

**Hampshire Bird Club, Inc.**  
**Winter-Spring-Summer Field Trip Schedule.**  
**January 1, 2012.**

*Please register with the field trip leader(s) and check this schedule's information when a phone number is given. The Field Trip Chair (Michael Locher – 413-585-5864) is always looking for new trip ideas and leaders.*

*The Hampshire Bird Club recommends carpooling whenever possible, and suggests that all riders share equally the per-car cost of 50¢ per mile, as well as tolls and parking. See also the "Field Trip Guidelines for Participants" (September newsletter or on the Website).*

*Some trips have been marked with an asterisk (\*), which indicates that they are good trips for beginning birders. All trips have been coded as Easy (E) or Moderate (M) to give a rough indication of the pace and/or terrain. Please check all information with the trip leaders.*

**JANUARY**

**Saturday, January 7. North Shore: Cape Ann to Plum Island.** All day. Bob Bieda leads his annual New Year's pilgrimage to the coast in search of wintering specialties like Eared Grebes, Barrow's Goldeneyes, Harlequin Ducks, Purple Sandpipers, and much more. Dress for cold weather. For meeting information call Bob at 413-527-2623. (E)

**FEBRUARY**

**\*Saturday, February 11. Coastal Rhode Island.** All day. Geoff LeBaron repeats his annual cold-weather trip to the coast of Rhode Island, looking for gulls, ducks, Short-eared Owls, and whatever else may be there. Call Geoff (413-268-9281) for information and meeting details. (E)

**MARCH**

**\*Sunday, March 18. Connecticut River Waterfowl I.** Half day. Mike Locher travels from Holyoke to Hatfield looking for any waterfowl migrating through the valley along the Connecticut River. Call Mike (413-585-5864) for information, or just meet at the Hadley Elementary School parking lot (on Route 47, about a mile north of the Route 9 intersection) at 7 a.m. (E)

**\*Saturday, March 24. Connecticut River Waterfowl II.** All day. Joshua Rose scours the Turner's Falls environs for waterfowl bound northward and late gulls. Meet at Stop & Shop on King Street in Northampton at 7 a.m.. (E)

**\*Saturday, March 31. Plum Island.** All day. Geoff LeBaron braves the weather along the coast to find you the birds! Call Geoff (413-268-9281) for information about when the trip will leave, and where people should meet. (M)

**APRIL**

**\*Sunday, April 15. Ashley Reservoir: Early Warblers.** Half day. Mike Locher (413-585-5864) looks for early migrants like Pine and Palm Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and Northern Waterthrushes. Meet in the Friendly's parking lot, near the Holiday Inn, close to Exit 15 ("Holyoke Mall") off Rt. 91 at 7 a.m. (E)

**\*Sunday, April 29. Early Migrants.** Half day. Betsy Higgins (413-586-7585) looks for migrants, starting around Look Park in Northampton. Meet at 6:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the JFK Middle School on Bridge Road in Northampton. (E)

**MAY**

**\*Saturday, May 5. Forest Park/Fannie Stebbins, Springfield.** Half to  $\frac{3}{4}$  day. David Peake-Jones leads a new HBC trip to what is generally considered to be "the Central Park of Springfield." There is a possibility of an extension to the Stebbins refuge depending on interest and what's being seen. Call David (413-529-9541) for meeting time and place. (E)

**Sunday, May 6. MacLeish Field Station, Northampton.** Half day. In a new trip for the HBC, Bill Benner explores a newly-opened property managed by Smith College. Call Bill (413-320-4422) as the date approaches for meeting information. (E)

**Saturday, May 12. East Quabbin Reservoir.** All day. Tom Gagnon and Larry Therrien lead the HBC's annual trip to the east side of the reservoir, looking for spring migrants. You must be a Hampshire Bird Club member to attend this trip, which is limited to 15 people plus the leader. Call Tom Gagnon (413-584-6353) to register no later than April 15. (M)

**\*Sunday, May 13. Mount Auburn Cemetery, Watertown, MA.**  $\frac{3}{4}$  day. David Peake-Jones will again lead birders through this historic and beautiful garden cemetery which is also a fabled migrant trap. Call David (413-529-9541) to register. (E)

**Wednesday, May 16. Mount Holyoke.** Half Day. Tom Gagnon hikes up Mt. Holyoke looking for birds (think Cerulean Warbler) and wildflowers. Meet at the LOWER parking lot near the entrance at 7 a.m. Call Tom (413-584-6353) to register. (M)

**\*Sunday, May 20. Moody Bridge Road, Hadley.** Half day. Josh Rose explores the Fort River Division of the Silvio Conte NWR by looking for migrants of all sorts in this recently-acquired parcel. Meet at 6 a.m. at the former Bri-Mar Stables on Moody Bridge Road, west of South Maple Street, in Hadley. (E)

**JUNE**

**Saturday, June 2. Mount Greylock.** All day. David Peake-Jones explores the only Blackpoll Warbler breeding habitat in Massachusetts. Mourning Warbler is also a possibility as well as a number of mountain specialties. Be prepared for a mile or two of hiking on rough trails. Call David (413-529-9541) to register. (M)

**Sunday, June 3. Hammonasset Beach State Park, CT.** All day. Betsy Higgins goes to the coast of Connecticut to find sparrows, rails, and other seaside denizens. Call Betsy (413-586-7585) for meeting time and place as the date approaches. (E)

**Saturday, June 9. Westover Air Force Base.** Half day. Pending permission, Bob Bieda will lead his annual trip into New England's premier grassland habitat, looking for Upland Sandpipers, Bobolinks, Grasshopper Sparrows, and Eastern Meadowlarks. This trip is limited to Hampshire Bird Club members only. Call Bob (413-527-2623) at least two weeks ahead of time to register and check on the date and time for meeting. (E)

**Sunday, June 10. October Mountain State Forest.** All day. Ed Neumuth explores the habitat on October Mountain and ventures to surrounding areas like Post Farm and Tyringham Valley. October Mountain has recently been a fairly reliable spot for Mourning Warblers, as well as a number of other unusual species. Call Ed (413-884-4961) around trip time for meeting time and place. (E)

## **JULY**

**Saturday, July 28. New South Beach.** All day. David Peake-Jones will look for Red Knots and other early shorebird migrants. We'll be walking a long way over wet sand. Bring sun protection, water, food, and \$20 for the boat ride. Call David (413-529-9541) to register. (M)

## **AUGUST**

**\*Saturday, August 11. Knightsville Dam.** Half day. Betsy Higgins repeats her trip to Knightsville Dam WMA. This is a rich habitat where almost anything could turn up. Call Betsy (413-586-7585) for meeting details. (E)