

Hampshire Bird Club, Inc.

REVISED Winter-Spring-Summer Field Trip Schedule, 2007

(Replaces the original field trip schedule (Green) issued in January.)

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 \$0.40 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, while a new coding (A) indicates that the trip is accessible. However, check all information with the trip leaders.*

MARCH

***Saturday, March 10. Great Falls Discovery Center/Turners Falls.** 10 AM to Noon. Jan Ortiz investigates bird life at this wheelchair-accessible and lively location. Binoculars and scopes are available for use as well as other assistive technology such as portable folding chairs, large print field guides, monopods, and listening devices. Meet at the Discovery Center. Please contact Jan Ortiz (549 1768) or the DCR (545 5758) for further information. (E/A)

Wednesday, March 21. Midweek half day in the Connecticut River Valley. Morning. Harvey Allen (413-253-7963) leads a local trip to find seasonal specialties, probably migrating waterfowl. Meet at 7:30 a.m. across from Atkin's Farm (on the corner of Rt. 116 and Bay Road, Amherst). (E)

Saturday, March 24. Connecticut River Waterfowl. Half day. Al Richards shows you to the waterfowl migrating along the Connecticut River. Call Al (413-665-2761) for meeting information as the date approaches. (E)

APRIL

***Saturday, April 14. Norwottuck Rail Trail/Station Road, Amherst.** 10 AM to Noon. Jan Ortiz investigates bird life at this wheelchair accessible and lively location. Binoculars and scopes are available for use as well as other assistive technology such as portable folding chairs, large print field guides, monopods, and listening devices. Meet at the Station Road rail trail parking lot. Please contact Jan Ortiz (549 1768) or the DCR (545 5758) for further information. (E/A).

***Saturday, April 14. Ashley Reservoir: Early Warblers.** Half day. Mike Locher tries to fill Bob Bieda's shoes in searching out early migrants. We're hoping to find Pine and Palm Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and migrating Broad-winged Hawks and Ospreys. Meet at the Holiday Inn parking lot, Exit 15 ("Holyoke Mall") off Rt. 91 at 7:00 a.m. (If anybody is interested, we may listen for American Woodcock nearby in the predawn hours. Call Mike (413-585-5864) to express interest and get meeting details.) (E)

Wednesday, April 18. Midweek half day in the Connecticut River Valley. Morning. Harvey Allen (413-253-7963) looks for the early migrants Bob missed. Meet at 7:30 a.m. across from Atkin's Farm (on the corner of Rt. 116 and Bay Road, Amherst). (E)

***Saturday, April 21. More 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 Street in Northampton. (E)

MAY

On the first three **Tuesdays** in May, we will offer guided walks at Wildwood Cemetery (E) in Amherst from 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. Meet in the small parking area just outside the entrance on Strong Street. On the first three **Thursdays** in May, we will offer guided walks along the rail trail (E/A) from 6:30-8:30 a.m. Look to the newsletter for leaders and more details as the time approaches.

Saturday, May 12. Spring Migration in the Quabbin. All day. Tom Gagnon guides birders through the Quabbin in search of its varied avifauna. This trip is limited to Hampshire Bird Club members only. Call Tom (413-584-6353) well ahead of time for meeting information and to register. (M)

Saturday, May 12. Norwottuck Rail Trail/Station Road, Amherst. 10 AM to Noon. Jan Ortiz investigates bird life at this wheelchair accessible and lively location. Binoculars and scopes are available for use as well as other assistive technology such as portable folding chairs, large print field guides, monopods, and listening devices. Meet at the Station Road rail trail parking lot. Please contact Jan Ortiz (549 1768) or the DCR (545 5758) for further information. (E/A).

Sunday, May 13. Mt. Auburn Cemetery. All day. David Peake-Jones goes to Boston's most historic cemetery, which is also one of the Eastern Massachusetts' birding hotspots, to see what happens to fly in. The numbers and variety can be astonishing. Call David (413-529-9541) for meeting information. (E)

Wednesday, May 16. Midweek half day in the Connecticut River Valley. Morning. Harvey Allen (413-253-7963) shows off his favorite birding spots. Meet at 7:00 a.m. across from Atkin's Farm (on the corner of Rt. 116 and Bay Road, Amherst). (E)

Saturday, May 19. Coastal Rhode Island. All day. Geoff LeBaron heads to our petite southern neighbor for the warm (really, this time) season to track down migrants and other seasonal specialties. Call Geoff (413-268-9281) for meeting information and further details. (E)

Friday, May 25 – Monday, May 28. Monhegan Island. Overnight trip. Betsy Higgins and Andrew Magee guide birders on the Hampshire Bird Club's annual pilgrimage to this charming Atlantic isle. Not only is the island charming, but the migrating birds can be astonishing. This trip is limited to Hampshire Bird Club members only. Call Betsy (413-586-7585) to register. (E/M)

Saturday, May 26. Poor Man's Monhegan. All day. Bob Bieda guides the rest of us to Massachusetts' less artsy, but no less birdy, isle. Past trips have found Wilson's Phalaropes, Piping Plovers, Seaside Sparrows, Orchard Orioles, and Evening Grosbeaks. Call Bob (413-527-2623) to register and get meeting information. (E)

JUNE

Saturday, June 2. Westover Air Force Base. Half day. Pending permission, Bob Bieda will lead his annual trip into New England's premier grassland habitat, looming for Upland Sandpipers, Bobolinks, Grasshopper Sparrows, and Eastern Meadowlarks. This trip is limited to Hampshire Bird Club members only, and is wheelchair accessible. Call Bob (413-527-2623) to register and check on the date and time for meeting. (E/A)

Saturday, June 2. Norwottuck Rail Trail/Station Road, Amherst. 10 AM to Noon. Jan Ortiz investigates bird life at this wheelchair accessible and lively location. Binoculars and scopes are available for use as well as other assistive technology such as portable folding chairs, large print field guides, monopods, and listening devices. Meet at the Station Road rail trail parking lot. Please contact Jan Ortiz (549 1768) or the DCR (545 5758) for further information. (E/A).

***Saturday, June 9. West Quabbin ramble.** Half day. Dave Gross offers a trip "through his backyard" and will be listening for nesting migrants, permanent residents, and hiking through blooming Mountain Laurel. If this sounds appealing, email or call David (413-253-2897) for further details. (M)

Sunday, June 10. Mt. Greylock. Full Day. David Peake-Jones will revive this never-predictable trip to our states' highest point. We can expect some high altitude breeders, great views, and maybe even the elusive Mourning Warbler. Please expect to hike up to a mile or two on the AT and other rough hiking trails. Please call David (413-529-9541) for meeting details. (M)

Saturday, June 16. Hammonasset Beach State Park, CT. All day. In a new trip for the Hampshire Bird Club, Betsy Higgins goes to the coast of Connecticut to find unusual sparrows, rails, and other seaside denizens. Call Betsy (413-586-7585) for details as the date approaches. (E)

Wednesday, June 20. Midweek half day in the Connecticut River Valley. Morning. Harvey Allen (413-253-7963) leads birders through the local landscape, seeking out late migrants. Meet at 6:00 a.m. across from Atkin's Farm (on the corner of Rt. 116 and Bay Road, Amherst). (E)

Friday-Sunday, June 22-24. Connecticut Lakes, NH. Overnight trip. David Peake-Jones and Mike Locher fill in for Tom Gagnon this year. They will be leading this trip to northern New Hampshire. Migrants, boreal specialties, and moose abound. This trip is limited to Hampshire Bird Club members only. Contact David (413-529-9541) or Mike (413-585-5864) to register. (M)

JULY

Saturday, July 28. New South Beach, I. All day. David Peake-Jones goes looking for early migrating shorebirds, especially Red Knots. Bring a lunch, a jacket, water and \$20 for the boat ride. Call David (413-529-9541) to register. (M)

AUGUST

Saturday, August 25. New South Beach, II. All day. Bob Bieda leads birders in their quest for late shorebird migrants, including Curlew Sandpipers and Marbled and Hudsonian Godwits. Bring a lunch, a jacket, and \$20 for the boat ride. Call Bob (413-527-2623) to register. (M)