  
[www.grotonchiropractic.com](http://www.grotonchiropractic.com)

**Inn at Mystic  
Floodtide Restaurant**  
Mystic, CT  
860.536.8140  
[www.innatmystic.com](http://www.innatmystic.com)

**Landscape Specialties**  
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[www.landscapespecialties.net](http://www.landscapespecialties.net)

**Mercer & Bertsche  
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[www.mbae.net](http://www.mbae.net)

**Mystic Yoga Shala**  
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860.536.0237  
[www.mysticyogashala.com](http://www.mysticyogashala.com)

**Old Lyme Veterinary Hospital**  
Old Lyme, CT  
860.434.8387  
[www.oldlymevets.com](http://www.oldlymevets.com)

**RiverWalk Restaurant  
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Mystic, CT  
860.536.5220  
[www.mysticriverwalk.com](http://www.mysticriverwalk.com)

**Stonington Natural Health Ctr.  
Megan Marco, L.Ac.**  
Stonington, CT  
860.536.3880 - [www.snhc.com](http://www.snhc.com)

**Three R's Company**  
Remodeling, Restoration &  
Renovations  
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**Bob Valenti Auto Mall**  
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[www.bobvalenti.com](http://www.bobvalenti.com)

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Summer 2011 Newsletter

DENISON PEQUOTSEPOS NATURE CENTER  
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