

6th ANNUAL BIRDING CAPE COD WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2011

Members of the Cape Cod Bird Club will lead walks to top birding areas throughout Cape Cod. Walks are free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public. For more information about these walks and the Cape Cod Bird Club check the club's website at www.massbird.org/ccbc. For information about individual walks or directions to the walks, please contact the walk leader. Dress for the weather and area where you will be walking. Bring binoculars. Sunscreen, insect repellent, and water are recommended.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011

Falmouth

Shining Sea Bike Path - 8:00am

Leader Mary Keleher 508-477-1473 maryeak@yahoo.com

We will walk along the thicket lined bike path past Salt Pond to Oyster Pond. Fall migration should be in full swing. Trip length is about 2.0 miles, no inclines. Meet in the bike path parking lot on Locust Street.

Harwich

West Harwich Conservation Area - 8:00AM

Leader Diane Silverstein: 508-364-7050 or birder526@comcast.net

We'll first check the reservoirs for shorebirds and ducks and will then walk Bells Neck Road in search of migrating passerines. We'll head toward the Herring River where we'll look for Virginia Rail, Marsh Wren and Swamp Sparrow. On our way back we'll detour to the North Bridge for another lookout over the marsh.

Meet at the Conservation Area located on Bells Neck Road, south off of Great Western Road in West Harwich, our walk will start between the East and West Reservoirs. Park alongside of the road adjacent to the reservoirs.

Eastham

Hemenway Landing - 6:30 - 8:00PM

Leader: Frank Caruso, 508-477-9807 or fcaruso@umext.umass.edu

We'll check the historic Hemenway's Landing heron roost and watch as Great Blue Herons, Green Herons, Black-crowned Night Herons and a few Yellow-crowned Night Herons leave their roost and head into the marsh for the night. We'll listen and look for Great Horned Owls, which have been heard and seen here in past years.

Meet at the Hemenway's Landing parking lot at the end of Hemenway Road off Route 6.

Provincetown

Hatches Harbor - 1:30 - 4:00PM

Leader: Ed Hoopes, 508-737-7479 or ehoopes@verizon.net

Roundtrip length 3 miles, with some soft sand. We will walk the Dike Road through the dunes and scrub pines looking for landbirds and raptors. Once we arrive at Hatches Harbor we can look for shorebirds, terns, wading birds, and maybe some early water fowl. We are also afforded some great views of Cape Cod Bay and the Atlantic Ocean so pelagics are possible depending on conditions.

Meet in the parking lot of the Province Lands Visitor Center (located at the intersection of Race Point Road and Province Lands Road.)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2011

Falmouth

Peterson Farm/Sippewisset Marsh - 8:00 AM - Noon

Leader: Greg Hirth, 508-457-4356 or geohawk_1@yahoo.com

We will walk the fields, edges, and woods of Peterson Farm looking for migrant songbirds, then head out to Great Sippewisset Marsh to observe waders, shorebirds, terns, and raptors.

Meet at the Locust Street parking lot for the Shining Sea bike path, which is just across the street from the intersection of Mill Road and Locust Street.

Barnstable

Sandy Neck Birding Special Kayaking Trip - 9:00AM - Noon

Leader: Ian Ives, Director Mass Audubon Long Pasture Sanctuary

(Fee: \$40.00 Maximum 12 People) Call to register: 508-362-7475 ext. 9355

Barnstable's Sandy Neck is a 7-milelong, 1,900 acre barrier beach. The tip of Sandy Neck accommodates large flocks of shorebirds and terns during the month of September. Thousands of Tree Swallows can be seen swirling in huge flocks. We will kayak 3/4 mile from Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary to the Sandy Neck Lighthouse. We will then walk the 1/8 mile traverse through dune, swale and tidal flat habitat before paddling back via salt marsh creeks. Participants will be required to wear a life vest.

Meet at Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary at 345 Bone Hill Road. Follow Bone Hill Rd past harbor Point Rd and take the last driveway on the left to the parking area at the end.

Kayaks, paddles, life vests, and safety equipment will be provided. Ages 12 and up are welcome.

Previous kayaking experience and swimming ability are required for this trip.

Harwichport

Bank Street Bogs - 2:30PM

Leader: Al Curtis, killdeer89@comcast.net

60+ acres of brushy, weedy fields and seed-bearing wildflowers interspersed with flowing irrigation streams, cattail marsh, and a small pond - what more could a migrating sparrow want? Join us for a leisurely walk through this quintessential Cape Cod fall birding spot.

Parking is behind the Harbormaster's building on Bank Street in Harwichport.

For more information see the website below.

<http://www.harwichconservationtrust.org/bankstreetbog.html>

Chatham

South Beach - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Leader: Mark Faherty, Science Coordinator, Mass Audubon Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary (Fee: \$30.00 Maximum 16 People) Call to Register, 508-349-2615

South Beach is the birding hotspot on Cape Cod. Tens of thousands of migrant shorebirds roost and feed at the southern tip of the 3+ mile barrier beach, allowing close-up views of such species as Red Knot, Short-billed Dowitchers, Black-bellied and Semipalmated Plover, and Hudsonian Godwit, at least when the Peregrines and occasional Jaegers aren't spooking them! Rarer migrants like Marbled Godwit and American Golden Plover might also be seen and vagrants like Curlew Sandpiper and Red-necked Stints are possible. Terns gather in large numbers at the end of the summer, including Roseate Terns and possibly Arctic and Black Terns. Trip involves a short boat ride and walking on mud flats and soft sand, as well as wading in knee-deep water to reach the shore.

Truro

High Head - 7:30 - 10:30 AM

Leader: Ginie Page, 508-349-6810 or vgpage@juno.com

We will travel hill and dale around and over High Head. We will walk along the bike path in search of skulkers, work our way around Small's Swamp and then explore High Head. We will have wonderful land and sea views and will cover several habitats in search of our local birds as well as the many migrants making stops here.

Meet at the bike path parking area: Exit Route 6 onto High Head Road, bear left at fork before hill and park at the end of the dirt road.