

SANCTUARY

Newsletter of the
White Memorial
Conservation Center
Vol. XXVI No. 2
Spring 2008

Museum Hours:

Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

For Information

Phone: 860-567-0857
E-Mail: info@whitememorialcc.org
Website: www.whitememorialcc.org



Spring Peepers will soon fill the forests with their calls.
Photo Credit: Howard Kessler and National Wildlife Magazine

Invasive Aquatic Plants and Plant Species Diversity

By John P. Roche

Purple Loosestrife is lovely. A plant with a vivid purple flower, and the ability to spread its bright hues across a body of fresh water, it brings delight to many in the eastern U.S. The problem is, it did not evolve here, and so it can spread rapidly and aggressively, doing ecological harm as it does so. Just a few plants, if reaching a wetland habitat, can add a huge bank of seeds to the soil. One plant can produce three million seeds per year, and these seeds can then be dispersed by wind, by birds, and by mammals. These seeds can then start new individual plants, which will in turn produce massive amounts of seeds. Once seeds germinate, loosestrife plants can crowd out native plants, taking over entire wetlands, changing the structure of wetland and aquatic habitats, and reducing plant and wildlife species diversity. Introduced to North America from Europe in the 19th Century, Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) is now aggressively spreading through freshwater ecosystems of eastern and midwestern North America—it is what is known as an invasive species.

Invasive plant species are a big problem in Connecticut. Invasive plants can grow rapidly, reproduce at a high rate, and can often disperse easily over large areas. They are also generally free from the natural ecological checks and balances to which they would be subject in their native environments, giving them a huge advantage over native plants. As a result, invasive plant species can disrupt the ecosystems in which they live, crowding

out native species and altering the ecological interconnections that have evolved a finely tuned balance in native communities. This can lead to loss of species, disruption of ecosystem function, and economic costs.

The Connecticut Invasive Plant List, produced by the Connecticut Invasive Plants Council, lists 22 invasive aquatic and wetland plants. Invasive aquatic plants pose a range of ecological and economic threats to Connecticut. Given their negative effects, scientists are moved to ask the question, what factors can protect aquatic habitats in Connecticut from invasive species? One factor that has been hypothesized to possibly provide protection is the number of species present in an aquatic habitat, what is referred to by ecologists as species diversity. The more native species that are there, the thinking goes, the harder it will be for an invasive species population to take hold. This seems to make sense—but is it actually true? Robert Capers and colleagues from the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven recently set out to find the answer.

Capers and colleagues studied the diversity of aquatic plants in 103 lakes in Connecticut. Invasive plants were present in 60 of the lakes. They discovered that in 16 of these lakes, the more plant species there were the fewer invasive species were found. These lakes behaved in accordance with the “species diversity protects against invasive species” hypothesis. However, in 37 of the lakes with invasive plants, there

was no correlation between species richness and number of invasive plant species, and in 7 lakes, species number correlated positively with invasive species number! So clearly, the number of species does not provide protection against invasive species in any general sense. However, there were three invasive species that were less likely to occur where the density of native plants was higher, suggesting that density of native plants does protect against invasion by these selected species.

The Capers study shows that what actually goes on in nature can differ from what “makes sense”, and that specifics of causes and effects can vary among different species. Management plans can thus benefit from careful research of natural communities, and from fine-tuning management to individual species and individual conditions, something that is being pursued productively by the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. The DEP’s work on invasive species includes attempts at eradicating plants recently introduced, such as Water Chestnut, Brazilian Elodea, and Hydrilla, educating the public about invasive species and the benefits of native plants, and promoting management practices that reduce the spread of invasives and preserve water quality.

(Cont'd on page 2)



The wonder of the world,
the beauty and the power,
the shape of things, their
colors, lights and shades,
these I saw. Look ye also
while life lasts.....

Gravestone in
Cumberland, England

Invasive Aquatic Plants cont'd from page 1

For more information about invasive aquatic plant species in Connecticut and what you can do to help, visit the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Non-Native Invasive Plant Species web site at:

[www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp
a=2702&q=323492&depNav_1641](http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2702&q=323492&depNav_1641)

and the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group web site at: www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg/

John Roche teaches biology at Boston College. He is also writing an introductory-biology, college-level textbook for Cengage Learning entitled Discovering Biology



Purple Loosestrife Photo: Robert Bierman



TAKE A HIKE! SEE STARS! EMBRACE NATURE!

WMCC Presents our "No Child Left Inside" 7 Part Series

In Partnership with

The Honorable M. Jodi Rell, Governor and The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

May 10: Dale Jones WZBG FM June 7: Mark the Shark NBC 30/ WTIC FM

July 5: Desiree Fontaine WTNH

Coming...Allison Demers WRCH, Teresa Labarbera WFSB,

Rachel Lutzker FOX 61, Diane Smith WTIC AM

see page 4 for details

Make a Difference

In her continuing series, Zoë Greenwood helps you find small ways to help the environment.

Let's talk dirt. I am not referring to the latest Hollywood gossip, nor what the people down the road are doing. I am talking about soil- the wonderful, wondrous brown stuff that is the surface layer of the earth, which supports plant-life and where plants grow.

Americans spend unbelievable amounts of money on fertilizer for their gardens. Some of that chemical concoction runs off the ground and into the water system. That is not good. It's downright dangerous to the little water plants and critters and the rest of us, too.

There is, however, a way to make soil more fertile without spending ANY money and without using ANY chemicals. I am talking compost, people. Old lettuce leaves and carrot stubs and potato peels and moldy bread crusts that somehow, quite wonderfully, become rich brown soil for your veggie and flower gardens.

How hard is it to make compost? How much time is needed? Not hard, not much time. You can make compost lots of different ways. I'll tell only about the easiest and least time consuming - cold compost. First, find an out of the way area of your yard, start saving kitchen waste- no meat or dairy, please; put the waste onto the spot on the ground, cover with a shovelful of soil and wait. Dead houseplant? Into to compost pile, dirt and all it goes. Tired macaroni? Into the pile. Old cake? Pile. You get it. Every month or so, stir the pile so decomposition happens sooner. When the whole pile looks like dirt, it is ready to use. Viola! Just add it to flower, veggie and container gardens as you would any commercial fertilizer.

Yes, you can get fancy and make a bin or a container, if you want. Add leaves in small doses in the fall (compost the rest of the leaves in a separate pile), but you don't need to - the ground will work just fine.

Usually spring brings with it a plethora of rain. This is a good thing... Sometimes it's too much of a good thing. Did you ever wish you could save some of that rain for the drier times sure to come, later in the year? Another easy fix - set up a rain barrel, or two or three. In fact, anyplace that you have a drain spout. Get a classy wooden barrel, or an old trash barrel, or a child's wading pool. Divert the water that would normally go down the drain into a collection area and viola - a rain barrel. If you are worried about mosquitoes, you can purchase environmentally friendly larva killing rounds. You can also float a thin layer of vegetable oil on the water.

Not a lot of work with either project. There are plenty of rewards, though. As always, keep it simple and...

make a difference.

RESEARCH FORUM

Story and Photo By James Fischer

We rarely find people who truly cherish the act of creating new knowledge about the world around us. Surely we all know individuals who apply information in ways that improve our society. But the mind that creates new ways of thinking or ideas about how the world functions requires foresight and patience that is rarely seen. Mr. Gordon Loery celebrates his 50th year of banding songbirds at White Memorial with the primary objective of gaining a better understanding of the natural world. Although Gordon has lived a full life by creating a family, traveling the world, and working with world renowned scientific personalities; this article recognizes Mr. Loery's scientific contributions. So this short piece recapitulates his discoveries to the field of avian population ecology.

Mr. Loery's principle subject is the Black-capped Chickadee, a bird that we are all familiar with due to its vivid presence at all feeders but tends to elude our understanding maybe due to its commonness.

Nevertheless, Gordon has captured over 30 species of songbirds at his station, to which every individual received a uniquely numbered band that fit around one of their legs. All the while Gordon's gentle nature heeds care not to impact the livelihood of each bird he captured. These practices were maintained each and every feasible day for 50 years. Gordon increased our understanding of how birds lived by describing the changes that occurred within their own populations and associations. Tufted Titmice were only occasionally encountered in the early years of Gordon's banding station; eventually Tufted Titmice formed a stable resident population at his banding station. This abrupt change in the songbird community disrupted the Black-capped Chickadee population temporarily, but demonstrated how changes in one animal population can ripple throughout the rest of the bird community. This dynamic also demonstrated the resiliency that natural communities have to disruptions and forces us to give credit to the tenacity of natural communities in an environment that humans now dominate.

Winter resident birds received

special attention. How they survive the season when the weather is inclement and food resources are limited indicates the viability of bird populations that migrate to breeding grounds or birds that reside here throughout the year. When Gordon analyzed the winter resident bird population data he discovered that young birds do not survive as well as adults, which do not have equal chances of surviving each year as they age. Equal adult survivorship was an assumption that many bird ecologists made prior to Gordon's discoveries, a discovery, which has contributed to a transformation of how we perceive wildlife populations on our changing landscape.

Gordon attributes all of his conclusions to the fact that he has conducted his banding operations over a long time period, which has given him a perspective that ecological processes occur over longer periods of time.

However, the changes that we cause tend to occur over shorter periods of time and to a much greater degree of severity. The forests surrounding Gordon's station have changed; maples, oaks, and ashes dominate where birches, cherry, and willows once stood.

Black-capped Chickadees excavate cavities for shelter in the earlier forest species and are less likely to excavate cavities in the tree species that dominate today's forests. Vegetation succession requires a broader viewpoint through time to observe the effects on wildlife populations. Yet, we are changing the landscape due to a variety of ways with unpredictable impacts on wildlife populations.

Gordon Loery provides us with a perspective that "patience is a virtue" and we appreciate it at White Memorial. Gordon started the long-term monitoring programs that continue to this day. Previous research articles demonstrate the new projects that have started on the property with the same gestalt as Gordon's projects. We answer very complicated questions that require broader perspectives while simultaneously examining finer details. We thank Gordon for his continued support and guidance during this time when wildlife populations demand his perspective now more than ever.



My Little Chickadee: Gordon Loery at work

**VISIT
THE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP
FOR THAT SPECIAL
BIRDER IN YOUR LIFE!**

THE IFLYER BIRD WAND

SIMPLY PRESS A BUTTON, SCAN A BARCODE, AND IFLYER PLAYS A HIGH-QUALITY DIGITAL RECORDING OF A BIRD'S SONG. THE SCANCODE LABELS CAN BE ADDED TO ANY OF YOUR FAVORITE FIELD GUIDES AND BIRD BOOKS. IFLYER PUTS 216 BIRD AND FROG SONGS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS AND IS PORTABLE AND PERFECT FOR BIRD WALKS.



"Whatever peace I know rests in the natural world, in feeling myself a part of it, even in a small way."

May Sarton, *Journal of Solitude*



Spring Calendar of Events





For more information on any of our programs, please call us at 860-567-0857

MARCH

- 29 **Vernal Pools Monitoring Training...Adult Workshop**
see page 7

APRIL

- 5 **Why Iceland?** Gerri Griswold, takes you on a pictorial journey to an otherworldly place known for its pure air and water, fascinating culture, and jaw dropping landscapes
10 AM, A. B. Ceder Room
- 12 **Field Sketching for the Family**
Betsy Rogers-Knox has been drawing and painting since childhood. Her published work includes cover designs for "Herb Quarterly" magazine and over 30 greeting card designs. Paper and pencils provided. 2 PM
Mott-Van Winkle Classroom
- 12 **Nest Box Construction for Cavity Nesting Birds**
with Dave Rosgen.
Adult Workshop
see page 7 
- 14 - 18 **April Vacation Programs. Call the Museum in Mid-March for details!**
- 19 **Reptiles and Amphibians**
Dave Rosgen introduces you to native reptiles and amphibians. A walk will follow. Dress for the weather!
2:00 PM, A. B. Ceder Room
- 20 - 26 **Museum Kids Free Week.**
In Memory of Louise W. Willson*
- 25/26 **18th Annual Museum Sleep-In**
see page 8
- 26 **Bats: Earth Allies**
Explore the remarkable world of bats with Gerri Griswold and her two tiny friends. Pre-registration required. Ages 8 to Adult 1:00 PM
A.B.Ceder Room 

* Free admission to Children ages 12 and under when accompanied by an adult

MAY

- 2 **WMCC Annual Meeting 3:30 PM**
- 3 **Spring Wildflower Eco-Tour**
with Bill Moorhead.
Adult Workshop...
see page 7 
- 3 **An Evening Walk to Little Pond**
with Dave Rosgen. 5 PM Meet at White's Woods Road entrance to Little Pond trail. Ages 10 to Adult
- 10 **Take a Hike!**
With Dale Jones from *Morning Live!* on FM 97.3 WZBG
The First of our **"No Child Left Inside" Series**
Follow Dale on a walk to Bantam Lake while participating in a scavenger hunt...
Pre Registration required.
Space is limited!
10AM Museum Parking Lot.
- 10 **Zebras! Nature Jewelry Class**
with Kerry Lucid...Make a bracelet with flower beads for Mother's Day & color a special card for Mom. Learn why zebras make great mothers!
Comes with gift box. Ages 4-12.
Fee: \$16 Class Limit: 10,
Pre Registration required
2:00PM A.B.Ceder Room 
- 11-17 **Museum Kids Free Week**
Courtesy of Tara and Arthur Diedrick *
- 17 **Spring Migration BirdWalk**
with Dave Rosgen 9:30AM
Meet at The Museum
- 24 **The Mighty Have Fallen: American Chestnut..**
Members of the CT Chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation tell the alarming story of this majestic tree. Learn about ecology, the blight and its' effects on the tree, past restoration efforts and the CT-ACF's program to restore the chestnut. A walk to the WMF Chestnut Grove follows.
10:00AM A.B.Ceder Room
- 25 - 31 **Museum Kids Free Week.**
Honoring Helen Ryan Donnelly *
- 31 **Wildman Steve Brill**
The Nation's greatest forager comes to White Memorial.
see page 5 for details

JUNE

- 7 **Take a Hike!**
With Mark the Shark
from NBC 30 and WTIC FM.
The second segment of our **"No Child Left Inside" Series**
Take a walk to Ongley Pond with Shark and his friend, Captain Jack, while participating in a scavenger hunt...Pre Registration required.
Space is limited.
10AM Museum Parking Lot.
- 8 **Museum Closed... Litchfield Hills Road Race**
- 8 - 14 **Museum Kids Free Week**
In Memory of Louise W. Willson*
- 14 **Tree Walk** with Lukas Hyder, Forest Superintendent 10:00 AM
- 14 **Stampin' Up!** With Betty Linsky. Make nature theme Father's Day cards using markers, stamps, and card stock. Make 1, 2, or 3. \$2.00 per card. Ages 6 and up.
Pre registration required. 2:00PM A.B. Ceder Room
- 21 **New England Butterflies**
Torrington resident and nature photographer Don Kenney shares his twenty year passion for native butterflies with a slide presentation. Moths and dragonflies will be highlighted as well. Afterwards, take a walk with Don to our nectar and butterfly gardens.
2PM A.B.Ceder Room
- 28 **Nowhere is a Place: Chilean Patagonia**
Gerri Griswold takes you to one of the last great wildernesses on our planet. The 450,000 acre Torres del Paine National Park is home to a diverse array of plants, animals and microclimates.
10:00A.M. A.B. Ceder Room
- 29 **July 5 Museum Kids Free Week**
In Memory of Louise W. Willson*



JULY

- 5 **Take a Hike!**
with Desiree Fontaine, from WTNH News Channel 8
Call Museum for more information. 860-567-0857

VERONICA

by Gerri Griswold

Photo by Leo Kulinski

The dividends which lured me from a broadcasting career to working for The White Memorial Conservation Center are countless. The 4,000 acres and our beautiful Museum, the people who work here and visit here are most obvious. One benefit, however, was not listed in my new employee dossier: that of a chance encounter with

Veronica, the Red tailed Hawk.

Veronica has been a regular fixture around these parts for many years. A visit from her when you enter or exit the Museum will leave you breathless.

Veronica's story is told in a book by Leo Kulinski, local author and photographer, and a WMCC member.

Through the generosity of *The Litchfield Hills Audubon Society*, "Veronica the Red tailed Hawk" is in its second printing and will be available soon with more of Leo's stunning photos. For Veronica's many groupies, a tee shirt is now available in The Museum Gift Shop.



NORTHWEST CONSERVATION DISTRICT

EARTH DAY NATIVE PLANT SALE

APRIL 25, 26, & 27 2008
GOSHEN FAIR GROUNDS

www.conservect.org/northwest

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

27th Annual Family Nature Day
September 27th, 2008

featuring
WIND OVER WINGS
and a performance by
SIRIUS COYOTE
proudly sponsored by
Northwest Community Bank &
Litchfield Bancorp

TAKE A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE
MAY 31, 2008

WILDMAN STEVE BRILL



THE NATION'S GREATEST FORAGER, WILDMAN STEVE BRILL, VISITS WHITE MEMORIAL ON MAY 31 AT 1:00 PM. WILDMAN WILL LEAD A WALK WHERE PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN HANDS ON ABOUT RENEWABLE RESOURCES, OUR ENVIRONMENT, AND WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PRESERVE AND REBUILD OUR NONRENEWABLE ECOLOGICAL RICHES. BRING DRINKING WATER, PLASTIC BAGS FOR VEGGIES AND HERBS, PAPER BAGS FOR MUSHROOMS. GARDEN DIGGING IMPLEMENTS SUGGESTED. NO SANDALS OR SMOKING!

PRE REGISTRATION REQUIRED. CLASS LIMIT: 45
1:00 P.M. A.B.CEDER ROOM. MEMBERS: \$10.00,
NON MEMBERS: \$15.00, CHILDREN UNDER 12: \$5.00
CALL THE MUSEUM FOR DETAILS 567-0857
www.wildmanstevebrill.com

Children's Summer Programs 2008

Give your child the gift of nature this summer at White Memorial.

Wee Discoverers weekly story hour series for 4 and 5 year-olds featuring stories, songs, and crafts.

Nature Adventurers for children entering 1st and 2nd grades. Focus is on the interdependence of living things, the variety in the natural world, and the importance of recycling to minimize our impact on the earth. Hands-on discoveries, games, books, songs, and crafts are offered.

Natural History Explorers for children entering grades 3 through 9 are more in-depth, all day programs



Tentative dates for this year run from June 23 through August 8.
Please call the Museum at 567-0857 to request a registration form
or check our website www.whitememorialcc.org after March 15

I was impressed with David Leff's thoughtful lead article in the last issue of *Sanctuary* entitled "Beyond Conservation". However, I can not entirely agree with his conclusions. He began by arguing that it is not enough to simply protect and preserve our sanctuaries since "natural processes and unintentional human activity will cause change regardless of our protective notions." I wholeheartedly agree with that premise. I have been operating a bird banding station on White Memorial Foundation property at the same location using the same techniques for fifty years and have been impressed with the dramatic changes that have taken place during that time period. For example Tufted Titmice, which in the late 1950's were very rare spring transients, are now well-established as one of the top five permanent residents at our station. They are a southern species extending their range northward. American Tree Sparrows, on the other hand, which until quite recently were the winter visitors from the north with the highest rate of returns from previous years, now very rarely if ever return. (See *Sanctuary*, Vol. XXII, No. 2, spring 2004). I suspect that this decline is the result of land developments on the adjacent Winvian Farm property which may



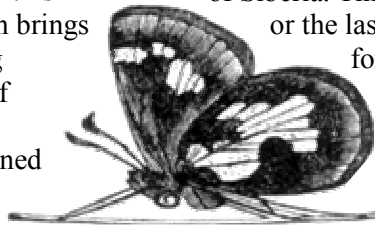
have made it more difficult for them to exercise their well developed homing abilities.

Assuming, quite properly, we live in an ever changing world Mr. Leff goes on to claim "it makes sense to level a forest to plant grasslands for meadowlarks and bobolinks." This is where I disagree. I fail to see the justification or the need for such radical surgery. Rather I think it would be wiser to make use of natural processes of change in a more conservative way. To do this one would first have to take a thorough inventory of

**Beyond Conservation:
A Rebuttal
By Gordon Loery**

the wildlife populations on an area proposed for management. This would have to be followed by a long-term monitoring program designed to reveal the changes, both natural and man made, taking place on the property. This would, in turn, enable one to encourage desirable changes and discourage or eliminate entirely undesirable changes. All of this would take time which brings to mind the old saying "Patience is a virtue of great".

I have underlined the word "thorough" above to emphasize the great diversity of wildlife populations which is all too often overlooked by wildlife managers. I have seen examples of this great diversity in my own experiences in the field. Last fall I went out late one afternoon to bring in my bird traps before the resident raccoons could reach them and I was surprised to find one of the traps occupied by a Woodland Jumping Mouse, a small kangaroo-like creature with a very long tail and hind feet longer and larger than the front



ones. Another time I went out on a field trip to a sanctuary in Norfolk with Sid Hessel, a first rate amateur lepidopterist who lived in Washington, CT. He found a caterpillar he had never seen before. As was his habit he took it home with him along with the plant it was feeding on. In time it turned into a moth he had never seen before and could not identify. He then took it down to Charles Remington, a first rate professional lepidopterist at Yale. The moth turned out to be a species that had never been found before any place in the world outside of Siberia. This would not be the first or the last time that Sid had found something out of the ordinary on one of his days in the field. One of his finds turned out to be new to science and was consequently named the Hessel Hair-streak.

I think the more conservative approach to wildlife management outlined above is less likely to be detrimental to the survival of the less common, more obscure species, such as the jumping mouse and the Siberian moth, which together are an important component of a healthy, diverse wildlife community. The more diverse the greater the stability of the community. A man-made grassland community in Connecticut is not likely to be stable.

**Beyond Conservation: A Synopsis
By James Fischer**

I recognized a profound learning opportunity for our membership as I was reading Mr. Loery's response to David Leff's article in the previous edition of the newsletter. These visionaries have provided us with perspective that can guide us into a future where all of Connecticut's flora and fauna can be enjoyed by future generations. Mr. Leff's perspective espouses that we must cultivate an environment that encourages all native species and communities to ensure their perpetuity, while Mr. Loery expressed the vital essence of inventorying species and monitoring these communities to measure the quality of these critical habitats. Initially, some might see these perspectives as opposing forces in a rapidly changing world. I do not, but rather see this dialogue as a balanced approach that challenges us to provide a long-term perspective when conserving wildlife and natural communities. Unfortunately, I rarely encounter either of these perspectives when I review the mission statements of other land conservation organizations throughout North America. White Memorial is fortunate to be guided by such visionaries. You can observed these ideas in action throughout the property and the mindsets of our members. During your next visit to White Memorial or while visiting another familiar area, I encourage you to keep these perspectives in mind and to take part in ensuring that these places and this region's natural history are present for future generations.

Adult Nature Study Workshops - Spring 2008

Vernal Pools Monitoring Training

March 29, 2008 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Fee: \$25.00 Veteran Pool Monitor \$50 New Pool Monitor

Last year we inventoried 120 pools on the property, of which more than half served as breeding habitat for vernal pool obligated species. We will continue our efforts this year, but with an emphasis on monitoring this critical habitat. **Hank Gruner**, Connecticut herpetologist for 30 years and the new VP for Programs at Connecticut Science Center in Hartford, will facilitate our training once again this year. Veterans bring your dip nets, field guides, and boots; if you need to replace a book or dip net call the Museum to order a new one. New recruits, you will receive the required gear (dip net and field guide) and assignments to your pools. We look forward to some new faces, so don't be shy. We need all the help that we can get!

Nest-box Construction for Cavity Nesting Birds

April 12, 2008 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM Fee: \$30.00 Member \$50.00 Non-Members

Several native bird species require long-term conservation strategies to insure these populations for future generations. One tactic for cavity nesting bird conservation is constructing and maintaining nest-boxes in appropriate habitat. **David Rosgen** will introduce participants to the proper construction, maintenance, and monitoring of nest-boxes which are commonly used by several native species (Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, Black-capped Chickadee, and others). Each participant will construct a nest-box to take home or other property with appropriate habitat. Participants need to have some experience working with hand tools, but will be supervised during construction.

Spring Wildflower Eco-Tour

May 3, 2008 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Rain Date: May 17, 2008 Fee: \$70.00 Members \$95.00 Non-Members

Bill Moorhead will introduce participants to some of the spring ephemeral wildflowers. Spending time in the field with Bill is a real treat! Bill is an independent consulting field botanist based in western Connecticut. He has specialized for 20 years in the search for populations of rare plants/habitats, the study of plant communities, and the factors determining their species composition and distribution. His clients include the CT-DEP, The Nature Conservancy, Northeast Utilities, and the National Audubon Society. Highlights of his work in Connecticut include the rediscovery of 24 plant species presumed extirpated, and the discovery of approximately 600 new populations of rare plants. Participants should bring 10x magnifying lens and field guides, if you need any of these items contact the Museum Gift Shop. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a bagged lunch with water. Dress for the weather. Limited number of participants. Register early!

Clip & Mail

_____ **Vernal Pools Monitoring Training** Veterans: \$25; New Pool Monitor: \$50

_____ **Nest Box Construction**..... Member: \$30 Non Member \$50

_____ **Spring Wildflower Eco-Tour** Member: \$70 Non Member: \$95

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Please circle one: member non-member

Payment enclosed:

Program fee: \$ _____ Membership fee: \$ _____ Total \$ _____

Become a member of the White Memorial Conservation Center and take advantage of the member discount, along with free admission to the Nature Museum, a discount in the Gift Shop, and receipt of the quarterly newsletter and calendar of events. Your tax-deductible fee will help sponsor programs like these. A family membership is \$45.00 per year and individual is \$30.00.

For more information call the Museum at 860-567-0857

CEUs available

Make check payable to White Memorial Conservation Center and mail to:
White Memorial, P.O. Box 368, Litchfield CT 06759.



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LITCHFIELD, CT 06759
PERMIT NO. 10

The White Memorial Conservation Center
P.O. Box 368
Litchfield, CT 06759

What's Inside This
Edition of
SANCTUARY

Make a Difference 2

Take a Hike!
Seven Part Celebrity
Series kicks off with
Dale Jones
FM 97.3 WZBG
and
Mark the Shark
NBC 30 & WTICFM
..... pages 2 & 4

Research Forum.....3

Events Calendar.....4

Children's Summer
Programs.....5

A Rebuttal.....6

Adult Nature Study
Workshops.....7

**18th Annual
Museum Sleep-In**

APRIL 25-26, 2008

FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 12:00 NOON

(FOR GRADES 4 - 6)

- ✓ **MAKE A FISH PRINT** ✓ **BUILD A BIRD HOUSE**
- ✓ **TAKE A TREE HOME TO PLANT**
- ✓ **FIND ADVENTURE IN THE NIGHT** ✓ **LETTER BOXING** ✓ **CREATE-A-FISH**
- ✓ **MAKE A FISHING POLE** ✓ **SEE SOME SPRING WILDLIFE** ✓ **OWL PELLET DISSECTION**
- ✓ **SLEEP NEAR THE SNAKES, TURTLES, HAWKS, OWLS, BEES, VULTURE, AND BEAVER**
- ✓ **HAVE FUN DISCOVERING MORE ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT AND YOURSELF**
- ✓ **AND ENJOY SOME SPECIAL SURPRISES!!**

Cost: \$45/member - \$65/non-member

(Become a Center member and take advantage of member discount!)

DON'T DELAY! This program is limited to 25 participants.

Registration must be received by April 18. First come, first served.

Confirmation will be sent along with a checklist of things to bring.

Fee covers all workshop materials, snacks, and breakfast.

All activities occur rain or shine.

For more information, please call us at 567-0857.

