

SANCTUARY

Newsletter of the
White Memorial
Conservation Center
Vol. XXXIV No. 2
Spring 2016

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



The American Brook Trout
Currier & Ives

Aphrodite of the Hemlocks

by Ed Machowski, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Inland Fisheries Division

Stones and boulders blanketed by a thick emerald carpet of mosses. Tea-colored water cascading from pool to pool. Sunlight intercepted by a thick canopy of hemlock. A forest floor spongy and soft, slightly darkened, even in mid-day. Is this the realm of the mythical hobbit? Could be, but more likely it is the scene along one of the many small, spring-fed headwater streams found across Connecticut - home to the "Aphrodite of the Hemlocks," our only native, non-migratory salmonid, *Salvelinus fontinalis*, the brook trout.

Although it is called a trout, in reality it is a char.

Salvelinus fontinalis roughly translates to "char living in the springs." The differences between each are subtle. The tell-tale difference is that unlike trout, char do not have teeth on the roof of their mouth. Visually, char have light-colored spots contrasted against a dark background, no spots on the head, and pelvic and pectoral fins with a white outer margin followed by a thin black line. Specific to the brook trout, the dorsal surface has an intricate worm-shaped pattern of dark green lines.

Regardless of trout or char, you may know this fish as a speckled trout, native,

square-tail, or brookie. A young lad growing up in northwest Connecticut, I was fortunate to live within walking distance of many woodland streams harboring populations of brookies.



Kingdom of the Brook Trout

Photo credits: Ed Machowski

Countless hours were spent matching my prowess with rod and reel against the often aggressive, but sometimes weary brook trout. No matter how many were caught or what the size, each fish was just as beautiful and magical as the previous. The speed and precision with which they would attack my offering, whether worm or fly, was remarkable and always made my heart race. Sometimes, just sitting streamsides and watching the fish's behavior as they would dart out from an

undercut bank to inhale an insect just before it left the water surface was equally as gratifying. It was obvious that each pool was a kingdom ruled by the king or queen who occupied the prime shelter, current, and feeding pathways, leaving less desirable locations to the smaller fish.

Brook trout can be found from northeastern Canada and the Maritime Provinces southward to Georgia along the Appalachian Mountains, provided a stream has enough elevation or cold springs to be a cold water habitat. The brook trout has a demanding set of standards without which populations will not be successful. Water

temperature must remain cold throughout the hottest summer months, rarely exceeding 68°F. Oxygen levels are at the saturation point and the pH of the water can be slightly to moderately acidic. During the November to December spawning season, females seek out a silt-free bed of gravel, preferably with good groundwater input to build a nest or "red." Once the eggs are laid and fertilized, the upwelling of the groundwater serves to continually aerate the eggs.



(Continued on page 2)

(cont'd. from page 1)

Although picky about water quality and habitat conditions, brook trout are fierce survivors and can persist through extreme drought conditions by finding the last remaining pools in which to hold tight until normal flows resume. During my younger years I witnessed this phenomenon first hand, where under very dry conditions streams would turn into a series of isolated pools with no surface flow connecting them. Within each pool, crowded with more individuals than was intended, they waited. At times like this, I often took the liberty to throw a few extra "hook-free" worms into a likely holding pool.

As a fisheries biologist, I have sampled, over the years, hundreds of small streams across the state. I am often amazed at how brook trout are not only able to persist but flourish under what appears to be such

minimal habitat. Streams with mere inches of water can have hundreds of brookies scattered throughout a 150-meter sample reach. Even more amazing is that a section of stream that had been completely dried up can have some brookies back in action almost immediately after water returns. Such persistence has served the species well and possibly prevented its

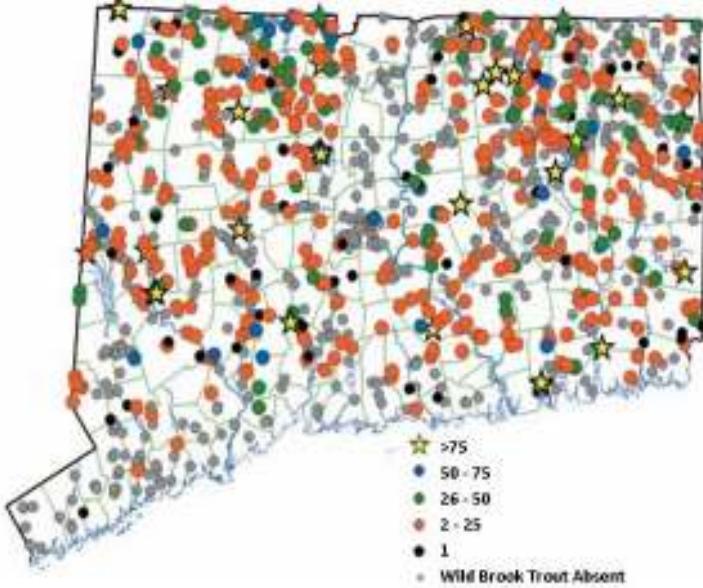
extirpation from Connecticut during our early history.

Early settlers have written accounts of bountiful numbers of brook trout throughout many streams and rivers in Connecticut. However, intensive land clearing and damming of streams to harness the power of water for early industrial purposes that followed resulted in an unintended but

DEEP's Inland Fisheries Division and the Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse shows that self-sustaining native populations of brook trout are primarily found in streams draining less than six square miles, translating to be about a 13-14 foot wide stream. The good news is that the majority, approximately 54%, of the stream miles found in Connecticut are in this range and could be suitable habitat for the brook trout. The bad news is that the historical land use in Connecticut has extirpated brook trout from many of these streams. The success of future generations of brook trout will be determined through the combination of direct effect by humans (such as residential development, storm water run-off, and ground water extraction for drinking water), and environmental conditions (like changes in precipitation patterns, air temperatures, and stream flow reaching more frequent extreme highs and lows). Perhaps the brook trout is a combination of the Greek

gods – the beauty and enticement of Aphrodite coupled with the strength and persistence of Hercules. In the future, it will be important to keep close watch on these populations to prevent loss of Connecticut's native trout . . . I mean char.

Number of Wild Brook Trout in the Sample



significant loss of brookie habitat, including increased water temperatures, barriers to migration, and an increase in the amount of sediment reaching the stream. All of these factors together have reduced suitable brook trout habitat to the point where it can only be found in small steep watersheds.

Collaborative work between the



Top left : Brook Trout Fingerlings.
Other photographs illustrate various morphs of the species.



Make a Difference

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

Two days ago, Hubby and I finished the fifth clean out of other people's belongings in the past three years. In addition, I lost two very close friends this past year and helped their partners dispose of their belongings. Plus, another friend moved to a different state and ran out of time, so she turned to me to empty her 12 X 20 storage unit which was filled to the roof. Oh yes, I also left my job and had to clean out my office and the stuff there. To say that sorting other people's stuff is exhausting, is a huge understatement! I know I wrote of the first of these clean outs three years ago, but I have learned so much in the interim and I want to share it with you. On Thanksgiving, we lost Hubby's favorite aunt. She lived three hours away, in NJ, so cleaning out her things involved weather and time. Fortunately, she had been moved into a tiny apartment and many of her things had already been consolidated, but we still managed to fill the truck. Twelve days later, we lost Hubby's Mom in NY. She lived in a seven room house with a two car garage and a barn. Lots and lots of stuff.

We really lucked out this time, because our son and daughter-in-law were able to come and help for several days. In addition, we were *all* surprised with our daughter's unexpected 2 AM arrival during the same timeframe. She is self-employed and her partner graciously stayed home to keep the business running while she was with us. (Thanks, Floyd.) To say that many hands make light work is so true. Everyone scattered and tackled, or attacked as Kate said, the area of their choosing and dove in to sort stuff.

So, if you are in the process of cleaning out someone else's belongings, please consider the following:

- ◆ Family history secured and stored in acid free boxes? Check.
- ◆ Family pictures gathered in the same space? Check.
- ◆ Family "treasures" dispersed to other family members? Check.
- ◆ Clothing donated? Check.
- ◆ Still useable foodstuffs donated? Check.
- ◆ Useable but unneeded furniture donated? Check.
- ◆ Checking with friends and neighbors to find out what they have been searching for or needing that we might have? Check.
- ◆ Taking time to eat and rest and laugh and giggle? Seems unnecessary, but I assure you it is NOT! Check.

Of course, you realize that this is all in addition to the entire legal situation and estate, which I will not go into here and "living" your own life, at least regarding clean clothes and food. It is huge. Don't underestimate the gift of dropping off supper for someone in the depths of a clean out or offering to run errands. Those, too, are ways of Making a Difference.

But what about *you*, what about *now*, how can you help *your* loved ones before *you go*? Start with a notebook, *that you have shown your offspring*, which contains a general list of lawyers, banks, accountants, brokers, etc. What we all take as run-of-the-mill and

automatic information, the people who are left will not. In that same notebook, jot down the history of the ugly vase in the dining room. Maybe it won't be wanted because it is so ugly, but maybe that will change when people find out it was given to Grandma by a favorite aunt. Maybe it will be just quirky enough to be kept. Make a list of family pieces and their history so that decisions can be made on facts. Also, make a list of people to notify. I spent an entire afternoon writing letters to people I don't know who knew my mother-in-law. I was lucky, it was Christmas time and she had saved the envelopes that the cards came in. You might not be so lucky. Maybe it will be July when you are faced with this task. *Have the awkward conversations with those you love.* Nobody gets out of this life alive. Consider it your final gift to them.

Lastly, look around your own surroundings. Today alone, I got rid of two ugly pillows, a vase, a candle, two lamps, a plate, three table coverings and an ice bucket. All of those things are still useful to someone, just not something that I want to share my space with or dust. I am going to start on the clothes next week. Each week, I am going to try and fill the tote in the garage with things to give away or donate. I am only keeping things around me that I truly love (good thing for Hubby). I have too much stuff. You have too much stuff. Get rid of it now and.....

Make a Difference for those you love.



WHITE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION NOW CONSERVES 4009 ACRES

Thanks to the generosity of our members, White Memorial grew by 49.4 acres in 2015 and now conserves a total of 4,009 acres in the Towns of Litchfield and Morris. Two parcels were acquired in 2015 starting with 38.8 acres from the estate of John Lysobey, located on the north and south side of Slab Meadow Road in Morris. It is of interest to note that White Memorial sold this same property to Mr. Lysobey in 1945. At that time the property was well south of other White Memorial lands. Since then additional land has been acquired so this parcel was closer to White Memorial core property than it was in 1945. In

conjunction with the Lysobey purchase we contacted the Ellis family who owned the land between the Lysobey parcel and White Memorial's land to the north. Mrs. Ellis agreed to sell us an additional 10.6 acres so we could connect the parcels. We cannot thank her enough for her help. With this addition the Foundation staff, with the help of a number of volunteers, have added two new trails, which are accessible from either Slab Meadow Road or from the Mattatuck Trail near Beaver Pond. With the addition of these trails, which are two miles in length, the White Memorial trail system now stands at over 40 miles.

We're Participating in
GIVE LOCAL
Greater Waterbury & Litchfield Hills!
Give Where Your Heart Is!
Your donations will be amplified
May 3 - 4, 2016
www.GiveLocalCCE.org

Now every field is clothed
with grass,
and every tree with leaves;
now the woods put forth
their blossoms, and the
year assumes its gay attire.

~ Virgil

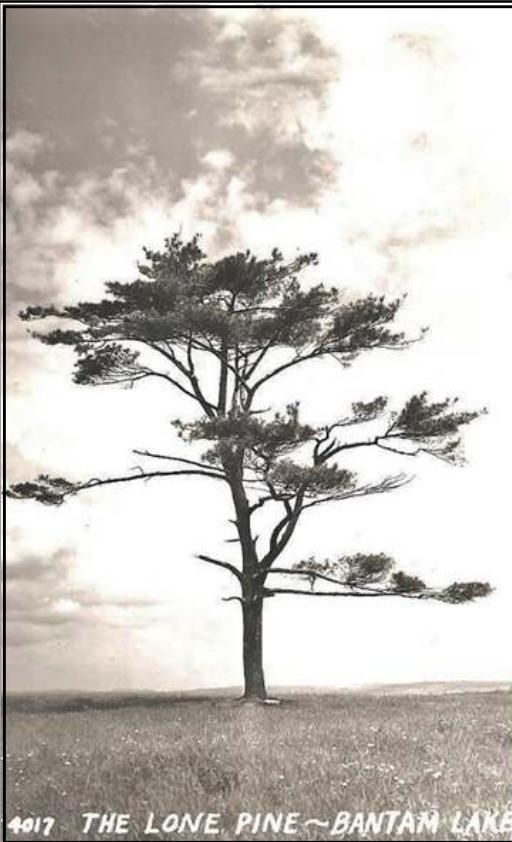


BEFORE THE WHITES - LONE PINE HILL

BY LEE SWIFT

Overlooking Bantam Lake from the east, Lone Pine Hill – now known as Apple Hill – is the highest point, at 1160 feet, bordering the Lake. Starting from the small parking lot at #142 East Shore Road, a panoramic view awaits everyone who walks up the trail to the observation platform. Along the way and scattered in the fields are apple trees, once part of an orchard that Lyman Whittlesey started planting in the late 19th century. As reported by his father David in the 1880 Agricultural Census for Morris, there were 200 fruit bearing trees. Other names associated with the hill are Orton Hill, Whittlesey's Hill, and Lone Tree Hill. The White Memorial Foundation purchased the 193 acre farm and buildings from James M. Whittlesey in 1937.

In the summer of 1859 when Morris separated from Litchfield, a celebratory picnic was held on the hill. At that time the scraggly old pine tree dominated the hilltop and was visible from surrounding hills and across Bantam Lake. Standing alone on top of



the hill, it became a victim of the August 1955 hurricanes. Having survived the storms, two days later the tree fell to the ground. Dorothy Towne, who lived on West Street in Morris, recalled that "I looked out over the familiar landscape from my window, [and] it was gone." The Lone Pine became part of the Morris Town Seal in a contest held during the 1976 U.S. Bicentennial.

At the beginning of the Apple Hill Trail, the building - #142 East Shore Road - is now a private residence. It once served as a farmhouse; Alms House/Poor House; Inn; and Youth Hostel – but that is another story.

Starting in the fall of 2012, clearing and the construction of brush piles were initiated by WMF to provide a shrubby habitat suitable for the New England Cottontail rabbit and other wildlife species. Today, from the west side of the Lake (Route 209), the hill is barely visible through the trees that have grown in the fields, once the home of grazing cows and livestock from the neighborhood farms



Science has never drummed up quite as effective a tranquilizing agent as a sunny spring day.

~W. Earl Hall



MICROSCOPIC PLASTIC PROJECT BY JAMES FISCHER, WMCC DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Microscopic plastic fragments, or microplastics, are regularly observed in marine and freshwater ecosystems. The public is generally unaware of the prevalence of microplastics in the environment, where they originate, and the potential impact of this pollutant. Microplastics originate as larger plastic pieces that break down when exposed to the sun's UV radiation or by other physical and chemical interactions. Microplastics also originate from manufactured products used as abrasion or polishing materials, including several household items such as cosmetic products. Sewage treatment facilities do not capture microplastics, thereby allowing them to enter waterways. Plas-

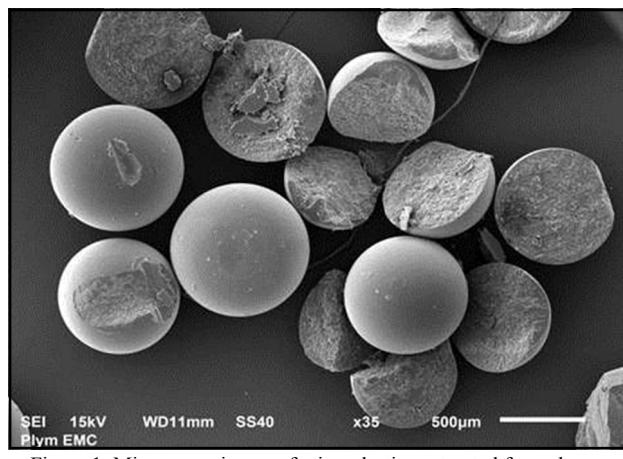


Figure 1 Microscopy image of microplastics extracted from shower gel. Photo Credit A. Bakir and RC Thompson Plymouth University

tic particles release chemicals as they breakdown in the environment, while also attracting other chemical pollutants to

their surfaces thereby increasing their toxicity by accumulating chemicals. Several fish and wildlife species, ranging from plankton to large vertebrates, have been observed with microplastics in their digestive systems. Assessing the impact of the toxic chemicals associated with microplastics on wildlife is in the early stages of research. Masses of plastic pieces are often observed throughout the digestive tracts of wildlife carcasses which certainly act as physical blockages in their digestive systems, at the very least. To date, we are not aware of any projects in

Connecticut that are currently assessing the prevalence of microplastics in freshwater ecosystems. *(continued on page 7)*

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: HEATHER PERRAULT

Story and Photo by Gerri Griswold

From the onset of our conversation it became abundantly clear that there was no way Heather Perrault would get through life without becoming involved at White Memorial. First of all this Goshen native has a father Richard, who worked for the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection at Kent Falls, Mohawk Mountain, and Topsmead and inspired Heather to love the outdoors. Perrault fondly remembers driving over Chickadee Bridge and spending an overnight in the Mott - Van Winkle Classroom. Even her uncle, the late Ralph Wadham, played an important role in the creation of our beloved Little Pond Boardwalk! "White Memorial has always been a part of my life."

As an adult, Heather began attending Saturday programs at the Conservation Center with her mother, Susanna. Many of the

programs were run by myself. She was extremely keen on volunteering and I was extremely keen on working this poor woman to death. Heather became an invaluable volunteer lending elbow grease to all kinds of activities. Our friendship also evolved and in 2010 I somehow managed to convince her to travel with me and 14 others on a birding trip in the north of Iceland. "That trip to Iceland changed my life." She also volunteered in Vernal Pool Monitoring for Research Director James Fischer.

Perrault met the ultimate force of nature at her job at Torrington Savings Bank, where she has worked for the last 19 years. That force was none other than the late Robyn Dinda. Through Robyn, Heather became involved in the Litchfield Hills Audubon Society, Junior Audubon, and Friends of Sessions Woods. (*continued on page 7*)



Falling for Iceland: Heather Perrault at Hraunfossar

26th Annual Museum Sleep-In

April 29 - 30, 2016 5:00 p.m. to 12:00 noon

Kids in Grades 4-6, join us for a real-life "Night at the Museum" experience!

SLEEP NEAR THE TURTLES, SNAKES, AND BEES

SCOOP FOR POND CRITTERS * SING BY THE CAMPFIRE

LEARN WHAT CREATURES GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT

MAKE NATURE CRAFTS * EAT YUMMY FOOD * MEET LIVE ANIMALS

Cost: \$55/member, \$85/non-member

(Covers all workshop materials, snacks, and breakfast)

Registration must be received by April 17. First come, first served.

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



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

Event will occur rain or shine.

For more information, please call us at 860-567-0857 or visit us at www.whitememorialcc.org.

This program is conducted by the Conservation Center's Education and Activities Committee.

"Sense"ational Spring Break Camp

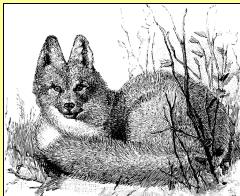
Tuesday—Friday, April 19-22

Grades 1-3: 9:30am-12:30pm

Grades 4-6: 1:30-4:30pm

Members: \$20/child per session
or \$70/child for the whole week

Non-Members: \$30/child per session
or \$110/child for the whole week



Kids in Grades 1-6: Looking for a great way to spend your spring break? Why not spend it in the classroom—the OUTDOOR classroom that is! Compare your senses to those of wild animals while playing games, making crafts, and most importantly, getting outside! Meet live animals too. Snacks will be served between adventures. *Kids-only event. Meet in the Cedar Room.*

Advanced registration is required.

Registrations begin March 15.

Super Duper Summer Programs

Wee Discoverers

Weekly 2-hour programs for children ages 4-5 featuring stories, songs, crafts, and outdoor adventures. Sign up by session or for all five. Dates: Tuesdays, June 28, July 5, 12, 19, and 26

Nature Adventurers

Week-long sessions featuring outdoor discovery, games, books, songs, and crafts that help kids learn about the natural world around them. For children entering grades 1-2. Sign up by week or for all 3 weeks. Dates: July 11–29

Natural History Explorers

Week-long sessions for children entering grades 3-9 that immerse them in nature. All-day outdoor adventures both on and off White Memorial property. Dates: July 11–August 12 (dates dependent on grade level)

More details coming soon. Registrations begin April 15.

To register for these programs, please call 860-567-0857 or visit [whitememorialcc.org](http://www.whitememorialcc.org) and print out a registration form.

Spring Calendar of Events

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

APRIL

- 2** **Turn Turn Turn**
A Road Trip to the Studio of Wood Turner Richard Heys
 9:45 A.M., A. B. Ceder Room, Limited to 10.
 Pre-register by calling 860-567-0857

- 9** **Spring Blossoms Watercolor Class with Betsy Rogers-Knox**
See page 7 for details!



- 16** **CT DEEP CARE Family Freshwater Fishing Class**
 A. B. Ceder Room & Ongley Pond
 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
 Pre-register by calling 860-567-0857.



- 19 - 22** **"Sense"ational Spring Break Camp**
See page 5 for details!

- 20 - 26** **Museum Kids Free Week**
 In Memory of Louise W. Willson *

- 22 Star Party!**
 Astronomy program with star gazing to follow. 7:30 P.M.,
 A. B. Ceder Room



- 23** **Woodcock Cocktail Party with Gerri Griswold**
See page 7 for details.



- 29 / 30** **26th Annual Museum Sleep-In**
See page 5 for details.

- 30** **Early Morning Beaver Walk with Leo and Gerri**
 6:00 A.M., Meet in front of the A. B. Ceder Room



MAY

- 3/4 GIVE LOCAL! A Day of Giving!**
See page 3 for details!

- 6** **WMCC Annual Meeting** 3:30 P.M., Office
- 7** **Whitehall: Historical Talk & Walk with Lee Swift and Gerri Griswold**
 10:00 A.M., A. B. Ceder Room.
 Limited to 20.
 Pre-register by calling 860-567-0857.

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

- 8** **Wild Edible Plants with Andy Dobos and Deneen Bernier**
 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M., Meet at the Museum.
 \$10.00 per person, Limited to 20 people.
 You must pre-register by calling: 207-590-9096 or email: deneen@threeredtrees.com

- 11 - 17** **Museum Kids Free Week**
 Courtesy of Tara and Arthur Diedrick *

- 12** **Nature's Nursery Series!**
 One Thursday a month from May through August. This one hour program is designed for children 3 - 6 years old. Advanced registration is required. Space is limited. Call 860-567-0857 or visit www.whitememorialcc.org



- 13** **Spring Migrants Bird Walk with Carrie Szwed**
 10:00 A.M., Meet in the A. B. Ceder Room.

- 14** **Walk the NEW Slab Meadow Parcel with Gerri Griswold**
 10:00 A.M., Meet at the A. B. Ceder Room

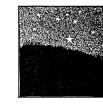
- 21** **Early Morning Hike to Laurel Hill, Cat Swamp, and Apple Hill with Gerri Griswold**
 7:00 A.M., Meet at the A. B. Ceder Room.

- 21** **Fungus Among Us Mushroom Walk with Dave Paton**
See page 7 for details.



- 25 - 31** **Museum Kids Free Week**
 Honoring Helen Ryan Donnelly *

- 27 Star Party!**
 Astronomy program with star gazing to follow. 7:30 P.M., A. B. Ceder Room



- 28** **River Bottom Dwellers: Aquatic Macroinvertebrates with James Fischer**

Wear water shoes and dress for the weather!
 11:00 A.M., Meet at the A. B. Ceder Room.

- 30** **Memorial Day**
Museum Closed



JUNE

- 4** **Museum Open House in Celebration of Connecticut Trail Days!**
 Free admission 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

- 4** **Celebrate Connecticut Trail Days! Geology Walk Through Five Ponds with Tom Alena**
 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
 Meet in front of the A. B. Ceder Room.



- 8 - 14** **Museum Kids Free Week**
 In Memory of Louise W. Willson *

- 9** **Nature's Nursery Series!**
 One Thursday a month from May through August. This one hour program is designed for children 3 - 6 years old. Advanced registration is required. Space is limited. Call 860-567-0857 or visit www.whitememorialcc.org

- 11** **Exploring Topsmead**
 Meet Gerri at Topsmead State Forest
 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
 For directions to Topsmead:
<http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2716&q=325076#directions>



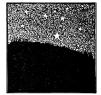
- 12** **Litchfield Hills Road Race**
Museum Closed



- 18** **Icelandic National Day!**
 Films, Lectures, Live Animals!
 10:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
 For more information visit : www.whitememorialcc.org



- 24 Star Party!**
 Astronomy program with star gazing to follow, 8:00 P.M., A. B. Ceder Room



- 25** **Forest Medicine A Meditation & Woods Walk with Marlow Shami**
 10:00 A.M., A. B. Ceder Room



- 29 - July 5** **Museum Kids Free Week**
 In Memory of Louise W. Willson *

SPRING 2016 WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

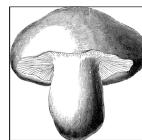


April 9 Spring Blossoms: Watercolor Workshop

1:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M., A. B. Ceder Room

Members: \$35.00 Non-members: \$45.00

Betsy Rogers-Knox helps you create a fun spring blossoms watercolor painting using a variety of different techniques! For all skill levels. All supplies included. For ages 10 and up!



May 21 Fungus Among Us with Dave Paton

10:00 A.M., A. B. Ceder Room

Members: \$20.00 Non-members: \$30.00

Learn the do's and don'ts, basic identification, and stories behind the fungus among us! Paton's enthusiasm is contagious!

Foraging is not allowed on Foundation property!



April 23 Woodcock Cocktail Party

6:00 P.M., A. B. Ceder Room, **LIMITED TO 20 GUESTS**

Members: \$10.00 Non-members: \$20.00

Over light refreshments, learn about this comical woodland bird also known as the Timberdoodle. Then venture out with Gerri Griswold in search of this ornithological Holy Grail!



Clip & Mail

| | | |
|--|-----------------|---------------------|
| Spring Blossoms Watercolor Workshop..... | Member: \$35.00 | Non member: \$45.00 |
| Woodcock Cocktail Party..... | Member: \$10.00 | Non member: \$20.00 |
| Fungus Among Us..... | Member: \$20.00 | Non member: \$30.00 |

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 \$60.00 per year and individual is \$40.00.

Make check payable to WMCC and mail to:
P.O. Box 368
Litchfield, CT 06759

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

She served on the Board and was a chairperson at LHAS and is currently Secretary for Friends of Sessions Woods. Robyn shared her love of the Bantam River with Perrault and kayaking became a favorite pastime. One day after paddling she stopped by the Conservation Center where former Education Director Jeff Greenwood was readying for an after-school program. He asked Heather if she would like to help out that day. "I really liked

it!" Greenwood wasted no time in inviting Heather to join our Education and Activities Committee.

Perrault really enjoys learning about nature and sharing what she learns. Becoming a Master Wildlife Conservationist through the Connecticut DEEP was a no brainer. "I thought it would be a good idea to become a citizen conservationist and share that information with the public. It is especially important for kids to connect with nature. Nature stills wows me. It is an uncontrollable force." What Heather has observed and is most concerned about, "is seeing so many people walk

through life missing all of nature's subtle changes because they are too connected to technology."

In what little spare time she has, Perrault enjoys kayaking, letterboxing and painting with her husband Henry, walking the beach in Dennisport, Massachusetts, and photography.

Her future dreams include working full time in service to nature and conservation. "I like helping people." That, Dear Heather, is abundantly clear to all of the great organizations to which you so tirelessly and selflessly dedicate your time. Thank you!

MICROSCOPIC PLASTIC PROJECT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

White Memorial's Research Program is interested in observing the prevalence of this pollutant in the Bantam River Watershed. Connecticut Outdoor and Environmental Education Association awarded a mini-grant to White Memorial to purchase specialized equipment that will enable us to detect and measure microplastics. We are collaborating with Wamogo Region 6 A. P. Environmental Science classes who are measuring various physical, chemical, and biological characteristics throughout the Bantam River Watershed. We are seeking assistance from volunteers, especially during the summer months. During this microplastics research project, students and volunteers will collect water and substrate samples, return to the lab for extraction through filters, and then identify the prevalence of microplastic fragments using a dissection microscope (40x magnification) with fluorescent lighting.



Figure 2: Microplastics in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
Photo credit: Lance Yonkos, University of Maryland, College Park, MD

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**35TH ANNUAL
FAMILY NATURE DAY**

SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

FEATURING

BRIAN BRADLEY: SKY HUNTERS IN FLIGHT
RIVERSIDE REPTILES

HORIZON WINGS RAPTOR REHABILITATION &
EDUCATION

CREATURE TEACHERS: NATURE OF MY BACKYARD

MUSIC BY
THE ZOLLA BOYS



**What's Inside This
Edition of
SANCTUARY**

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Make a Difference..... | 3 |
| Research Forum..... | 4 |
| Before the Whites..... | 4 |
| Volunteer Spotlight..... | 5 |
| Museum Sleep-In..... | 5 |
| Calendar of Events..... | 6 |
| Workshops..... | 7 |

**THE MUSEUM GIFT
SHOP**

FIND THE PERFECT GIFT
FOR MOM, DAD, AND GRAD!



WE FEATURE UNIQUE GIFTS
HANDCRAFTED
IN CONNECTICUT!

**NORTHWEST
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**34th ANNUAL EARTH DAY
NATIVE PLANT SALE**

**APRIL 22, 23, 24, 2016
GOSHEN FAIRGROUNDS**

For best selection pre-order
at the online plant store:
www.nwcd.org

A Planned Gift can make a
difference in your future
and ours.



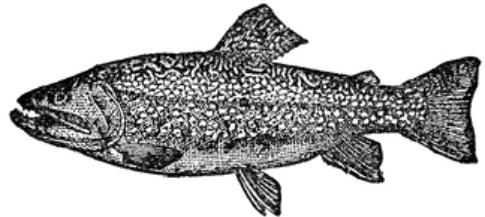
Have you signed up for our
weekly email newsletter
The Habitattler?

info@whitememorialcc.org

www.whitememorialcc.org

“Glory be to God for dappled things
for skies of couple-color as a brindled cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim”

~ Gerard Manley Hopkins



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TOURINGTON, CT
06790
PERMIT NO. 313

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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