MASSACHUSETTS RIVERS AND WETLANDS MONTHS CALENDAR FOR 2013

MAY IS WETLANDS MONTH, and **JUNE IS RIVERS MONTH**! This calendar, covering river-and wetland-related events in Massachusetts from **Saturday, April 27** to **Thursday, July 4**, has been compiled by the **Mass. Department of Fish and Game's Division of Ecological Restoration (DER)** to provide you with the opportunity to participate in events in, on, along and about the rivers and wetlands of the Commonwealth. Take this opportunity to invite your friends, family, local leaders, legislators, and/or a favorite reporter to clean up, paddle, protect, enjoy and celebrate your favorite rivers, streams, salt marshes and freshwater wetlands, or experience new ones. Get some healthful exercise in and/or along the Commonwealth's many scenic waterways and marshes.

The events below are listed in chronological order and are labeled with the Massachusetts river or watershed the activity takes place in or on. Many activities require reservations in advance. Please call/e-mail ahead to inquire about any restrictions, fees, rain dates or cancellations that may apply. Any questions should be directed to the event organizers at the contact phone numbers and/or e-mails provided for each listing.

If you know of an event that is not listed on this Calendar but should be, send the info along to Russ Cohen at Russ.Cohen@state.ma.us, and he may be able to add it. You may also want to **re-visit this Calendar from time to time** to look for any newly-added events, updated info, etc. [*this Calendar was most recently updated on **6/13/13***.] Lastly, don't forget to check out the **Mass. Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' *The Great Outdoors Blog*** for more info on these and other outdoor events and activities.

Event Listings by Week:

April 27 – May 3
May 4 – May 10
May 11 – May 17
May 18 – May 24
May 25 – May 31
June 1 – June 7
June 8 – June 14
June 15 – June 21
June 22 – July 4

April and May weekends (Saturday and **Sunday) – CONCORD RIVER – *Whitewater Rafting Trips*** in Lowell, 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM, sponsored by the Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust and Zoar Outdoor. This whitewater gem plunges over three major Class III - IV rapids - Twisted Sister, Three Beauties, and Middlesex Dam. Each trip includes two runs down the Lowell reach of the Concord. Adventurous rafters 14 and older are welcome. Your trip concludes with passage through an 1850's lock chamber that brings you right into downtown, seeing the city like never before. A portion of the proceeds support the Trust's work on the Concord River. Call (800) 532-7483 for reservations, or click here for more info or to view the slide show or video.

April 27 – May 3

April 27 (Saturday) – STATEWIDE – *Park Serve Day*, sponsored by the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). Rescheduled from April 20, Park Serve Day is an opportunity to pitch in and help spruce up the Commonwealth's forests and parks. "During this statewide day of volunteer service, we will work together to get parks and beaches across Massachusetts by cleaning coastlines, clearing trails, planting flowers,

painting picnic tables, and more." Click here or here for more info on opportunities to participate in a Park Serve Day activity near you.

April 27 (Saturday) – STATEWIDE – ***7th Annual "Work for Wildlife" Statewide Volunteer Day***, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Massachusetts Audubon Society. You're invited to pitch in on projects at fifteen of Mass. Audubon's sanctuaries, almost all of which include rivers, streams and/or wetlands. Many projects can accommodate people of all ages, so bring your family or a group of friends and spend a morning working for wildlife. No special skills required – just a desire to make a difference while enjoying the outdoors. Click here or here for more details and to sign up to volunteer on 4/27, and click here for info on other volunteer work opportunities at Mass. Audubon sanctuaries.

April 27 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – ***"Love Your Landmark" Annual Workday*** at Bartholomew's Cobble in Sheffield, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. "Join us at our only National Natural Landmark in the Berkshires to learn what you can do during the spring months to help care for this crown jewel, as well as the trails and open spaces in your own backyard. Because Sheffield and Bartholomew's Cobble is such an exceptional place for rare native plants, it's a great place to learn how to protect their habitats. We hope you will leave energized to protect the native species in your own backyard or neighborhood. Enjoy a pizza lunch, compliments of the Bartholomew's Cobble committee." Click here or call (413) 229-8600 to sign up or for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – ***Earth Day Work Party at the Old Mill Trail*** in Dalton and Hinsdale, sponsored by the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA). Meet at 9:00 AM at the Old Mill Trailhead (opposite the Hinsdale Trading Company), Old Dalton Road in Hinsdale. "Help us clean up the trail ready for the new hiking season! Pick up trash & debris, replace lost markers, and remove invasives. Hinsdale Trading Company is providing some munchies. We will bring tools, trash bags and work gloves. If you want to bring a few of your own, please do!". The approximate end time is 1:00 PM. Click here, call (413) 394-9796 or email Alison Dixon or Dennis Regan for more info and to let them know if you are coming.

April 27 (Saturday) – LENOX MOUNTAIN BROOK (HOUSATONIC WATERSHED) – ***Garlic Mustard Grapple*** at Stevens Glen in Richmond, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by the Berkshire Natural Resources Council. "Join us for the morning or afternoon to help with some easy weeding! Garlic mustard is a non-native species that out-competes native wildflowers and sapling trees. By volunteering a few hours of your time, you can help restore the natural habitat at Stevens Glen. Learn how to identify and eradicate an invasive plant that may exist on your property! Sample garlic mustard pesto!" Click here for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD WATERSHED – ***First Annual Pioneer Valley Outdoor Fair*** in Westfield, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Come meet clubs and organizations from across the Pioneer Valley who know how to enjoy the outdoors. Participate in a day full of free outdoor fun for the whole family, including a variety of hikes for all ages, nature activities for kids, birding excursions for adults, and much more. More than a dozen active outdoor organizations will have information tables and will offer outdoor activities throughout the day. (For example: the Westfield River Watershed Association is sponsoring two activities: macroinvertebrate collection/identification and storm drain decal installation). The fair's main location is at Scanlon Hall at Westfield State University, and the hiking, biking, etc. trips will leave from/return to there. Click here for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – QUINEBAUG WATERSHED – ***Claire Birtz Sanctuary History Hike***, 10:00AM – 12:00 Noon in Southbridge, sponsored by the Opacum Land Trust. "Alan Smith, archaeologist & geologist, will lead us on a historical journey through the past use of this beautiful property. We will be exploring the old cellar hole and mill site at the southern end of the property. We'll view the colonial dam and the associated dry laid stone foundations. Enjoy the natural woods and learn about the heritage of this property by looking at the previous land use and ownership. The Claire Birtz Wildlife Sanctuary is 116 acres of beautiful New England countryside. Habitats you will observe here include upland hardwood forest, a red maple swamp, and vernal

pools, as well as the Sanctuary's most striking feature, Morse Pond, 40 acres in size, and the adjacent five acre freshwater marsh." Meet at the trailhead, located just off Route 169 (North Woodstock Road) on Tipton Rock Road, in Southbridge, just north of Morse Farm Stand. Fee: Members are free, $5 for non-members. Click here, call (508) 347-9144 or e-mail info@opacumlt.org for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – FRENCH RIVER (FRENCH and QUINEBAUG WATERSHED) – *Annual French River Cleanup* in Webster, 8:30 AM start, sponsored by the French River Connection. "Meet at the Webster Town Hall. Gloves, bags, etc. will be provided, and assignments will be given. It looks like good weather for this annual event, so try and plan an hour or two to remove trash that might eventually get into the river. And remember, you can always get good exercise by picking up trash any time of the year!" This activity is part of the Webster-Dudley Business Alliance's Earth Day Cleanup. Contact Ed Bazinet at (508) 943-5509 or frenchriverconnection@gmail.com for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – FRENCH RIVER (FRENCH and QUINEBAUG WATERSHED) – *French River Paddle from Oxford to Dudley*, sponsored by the Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Nature lovers, don't miss this one! 7-8 mile leisurely scenic paddle packed with plenty of nature's creatures including turtles, beavers, muskrats, ducks, and more. Participants must have a workable PFD free from rips and/or tears. Lunch, snacks, and at least 32 ounces of water required. Some brief portaging may be necessary. All participants must register. Click here or contact trip leader Elaine Cibelli [(508) 832-9060 before 9 PM] to sign up or for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – BLACKSTONE and MUMFORD RIVERS – *Manchaug to Blackstone Road Bike Ride*, sponsored by the Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. A scenic, 25-mile round trip ride through the Mumford and Blackstone River Valleys from Manchaug to Blackstone Gorge on the MA/R.I. state line, mostly following (or paralleling) Route 122. The tops of the rolling hills should provide outstanding views across the valley before the trees leaf out. Contact trip leader Colleen McLaughlin [(508) 333-6025, amc_ne@yahoo.com] or co-leader Denny Laforce [jadehill3@verizon.net] to sign up or for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – BLACKSTONE WATERSHED – *24th Annual Earth Day Cleanups*, 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Regional Environmental Council. Click here for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – BLACKSTONE WATERSHED – *Earth Day Cleanups*, 8:30 AM start, sponsored by the Greater Worcester Land Trust. This year the Trust will be focusing its efforts on two locations: Broad Meadow Brook Savannah, part of the Mass Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary; and Cascades East, a Worcester Conservation Commission property. There will be a jovial BBQ afterwards for everyone to share their war stories at the Lodge at Cascading Waters. Contact mary@gwlt.org for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – BAKER BROOK (NASHUA RIVER WATERSHED) – *Clean Up at Coolidge Park and Baker Brook* in Fitchburg, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM, sponsored by the Nashua River Watershed Association (NRWA). NRWA will lead the first annual "Local Streams Awareness Week 2013: Focus on Baker Brook and Coolidge Park in Fitchburg" on April 27th, in partnership with the City of Fitchburg and Fitchburg State University (FSU). The focus of this project is to bring awareness to lovely Baker Brook, and to encourage stewardship of this valuable resource. Volunteers are needed to help pick up trash, paint picnic benches, and take other action to spruce up the park and brook. This is a great opportunity for families, youth groups, church groups, local business employees, and others to participate in community service, cleaning up the Brook and helping to ensure that Coolidge Park remains a great community gathering place. If you can't make it that day, maybe you can donate store-bought snacks, or a rake, or gloves. Click here or contact Kathryn Nelson, NRWA Water Monitoring Coordinator, at KathrynN@NashuaRiverWatershed.org to sign up or for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – SHAWSHEEN RIVER – *Shawsheen River Greenway Dedication Ceremony & Hike*, sponsored by the Shawsheen River Watershed Association (SRWA) and the Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS). "Please join us for the dedication of the first section of the Andover Greenway.

Over the past two years, volunteers have been working long hours and using heavy labor to improve both the Vale Reservation and the Shawsheen River Reservation. A short hike will leave the Ballardvale Commuter Rail Station (196 Andover Street in Andover) parking lot at 1:00 PM to explore the southern end of the Greenway. Those interested in a longer hike should meet at 12:30 PM at the intersection of Central Street and Abbot Bridge Drive to take the approximately 1.4 mile hike through the Shawsheen River Reservation and the Vale Reservation. Both hikes return to the north end of the commuter parking lot, where the dedication ceremony begins at 2:00 PM." The SRWA will have canoes available to enable you to paddle back with them to Central St. following the ceremony. Click here, here or contact John Hess at hess.john@att.net for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) MERRIMACK AND PARKER RIVERS – *"Stormwater Faire" for Elementary School Children and their Parents*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, at the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center, Plum Island Turnpike in Newburyport. Learn how to keep our ponds, rivers, and ocean clean, and to respect the creatures that live there. Earn a "Junior Clean Water Protector Badge". Participating organizations include the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Blue Ocean Society, Parker River Clean Water Association, Boat Camp Nature School, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Merrimack River Watershed Council and the Gulf of Maine Institute. The event is co-sponsored by the Towns of Newbury and Rowley and the City of Newburyport. Click here for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – CEDAR SWAMP (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Big Walk Through the Manchester-Essex Woods*, 12:30 PM start, sponsored by the Manchester-Essex Conservation Trust. A guided hike through the Wilderness Conservation Area, along the old woodland road between the two towns. The Big Walk Through the Woods brings families, friends and neighbors together along the old woods road linking Manchester and Essex. Start from either end, meet at the town boundary for refreshments, a nature treasure hunt for children, and entertainment by Daisy Nell and Captain Stan. If you complete the walk-through, a shuttle will return you to your car. The entire walk is about 2 miles long. (Rain date - April 28) This event is free and open to the public. Click here for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – SAUGUS RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Earth Day Cleanup at the Breakheart Reservation* in Saugus, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, co-sponsored by the Saugus River Watershed Council, Friends of Breakheart Reservation and the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation. Help clean up Breakheart Reservation and other sites in Saugus. This event is part of a statewide Park Serve Day to help get parks cleaned up for the season. Volunteers will work on projects at Breakheart Reservation, and if there are enough participants, small groups will work in other nearby locations within the Saugus River watershed. Please stop in at the Saugus River Watershed Council's table in front of the Breakheart Visitor's Center to sign up for a volunteer work area and pick up gloves and bags. Sturdy shoes and clothes that can get dirty are recommended. Rubber boots may be helpful for some locations. Meet at the Breakheart Visitor Center, 177 Forest Street, Saugus. Click here or call (617) 828-1620 for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – SUDBURY- ASSABET - CONCORD WATERSHED – *Musketaquid Earth Day Celebration in Concord*, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the Emerson Umbrella Center for the Arts. This annual event includes a morning River Ceremony, the Earth Day Parade through Concord Center, and an Arts and Environment Festival involving many local collaborating organizations. In the months leading up to Earth Day, Musketaquid sponsors many different workshops in which participants can create Earth Floats, puppets, costumes, musical instruments, and more, for the event. Earth Day 2013 marks the 23rd anniversary of Musketaquid Arts and Environment. Click here, call the Musketaquid Information Line at (978) 371-0820 ext. 213, or email musketaquid@emersonumbrella.org for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – SUDBURY- ASSABET - CONCORD WATERSHED – *"Birding By Ear" Field Trip: Marshes & Fields*, 7:00 AM – 10:00 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary. Spring migrators and returning birds establishing territories and mating offer wonderful opportunities for a tremendous variety of sounds to learn and practice. Co-led by Bob Lawson (co-author of *Birding by Ear* series) and Kathy Seymour (Drumlin Farm Tour Leader) this workshop will help you learn birding-by-ear

techniques and hone your auditory skills. The workshop will address all birders, from beginners to experienced individuals looking for a tune-up. Fee: $35/members, $42/non-members. Click here or call (781) 259-2200 to sign up or for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – MYSTIC RIVER – ***Friends of the Mystic River Annual Spring Cleanup*** in Medford, 9:30AM – 1:00PM, sponsored by the Friends of the Mystic River. Meet at the Hormel Stadium parking lot, 90 Locust St. in Medford. The cleanup includes the Mystic Riverbend Park, MacDonald Park and Wellington Greenway, but participants may travel to any other locations they wish to work on along the Mystic in Medford. Morning and lunchtime refreshments provided. In the event of heavy rain, the cleanup will be Sunday, April 29. Call (781) 391-2604 or email Mystic02155@hotmail.com for more info, and click here for more info on this and other Mystic River watershed cleanups taking place on April 27.

April 27 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – ***14th Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup*** (re-scheduled from April 20), 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Charles River Watershed Association. Click here for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – ***Charles River Earth Day Cleanup, Weed Pull & Volunteer Appreciation Picnic***, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM in Waltham, sponsored by the Waltham Land Trust. Help pick up trash and remove invasive plants. Attend the weed pull training at 9:00 AM and bring loppers, pruners, hand saws, pruning saws, bow saws, rounded point shovels, garden spades and pitchforks. Mark your tool ahead of time. To be provided: water, gloves, t-shirts and lots of food. Meet at the back corner of the Shaw's parking lot at 130 River Street. Click here or contact Sonja at (781) 893-3355 or swadman@walthamlandtrust.org for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – ***Bird Walk along the Blue Heron Walk along the Charles River***, 8:00 AM start, sponsored by the Newton Conservators. "Join us for birding along the Charles River path, a little stretch of green space in an otherwise urban landscape. We will be looking for migrating warblers, vireos and thrushes. Yellow warblers, catbirds and northern orioles are found in abundance here. Other possible finds are hawks, kingfishers, herons, and spotted sandpipers. Interests in plants and insects are welcome. Park at the Pleasant Street Super Stop & Shop parking lot in Watertown, at the corner furthest from the store. This spot is directly in front of you as you enter the parking lot from Pleasant Street. There is a path entrance there. Meet at path entrance. Bring binoculars if you have them. Beginners as well as experienced birders are welcome. Boots/walking shoes are recommended." (Rain date: April 28) Click here or contact trip leader Pete Gilmore at (617) 969-1513 for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – ***Charles River Trail walk*** in Wellesley and Newton, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM, sponsored by the Wellesley Trails Committee. Explore this recently-developed path along the Charles River in Newton Lower Falls. Start from the Mary Hunnewell Fyffe Footbridge, go behind the new Waterstone at Wellesley complex and along the Charles. See the new footbridge over the Charles to Newton and the scenic trail that leads to the Leo J. Martin Golf Course in Weston. Meet at 9:00 AM at the office park parking lot at 15 Walnut St. Click here or contact Miguel Lessing at (781) 431-2411 for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – MUDDY RIVER (CHARLES RIVER WATERSHED) – ***Climate Change: What Would Olmsted Do?***, 9:00 AM start at Simmons College, sponsored by Olmsted 2022. This event includes a Box Luncheon Presentation on the Muddy River Restoration Project with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at 12:00 Noon, followed by tours of the Emerald Necklace parks beginning at 1:00 PM. Click here to sign up or for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – BOSTON HARBOR WATERSHED – ***Parks and Greenways Walk*** in Quincy, 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This is a 7-mile walk with beach, woods, salt marshes and historic sites. Bring lunch. Directions: Take Quincy Shore Drive to Wollaston Yacht Club pier at Beach St; or take the Red Line to the Wollaston stop, then walk one mile. No dogs; non-

AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Mike Tuohey, breadcrumbs60@gmail.com] with any questions.

April 27 (Saturday) – THREE MILE RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – *Spruce Up Boyden Day* at the Gertrude M. Boyden Wildlife Refuge, 1298 Cohannet St., Taunton, sponsored by the Friends of Boyden Refuge. The City of Taunton will supply bottled water, work gloves for volunteers and free pizza at noon. Bring your garden tools (rakes, pruners, cultivators, and weed trimmers) to help refresh the gardens and areas around the office building, pick up dead branches and trash long the trails, or bring your hammers, screwdrivers, and other tools for minor repairs. Bring insect repellant and sunscreen. The event will be held rain or shine. For additional information please call (508) 821-1676.

April 27 (Saturday) – NEMASKET RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – *Upper Nemasket River paddle*, 8:30 AM start, sponsored by the Norumbega Chapter of the Wooden Canoe Heritage Association. This paddle will run from Assawompset Pond in Lakeville downstream to Oliver Mill Park in Middleboro. Meet at 8:30 AM at the take-out (Oliver Mill Park, just off Route 44 in Middleboro, about 3 1/2 miles east of the interchange with I-495) and then follow the leader to the put-in on Assawompset Pond. "Be sure to contact trip leader Bill Conrad at (781) 767-1903 or will235@verizon.net so he will know how big a group to expect. Bring a lunch; we will have time to stop along the way." Click here for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – NORTH AND SOUTH RIVERS (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *26th Annual River Clean-up Day*, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the North and South Rivers Watershed Association (NSRWA). "Help us to keep our rivers clean. This is a great family event. Captains will be at each clean up station to give you instructions and trash bags. Volunteers may work by foot, auto or boat. All trash should be brought back to clean up stations by noon. Then head to the Driftway Conservation Area in Scituate for the free celebratory cookout." Click here or call the NSRWA office (781) 659-8168 for more info on the cleanup locations.

April 27 (Saturday) – WEIR RIVER (BOSTON HARBOR WATERSHED) – *Morning Bird walk at Turkey Hill/Weir River Farm* in Hingham, 8:00 AM start, sponsored by the South Shore Bird Club. Leader: Sally Avery. Meet at The Trustees of Reservations parking area entrance to TTOR's Turkey Hill Reservation, on Route 3A in Hingham (see map). This will be a four/five mile walk. Click here for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Tagging Horseshoe Crabs*, 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. "Join our efforts to learn more about horseshoe crabs on Cape Cod by tagging crabs with us at Priscilla Landing in Orleans. We'll observe horseshoe crabs coming up on the beach to spawn at high tide, and talk about their behavior, biology, conservation, and management while we tag and count them. You'll learn how to use the drill, tags, and calipers, plus get an up-close look at these amazing creatures! This program is great for all ages!" Fee: $7/members, $9/non-members; no charge for children. Click here or call (508) 349-2615 to sign up or for more info.

April 27 (Saturday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Newburyport Clean Sweep*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Newburyport Parks Commission. It's cleanup time again! Clean Sweep starts with a kickoff breakfast and site assignments at Cashman Park, along the Merrimack River. Click here or contact Lisë Reid, Parks Coordinator at (978) 465-4462, to sign up or for more info.

April 27 – May 18 – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *"The River Project: Art & Nature at Slocum's River Reserve"*, co-sponsored by the Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust and The Trustees of Reservations. The beautiful Slocum's River Reserve in Dartmouth is the inspiration and the setting for six large-scale site-specific sculptures that will be on display from June 16, 2012 through May 18, 2013. The River Project's Closing Celebration, taking place on Saturday May 18 from 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM, will feature a guided walk, entertainment, speakers, music and a bonfire. Bring your own picnic and enjoy the festivities! Click here for more info.

April 28 (Sunday) – PLUM ISLAND SOUND – *Spring Birding at Rough Meadows*, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center. The Rough Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary, on Patmos Road in Rowley (just east of scenic Route 1A), is Mass. Audubon's newest wildlife sanctuary. "Come with us as we explore the salt marshes, fields, and oak and hickory uplands of this fabulous property, looking for spring migrant warblers, orchard orioles, red-bellied woodpeckers, and other songbirds." Fee: $18/members, $21/nonmembers. Click here or call (978) 462-9998 to sign up or for more info.

April 28 (Sunday) – SUDBURY RIVER (SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED) – *Hike to Sudbury River, Adams and Fairhaven Woods, Walden Pond, Pine Hill* in Lincoln and Concord, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This will be a 10-mile hike, shorter perhaps if temps exceed 70°F. Meet at the Lincoln commuter rail parking lot. No dogs; non-AMC members $1. Bring water and lunch. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Jim Loughlin, (617) 923-8039] if you have any questions.

April 28 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Spring Birding Exploration at the Rookery*, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM in Concord, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary. "What are those huge nests weighing down tall tree tops? This group of great blue herons nests make up a rookery. Most of the time, these beautiful birds are well camouflaged as they wade through wetlands fishing with their long beaks for frogs, fish and even crayfish. The rookery gives a different view of great blue herons as they perch majestically and take flight with their 6-foot wingspans. Come learn more about these amazing birds! Other species we may see include wood duck, brown creeper, belted kingfisher, and five species of woodpecker." Fee: $15/members, $18/nonmembers. Click here or call (508) 655-2296 to sign up or for more info.

April 28 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *31st Annual Run of the Charles Canoe and Kayak Race*, sponsored by the Charles River Watershed Association. New England's largest canoe and kayak race, "ROTC" features a variety of races for all skill levels, from expert to novice: 6, 9, and 19 mile races, a 24-mile, five-leg canoe relay race, and a 26-mile professional marathon. The event showcases the ongoing improvements in the Charles River, while drawing 1,500 paddlers and hundreds of spectators to enjoy a day on and along the river. Click here to register or for more info, or contact Meg at (508) 698-6810 ext. 10 or rotc@crwa.org for more info on any aspect of the race and related events.

April 28 (Sunday) – QUINEBAUG RIVER – *All American River Race* in Sturbridge, sponsored by the Sturbridge Lions Club. This is an annual timed race of over six miles, starting one craft each minute. Registration begins at 9:00 AM at Turners Field, off of Route 20 in Fiskdale. The first boat is sent off at 11:01 AM and heads for the finish line at Westville Dam Recreational Area in Southbridge. Trophies are given to the first three finishers in each class. The Westville Dam Recreational Area features food and entertainment as well as strategic viewing spots to see the craft negotiate the rapids area. The Lions Club and the Hospital Auxiliary will hold their annual fundraising Duck Race after the Canoe Race. Thousands of yellow rubber ducks are dumped into the river and the first 5 ducks over the finish line provide some cash for the winners. Click here or contact Chairman Lion Dale Favreau at (508) 347-9636 for more info.

April 28 (Sunday) – SALEM SOUND (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Photo Contest Awards Reception and Gallery Opening*, 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM, sponsored by Salem Sound Coastwatch. The event takes place in the Atrium at 4 Centennial Drive (Musculoskeletal Center, Centennial Park) in Peabody. "Join us for this wonderful event where we'll announce the winners of the year-long Salem Sound Coastwatch Photo Contest and honor the many people who make Salem Sound Coastwatch's work a success. Refreshments will be served. RSVP if possible to info@salemsound.org or call (978) 741-7900.

April 30 (Tuesday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Wastewater Planning on Cape Cod: What Are Different Towns Doing?* workshop, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM in Hyannis, sponsored by the Waquoit Bay Reserve Coastal Training Program. This workshop will provide an opportunity to learn about where each Cape town is at in their wastewater/water management efforts. Each town will provide a status update on their actions, experiences, lessons and next steps. Towns that share watersheds will discuss collaboration opportunities

and needs, as well as ways to draw from each other's efforts to enhance public education and community engagement. This forum will complement ongoing efforts to share information among towns and further expose town officials, board members and other interested persons to the suite of wastewater-related activities in progress across the region. The workshop offers local officials a face-to-face extended session to hear from their peers and together brainstorm ways to continue building and supporting wastewater planning and education efforts. While there is no cost to attend this workshop, pre-registration is required. Click here or contact Tonna-Marie Rogers, Tonna-Marie Rogers, Coastal Training Program Coordinator, at (508) 457-0495 ext. 110 or tonna-marie.surgeon-rogers@state.ma.us to sign up or for more info.

May 1 (Wednesday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Wildflowers at Arcadia*, 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries. "Enjoy a spring morning walk along the trails of Mass. Audubon's Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, observing the beautiful spring wildflowers. At this time of year we hope to see a variety of beauties such as bloodroot with its orange-red juice, thus giving it its name, dutchman's breeches, squirrel corn, and trout lily." Instructors are botanists Connie Parks and Janet Bissell. Fee: $5/members, $8/nonmembers. Click here or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

May 2 (Thursday) – BLACKSTONE RIVER – *Dance of the Woodcock*, 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM in Uxbridge, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary and led by Sheryl Farnam, Natural History Guide and Birding Instructor. "Love is in the air as the sun sets in early spring and the male American woodcock, a member of the sandpiper family, performs his aerial mating display. We will visit breeding grounds at River Bend Farm in Uxbridge to view the performance of this spring ritual. As sunset nears, you can hear the male woodcock "peenting" before he spirals 300 feet up into the night sky. Don't miss the spectacular show of this amazing shorebird!" Fee: Adult $5.00, Child $3.00/members; Adult $7.00, Child $5.00/nonmembers. Click here or call (508)753-6087 to sign up or for more info.

May 3-5 (Friday-Sunday) – NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED – *Salt Marsh and Songbirds Eco-Bike Adventure*, sponsored by Great Freedom Adventures. Explore the vast richness of Massachusetts' Great Marsh and national wildlife refuges on this three-day, guided bike tour through the North Shore. Discover a destination world famous for nature study, encompassing thousands of acres of salt marsh, one of the most productive ecosystems on the planet. The eco-bike tours are timed to coincide with the return of songbirds to one of the finest bird-watching destinations in the eastern United States and the bloom of colorful native azaleas and rhododendrons. Click here or call (508) 545-1864 for more info. [This same trip is also offered the weekends of May 6-8 and May 17-19.]

May 2 (Thursday) – BLACKSTONE WATERSHED – "*Rain Gardens to the Rescue!" workshop* in Holden, 7:00 PM start, sponsored by the Worcester Stormwater Coalition. Homeowners and business owners are invited to learn what they can do on their own property to reduce runoff and to protect our water resources. Tips on how to enhance your landscaping to harvest rainfall, reduce runoff, and save money on your water and sewer bills, such as redirecting roof runoff, creating a rain garden, and installing a rain barrel. Door prizes, free Homeowner's Guides, and the opportunity to win a free rain barrel to all those attending. Click here or contact Donna Williams at (508) 335-8393 or dwilliamsbrc@aol.com to sign up or for more info.

May 4 – May 10

May 4 (Saturday) – STATEWIDE – *2013 Massachusetts Trails Conference*, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM at the Devens Common Center, 31 Andrews Parkway, in Devens, sponsored by the Massachusetts Recreational Trails Advisory Board (MARTAB). Featured Speakers are: Mark Fenton, advocate, author, host, and editor on Active Lifestyles, and Commissioner Edward Lambert, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation. There will be workshop sessions on topics such as Building Rail Trails; Mass Central Rail Trail Update; Protecting Trail Corridors; Sustainable Design; Working with Volunteers; Trails and Local Economies; and Building and Promoting Blue Trails. Registration cost is $25 per attendee, morning coffee with pastries and lunch provided. Click here or contact Amanda Lewis, MA DCR Recreational Trails Program [(413) 586-8706, ext. 19, amanda.lewis@state.ma.us] or Dick O'Brien, MARTAB Chairman at dobrien578@gmail.com for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Beginner bird walk at Housatonic Flats* in Great Barrington, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM, sponsored by the Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BNRC). Join BNRC staff at the Housatonic Flats Reserve for a 2-hour stroll at this promising birding site. Terrain is flat, level ground along the Housatonic River. Wear long pants and shoes; bring water and a snack. "This walk will help take you from feeder birds (blue jays, chickadees) to the birds of field and forest. It's the perfect forum for a beginner to ask all his/her bird questions. Can't tell a robin from a crow? No shame – we'll show you how we do it. After just one walk you'll amaze your friends with cheap birding tricks!" Housatonic Flats is on Route 7 in Great Barrington, just north of the WSBS radio tower, right across the street from Bridlewood Home Furnishings (434 Stockbridge Road). Currently the site has no signage, though a temporary "Event" sign will be posted there that day. Click here or contact Doug Bruce at (413) 499-0596 or dbruce@bnrc.net for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *The Great Garlic Mustard Muster*, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM in Chester, sponsored by the Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee. Identify and eradicate this invasive species. Meet at the Chester Railway Station before heading out to the Keystone Arch Bridge Trail. Contact Meredyth Babcock at (413) 623-2070 or volunteer@westfieldriverwildscenic.org to sign up or for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Jurassic Roadshow* at Barton Cove, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center. The Jurassic Roadshow is a team of experts who will share their fascinating collections of the special fossils found in rock formations in the Connecticut Valley and answer questions about the creatures that made them and the geology that preserved them. Bring your rocks and fossils from home to stump the experts! There will be a guided walk to the old quarry to learn about the tracks and their discovery. Quarry walks will be at 10:30 for families and 12:30 for adults. Click here or call (toll-free) (800) 859-2960 for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Birding by Canoe*, 7:00 AM – 10:00 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries. "Enjoy canoeing and birding? Why not blend the two?! Naturalist/ Ecological Manager David McLain will lead this morning canoe/birding adventure into the Arcadia marsh. We will be looking for early migrants such as eastern phoebes, tree swallows, and great blue herons. We will also look for our resident bald eagles. Of course we'll look at a few vernal wildflowers along the way, and keep our eyes peeled for muskrats, beavers, and otters. This will be an easy paddle; however, prior canoe experience is required." Fee: $18/members, $25/nonmembers. Click here or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Garlic Mustard Pull* at the Dinosaur Footprints Reservation, on the Connecticut River in Holyoke, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. "Even though it's small, Dinosaur Footprints is one of the most unusual places we care for. Along with the fossilized dinosaur tracks left by Eubrontes, the site also contains a rare species of plant that needs our protection. Come out for an afternoon of work as we dig in to help protect both of these unique features. Steady rain cancels". Click here or call (413) 532-163 ext.21 to sign up or for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – AMETHYST BROOK (CONNECTICUT WATERSHED) – *Come Explore Nature Through Words: Nature Poetry Workshop at the Amethyst Brook Conservation Area*, Pelham Road, Amherst, MA, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by the Kestrel Land Trust and hosted by Olga Botea. "Robert Frost was one of America's greatest poets. The Robert Frost Trail runs through Amethyst Brook Conservation Area. Join us for a lovely nature walk; learn the basics of poetry and write your own poem inspired by nature." A free and family-friendly event, suitable for ages 8 and up. (Rain date: Sunday, May 5.) Your RSVP is appreciated: office@kestreltrust.org or (413) 549-1097.

May 4 (Saturday) – MILLERS RIVER – *Millers River Trail Hike* in Athol and Royalston, sponsored by the Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This will be an 8-mile, moderately-paced hike with an 800-foot elevation gain and scenic views of the Millers River. Part of the hike route will be on the new Quabbin to Monadnock (Q&M) Trail and the new Pequiog Community Trail (PCT). Bring lunch, water, snacks. Severe weather cancels. There is an option to socialize at the South Royalston Country Store at the end of the hike.

Pre-registration required; click here or contact trip leaders Dan Bolton [(978) 895-3979] or Mike Foley [mjfoles@msn.com] to sign up or for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – SHAWSHEEN RIVER – *Canoe and Kayak paddle* from Tewksbury to Andover, sponsored by the Shawsheen River Watershed Association. "Meet at 8:30 AM at the Knights of Columbus parking lot, Route 38 in Tewksbury. We will drop our gear and shuttle to the 'take out' point in Andover. The shuttle should start by 9:00 AM; and the trip should end around 12:00 Noon. We have boats and gear to lend; send an email to both bob_otter@comcast.net and ShawsheenRiver@comcast.net before Thursday at 6 PM if you need a boat. The last time we paddled this route we had one portage through a soft-muddy area. Wear appropriate footwear! Check the 'Upcoming Events' section of our web site for last minute updates."

May 4 (Saturday) – MASHPEE RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Mashpee River* in Mashpee, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group. "Paddle through the Mashpee Woodlands Conservation Area, perhaps seeing nesting marsh wrens and red winged blackbirds along the shoreline and always osprey overhead. It is a beautiful paddle, end to end." Click here for basic info on this group and its paddling trips and here to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 4 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Planning for Climate Change: A Free Community Forum*, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, sponsored by Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, Wellfleet Forum and the Wellfleet Conservation Trust. "What does the future hold for Wellfleet, and how can we be proactive in planning for it? Join us for presentations and a panel discussion of scientists, thought leaders, and town representatives. Guided community walks in the afternoon complement the morning's discussion," which takes place at Mass. Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. Click here for more detailed info about this free event.

May 4 (Saturday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – *"Big Walk"* at the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. "Strap on your hiking boots and experience the vastness of the unbroken forest on a walk that spans the full length of the 13,600-acre Bioreserve. From old mill ponds and abandon farm sites to vernal pools and cedar swamps you won't believe the wilderness right in our own backyard. The full hike is 12 miles, but pick-ups will be available every few miles along the way and transportation will be provided back your car." The hike begins at the Freetown/Fall River State Forest Headquarters, Slab Bridge Rd., Assonet (see map). Click here or call (508) 636-4693 ext.103 for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – WEIR RIVER (BOSTON HARBOR WATERSHED) – *Weir River and Straits Pond Clean Up Day*, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Weir River Watershed Association. Click here for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – TOWN BROOK, TIDMARSH and other open spaces (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Hometown Cleanup* in Plymouth, 8:00 AM onward, sponsored by the Plymouth Network of Open Space Friends. "Trash talk: litter…you see it. It's at the waterfront, it's in the park, on the beach, in the grass, on the sidewalk, in the road, in the cemetery, by the pond. Let's work together to pick it up. Let's make Plymouth beautiful. The Town's Department of Public Works (DPW) will provide purple trash bags and their pickup following the cleanup." (Rain date is Sunday, May 5th.) Click here or contact Patrick Farah at (508) 747-1620 ext. 204 or pfarah@townhall.plymouth.us for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – ASSABET RIVER (SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED – *Bird Walk at the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge* in Sudbury, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This birding walk will focus on migrating woodland and water birds. Meet at the Assabet NWR Visitors Center Parking lot. Bring binoculars and bird ID book. Heavy rain cancels. No dogs; non-AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Peter Norton, (978) 263-4180] if you have any questions.

May 4 (Saturday) – SUDBURY RIVER – *Paddle to Cedar Swamp Pond*, Hopkinton and Westborough, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, sponsored by the Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT). Enjoy this paddle to where the Sudbury River begins - Cedar Swamp Pond. Twist and turn through the narrow stretches of the Sudbury, leading you to the breathtaking headwaters. Participants must provide their own boat and proper paddling equipment. This program is for experienced paddlers only. Fee: free for SVT Members, $10/person for others. Call (978) 443-5588 or click here for more info and here to register.

May 4 (Saturday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Walk the Neponset River Greenway to Milton Hill*, 12:30PM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This will be 6-mile walk along the Neponset River to the scenic viewpoint at Hutchinson Field in Milton. Bring water and a snack. Meet at Hallet Street entrance to Pope John Paul II Park. From Route 93N, take exit 11 (11B from Route 93S) to Granite Avenue, north over Neponset River, immediate right on Hilltop Street, right under bridge into parking lot. E-mail if severe weather. No dogs. Non-AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Mike Tuohey, breadcrumbs60@gmail.com] with any questions.

May 4 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Charles River Rummage*, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by BeCause Water. BeCause Water invites you to compete in the first official Charles River Rummage: a kayak clean-up competition for river protection and a cash prize. The event begins/ends at 500 Broad Canal Way in Cambridge. The objective of the River Rummage is to educate participants on ways in which we can protect the river while enjoying it! The event begins with an introduction from a Charles River Watershed Association representative, then teams of 4 (2 double kayaks per team) will compete to collect as much debris as possible in 1 hour of "rummaging" through the Charles River. The team at the end who has the most weight of debris will win a $100 cash prize. There will also be prizes for 2nd and 3rd place. BeCause Water will provide all equipment, including nets and kayaks. "Don't have a full team? Don't worry! Contact us at info@becausewater.com and we will make sure to put you with fellow Rummagers!" Click here or contact Matt@BeCauseWater.com to sign up or for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – RED BROOK (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Bird Walk* at the Lyman Reserve in Bourne, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. "Join us as we search for birds during their migration north along Buttermilk Bay, Red Brook, and the forested areas of the Lyman Reserve. Beginner birders are welcome! Everyone will meet in the parking area. Bring binoculars." No pre-registration is required. Click here or call (774) 302-0779 for more info.

May 4 (Saturday) – HERRING RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Herring River Walk* in Harwich, 9:45 AM – 1:15 PM, sponsored by the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Wooded walk, with views of the beautiful Herring River. Walk includes both sides of West Reservoir and cranberry bogs. Directions: take Route 6 East to Exit 10, right at the top of the ramp, Route 124 for 1.3 mi, R @ Main St. straight 2 mi to park @ Sand Pond on R. Bring lunch. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Richard Kaiser, (508) 432-3277] if you have any questions.

May 4 (Saturday) – STATEWIDE – *Earth Night*, 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM at the Back Bay Events Center, 180 Berkeley St. in Boston. Earth Night, a party to benefit the Environmental League of Massachusetts, is Boston's largest environmental gala, drawing hundreds of the state's business, environmental, and community leaders. The event includes a mix of interactive exhibits from an assortment of environmentally-oriented companies and organizations. Click here or call the ELM office at (617) 754-2553 to sign up or for more info, and click here to see photos from last year's event.

May 5 (Sunday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Hike through the Deer Jump and Rafton Reservations* in Andover, 1:30 PM start, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Hike 4.5 mi. on two picturesque reservations owned by the Andover Village Improvement Society (A.V.I.S.). Directions: take I-93 to Exit 43, East on Rte. 133 to light, take Left on Greenwood Rd. Go 1/2 mi., then Left on High Plain Rd., 1/2 mi. to parking lot across from leaf compost area (see map). While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Dennis Crispo, highpt@cliffhanger.com] with any questions.

May 5 (Sunday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Warbler Workshop*, 6:00 AM – 10:00 AM, sponsored by Mass Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. "Learn to identify warblers by sight, sound, habits, and the habitats they prefer. The sanctuary's freshwater marshes, ponds, river edges, fields, and deciduous and evergreen woods provide food and shelter for 15 to 20 species of warblers at this time of year. We'll observe migrant and breeding birds in their colorful spring plumage on this walk through the sanctuary. We'll begin with a short indoor introduction, and then venture out onto the trails". Instructors are Birders/Naturalists Chris Sullivan and Warren Tatro. Fee: $15/members, $18/nonmembers. Click here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

May 5 (Sunday) – MAPLE MEADOW BROOK (IPSWICH WATERSHED) – *Walk the Historic Middlesex Canal* in Wilmington, 1:30 PM start, co-sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club and the Middlesex Canal Association. This will be a 3-mile, leisurely walk along a scenic section of historic canal to Patch's Pond. View an oxbow, grooves in rocks from tow lines, and the remains of a stone canal aqueduct over Maple Meadow Brook. Directions: I-95/Route 128 Exit 35 (Woburn), Route 38N for 2.4 miles to the Wilmington Town Park lot on the left. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leaders [Roger Hagopian, (781) 861-7868 (until 10:00pm) or Robert Winters, Robert@rwinters.com] with any questions.

May 5 (Sunday) – MUDDY RIVER (CHARLES WATERSHED) – *Emerald Necklace Walk*, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This will be a 6-mile, moderately-paced walk through the parklands along the Muddy River, ending at the Forest Hills T stop on the Orange Line. Meet at Arlington T station, in front of Hermes (at corner of Boylston & Arlington Sts.). No dogs; non-AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Eveline Weyl, (617) 735-9395] with any questions.

May 5 (Sunday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Morning Bird Walk at Fowl Meadow*, 6:00 AM (!) start, sponsored by the South Shore Bird Club. "We will walk a few miles on flat, possibly muddy terrain. Habitat is forested floodplain/swamp with remnant marsh. We should see many 'first of the season' birds on this trip. This traditional area has produced a good number and variety of migrants and summer residents, from rails & shorebirds through thrushes and warblers." Meet at the small parking area on Brush Hill Road, close to the intersection with the Neponset Valley Parkway (see map). Click here or contact leader Vin Zollo at vzollo1@yahoo.com for more info.

May 5 (Sunday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Birding Fowl Meadow*, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Blue Hills Trailside Museum. "Meet with Trailside Naturalist Perry Ellis to explore what spring migrants may be found in Fowl Meadow. The level carriage path trail through Fowl Meadow travels through forest, swamp, and shrubland habitat. Many different species of birds make this a stopover point during spring migration, and some relatively rare birds make the Meadow their home. We'll explore along the path and see what birds we can find. Fee: $10/members, $12/nonmembers. Click here or call (617) 333-0690 to sign up or for more info.

May 5 (Sunday) – WARE RIVER (CHICOPEE WATERSHED) – *Canoe the East Branch of the Ware River*, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary. Discover this spectacular canoeing and hiking area located on the west side of Princeton. Much of the land along the river has been acquired for drinking water protection since the Ware River flows into the Quabbin Reservoir system to the west. Wildlife sightings abound in this area, and May is a wonderful time to be out on the water. If time permits, we will explore some of the walking trails along the river as well. We'll provide canoes, Life jackets and paddles. We'll meet at the Sanctuary and carpool to our destination. Fee: Adults $12.00/members, $18.00/nonmembers. Click here or call (978) 464-2712 to sign up or for more info.

May 5 (Sunday) – TEN MILE RIVER – *River Cleanup in Attleboro*, 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM, sponsored by the Ten Mile River Watershed Council. "We will be cleaning the woods behind the Attleboro Elks Club.

Remember to wear long pants and long sleeves to protect against poison ivy. Lunch will be provided." For more information, email Keith Gonsalves at ktggroup@aol.com.

May 5 (Sunday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – *Nasketucket Bay Bike Tour*, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, sponsored by the Buzzards Bay Coalition. Tour the Nasketucket Bay watershed on this nine-mile guided bike tour hosted by the Coalition's land protection staff. The tour will begin at the Nasketucket Bay State Reservation parking lot on Brandt Beach Ave, heading along the Phoenix/Mattapoisett Bike Path to a nature overlook on Sconticut Neck Road. There, participants will take a snack break and learn about the Coalition's effort to protect 400 acres of land around Nasketucket Bay. Then the group will bike back to the parking area. Fee: $5/members; $10/non-members; free for children aged 12 and under. Pre-registration is required; click here or contact Alicia Pimental, Communications & Outreach Manager, at (508) 999-6363 ext. 226 or pimental@savebuzzardsbay.org to sign up or for more info.

May 6 (Monday) – QUIVETT CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle Quivett Creek* from Paines Beach, Brewster, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group. "We'll paddle from Paines Creek Beach and hug the shore going west to the mouth of Quivett Creek. As we make our way up this wonderful creek, we'll be surrounded by extensive marsh. Unlike Scorton Creek and Chase Garden, where the reeds and grasses are too tall to see over, the vegetation along Quivett Creek allows distant views at high tide" Click here for basic info on this group and its paddling trips and here to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 7 (Tuesday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Turtles of the Salt Marsh*, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM in Orleans, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. "Something beautiful and unique lurks in the shallows of our salt marshes--the diamondback terrapin! The terrapin is the only species of turtle in the United States that makes its home in the brackish water of salt marshes and mangrove swamps. Our interactions with these secretive creatures are often limited to glimpses of their ornately speckled heads as they surface for air, or watching a female venture onto dry land to nest in early summer. They are also a threatened species in Massachusetts, which also accounts for their rarity; however, Wellfleet boasts a large population, and they can also be found in Pleasant Bay in Orleans. Since 1980, Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary has studied the terrapin population on the Outer Cape through a mark/recapture project, and over 3000 individual turtles have been marked! More recently, the project has expanded to protect nests to prevent predators from getting at the eggs and hatchlings, and developing 'turtle gardens' which encourages nesting. Volunteers are an important component of these projects." This lecture, by Sanctuary Director Bob Prescott, will cover the natural history of diamondback terrapins, and share what we have learned through local research projects. Details on how to get involved as a volunteer will also be provided. This program is free and will be held at Snow Library in Orleans. Registration not required. Click here or call (508) 349-2615 for more details on this event.

May 7 (Tuesday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Saving the Banks: River and Stream Bank Resiliency and Infrastructure in the Face of Climate Change*, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM at the NRWA River Resource Center, 592 Main Street (Rt. 119) in Groton, sponsored by the Nashua River Watershed Association. Led by Mickey Marcus of New England Environmental, Inc., this free workshop will describe how to stabilize river and stream banks to be more resilient in the face of large storm events, which are projected to become both more frequent and intense as the century progresses. Mr. Marcus will also discuss how infrastructure can be made more resilient in the face of more frequent flooding, and how municipalities can plan for the inevitable disruptions that a changing climate will bring to riverine resources. The workshop is designed for municipal board and staff members who will need to deal with these issues when they arise. Pre-registration is required; the workshop is limited to the first forty registrants. To register, please contact Mark Archambault at (978) 448-0299 or MarkA@NashuaRiverWatershed.org.

May 7-9 (Monday-Wednesday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Ecological Restoration for Coastal Habitats Workshop*, co-sponsored by the Waquoit Bay Reserve, the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Waquoit Bay Reserve Foundation. Led by Dr. Andre Clewell, "this

dynamic workshop will go deep into the principles and practices of ecological restoration starting with an examination of why we restore impaired ecosystems and the ecological, personal, cultural and socioeconomic values that restoration fulfills. Combining classroom and hands-on learning techniques, the workshop will unpack the various steps involved in ecological restoration projects from design to implementation and evaluation. Case studies and field trips will be used to illustrate and elaborate on concepts presented. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences and lessons, receive technical input on planned restoration efforts, and observe/participate in an actual restoration action at the workshop site." Fee: $65 (includes food, materials and the new edition of Dr. Clewell's Ecological Restoration book). Click here or contact Tonna-Marie Rogers at (508) 457-0495 ext. 110 or tonna-marie.surgeon-rogers@state.ma.us to sign up or for more info.

May 8 (Wednesday) – TOWN RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – *Edible Wild Plants of the Nunckatesset Greenway*, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in West Bridgewater, sponsored by the West Bridgewater Conservation Commission. The Nunckatessett Greenway, a corridor of riparian lands running along the Town River in West Bridgewater and Bridgewater, is a scenic and recreational resource for residents of and visitors to the two communities. Expert forager Russ Cohen will lead a short walk along a lightly-traveled road running through a section of the Greenway to expound upon the comestible virtues of at least a dozen species of wild plants found there. The walk begins and ends at Reynolds' Landing. Click here or contact Kitty Doherty at (508) 894-4073 or kdoherty@wbridgewater.com for more info.

May 8 (Wednesday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Evening Paddle for Rails*, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in Topsfield, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. "The freshwater marsh known as Bunker Meadows can be a magical place for viewing and listening to breeding wetland birds. Usually, the only opportunity visitors have to observe Virginia rails, sora rails, or pied-billed grebes is from a distant observation tower or boardwalk. On this night, we'll venture into the marsh by canoe for close-up views of these amazing birds. Other birds we are likely to encounter include the marsh wren, swamp sparrow, wood duck, and many more." Fee: $15/members, $18/non-members. Click here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

May 8 (Wednesday) – PAMET RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Pamet River and Harbor Paddle* in Truro, 10:00 AM (assemble at put-in), 10:30 AM launch, sponsored by the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Put-in directions: From Route 6 northbound in Truro, right at the exit sign for Pamet Roads and Truro Center. At the junction signed for North and South Pamet Roads turn right, go a few hundred feet and turn right again onto South Pamet Road. Go under Route 6. After 0.1 m you come to Castle Road. Turn left, go about 100 feet and veer right onto Depot Road. After 0.5 m the road forks. Stay right toward Pamet Harbor. At 1.3 m you come to the harbor parking area. There is a $6 launching fee. Life vest and spray skirt required. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Don Paladino, (508) 349-2950, djp1958@comcast.net] with any questions.

May 9 (Thursday) – NAUSET MARSH (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle Nauset Marsh*, 11:00 AM start, sponsored by the Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group. Click here for basic info on this group and its paddling trips and here to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 9 (Thursday) – IPSWICH WATERSHED – *Evening Birding Ramble* at Appleton Farms Grass Rides in Hamilton, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM, co-sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations and Mass. Audubon's Joppa Flats Nature Center. "Spring at Appleton Farms Grass Rides is full of bird songs and courtship displays. Ramble the trails with an expert guide in search of nesting sites and encounter breeding bobolinks, meadowlarks, red-winged blackbirds, and Baltimore orioles". Pre-registration required with Mass Audubon Joppa Flats, (978) 462-9998. Click here for more info.

May 11 – May 17

May 11 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *"Wellesley Wander" hike*, 11:00 AM start, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This will be a 5-6 mile circuit hike past the Wellesley College greenhouses and campus, Lake Waban, Charles River, brooks and aqueducts. Bring lunch. Meet at

Wellesley College Greenhouses. Directions: Route 16W from Wellesley Center to campus entrance; right into campus, right to East Campus/Science Center and parking lot. Rain cancels. No dogs. Non-AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Robert Winters, Robert@rwinters.com] with any questions.

May 11 (Saturday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Beginner's bird walk through Fowl Meadow*, 7:00 AM – 10:30 AM in Milton, co-sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club and the Friends of the Blue Hills. Learn to bird along the course of a 3-mail walk. See both common and rare bird species at the height of spring migration in the best birding area in the Blue Hills Reservation. Bring your binoculars and a bird book if you have one. Directions: From Route 93/128 Exit 2B, take Route 138 north 1.7 miles, turn left on Neponset Valley Parkway and go 0.5 miles to the small lot at Brush Hill Road (see map). No dogs; non-AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Steve Olanoff, (781) 326-6585] with any questions.

May 11 (Saturday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – *Birding in the Bioreserve*, 7:00 AM start, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. Large, unfragmented areas like the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve support an array of warblers and other interior forest birds such the wood thrush, ovenbird, and scarlet tanager. Many of these unique birds pass through the area for only a few weeks each spring on their way north. Join Lynn Abbey of the Paskamansett Bird Club at the height of the spring migration. Bring binoculars. Meet at the Watuppa Reservation Headquarters, 2929 Blossom Rd. in Fall River. Click here or call (508) 636-4693 ext.103 for more info.

May 11 (Saturday) – SWAN RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Swan River from Swan Pond to Nantucket Sound and back* in Dennisport, sponsored by the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Paddle down the river to its mouth on Nantucket Sound for lunch, & return circumnavigating pond, about 7 miles total. Life Vest & Spray Skirt required. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact trip co-leaders Jean Orser [(508) 362-0451 (best time to call: before 8 PM), jeanorser@gmail.com] or Paul Corriveau [(508) 362-0451 (best time to call: before 8 PM), paulcorri@gmail.com] to sign up or for more info.

May 11 (Saturday) – MILL CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Flatwater Paddle of Mill Creek and Sandwich Harbor*, sponsored by the AMC Boston Paddlers. There should be birds galore on this paddle as the Osprey are nesting and the Great Blue Herons are feeding. Meet at Capt. Scott's afterwards. Bring lunch/snack, water, sunscreen, PFD. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact Paul Shields [(508) 832-5973 (best time to call: before 9 PM)] to sign up or for more info.

May 11 (Saturday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Essex River Race*, sponsored by the Cape Ann Rowing Club. Registration begins at 8:00 AM; the first race heat sets off at 10:00 AM. The Essex River Race is a 5.5-mile, open water event starting at the Essex River Bridge at Route 133 in Essex, out behind the barrier beaches of Ipswich and back. Participants row or paddle small boats through one of the most scenic tidal areas in New England. Occasionally the water can be very rough, with strong winds and currents. Click here for an overview of the race and here to participate, or contact Suzanne Sweeney for more info.

May 11 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Birding Paddle Trip through Wenham Swamp*, 6:00 AM (!) – 10:30 AM, co-sponsored by the Ipswich River Watershed Association and the Essex County Ornithological Society. Paddle the Wenham Swamp section of the Ipswich River while birding with the experts at the height of warbler migration! Put in is at Route 97/High Street in Topsfield, and take out is at Willowdale Meadows, on Topsfield Road near Bradley Palmer State Park. Click here or contact Cynthia at cingelfinger@ipswichriver.org or call (978) 412-8200 for more info.

May 11 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Spring Birds and Song*, 8:00AM – 11:00 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. "Male songbirds sport their brightest plumage and finest song in

the spring. Usually inconspicuous, quiet, and difficult to see, in spring their characteristic songs will often identify the bird or at least help pinpoint its location. We'll begin with a short introduction to songbirds and their vocalizations, listen to some songs we are likely to hear, and then venture outdoors to 'bird' with our ears first, then our eyes." Instructor: Carol Decker, Sanctuary Director. Fee: $16/member, $19/nonmember. Click here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

May 11 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Canoeing for Beginners*, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM in Topsfield, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. "Join us for the morning to learn or brush up on basic paddling strokes such as the forward and back paddle, sweep, draw, and j-stroke. Learning how to make these strokes correctly will enable you to control your canoe with far less effort. We'll practice on land and in the backwaters, and then canoe the river to enjoy the sights and sounds of a spring morning." Fee: $15/members, $18/non-members. Youth aged 12-17 years old are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult. We will provide canoes, paddles, and PFDs. Click here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

May 11 (Saturday) – SHAWSHEEN RIVER – *Canoe Trip on the Shawsheen River*, 8:30 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Burlington Conservation Commission. "The Shawsheen River Watershed Association has once again generously offered to lead us on a guided canoe trip. They provide the boats, paddles, and life vests. All you have to do is register with the Conservation Department [(781) 270-1655] and then show up! Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring a snack and some water. Space is limited. This was a very popular trip last year, so be sure to register early." [Rain date May 18th - notification of postponement by phone to registered participants.] Click here for more info.

May 11 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *River Cleanup Paddle* in Pittsfield and Lenox, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, co-sponsored by the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) and the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT). "Bring your own boat or reserve a canoe. We will use boats (canoes and kayaks) to pick up trash that has collected behind downed trees. Everyone must wear a PFD! One group will launch from Fred Garner Park and head south to Decker Landing, while another group will launch from Decker and paddle south and then return to Decker Landing." Pre-registration required; if you want to start from Decker Landing, please contact Alison Dixon [adixon@hvatoday.org, (413) 394-9796]; or, if you want to start from Fred Garner Park and paddle to Decker Landing, please contact Jane Winn at jane@thebeatnews.org or (413) 230-7321. Click here to download a flyer on this event; all participants will be treated to a picnic lunch.

May 11-19 – STATEWIDE – *Bay State Bike Week*, presented by the Massachusetts Bicycle Coalition (MassBike) in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT). "Bay State Bike Week is an annual celebration of human-powered, two-wheeled transportation. It is fitting that Massachusetts would be the only state in the nation with a truly statewide bike week, given our long history of biking." Click here for more info on events in your area or that otherwise interest you.

May 11-12 and **18-19 (Saturday-Sunday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Shad fishing Derby*** in Holyoke, sponsored by the Holyoke Gas and Electric Department (HG&E). The annual HG&E Shad Derby is one of the region's largest fishing events. Held this year on two weekends in May, the Derby offers both adult and youth fishermen the opportunity to win prizes as they enjoy the recreational benefits of the Connecticut River. Click here for more info on the Derby, and here for info on fishing licenses and related info from the Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

May 11-June 16 – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Turners Falls Fishway open for public viewing*, sponsored by the Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center. The Turners Falls Fishway is located on First Street, off Avenue A, in Turners Falls, MA. The facility is open Wednesday through Sunday from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, and also on Monday, May 27 for the Memorial Day holiday. Spring on the Connecticut River offers an unrivaled opportunity to witness the migration of shad, sea lamprey and other anadromous fish. These fish migrate from the ocean and head upriver to spawn in the rivers of their birth. A visit to the Turners Falls Fishway provides an opportunity to learn about these amazing journeys. Admission is free; click here or call (toll-free) (800) 859-2960 for more info.

May 12 (Sunday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *Morning Bird Walk* at Robinson State Park in Agawam, 7:30 AM start, sponsored by the Allen Bird Club. Look for nesting and migrant songbirds. Meet on Colemore St., opposite the North St. entrance. Click here or contact leader John Hutchison at (413) 562-3976 for more info.

May 12 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Nahanton Park Mother's Day Bird Walk Trip*, 8:00 AM start, sponsored by the Newton Conservators. Nahanton Park offers a mix of woodlands, wetlands, edge habitat and meadows along the Charles River, making it one of the best birding spots in Newton for both migratory and resident songbirds. Likely finds include brightly colored warblers, vireos, and orioles. Also expect bluebirds, scarlet tanagers, swallows and brown thrashers. Enter the park at the Nahanton Street entrance next to the river. Parking is available inside the park. Bring binoculars if you have them. Beginners as well as experienced birders are welcome. Boots are recommended. Walk will be cancelled in steady rain. Click here or contact co-leaders Alison Leary (617) 821-5619 or Haynes Miller (617) 413-2419 for more info. (Co-sponsored with Friends of Nahanton Park.)

May 12 (Sunday) – WARE RIVER (CHICOPEE WATERSHED) – *Bay State Bike Week: Ride the Longest Section of the Mass. Central Rail Trail*, 1:00 PM start, sponsored by Wachusett Greenways. Ride the Mass. Central Rail Trail westward from Rutland, through Oakham, nine continuous miles downhill to the Ware River crossing in Barre. Quit at the Barre end, or ride back east, checking out Wachusett Greenways' new welcome center. ALL are welcome. Contact Ed Yaglou at (978) 355-2539 or Christy Barnes at (508) 755-6321 or bertinbarnes@verizon.net to sign up or for more info.

May 12 (Sunday) – HERRING RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Paddle the Herring River* in Harwich, 12:00 Noon start, sponsored by the Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group. "The Herring River is a scenic waterway, surrounded by over 200 acres of Harwich Conservation Lands. We always see birds along the river bank and expansive marsh. We'll head to the end of the river where the culvert allows water to flow into and out of the reservoir in Bell's Neck". Click here for basic info on this group and its paddling trips and here to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 12 (Sunday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Morning Bird Walk* at Post Farm and Woods Pond, 7:00AM start, sponsored by the Hoffmann Bird Club. Morning walk in search of spring migrants and rails. Meet at the Price Chopper parking lot on the Pittsfield-Lenox Rd., Lenox. Click here or contact Leader Gael Hurley [(413) 281-1017, Gael19@nycap.rr.com)] for more info.

May 12 (Sunday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *"Mother's Day with Wildflowers" guided walk* at Bartholomew's Cobble in Sheffield, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. Give a gift to your mother and to Mother Earth. Join a ranger for a family-friendly stroll along gentle Cobble trails to view the amazing display of wild columbine and other native wildflowers. Learn what families can do to make better homes for native wild plants and butterflies, and wild animals in your own backyard. Fee: Adult/Child $4; Family $10 (members), Adult/Child $6; Family $15 (nonmembers); please pre-register. Click here or call (413) 229-8600 to sign up or for more info.

May 13 (Monday) – LITTLE RIVER (MYSTIC WATERSHED) – *City Tour of Stormwater and Wetland Restoration Project*, 3:30 PM start, co-sponsored by the City of Cambridge Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Friends of Alewife Reservation. DPW Project Manager Catherine Woodbury is guiding a tour of the new $ 140 million wetland restoration project. Be among the first to see this area, which will be opening soon. Meet at 165 Cambridge Park Drive, by Dodge Company, as short walk from the Alewife MBTA stop. Click here for more background info on this innovative stormwater remediation/wetland restoration project.

May 14 (Tuesday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Introduction to the Birds at Cogswell's Grant*, 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM, co-sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center and Historic New England. The scenic grasslands, salt marshes, and woodlands of Historic New England's Cogswell's Grant, a 165-acre coastal farm along the banks of the Essex River, are a treasure trove for birders.

During mid-May, many breeding birds such as bobolinks and Baltimore orioles have already returned to its fields and forests to nest, while many others are still migrating through the area en route to their more northerly breeding grounds. Join Joppa Flats Sanctuary Director Bill Gette for a leisurely morning walk through the variety of habitats making up the Grant. During the walk, the group will discuss the many aids to field identification, identify birds by their vocalizations, and discuss breeding behavior. Coffee and refreshments will be served, and the historic house will be open to participants for a brief tour. The member price applies to members of Mass Audubon and Historic New England. Fee: $10/members, $14/nonmembers. Click here or call (978) 462-9998 to sign up or for more info.

May 14 (Tuesday) – IPSWICH RIVER – ***Twilight Paddle on the Ipswich River***, 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM in Topsfield, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. "Join us for a truly magical evening experience as we canoe the Ipswich River while the sun sets. We'll paddle upstream, keeping an eye to the sky for ducks and herons, or maybe catch sight of a nighthawk or bat skimming the water as the sun sets below the horizon. Beavers may be active in the river and tail slap close to our canoes. As the light dims, we will call for owls and experience the nocturnal river habitat. There will be an island stop to stretch our legs and enjoy some campfire snacks." Fee: $28/members, $32/nonmembers. Click here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

May 16 (Thursday) – SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED – ***"Taking on Invasives: Battles Won, Lost, and their Lessons"*** lecture in Lincoln, co-sponsored by the Walden Woods Project and the SuAsCo Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA). "Join Jess Toro, joint owner of Native Habitat Restoration of Stockbridge, MA, as she explains the what, why and how of managing invasive plants in your landscape and natural areas. She will focus on common invasive plants and what you can do about them in May and June. Her presentation will include how to identify the plants in late spring and a variety of control methods based on site conditions, personal preferences and cost." Arrive at 7:00 PM for refreshments; the lecture starts at 7:30 PM. This free Stewardship Lecture takes place at the Thoreau Institute, 44 Baker Farm Road in Lincoln. Click here or call (781) 259-4707 to sign up or for more info.

May 16 (Thursday) – PLUM ISLAND SOUND – ***Spring Birding at Rough Meadows***, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center. The Rough Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary, on Patmos Road in Rowley (just east of scenic Route 1A), is Mass. Audubon's newest wildlife sanctuary. "Come with us as we explore the salt marshes, fields, and oak and hickory uplands of this fabulous property, looking for spring migrant warblers, orchard orioles, red-bellied woodpeckers, and other songbirds." Fee: $18/members, $21/nonmembers. Click here or call (978) 462-9998 to sign up or for more info.

May 16 (Thursday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – ***Annual Meeting of the Westfield River Watershed Association*** (WRWA). Click here for more info.

May 17 (Friday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – ***Salisbury Rail Trail Connector Dedication***, 2:00 PM, sponsored by the Salisbury Rail Trail Committee. You are cordially invited to celebrate completion of the Salisbury Rail Trail Connector with state and local officials and the Salisbury Rail Trail Committee. The event will take place at the U.S. Route 1/Gillis Bridge adjacent to Stripers Grille Restaurant, 175 Bridge Road, Salisbury.

May 17 (Friday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – ***Searching for Holyoke's Butterflies***, 10:30 AM at the Dinosaur Footprints Reservation, Route 5 NORTH in Holyoke, sponsored by the Mass. Butterfly Club. "Think there's no interesting nature in the city? Think again! Once again we will embark on our annual Mass Butterfly Club search for the elusive Juniper Hairstreak on the banks of the CT River and up in the hills above Holyoke. Join The Trustees of Reservations ecologist Julie Richburg in exploring the TTOR's Dinosaur Footprints and Little Tom properties in Holyoke. From Dinosaur Footprints we will drive about 2 miles to explore Little Mt. Tom, looking for Juniper Hairstreaks. Walking distance should be about 1 to 1 ½ miles. We will do a lot of tree shaking looking for these hairstreaks. The last two years we have seen Peregrine Falcons on this trip. Bring lunch and water." Click here or contact Tom Gagnon at (413) 584-6353 or tombwhawk@aol.com for more info.

May 18 – May 24

May 18 (Saturday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *"Photo Safari" at the Cogswell's Grant* in Essex, 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Essex National Heritage Area. "Join us at Historic New England's Cogswell's Grant, a 165-acre coastal farm along the banks of the Essex River, to photograph the pristine marshland, rolling hayfields, and beautiful views of the Essex River stretching to the sea. The landscape consists of acres of farmland with 1728 farmhouse and barn, hay fields, salt marsh, and river frontage. The views of the salt marsh, the Essex River, and beyond, are beautiful and, as one of the few protected stretches of open land along the Essex River, the historic landscape at Cogswell's Grant also provides an important and diverse habitat for local and migrating wildlife." Reservations required. Fee: Essex Heritage & Historic New England Members $35; Non-Members $45. Click here or call Essex Heritage at (978) 740-0444 to sign up or for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – POWOW RIVER (MERRIMACK WATERSHED) – *Second Annual Powow River Duck Race*, 11:00 AM start, sponsored by the Amesbury Rotary Club. Ducks will be dumped into the Powow River at Pond Street. The finish line will be at 37 Water Street, behind the Town Garage. The 1st duck to cross the finish line wins $1,000.00. All monies raised goes toward local and international projects sponsored by the Amesbury Rotary Club. Tickets are also available at Cutters Plus, Stoneridge Properties, The Provident Bank and Greenery Designs. Click here for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – NEMASKET RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – *Annual Canoe Race*, 11:00 AM start, sponsored by the Middleborough Parks Department. The race begins at Old Bridge Street in Lakeville and follows a 4.5-mile course downstream (north) to the finish line at Oliver Mill Park in Middleborough. Registration is $20/boat in advance and $30/boat the day of the race. (Rain date is Sunday, May 19.) Click here or contact Mr. Fran Cass at (508) 946-2440 or fcass@middleborough.com for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Slocum River Kayak Tour*, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies. Paddle the Slocum River, explore the river's scenic estuary, extraordinary views, great birding & paddling; tour includes basic kayak equipment & instruction. Paddlers of all abilities welcome! Wear clothing and footwear that you don't mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by an Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures Certified Instructor. Fee: $45/members, $55/nonmembers. Limit: 10; open to ages 14 and older. Preregistration required; click here or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Closing Celebration for "The River Project: Art & Nature at Slocum's River Reserve"*, 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM, co-sponsored by the Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust and The Trustees of Reservations. The beautiful Slocum's River Reserve in Dartmouth, the inspiration and the setting for six large-scale, site-specific sculptures that have been on display over the past year, will close on May 18, 2013. The River Project's Closing Celebration from will feature a guided walk, entertainment, speakers, music and a bonfire. Bring your own picnic and enjoy the festivities! Click here for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – *Wildflower walk* at Copicut Woods, 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. The well drained, acid soils of the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve are ideal for many spring wildflowers, including Pink Lady's Slipper, Birdfoot Violet, Canada Mayflower, Wood Anemone, and Starflower, to name a few. Join plant expert and naturalist Garry Plunkett to see what's blooming at Copicut Woods. Click here or call (508) 636-4693 ext. 103 for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – MATTAPOISETT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *"Don't fear the swamp! How to have fun in wetlands"* outing in Mattapoisett, 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Buzzards Bay Coalition. "Is it water, or is it land? In this hands-on exploration, we will discover what makes a wetland and why these habitats are important. The Mattapoisett River Reserve has a tremendous diversity of wetlands. We will get down and dirty exploring the life that lives in wetlands and how we can protect them." Fee:

Free for Coalition members, $10 for others. Click here or contact Rob Hancock, Vice-President, Education and Public Engagement, at (508) 999-6363 ext. 222 or hancock@savebuzzardsbay.org for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – *Basic Wetland Delineation: Soils*, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM in Marion, MA, sponsored by the Mass. Association of Conservation Commissions. Focus is on hydric soils, indicators of wetland hydrology and understanding the DEP BVW Delineation Field Data form: Section II. Indicators of Hydrology. Morning lecture by John Rockwell followed by afternoon field session. Presented in cooperation with the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program. Lunch and materials included. Fee: $95/MACC Members, $110/Non-members, $45/Students. Click here or call (617)489-3930 to sign up of for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – CANOE RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – *Twenty-Sixth Annual Canoe River Awareness Day*, 10:00AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Canoe River Aquifer Awareness Committee (CRAAC). This year's event will be held at the Mansfield Fish & Game Club, 510 East Street (Route 106) in Mansfield (behind the Mansfield Highway Dept.). Bring your canoe or kayak! Click here or call (508) 230-0850 for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Twentieth Annual EarthFest*, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM at the Hatch Shell and Charles River Esplanade in Boston, co-sponsored by 92.9 WBOS-FM and Whole Foods, in cooperation with the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation. EarthFest is a free celebration for the Earth showcasing environmentally friendly products, groups, and activities. EarthFest will also feature an all-star musical line-up, an interactive family area and more. Click here for more details; non-profit groups seeking to participate in the event should click here, and prospective volunteers should click here.

May 18 (Saturday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Paddle the Nashua River with the Souhegan Watershed Association*, 9:30 AM start, sponsored by the Souhegan Watershed Association. Enjoy a leisurely paddle on a quiet section of the Nashua River with members of the Souhegan Watershed Association. The Trip Leaders are Gwen and Doug Whitbeck, with Guest Speaker Marion Stoddart. Meet at 9:30 in Shirley, MA. Directions: From Rte 495, exit 30, take Rte 2A toward Ayer. Continue on East Main, West Main, then take first right after going over the Nashua River and just after crossing the Shirley line. (Approximately 1.7 miles after the intersection of East Main/West Main where you leave 2A to continue on West Main.) Boat rentals available if you call in advance [Nashoba Paddler, (978) 448-8699]. Pre-registration is required; click here or contact Gwen or Doug Whitbeck at (603) 878-9046 to sign up or for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – NASHUA RIVER – *23nd Annual Ducky Wucky River Race*, 4:30 PM at the Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge paddler access area at the end of Still River Depot Road, off Route 110, Harvard, sponsored by (and benefiting) the Rotary Club of Ayer, Harvard, Shirley and Devens. Grand prize of dinner for two anywhere in the world, including airfare and two nights' hotel. The race is preceded by a full day of activities at the Apple Blossom Festival. Click here for more info on how to "buy" a duck as well as more details on the race and other activities taking place that day. (Rain Date - Sunday, May 19.)

May 18 (Saturday) – MILLERS RIVER – *Millers River Blue Trail Opening and Service Day*, 12:30 PM – 5:00 PM, sponsored by the Millers River Watershed Council. A group will travel down the Blue Trail, running from Athol downstream to Orange, picking up trash and enjoying the Trail as they go. "We will spot cars in Orange, shuttle to Athol and then hit the water." Click here, here or contact Keith Davies at (978) 248-9491 for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *Canoe/Kayak Demo Day*, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Hampton Ponds State Park in Westfield, sponsored by (and benefitting) the Westfield River Watershed Association (WRWA). Wilderness Experiences Unlimited & Westfield Water Sports, located in Southwick, is partnering with the WRWA to provide an opportunity to "test drive" more than sixty different styles of canoes and kayaks (including stand-up paddle boats), along with paddles and personal flotation devices, to make it a safe, informative and fun experience, on and off the water. Instructors will be on hand and demonstrations of skills will take place throughout the day. There will even be a raffle for a Kayak and gear. Hungry? Snacks, drinks and

hot dogs will be plentiful. Admission is $5.00 per person or $10.00 per family. Current WRWA members are admitted for free. Click here or email westfieldriver1764@gmail.com for more info.

May 18 (Saturday) – MILLERS RIVER – *Fitness Hike on the New England National Scenic Trail*, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM, sponsored by the Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center. The woods should be bursting with birdsong and late spring wildflowers on this 5.5 mile hike along the trail formerly known as the M-M trail. The hike begins in the town of Erving and travels through hemlock forests to the oak woods on the ledges above the Millers River with a view of the River and east to Mount Wachusett. The hike will then continue to Briggs Brook above the village of Farley, where a connector trail leads to the Northfield Mountain trail system. A second viewpoint atop the Mountain looks north to southern Vermont with a view of the Northfield Mountain Station upper reservoir. Hikers will finally descend along the scenic Rose Ledge foot trail to the Northfield Mountain Visitor Center. Click here or call (toll-free) (800) 859-2960 to sign up or for more info.

May 18-24 (Saturday – Friday) – STATEWIDE – *National Safe Boating Week*, sponsored by the North American Safe Boating Campaign. Click here to order free educational and other items promoting safe boating and the wearing of life jackets (PFDs), and click here to add your safe boating-themed event to their Calendar. Write to campaign@safeboatingcampaign.com for more info. [See also the related Ready, Set, Wear It! Life Jacket World Record Day contest, taking place on May 18.]

May 18-June 30 – HOUSATONIC and HOOSIC RIVERS – *"River Paintings" exhibition* in Pittsfield. "The Berkshire Museum presents the new exhibition, River Paintings, by Berkshire County-based artist Henry Ekman Klein. The paintings focus on nature and the evolving landscape, expressed in exuberant brushstrokes and a rich, saturated palette. 'I give my audience the ringside seat, viewing stories about the characters: Rocks, Water, Gravity', says Klein. He employs an innovative *en plein air* technique in his work, producing real-size views of the terrain in a one-to-one ratio." Located in downtown Pittsfield, Massachusetts, at 39 South St., Berkshire Museum is open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Saturday, and 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM on Sunday. Click here or call (413) 443-7171 for more info.

May 19 (Sunday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Flatwater/quickwater paddle*, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the Souhegan Watershed Association. This section of the Nashua River is mostly forested with few roads. It offers something for everyone, from flatwater to Class I quickwater. We're sure everyone will find it an enjoyable and informative trip. Meet at 10:00 AM. From Rte 2 to Leominster take exit 33, to merge onto I-190 S toward Worcester, 2.8 mi. Take exit 7 toward Lancaster. Turn left (east) on New Lancaster Rd/Rte 117. Continue to follow Rte 117 0.4 mi. Turn left at N. Main St. and follow to end. Click here or contact trip leader Peter Urban at (978) 407-6551 or ptrurb@gmail.com to sign up or for more info.

May 19 (Sunday) – SHAWSHEEN RIVER – *Shawsheen River Cleanup*, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM sponsored by the Shawsheen River Watershed Association. "We will be doing a sweep on a short section of the river from Tewksbury to Andover. We will be collecting trash and may involve getting wet and dirty; not a trip for children. Best for people with their own boats, we have room for a few people in SRWA boats. We have gloves and tools to lend." Click here or contact Bob Rauseo at bob_otter@comcast.net for more info.

May 19 (Sunday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Mighty Merrimack Rowing Race*, 12:00 Noon – 4:00 PM in Amesbury, sponsored by (and benefitting) the Lowell's Boat Shop. The Mighty Merrimack Rowing Race is a 3.5 mile rowing race on the Merrimack River in Amesbury. Boat Classes include rowing and paddling boats of all kinds, including dories, skiffs, wherries, peapods, canoes, kayaks, and other similar boat types. Click here, here or write to info@lowellsboatshop.com for more info.

May 19 (Sunday) –PARKER RIVER – *Hike in the Crane Pond Wildlife Management Area* in West Newbury and Groveland, 1:30 PM start, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Easy, 3-4 mile hike thru forest trails with beaver ponds, vernal pools and a great blue heron rookery. Directions: From I-95, take exit 56 west onto Scotland Road, Right at 0.5 mi. onto Indian Hill St, bear Left at 1.1 mi. onto Cherry Hill St, L at 1.4 mi. onto Middle St, Left at 1.4 mi. onto Georgetown Rd and continue about 0.7 mi. to

2nd gate on left side of road. Rain cancels. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Richard Lombard, rllombard1@comcast.net] with any questions.

May 19 (Sunday) – PLUM ISLAND SOUND – *Natural History of Plum Island*, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM in Newburyport, sponsored by the New England Wild Flower Society (NEWFS). "Explore the major vegetative and wildlife communities of Plum Island spread over salt marshes, dunes and beach habitats. Learn about various management strategies associated with these communities, including threatened and endangered species. Think piping plovers! Don't forget your binoculars, water, and a snack." Instructor: Bill Lee, wildlife biologist. Fee: $28/member, $35/non-member. Click here to sign up or for more info.

May 19 (Sunday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Paddle the Ipswich River in Ipswich: Winthrop Street to Riverbend*, 12:00 Noon – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the Ipswich River Watershed Association. Join members of the Ipswich Stream Team for a paddle through one of the least developed section of the river. The timing of the trip is such that you will end at our headquarters just in time for the Annual Dock Opening Celebration (see below). Please bring your own boat, PFD, and water. RSVP to Cynthia at cingelfinger@ipswichriver.org or call 978-412-8200.

May 19 (Sunday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Annual Dock Opening Celebration*, 2:00-5:00 PM at Riverbend, 143 County Road, Ipswich, sponsored by the Ipswich River Watershed Association. You don't need to go to Maine or New Hampshire to enjoy nature. From our stretch of river you can see turtles, cardinal flowers, silver maples, and perhaps even a river otter. Canoes will be available for paddling what many people say is the most beautiful section of the river. DownRiver Ice Cream will be served at 2:20 PM. Contact Cynthia at cingelfinger@ipswichriver.org or (978) 412-8200 to RSVP or for more info.

May 19 (Sunday) – MYSTIC RIVER – *Seventeenth Annual Mystic River Herring Run & Paddle*, sponsored by (and benefiting) the Mystic River Watershed Association. Participate in a 5K Race or Walk or a 3-, 9- or 12-mile paddle, or bike ride. Meet at the Boys and Girls Clubs, Blessing of the Bay Boathouse, 32 Shore Drive in Somerville (park at the Somerville District Court at 175 Fellsway). 5K Race & Walk registration opens at 8:00AM; 5K Run/walk starts at 9:00AM; Paddling Races start at 11:00AM; the bike ride starts at 11:15 AM. (The bike ride will take place along existing paths on both sides of the Mystic River through Somerville and Medford, in addition to the wildly popular Park at River's Edge along the Malden River. The ride will also feature the brand new Wellington Greenway, as well as the first Bike to the Sea segment in Everett.) Click here, here, here or contact Mark at (617) 965-5110 or click here for details and to reserve a boat for the race.

May 19 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Canoe/Kayak Trip at Nahanton Park*, 1:00 PM start, sponsored by the Newton Conservators. This is a beautiful section of the Charles River from which you can go upstream to the far reaches of Needham, Dedham and Wellesley. Interested nature lovers can bring their own canoe or kayak to use or can rent one of them at the new canoe/kayak/water stand rental that is now located at Nahanton Park. The area upstream is a region of significant beauty with almost pristine conditions of local marshes and tree lines. Cutler Marsh is particularly impressive in depth, with different patterns of wildlife overlapping the background tree line and marsh views. Dress appropriately. A hat, sunscreen, snacks and drinks are recommended supplies. Thunderstorms will cancel the trip. Meet at the Nahanton Street entrance next to the river. Parking is available inside the park. Click here or contact trip leader Bill Hagar at (617) 964-2644) for more info. (Co-sponsored with the Friends of Nahanton Park.)

May 19 (Sunday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – *Lower Deerfield Paddle Trip*, 12:00 Noon – 4:00 PM, sponsored by the Deerfield River Watershed Association (DRWA). This will be an interpretive paddle down the lower reached of the Deerfield River as it snakes through its floodplain from Historic Deerfield to Greenfield. At a few planned stops, local experts will talk a little bit about the area's natural and human history. Particular attention will be paid to how the natural landscape has influenced the creatures living here and human land use. In order to participate in the trip, you must provide all your own equipment, including lifejackets. Please contact brian.yellen@gmail.com to sign up or for more info.

May 19 (Sunday) – ASSABET RIVER – *Hike for Ice Cream*, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM in Westborough, sponsored by the Westborough Community Land Trust. "Celebrate the warming weather with a treat! This short hike through the Headwaters Conservation Area will start at Mill Pond School. We'll traverse through the woods, past the headwaters of the Assabet River, and along old stone walls and pastures, keeping an eye out for shy woodland flowers. Then out to Nourse Farm for ice cream, before returning to Mill Pond School." Click here or write to events@westboroughlandtrust.org for more info.

May 19 (Sunday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Walk at Corn Hill Woodlands*, 1:00 PM start, sponsored by the North and South Rivers Watershed Association (NSRWA). Join the NSRWA to explore the new boardwalks recently renovated on Marshfield Conservation property - Corn Hill Woodlands, off of Union St. Marshfield. This 123-acre mix of white pine forest and wetlands is part of a larger complex of open space along the North River well worth hiking. The walks are free to NSRWA members, $5 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. Click here or call (781) 659-8168 to sign up or for more info.

May 19 (Sunday) – MASHPEE RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Mashpee River* in Mashpee, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group. "Paddle through the Mashpee Woodlands Conservation Area, perhaps seeing nesting marsh wrens and red winged blackbirds along the shoreline and always osprey overhead. It is a beautiful paddle, end to end." Click here for basic info on this group and its paddling trips and here to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 20 (Monday) – STONY BROOK (CHARLES WATERSHED) – *Tour of the "Upper Watershed"*, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM, co-sponsored by the Friends of Fresh Pond and the City of Cambridge Water Department. David Kaplan, Watershed Supervisor, will guide you on a walking tour of a redevelopment project in the "Upper Watershed" (i.e., the area of land contributing flow to the City's reservoir system in Lincoln, Weston and Waltham). Find out how development directly impacts water quality in Hobbs Brook and Stony Brook reservoirs. Transportation provided to registered participants. To register, email fpr@cambridgema.gov or call 617-349-6489, or click here for more info.

May 21 (Tuesday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Pittsfield Green Drinks* at Mad Jack's BBQ, 295 North St. in Pittsfield, 5:15 PM start, sponsored by the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT). "Pittsfield Green Drinks is a very informal gathering, open to everyone with any environmental interest. The drinks aren't green, but our conversations are. At 6:30 PM, there will be a short presentation by Alison Dixon from the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) about the #1 problem going into our lakes and rivers, and what you can do to help. Come learn how you can make a difference in your own backyard!" Click here for more info.

May 21 (Tuesday) – WEST RIVER (BLACKSTONE WATERSHED) – *Paddle the West River* in Uxbridge, launching promptly at 6:15 PM, sponsored by the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA)'s Blackstone Valley Paddle Club. "You'll have the chance to see lots of wildlife as you paddle upstream through this stretch of clean, clear flatwater. The West River has excellent water quality and is one of our rivers that is clean enough to swim in the Blackstone Valley. You definitely wouldn't mind falling into this section of the river! Also, no shuttling is necessary. Suitable for all levels of experience." Club membership is required to take part in this event; click here for more details. Click here or contact Cheryl at stonefoxfarm@cox.net or (401)647-5887 for more info. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the Message Board as well as your e-mail and the website for updates.

May 21 (Tuesday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Introduction to the Birds at Cogswell's Grant*, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM, co-sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center and Historic New England. The scenic grasslands, salt marshes, and woodlands of Historic New England's Cogswell's Grant, a 165-acre coastal farm along the banks of the Essex River, are a treasure trove for birders. During mid-May, many breeding birds such as bobolinks and Baltimore orioles have already returned to its fields and forests to nest, while many others are still migrating through the area en route to their more northerly breeding grounds. Join Joppa Flats Sanctuary Director Bill Gette for a leisurely morning walk through the variety of habitats making up the Grant. During the walk, the group will discuss the many aids to field

identification, identify birds by their vocalizations, and discuss breeding behavior. Coffee and refreshments will be served, and the historic house will be open to participants for a brief tour. The member price applies to members of Mass Audubon and Historic New England. Fee: $10/members, $14/nonmembers. Click here or call (978) 462-9998 to sign up or for more info.

May 22 (Wednesday) – QUIVETT CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle Quivett Creek* from Paines Beach, Brewster, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group. "We'll paddle from Paines Creek Beach and hug the shore going west to the mouth of Quivett Creek. As we make our way up this wonderful creek, we'll be surrounded by extensive marsh. Unlike Scorton Creek and Chase Garden, where the reeds and grasses are too tall to see over, the vegetation along Quivett Creek allows distant views at high tide" Click here for basic info on this group and its paddling trips and here to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 22 (Wednesday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Sunset Kayak Tour*, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies. Paddle the Slocum River, explore the ecosystem; tour includes basic kayak equipment & instruction. Paddlers of all abilities welcome! Wear clothing and footwear that you don't mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by an Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures Certified Instructor. Fee: $38/members, $45/nonmembers. Limit: 10; open to ages 14 and older. Preregistration required; click here or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

May 23 (Thursday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – B*otanical field trip to the Dunes and Swales of the Cherry and Webb Conservation Area* in Westport, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the New England Wild Flower Society (NEWFS). Located on a barrier spit at the mouth of the Westport River, this property preserves the unique plant communities characteristic of a well-established dune system. American beach grass (*Ammophila breviligulata*) stabilizes the primary dunes. Cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*) and pitcher plants (*Sarracenia purpurea*) thrive in the bogs of the interdunal swales, while sand false heather (*Hudsonia tomentosa*), beach plum (*Prunus maritima*), bayberry (*Morella caroliniensis*), pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*) and scrub oak (*Quercus ilicifolia*) inhabit the drier sandplains. The walk focuses on plant identification as well as fun and interesting natural history. Bring water, lunch, and a hand lens if you have one. Be prepared for wind, biting insects, and bright sun. Instructor: Roland "Boot" Boutwell, naturalist. Fee: $38/member, $46/nonmember. Click here to sign up or for more info.

May 23 (Thursday) – SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED – *"Pine Barrens" Field training*, 9:30 AM – 12:00 Noon in Carver, sponsored by the Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barrens Alliance. "The globally rare 'Pine Barrens' eco-region of southeastern Massachusetts supports a number of rare animal and plant species, some of which occur only here. This region encompasses the Cape and Islands and extends inland to Mattapoisett, Middleboro & Duxbury. At sea, the ecosystem includes Mass. Bay, Cape Cod Bay, Buzzards Bay and Nantucket Sound. Volunteer citizen scientists are urgently needed to conduct field assessments to help prioritize conservation and restoration efforts. Assessing even one parcel will help. Free field training will be provided by Ecologist Pat Swain of the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP)." This training session will meet at the Myles Standish State Forest Headquarters Parking Lot, 194 Cranberry Road, in Carver (see map; headquarters phone: (508) 866.2580). Click here or write to info@pinebarrensalliance.org to sign up or for more info.

May 24 (Friday) – PARKER RIVER – *"Local Gems of Essex County" birding expedition*, 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. "Essex County has a good number of lesser known birding locations, and these 'gems' will be our focus today. We'll visit Crane Neck Wildlife Management Area in Groveland, Pikes Bridge Road in West Newbury, Scotland Road in Newburyport, and Martin Burns Wildlife Management Area in Newbury. Each location provides a unique habitat for a great diversity of species. In addition to field identification, we'll also focus on the diverse songs of wood-warblers, sparrows, and more. It's likely we'll encounter more than 75 species of birds today!" Fee: Adults $36/members, $43/nonmembers. Click here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

May 24 (Friday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Moonrise Kayak Paddle*, 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, on Martha's Vineyard. "See Sengekontacket Pond in a new light, moonlight, as we celebrate the different full moons of summer. With a guide, you will kayak on the pond as the sun sets and the moon rises. Kayaks, paddles and lifejackets are all included. Must be age 11 or older, accompanied by an adult, to paddle. Fee: $70/members, $90/nonmembers. Fee is for 2 people in a tandem boat. Single boats available - call to reserve. Click here or call (508) 627-4850 to sign up or for more info.

May 25– May 31

May 25 (Saturday) – HOOSIC RIVER – *Riverfest*, the annual celebration of the Hoosic hosted by the Hoosic River Watershed Association (HooRWA). The event will be held at Cole Field on the Williams College campus from 11 AM to 4 PM. Admission is $5 advance and $8 at the gate per person. Children 10 and under admitted free. Riverfest is a family event that features live river animals, crafts and games, pony rides, raft rides, live music, drumming and a riverside art exhibit. Events for kids and adults are scheduled throughout the day. Click here, call (413) 458-2742 or write to office@hoorwa.org for more info.

May 25 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *Glendale Falls Trail Work & Planting*, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, sponsored by the Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee. Bring your work gloves to help beautify the trail. Meet at Glendale Falls. Contact Meredyth Babcock at (413) 623-2070 or volunteer@westfieldriverwildscenic.org to sign up or for more info.

May 25 (Saturday) – BLACKSTONE RIVER – *Blackstone River Paddle-Some Whitewater*, sponsored by the Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This will be a 9-mile paddle along a scenic and winding segment of the Blackstone River flowing through the historic Blackstone Valley towns of Uxbridge, Millville & Blackstone. As some quickwater and Class II+ whitewater is expected to be encountered along the way, PFD's, helmets & skirts are required, as well as food and water. No novice paddlers on this one. Call leader for time and put in. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact trip leader Elaine Cibelli [(508) 832-9060 (best time to call: Before 9:30pm), elaine_cibelli@hotmail.com] to sign up or for more info.

May 25 (Saturday) – PARKER RIVER – *Tidal Creek Paddle* in Newbury, sponsored by the New Hampshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This will be a fun paddle thru the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge and the Kent's Island and Mill Creek Wildlife Management Areas, much of it through salt marsh, traveling on smooth but "pushy" tidal currents. Ideal for touring (12'+) and sea kayaks, and canoes; not for solo canoes or kayaks under 12 ft. Lots of birds, sometimes deer and fox. This is a tidal trip - the tide will take us one way, and then back home. Experience on moving water is required. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact trip leader Phil Sego [phil@philsego.com] to sign up or for more info.

May 25 (Saturday) – EGYPT AND ROWLEY RIVERS (PARKER WATERSHED) – *Tidal Creek Paddle* up- and downstream on the Egypt and Rowley Rivers, 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the Parker River Clean Water Association. The put-in/take-out is located at the end of Railroad Avenue in Rowley. Please pre-register with George Comiskey [(978) 352-7364 or parker.river@verizon.net]. Trip is limited to the first 20 canoes/kayaks who sign up. Inclement weather or strong winds will cancel trip; call George after 7:30 AM Saturday morning of the trip if in doubt, or you have decided not to go.

May 25 (Saturday) – PLUM ISLAND SOUND – *The Wonder and the Wow: Plum Island River Kayak Paddle*, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center. "Why should kids have all the fun? Leaders Lisa Hutchings and Jonathan Brooks will take you and other adults for a fresh new look at coastal habitats and wildlife throughout the seasons. Did you know that humpback whales have individual names? Have you ever gone for a row on the Merrimack River? Feel the joy of sights and sounds this summer that are uniquely available from the water. You'll come away with a brand-new enthusiasm for the natural world around you!" Fee: $50/member, $60/nonmember. The fee covers single kayak rental. Subtract $10 per person for double kayak rental and $20 per person if you use your own kayak. Experience level:

Beginner II (no experience necessary, some stamina required). Paddling time: 3 hours, with at least one rest stop. Click here or call (978) 462-9998 to sign up or for more info.

May 25 (Saturday) – PUDDING and HERRING BROOKS (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Morning Bird Walk* at the Wildlands Trust of Southeastern Massachusetts' Willow Brook Farm Preserve in Pembroke, 8:00 AM start, sponsored by the South Shore Bird Club. This will be a 3 to 4 mile walk through very birdy habitat. Leader: Sally Avery. Meet at the Preserve entrance on Route 14, about 0.2 miles west of its intersection with Route 53. Look for the sign, which is set back from the road (see map). Click here for more info.

May 25 (Saturday) – BLACKFISH CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHEDS) – *Paddle Blackfish Creek and Fox Island Marsh* in Wellfleet, sponsored by the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. 10:00 AM (assemble at put-in), 10:30 AM launch. Directions to Put-in: In Wellfleet, turn onto Pilgrim Spring Rd. from Rte. 6 (just past the fire-lookout tower). At the stop sign and junction where Cove Rd. joins from the right continue straight on Indian Neck Rd. At the intersection with Samoset Ave. on left bear right and then right on Nauset Road to the Indian Neck Beach parking area. Use the existing paths to access the beach. Life vest and spray skirt required. Wet or dry suit may be required depending on conditions. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Don Paladino, (508) 349-2950, djp1958@comcast.net] with any questions.

May 26 (Sunday) – SNAKE RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – *'Cake on the Snake' paddle* in Norton, sponsored by the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA). Meet at 10:30 AM at the put-in (the Plain St. bridge over the Canoe River – see map) to run the shuttle. Paddle down the Canoe River into Winnecunnet Pond, then paddle across the pond to enter the Snake River, which you will follow until you come to Lake Sabbatia. A fun trip, with lots of diversity. Suitable for all levels of experience. Please bring water and a lunch. Trip is suitable for boats under 15 feet, as there are many tight turns on the Snake (see map). Click here for more info on RICKA-sponsored flatwater trips; and click here or contact trip leaders Lee Parham [leeparham@myway.com, (508) 286-5999] or Frank Cortesa [frankcortesa@charter.net, (508) 369-8205] for more info on this particular trip.

May 26 (Sunday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Hike in Maudslay State Park* in Newburyport, 1:30 PM start, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This will be an easy, 4-mile hike on mostly flat terrain, with scenic views down to the Merrimack River. Hopefully, the azaleas will be in bloom. Directions: I-95, Exit 57, Route 113W, over I-95 and through the lights, 0.5 miles. Turn right onto Hoyt's Lane and follow to the end. Turn right into parking lot (see map). Small fee or DCR pass required to park. Rain cancels; no dogs please. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leaders [Ted Harney, (978)764-1272 or tedharney@gmail.com; Sheila Pendleton, 4hikes@gmail.com; or Lyon Lee, lyon_lee@yahoo.com] with any questions.

May 27 (Monday) – MATTAPOISETT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Rochester Memorial Day Boat Race*, 8:30 AM, sponsored by the Town of Rochester Fire Department. The race begins at Grandma Hartley's Reservoir on Snipatuit Road. It finishes at the Herring Weir, River Road at Route 6, in Mattapoisett. The race is open to persons of all ages. There will be two persons to a boat. The boat must be a homemade river racer design of any material you choose. There are no limitations or restrictions on types of paddles. Divisions include open/men's, women's, junior boys, junior girls, co-ed and parent/child. Junior division teams are both contestants under 14 years old. Trophies are awarded to the first, second and third place finishers in each division. Although no entry fee is charged to take part in the race, pre-registration is required: contestants can register at the Rochester Grange Hall, 205 Hartley Road, Friday, May 10 and Friday, May 17, 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. The Boat Race Ham and Bean supper will be served on the Saturday evening of the Memorial Day weekend, May 25, 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the Rochester Memorial School. Proceeds from the supper, along with donations, fund the expenses of the race. Contact Boat Race Chairman Arthur F. Benner at (508) 763-2024 for more info.

May 28 (Tuesday) – QUINSIGAMOND RIVER (BLACKSTONE WATERSHED) – *Flatwater paddle in South Grafton*, launching promptly at 6:15 PM behind the Riverview Apartments, off Route 122 in Fisherville. This event is sponsored by the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA)'s Blackstone Valley Paddle Club. Suitable for all levels of experience. Club membership is required to take part in this event; click here for more details. Click here or contact Cheryl at stonefoxfarm@cox.net or (401)647-5887 for more info. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the Message Board as well as your e-mail and the website for updates.

May 29 (Wednesday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Little paddle, followed by a long(er) walk* in the Bell's Neck Conservation Lands in Harwich, sponsored by the Kayak and Walk Cape Cod MeetUp Group. "We'll do a mini-paddle on the Reservoir...lots of submerged debris in the water, so plastic boats are best. Then, we'll walk the dirt roads that run between the fresh water of the West Reservoir, the brackish water of the East Reservoir. We'll cross two bridges that offer expansive views of salt marshes, and see both reservoirs from the road and the trails. The walk should also last no more than one hour. Bell's Neck is a popular birding area, and we can probably find black crowned night herons and other birds". Dogs are welcome on this trip. Click here for basic info on this group and its paddling trips, and here to sign up or for more specific info on this event, or contact Joyce for more info.

May 30 (Thursday) – BOSTON HARBOR WATERSHED – *Boston Harbor boat tour*, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM , sponsored by UMass/Boston's Green Harbors Project. "The tour will include a presentation and discussion with Anamarija Frankic, Director Green Harbors Project and Professor UMass Boston, about the Green Harbors Project and Biomimicry LivingLabs. The boat will pass Spectacle Island, one of 34 Boston Harbor Islands, to learn about the island's self-sustainability, and explore the area where the Charles, Neponset and Mystic rivers meet. The tour will take us near Deer Island, with the second largest waste water treatment plant in the world, that has improved the conditions of the once dirtiest harbor in the US. But there is more work to be done, one of the key questions in the Green Harbors Project is what would nature do to improve conditions in urban harbors. The tour will end on the shore of Savin Hill Cove, the proposed site for the first Biomimicry LivingLab, with a discussion about this unique opportunity to showcase solutions." Fee: $25. Space is limited. Registration will be based on the earliest received. Location, and payment details will be provided with confirmation. Write to admin@cdf.org (with "BNE Events" in the subject line) to sign up or for more info.

May 30 (Thursday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Salt Marsh Biology*, 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies. "Put on your boots and join us at the Lloyd Center for a walk through one of the many salt marshes on our property. During this program, have a chance to explore the marsh, catalog the species that live there, and learn about the importance of the Salt Marsh Habitat. Be sure to wear clothes and shoes that you don't mind getting dirty." Leader: Jen Wimmer, Lloyd Center Outreach Specialist. Fee: $4/members, $5/non-members. Limit: 10. Pre-registration required; click here or call the Center's Event line at (508) 558-2918to sign up. If you have specific questions regarding the program, contact Jen at (508) 990-0505 ext. 14 or jen@lloydcenter.org.

May 31 (Friday) – SWAN RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Swan River from Swan Pond to Nantucket Sound and back* in Dennisport, sponsored by the Kayak and Walk Cape Cod MeetUp Group. Meet at put-in (Clipper Lane off Upper County Road, Dennis) at 10:00 AM. Paddle down the river to its mouth on Nantucket Sound and return, about 7 miles total. Click here for basic info on this group and its paddling trips and here to sign up or for more specific info on this event, or contact Joyce for more info.

June 1 – June 7

June 1 (Saturday) – NATIONWIDE – *National Trails Day,* sponsored by the American Hiking Society**.** Click here for more info and to find out about events in your area.

June 1 (Saturday) – MILL BROOK (QUINEBAUG WATERSHED) – *Official Opening of the Brimfield section, Grand Trunk Trail*, 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM, sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of

Engineers, New England District. After several years of construction and recovery form a devastating tornado, a 10-mile route of rail trail and abandoned roads will be officially opened. In addition, a newly created water trail access point to the Mill Brook will also be officially opened, as part of this National Trails Day event. Click here or contact event organizer Tom Chamberland at (508) 347-3705 or thomas.a.chamberland@usace.army.mil for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – LAWRENCE BROOK (MILLERS WATERSHED) – *Flatwater paddle* in Royalston, MA, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the Norumbega Chapter of the Wooden Canoe Heritage Association. "We will meet near the take out in the parking lot for Doane's Falls on Royalston Road, about three miles north of Athol at 9:00 AM and we will decide then if we are going to paddle upstream and back, or if we will start upstream where Route 68 crosses. Be sure to bring a lunch, we will be stopping along the way. Click here or contact Steve Lapey at (978) 374-1104 or stevelapey@comcast.net for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – MERRIMACK RIVER –*Thirty-fifth Annual Lou Marcel Canoe Race*, 8:00 AM registration and 9:00 start in Lawrence, benefiting Special Olympics - Massachusetts. The non-competitive meander down the Merrimack River will run approximately 7 miles downstream from the start of the race at the Essex County Correctional Center on Commonwealth Avenue in Lawrence to the finish line and post-race VIP reception from 11:00 A M – 3:00 PM at the Crescent Yacht Club in Bradford. Canoes will not be provided at the event. Canoe Rentals delivered to Lawrence and retrieved at Bradford CYC are available for $55. Click here to rent a canoe, and click here or call (978) 750-1051 to sign up or for more info on the race.

June 1 (Saturday) – ESSEX BAY (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *"Photo Safari" at the Cox Reservation* in Ipswich, 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, co-sponsored by the Essex National Heritage Area and the Essex County Greenbelt Association. "The Cox Reservation consists of two parcels: a four-acre woodlot and the 26-acres of upland, salt marsh, farmland with house and barn, and river frontage. Its location on the Essex Bay estuary makes the Cox Reservation a rewarding place for natural history observation. Shorebirds feed on the mud flats at Clamhouse Landing, and herons, egrets and kingfishers take advantage of the abundant food source of the salt marsh. The old hayfields surrounding the house and barns are home to bobolinks, meadowlarks, and also support the activity of bluebird boxes and osprey platforms." Reservations required. Fee: Essex Heritage & Greenbelt Members $35; Non-Members $45. Click here or call Essex Heritage at (978) 740-0444 to sign up or for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Birds and Brunch Along the Ipswich River*, 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. "Join us for a morning canoe trip along the Ipswich River to look and listen for wetland breeding birds. There are so many wonderful birds singing this time of year, and we're likely to encounter yellow-throated and warbling vireos, great-crested and willow flycatchers, Baltimore orioles, yellow warblers, and many more. We'll make our way upstream to Perkins Island and enjoy a yummy quiche and biscuit brunch with coffee and juice." Trip leaders are the Sanctuary's Angela Walsh and Scott Santino. Fee: $24/members $29/nonmembers. Basic canoeing instruction will be provided, along with all equipment. Click here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Paddle the Ipswich River* in Topsfield, sponsored by the Berkshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Paddle eight miles along the Ipswich River at Mass Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. Canoe rentals are available for Mass Audubon members. Watch for river otters, painted turtles, and great blue herons. Twelve miles of hiking trails available, too. Click here or contact trip leader Sabine Prather at (413) 949-3914 or sabineprather@gmail.com to sign up or for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – PLUM ISLAND SOUND – *Life on a Saltwater Farm: Paine House Tours for 17th-Century Saturdays,* 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM at Greenwood Farm in Ipswich, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. Situated on the edge of the Great Marsh, the 1694 Paine House at Greenwood Farm is the site of 250 years of family farming. Local residents set up fish drying stages, pastured cattle communally, and harvested salt marsh hay. A tour through the Paine House will illuminate the unique features of this First Period structure,

including an "in situ" dairy. Trails through the pastureland and the salt marsh are open to all daily, sunrise to sunset. Click here or call (978) 356-4351 ext. 4049 for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Headwaters flatwater paddle* at Hinsdale Flats, sponsored by the Housatonic Valley Association. While participation in this paddle trip is free, pre-registration is required. "Starting time is 9:00 AM, and we will end about 3:00 PM. Bring lunch, snacks, water, sunscreen, hat and bug repellant. When you register, you will receive trip information and we will discuss shuttling. This is a BYOB (bring your own boat) paddle. While this is a flat water paddle, there are many (about 26) beaver dams encountered; participants must be energetic! Kayaks are best!" Click here or contact Alison Dixon [(413) 394-9796, adixon@hvatoday.org,] to sign up or for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Fifth Annual Charles River One Mile Swim*, 8:00 AM start at the River Dock by the Hatch Shell, co-sponsored by the Charles River Swimming Club and the Charles River Conservancy. After decades of pollution, the Charles River has benefited from the ongoing Clean Charles River Initiative, started in 1995 to restore the river's ecological health. The river is now clean enough on most summer days to meet swimming standards. This race is celebrating the efforts that went into cleaning the river and to highlight the need for continued clean-up to enable recreational swimming in the future. 150 swimmers are expected to participate at this year's swim race. (The rain date is Sunday, June 16.) Click here to register for the event or here for more info. The Swimming Club is always looking for race volunteers as well – click here if you may be interested.

June 1 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Thirty-Fourth Annual Cambridge River Festival*, 12 Noon – 6:00 PM, sponsored by the Cambridge Arts Council. Revolving along a one-mile stretch on the banks of the Charles River, the festival celebrates the city's cultural diversity through music, dance, and the arts. Captivating people of all ages and backgrounds, nationally recognized musicians and visual artists will entertain at this lively outdoor celebration. This free event brings the Greater Boston community together to enjoy the talents of performers and artists. (Severe weather date of Sunday, June 2, 2013) Click here for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Beginner's bird walk through Fowl Meadow*, 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM in Milton, co-sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club and the Friends of the Blue Hills. Learn to bird by listening for and identifying late migrant and nesting species along the course of a 3-mile walk through the best birding area in the Blue Hills Reservation. Bring your binoculars and a bird book if you have one. Directions: From Route 93/128 Exit 2B, take Route 138 north 1.7 miles, turn left on Neponset Valley Parkway and go 0.5 miles to the small lot at Brush Hill Road (see map). No dogs; non-AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Steve Olanoff, (781) 326-6585] with any questions.

June 1 (Saturday) – TAUNTON RIVER – *Twentieth Annual Taunton River Festival*, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, at scenic Weir Village Riverfront Park, East Water St. in Taunton, sponsored by The Neighborhood Corporation. This free, family-oriented community celebration is attended annually by thousands of area residents. The Taunton River Festival features live entertainment, educational exhibits, and numerous games and activities for kids. Click here or call (508) 821-9347 for more info. [Rain date June 2].

June 1 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Guided Kayak Tour* , 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, on Martha's Vineyard. Join a Felix Neck naturalist on an exciting kayak adventure on Sengekontacket Pond. Paddle by Sarson's Island to see nesting shorebirds. Watch American oystercatchers, cormorants and shorebirds feed and frolic. Explore the salt marsh and search for pond wildlife. This trip will focus on the natural history of saltwater communities found on Martha's Vineyard. Must be age 11 or older, accompanied by an adult, to paddle. Fee: $60.00/members, $80.00/nonmembers. Fee is for 2 people in a tandem boat. Single boats available - call to reserve. Click here or call (508) 627-4850 to sign up or for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – WEWEANTIC RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Weweantic River Mushroom Walk*, 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon in Wareham, sponsored by the Buzzards Bay Coalition. Join us for a walk at the Buzzards Bay Coalition's Weweantic River property and the town of Wareham's Birch Island Conservation Area to discover and identify mushrooms. A knowledgeable expert with the Cape Cod Mushroom Club will teach participants about the importance of mushrooms in our local ecosystem and how to identify various species of mushrooms. Fee: $3 for Buzzards Bay Coalition, Cape Cod Mushroom Club and Wareham Land Trust members; $5 general public. Pre-registration is required for this event; click here or contact Kevin Farrell, AmeriCorps Land Steward, at (508) 999-6363 ext. 217 or farrell@savebuzzardsbay.org to sign up or for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – NEMASKET RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Nemasket River* in Lakeville, sponsored by the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA). Enjoy a paddle on this small, very clean river, mostly flatwater, but with a few quickwater stretches and a couple of easy portages. Bring a lunch; trip is more suitable for boats under 15 feet long. Meet at 10:00 AM at the put-in, the Vaughn St. bridge in Lakeville (see map) to run the shuttle. Click here for more info on RICKA-sponsored flatwater trips; and click here or contact trip leaders Lee Parham [leeparham@myway.com, (508) 286-5999] or Frank Cortesa [frankcortesa@charter.net, (508) 369-8205] for more info on this particular trip.

June 1 (Saturday) – ACUSHNET RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Historic/Scenic walk* in Fairhaven, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the American Volkssport Association and the Walk 'N Mass Volkssport Club. Both the 5KM and 10KM walk routes explore Fort Phoenix, a Revolutionary War fortress that also saw action during the War of 1812. Walkers then continue along the Hurricane Barrier for beautiful views of New Bedford Harbor and the Acushnet River. After leaving Poverty Point, walkers head back to the waterfront passing Our Lady's Haven, formerly the Tabitha Inn. Both routes are mostly flat, but not completely paved. Click here for more info. (June 1, 2013 is also Fairhaven History Day, and many historic buildings in town will be open for events and tours.)

June 1 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *"Walkin' the Watershed" Workshop*, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM in Chester, sponsored by the Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee. Learn the basics and value of adopting a section of the river. Meet at the Chester Railway Station before heading out to the Keystone Arch Bridge Trail. Contact Meredyth Babcock at (413) 623-2070 or volunteer@westfieldriverwildscenic.org to sign up or for more info.

June 1 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *"Great Falls Family Fishing Day"*, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Turners Falls (Montague). On the bank of the Connecticut River, cast a line, learn about fish in our waters, safety, ethics, and fishing equipment. If you have fishing equipment, bring it along. A limited quantity of fishing equipment and bait will be available. Participating in this festival are the Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, the Friends of Great Falls Discovery Center and the US Fish & Wildlife Service' s Conte Refuge. Contact Sarah Bevilacqua at (413) 863-3676 or Sarah_Bevilacqua@fws.gov for more details.

June 1 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Fish Printing for Families* at the Turners Falls Fishway, 12:00 Noon – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center. Print your very own T-shirt or tote bag and discover the intricate beauty and important function of fish fins and scales. Learn about resident fish as well as fish that return to the Connecticut River to lay their eggs. Drop in anytime between 12 and 2 p.m. at the Turners Falls Fishway to create your work of art using scientifically accurate replicas of Connecticut River fish. Remember to bring a T-shirt or other material to use for fish printing. Fish T-shirts make great Father's Day presents. Please wear clothes that can get stained. This event is part of the 7th Annual Family Fish Day at the Great Falls Discovery Center (see above listing). Families may want to bring along a picnic and enjoy our beautiful riverside picnic area adjacent to the fishway. For ages 6 and older. The event is free and no-pre-registration is required.

June 1-2 (Saturday – Sunday) – STATEWIDE – *Free Fishing Weekend*, sponsored by the Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. Take a friend or family member fishing! No fishing license needed during these two

days! Fishing license fees support fisheries research, angler education, fish stocking programs and many other services provided by MassWildlife. If you don't know how to fish, consider attending the fishing festivals or other fishing-related activities (click here for more info). All Angler Education programs and festivals are free and don't require a fishing license for fishing. Contact Jim Lagacy, Program Coordinator for more details at (508) 389-6309 or jim.lagacy@state.ma.us.

June 1-2 (Saturday – Sunday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Low Impact Canoe Camping* in the Deerfield section of the Connecticut, sponsored by the Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Two days paddling in the Connecticut Valley, with an overnight on an island. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact trip leader David Miller [(508) 853-8964, pagayeur@verizon.net] to sign up or for more info.

June 1-2 (Saturday-Sunday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *"Cape Cod in Bloom"*, a Cape Cod Field School two-day course, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. "Flowering shrubs and wildflowers grace the dunes, fields, woods, and wetlands in late spring. Even the beaches are abloom! This two-day course provides a good introduction to the unique plants and shrubs that inhabit coastal Cape Cod--even those not flowering! Our focus will also include the larger landscape picture in order to understand plant ecology. We will launch right into a variety of field walks that will provide more intimate experiences with each coastal habitat and the plants found within them. We will stroll the shoreline of local beaches to identify and examine the adaptations of halophytic (salt-adapted) plants; explore the salt marsh to learn about the importance of these natural communities; hike through the pine woods that shelter woodland flowers and shrubs; discover the interactions between wildlife and plants; and learn about the dynamic nature of dune communities and how plants thrive there. Throughout our focus will include the identification, adaptations, ecological role, and natural history of these coastal plants." The course is taught by botanist/naturalist Dennis Murley. Click here or call (508) 349-2615 to sign up or for more info.

June 2 (Sunday) – SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED – *Guided walk at Gowing's Swamp* in Concord, 1:30PM – 3:30 PM, sponsored by the Sudbury Valley Trustees. "Gowing's Swamp is an enchanting, level bog complex set within a dramatically glaciated landscape, including a deep kettlehole bog in the southern end. This ancient depression supports such locally rare plants as Black spruce, bog rosemary, pitcher plants, bog laurel, and associated lichen and fungi species. Join this spring walk (led by educator, naturalist and photographer Cherrie Corey) along the verdant shorelines, fields, and ridges that encircle Gowing's Swamp, enjoy its many beautiful vistas, seasonal flowers and fragrances, learn more about the bog's ecology, and discover the rich history of this very special Concord landscape. We'll meet in the Ripley Playscape gathering circle behind the Ripley School at the end of Meriam Road in Concord, MA." Fee: free (members), $10 (nonmembers). Click here for more info and here to register.

June 2 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Charles River's Edge walk* in Cambridge, Charlestown and Boston, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This will be an approximately 5-6mi. walk via North Point Park, the new North Bank Bridge, USS Constitution, and Charles River Dam. Meet at the gazebo at Cambridgeside Galleria Mall fountain (see map). Bring lunch water and a desire to explore. We'll cover the past, present, and future plans for this historic area. [Note: On Sundays, Cambridge parking meters are free and it's OK to park on streets marked for Resident Permit Parking.] While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Robert Winters, (617) 661-9230, Robert@rwinters.com] with any questions.

June 2 (Sunday) – MALDEN and **SAUGUS RIVERS – *"Bike to the Sea" Ride***, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the Bike to the Sea/Northern Strand Trail. The Ride starts at the Madeline English School, 105 Woodville St., in Everett. Large sections of this year's ride will be on newly-constructed bike paths (see map). Click here or here for more info.

June 2 (Sunday) – MERRIMACK and **PARKER RIVERS – *Biodiversity Free-For-All!***, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, taking place at Mass. Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center and co-sponsored by the Parker River Clean

Water Association. "Connecting with nature starts with developing a good sense of place, and a great place to start is in the backyard. Join us to take an outdoor inventory of every living thing from loosestrife to ladybugs! The Parker River Clean Water Association joins Joppa Flats once again to honor the incredible variety of plants and animals in our area. This full-day family event will feature an exciting mixture of indoor and outdoor activities that encourage participants to learn more about biodiversity. This program is open to all ages. Children must be accompanied by adults. This is a rain-or-shine event." Click here or contact Lisa Hutchings at (978) 462-9998 for a complete listing of Biodiversity Free-For-All events.

June 2 (Sunday) – PARKER RIVER – *Edible Wild Plant Walk and Nibble*, 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM in Newbury, co-sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary and The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR). Essex County is home to over 150 species of edible wild plants, many of which are more nutritious and/or flavorful than their cultivated counterparts. Join expert forager Russ Cohen, author of the book *Wild Plants I Have Known…and Eaten*, on a three-hour ramble in and around TTOR's Old Town Hill Reservation in Newbury to learn about at least two dozen species of edible wild plants. Identification tips for each species will be provided, along with information on edible portion(s), season(s) of availability, and preparation methods, as well as guidelines for safe and environmentally responsible foraging. Following the walk, we regroup at a nearby private home to nibble and sip on some tasty wild treats that Russ has prepared. Meeting location sent to registrants. Space is limited. Registration in advance is necessary. Click here, here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

June 2 (Sunday) – TEN MILE RIVER – *National Trails Day Hike at Turner Loop Trail*, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Ten Mile River Watershed Council. Join the Council for a 2.5 mile hike around the Turner Reservoir on the East Providence/Seekonk line in celebration of National Trails Day. The Turner Loop Trail offers great views of the reservoir and the new fish ladder at the Turner Dam, the highest falls on the Ten Mile River. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. Bug spray will be provided. Click here or email Hiking@tenmileriver.net for more info.

June 2 (Sunday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *Fishway Open House*, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM in West Springfield, sponsored by the Westfield River Watershed Association (WRWA). "This free event offers a 'once-a-year' opportunity to tour the fish ladder, and possibly to see a returning adult Atlantic salmon if one's been captured during the previous day or two. WRWA Board members will be present to describe the history and operation of the fish ladder, and you'll have a chance to go down into the 'pit' to watch fish moving upstream. Parking is available near the old Southworth Paper Company building at 150 Front St. in West Springfield. Contact Bill Rose at (413) 786-0195 for more info."

June 2 (Sunday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *First Annual Spring River Cleanup*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Holyoke, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. "Come out for our 1st annual Spring River Cleanup! All ages are welcome. This is a great community-service event for youth and school groups. Last fall, we cleaned up 62 bags of trash from the banks of the CT River in Holyoke. Let's do it again this spring! Gloves and trash bags provided, and there will be free coffee and snacks throughout the morning". This event is in partnership with United Water and Holyoke Friends of the River. Click here or call (413) 532-1631 ext.19 to sign up or for more info.

June 3 (Monday) – SPICKET RIVER (MERRIMACK WATERSHED) – *Spicket River Greenway Dedication Ceremony* in Lawrence, 10:00 AM, sponsored by Groundwork Lawrence. "Please join Groundwork Lawrence, the City of Lawrence, and our partners to celebrate the official opening of the Spicket River Greenway, a $10 million, 12+ year effort of planning and building a spectacular network of green spaces and walking paths along Lawrence's 2.5 mile stretch of the Spicket River. The design and construction of the greenway was funded with a $2.6 million grant from the MA Gateway City Parks Program. The Spicket River Greenway is a truly transformative project that has created numerous benefits to the residents, visitors and business in the city, such as: river restoration; revitalization of neighborhoods; linkages between neighborhoods, schools and parks; increased recreational opportunities; an improved environment for economic development, jobs and housing; and improved access to the commuter rail station." The event takes place at Immigrant Place

Park, Chestnut Street, in Lawrence. Contact Amanda Cochrane at (978) 974-0770 ext. 7007 or click here to RSVP, or click here for more info.

June 4 (Tuesday) – STATEWIDE – ***Project Design and Evaluation for Restoration*** workshop, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, sponsored by (and taking place at) the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, 149 Waquoit Hwy, in Falmouth. "Have you ever implemented a restoration project that didn't quite meet its intended outcomes? (Be honest!) This interactive, full-day workshop offers restoration practitioners valuable knowledge, skills, and tools to enhance your ability to design targeted projects that have a greater chance of achieving success. The workshop is not intended to present basic components of restoration planning, but rather a planning framework, using the logic model, that will increase project success. The approach is applicable to any habitat type." The workshop is geared toward anyone involved in habitat restoration activities, particularly those with responsibility for designing, coordinating, monitoring and evaluating projects. Click here or contact Tonna-Marie Rogers, CTP Coordinator, (508) 457-0495 ext. 110 or tonna-marie.surgeon-rogers@state.ma.us to sign up or for more info.

June 4 (Tuesday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – "*Anadromous Fish of the Westfield River*" presentation in Agawam, 7:30 PM start. Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife's Anadromous Fish Biologist Caleb Slater, Ph.D., will be giving a talk to the Pioneer Valley Boat and Surf Club. The talk will take place at the Springfield Yacht and Canoe Club, located on 1210 River Rd in Agawam. Contact Bob Ruszala, President, at hrcc40@aol.com for more info.

June 4 (Tuesday) – BLACKSTONE RIVER AND CANAL – ***River Bend "loop" paddle*** in Uxbridge, launching promptly at 6:15 PM, sponsored by the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA)'s Blackstone Valley Paddle Club. Paddle on a remnant of the Blackstone Canal to the historic Goat Hill Lock, or more experienced paddlers can paddle the Loop: down the River and then up the Canal. The river loop requires very good boat control in moving water, so is not suitable for beginners. Club membership is required to take part in this event; click here for more details. Click here or contact Cheryl at stonefoxfarm@cox.net or (401)647-5887 for more info on this trip. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the Message Board and the website for updates.

June 5 (Wednesday) – BASS RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – ***Bass River 'fingers' paddle*** in Dennis, sponsored by the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Paddle te Bass River 'fingers' from Grand Cove to its mouth at Nantucket Sound, with a lunch stop at West Dennis Beach. Life Vest & Spray Skirt required. Directions: Rte 6 to exit 9, Route 134 South, R Upper County Rd., L Main St, R Cove Rd to landing at end. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact trip leaders Jean Orser [(508) 362-0451 (best time to call: before 8 PM); jeanorser@gmail.com] or Paul Corriveau [(508) 362-0451 (best time to call: before 8 PM); paulcorri@gmail.com] to sign up or for more info.

June 5 (Wednesday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – ***Sunset Kayak Tour***, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies. Paddle the Slocum River, explore the ecosystem; tour includes basic kayak equipment & instruction. Paddlers of all abilities welcome! Wear clothing and footwear that you don't mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by an Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures Certified Instructor. Fee: $38/members, $45/nonmembers. Limit: 10; open to ages 14 and older. Preregistration required; click here or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

June 5 (Wednesday) – NASHUA RIVER – ***Screening of "Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000"***, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM, at the Lunenburg Public Library, 1023 Massachusetts Avenue in Lunenburg. A 30-minute documentary film, *Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000* is an exhilarating success story of how one woman mobilized clean-up of one of America's most polluted rivers-for herself, for her community, and for future generation-and became a citizen leader honored by the United Nations. It's a gripping account of an ordinary person who realized her power to make a difference. The screening will be followed by a lively personal discussion with the film's central figure, world-renowned local citizen leader, Marion Stoddart. Marion will speak

about what local citizens can do to help complete the vision of the Nashua River Watershed Association's Greenway Program, which aims to permanently protect a corridor along both banks of the Nashua River, its main tributaries, and its smaller streams. The event is free and open to the public; click here for more info.

June 6 (Thursday) – NASHUA RIVER – ***Screening of "Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000"***, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM, at the Thayer Memorial Library, 717 Main Street in Lancaster. A 30-minute documentary film, *Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000* is an exhilarating success story of how one woman mobilized clean-up of one of America's most polluted rivers-for herself, for her community, and for future generation-and became a citizen leader honored by the United Nations. It's a gripping account of an ordinary person who realized her power to make a difference. The screening will be followed by a lively personal discussion with the film's central figure, world-renowned local citizen leader, Marion Stoddart. Marion will speak about what local citizens can do to help complete the vision of the Nashua River Watershed Association's Greenway Program, which aims to permanently protect a corridor along both banks of the Nashua River, its main tributaries, and its smaller streams. The event is free and open to the public; click here for more info.

June 6 (Thursday) – SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED – ***Plants of the Sand Dune***, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM in Marshfield, sponsored by Mass Audubon's South Shore Regional Office. The sand dunes of Marshfield's Rexhame area provide a number of diverse habitats for some very specialized plants. Explore the plants of the high and low salt marsh, back dune, secondary sand dunes, interdune forest, open beach and intertidal zone. Come learn about the special adaptations required in these diverse habitats as well as how the sand dunes came to be established back in 1898. Instructions and Directions: Bring water, hat and sunscreen. Meet at back left corner of Rexhame Beach parking lot, Marshfield. Registration is required. Fee: $10/members, $14/ nonmembers. Click here or call (781) 837-9400 to sign up or for more info.

June 6 (Thursday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – ***2013 Bay State Children's Water Festival*** at Holyoke Community College. This free festival for 1,500 local fifth grade students and their teachers is designed to teach students about the importance of water through a hands-on learning experience. Water topics include drinking water, groundwater, watersheds, surface water, water quality, the water cycle, and conservation. Volunteers are sought to participate in this event (click here for details). Click here or contact Margaret Martens at mmartens@watersystemscouncil.org or (202) 625-4387 for more info.

June 8 – June 14

June 8 (Saturday) – STATEWIDE – ***2nd Statewide Open Space Conference***, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM in Ashburnham. This event is designed for municipal volunteers from Massachusetts involved in open space protection. This year's conference, taking place at the Oakmont Regional High School, will include nine different breakout sessions with topics ranging from managing town land, creating a town forest, starting a trails subcommittee, promoting CPA, planning a Woods Forum, and writing an Open Space & Recreation Plan. A lunch will also be provided at this free event. The Conference is co-sponsored by the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership, Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust, Sudbury Valley Trustees, Nashua River Watershed Association, UMass Amherst, and the MassLIFT AmeriCorps program. Click here or contact Andrea Buglione at (978) 248-2055 ext. 21 or conservationist_americorps@mountgrace.org to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – ***Ipswich River Clean Up***, 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Ipswich River Park in North Reading, co-sponsored by the Ipswich River Watershed Association and the Reading/North Reading Stream Team. Volunteers are needed to work on shore or by canoe and kayak. Bring your own tools, gloves and boat if possible. Meet at the Ipswich River Park gazebo at 8:00 AM. Click here or contact Ryan O'Donnell at rodonnell@ipswichriver.org for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – SHAWSHEEN RIVER – ***Public Canoe and Kayak Paddle***, 8:30 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Shawsheen River Watershed Association. "Meet at the end of Grace Drive in Willington . We will drop our gear and shuttle to the 'take out' point on Lowell Junction Road in Andover. The shuttle will start

by 9:00 AM. We have boats and gear to lend – contact bob_otter@comcast.net AND ShawsheenRiver@comcast.net by 6 PM on Thursday if you need a boat. It is not necessary to reply if you have your own gear: just show up. As always, wear appropriate footwear! Check the 'Upcoming Events' section at http://www.shawsheen.org for last minute updates."

June 8 (Saturday) – MERRIMACK RIVER –*Kite Festival on the Merrimack*, 11:00 AM – 3:00PM at Pemberton Park in downtown Lawrence, sponsored by Groundwork Lawrence. The Kite Festival is a family-friendly event that includes free kite-making and kite-flying at Pemberton Park, on the banks of the Merrimack River. Youth volunteers are needed to help with kite-making. The event also includes lunch (courtesy of the Summer Meals Program), face-painting, music and free trolley rides. To volunteer or learn more, click here or contact Rose Gonzalez, Deputy Director, at rgonzalez@groundworklawrence.org or (978) 974-0770.

June 8 (Saturday) – TULLY RIVER (MILLERS WATERSHED) – *Flatwater paddle* in Royalston, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the Souhegan Watershed Association. "There's something for everyone on this paddle – we'll be exploring both a river and a lake! Even a possible side hike to a waterfall." Pre-registration required; click here or contact trip leaders Denise Hurt [(603) 889-4812, hurt28@charter.net] or Sue Sanborn [asis72@msn.com] to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) –CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Kayak with your Kiddo*, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM, sponsored by the Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center. Using a tandem kayak is a great way for an adult and child to give paddling a try. As the group explores the special nooks and crannies of Barton Cove, kids can paddle as they are able and parents can provide the power and direction for the boat. The group will begin learning kayaking basics, turning right, left and going straight and then set off across the Cove while singing a classic paddling song. Bring along a snack and drink to enjoy while the group takes a break from the boats and skips stones. Then paddle, explore and return to our starting place. No prior kayaking experience required. Life jackets will be worn by all participants during the program. For ages 7 and older. Fee: $20/adult-child pair. Click here or call (toll-free) (800) 859-2960 to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – *Deerfield RiverFest* in Shelburne Falls, benefitting the Deerfield River Watershed Association. RiverFest is an annual tribute to the Deerfield River, and the role it plays in people's lives and the ecosystem of western Massachusetts. Activities include educational displays and demonstrations as well as live music and dancing, a colorful Frog & Flower Parade, aquatic bug table, art, crafts, tag, book and plant sales, food vendors, trolley rides, power plant tour, quiet water rafting and paddle boating, and more. Click here for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – *Japanese Knotweed rhizome dig*, sponsored by the Deerfield River Watershed Association. "Yank Japanese knotweed and support a New England business! A local herbal supplement provider wants to use knotweed from our watershed. Apparently the root has some medicinal uses. Regardless, it is USELESS in the watershed and a very aggressive riparian invasive. This event is a "two-for" – suppress an invasive and support a local business." Contact brian.yellen@gmail.com for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *"Wild Goose Chase" Canoe/Kayak race*, a 9-mile "out and back" race on the Housatonic River. "Narrow, shallow, lots of tight turns, deep water, suck water - we have it all!!" All NECKRA categories for canoes and kayaks. $15 per person. Race starts at 11:00 AM. The event takes place at the Decker Boat Launch in Lenox. Great lunch following the race. Click here or contact race organizer Patty Spector at (413) 637-2597or patty.spector@verizon.net for more info.

June 8 – 30 – WESTFIELD RIVER - *"Travel the Watershed" art exhibit* at the Becket Arts Center, sponsored by the Wild and Scenic Westfield River Committee. This traveling exhibit, featuring the work of six artists whose works are inspired by the scenic Westfield River, will be on display at the Becket Arts Center Workroom on Saturdays and Sundays from 12:00 Noon – 4:00 PM. An Artist Reception (5:00-7:00 PM) and Summer Solstice Bash (7:00 – 10:00 PM) will be taking place on **Friday, June 21**. Click here for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – FRENCH RIVER (FRENCH AND QUINEBAUG WATERSHED) – *National Trails Day Horseback Ride* in Oxford, 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the Bay State Trail Riders Association (BSTRA). Pleasure ride for equestrians bringing their own horses on marked trail through the U.S. Army Corps' Hodges Village Recreation Area. Open to both BSTRA members and non-members. Opportunity to get big prize package if you elect to get sponsors and are one of the 8 participants bringing in the largest amount in sponsor contributions. Free t-shirts for the first 50 registered participants. Large raffle following lunch. 100% of the money raised from this event will be used for trail creation, maintenance or preservation projects in Massachusetts. Click here or contact Lynn Paretsky at (508) 476-7094 or lynnparesky@aol.com to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – QUINEBAUG RIVER – *Flatwater paddle on the Quinebaug River Water Trail* from East Brimfield to Holland and back, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This 10-mile flatwater trip, suitable for canoes and kayaks, on the Quinebaug River Water Trail, passes though scenic marshland. Bring lunch/snacks, PFD, water, sunscreen. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact trip leader Paul Shields [(508) 832-5973 (best time to call: Before 9 PM)] to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – TAUNTON RIVER – *Bike Ride* from Rehoboth-Swansea, sponsored by the Narragansett Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This 30-mile, moderately-paced ride meanders along the Taunton River and through the nearby rural countryside. Helmets required. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact trip leaders Carol Richards [(401) 434-8448 (best time to call: after 5:30 PM); carol_164@cox.net] or Ted Bell [tcbell1@cox.net] to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – *Learn to Quahog*, 12:00 Noon - 2:00 PM, sponsored by the Buzzards Bay Coalition. Join the Coalition on West Island to learn to harvest your own quahogs. Representatives from the town of Fairhaven and the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries will teach you the basics of local quahogging (i.e., hard-shell clamming) – what you need, how to do it, and where to go. This will be a fun and educational event for the whole family. The event is free, but pre-registration is required. Click here or contact Margo Connolly, Senior Educator, at (508) 999-6363 ext. 224 or connolly@savebuzzardsbay.org to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – *Basic Wetland Delineation: Soils*, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM in Marion, MA, sponsored by the Mass. Association of Conservation Commissions. Focus is on wetland vegetation and understanding the DEP BVW Delineation Field Data Form: Section I. Vegetation. Morning lecture by John Rockwell followed by afternoon field session. Presented in cooperation with the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program. Lunch and materials included. Fee: $95/MACC Members, $110/Non-members, $45/Students. Click here or call (617)489-3930 to sign up of for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Guided Kayak Tour*, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, on Martha's Vineyard. Join a Felix Neck naturalist on an exciting kayak adventure on Sengekontacket Pond. Paddle by Sarson's Island to see nesting shorebirds. Watch American oystercatchers, cormorants and shorebirds feed and frolic. Explore the salt marsh and search for pond wildlife. This trip will focus on the natural history of saltwater communities found on Martha's Vineyard. Must be age 11 or older, accompanied by an adult, to paddle. Fee: $60.00/members, $80.00/nonmembers. Fee is for 2 people in a tandem boat. Single boats available - call to reserve. Click here or call (508) 627-4850 to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – CENTERVILLE RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Centerville River* in Barnstable, sponsored by the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Assemble at the put-in at 10:00 AM; launch at 10:30 AM. Directions to put-in: Route 28 to S on Old Stage to light, R on S. Main St., then L on Hayward St. to the put-in. PFD and spray skirt required. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Bill Fischer, (508) 420-4137 (best time to call: before 9PM); wmbarbarafischer@comcast.net] with any questions.

June 8 (Saturday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Sea Kayak down the Westport River* in Westport, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Paddle this beautiful tidal river on the South Coast. The launch is at Head of Westport (rentals available @ launch) for a 12-mile paddle with the outgoing tide down to Horseneck Beach. This tidal river is fairly shallow, so not a lot of motor boats, but will see lots of ospreys, ducks, and other birds. After a break at the beach, the paddle heads back to the town landing for take out, then regroup for drinks at nearby restaurant on deck overlooking the river. Paddlers must be able to paddle 12 miles (tide assisted) in 4-5 hours, with breaks of course. The water is protected from seas, but we might encounter winds. Paddlers must have experience with wet exits and assisted rescues. (Rain date is Sunday, June 9th.) Click here or contact trip leader Jeff Barrell at (617) 964-1246 to sign up, or here for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Pastoral Landscape Drawing* at the Westport Town Farm, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. Grab your canvas and choice of media and get ready to explore the natural landscape of this scenic property, featuring extensive frontage along the Westport River estuary. Enjoy the company of others as you share and show off your artwork. All ages welcome, drawing pads are available but feel free to bring your own supplies. Click here or call (508) 636-4693 ext. 103 for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *"Ride the Watershed" Bike Ride* in Westport, sponsored by the Westport River Watershed Alliance. Circumnavigate the Westport River Watershed (approximately 42 miles), through the northern forest lands of the Bioreserve to the coastal beauty of both branches of the Westport River. Shorter family ride free for kids under 12 when accompanied by a registered adult. A t-shirt and snacks will be provided for all registered participants. Register from 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM at the Buzzards Bay Brewery, 98 Horseneck Road, Westport. Click here or call (508) 636-3016 for more info.

June 8 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – "*Birds of the Charles River" Canoe Trip*, 9:00 AM – 12 Noon, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary. Enjoy a paddle down one of the most beautiful stretches of the Charles. We'll look for warblers, kingfishers, hawks, great blue herons and a variety of nesting birds. Canoes, paddles, lifejackets, a basic paddling overview & guides are all provided. Fee: $33/members, $39/non-members. Click here or call (508) 655-2296 to sign up or for more info.

June 8 – 9 (Saturday–Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Dragon Boat Festival* in Boston and Cambridge, 9:00AM- 5:00 PM, sponsored by the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival of Boston. The Dragon Boat Festival is a centuries-old cultural and sporting event, and the Boston club has been making it local for many years. The festival features boat races, arts and crafts, Asian cuisine, and it is free and open to the public. Click here for up-to-date info and here for more info on dragon boats in Boston.

June 8-9 (Saturday – Sunday) – OTTER and MILLERS RIVERS – *Bike Tour to/overnight camping at Otter River State Forest* in Templeton, sponsored by the Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Get started with independent, unsupported cycle touring on this two day/one night tour. We will cycle approx. 30 miles per day on roads/bike paths to Otter River State Forest, where we will camp for one night. Participants will set up own tents, and cook/provide their own meals. Campground fees split between participants. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact trip leader Colleen McLaughlin [(508) 333-6025, amc_ne@yahoo.com] to sign up or for more info.

June 9 (Sunday) – CENTERVILLE RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Long Beach and Centerville River walk*, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Barnstable, sponsored by the Barnstable Land Trust. Join Town of Barnstable Conservation Division's Fred Stepanis for a 2-hour, 3.5 mile walk along Long Beach to the tip of the barrier spit and back by way of the Centerville River trail. Along the way, coastal dynamics, beach nourishment projects, dredging and Piping Plovers will be discussed. Hard-soled shoes will make for easier walking on dry sand. Meet at the Craigville Beach Beach House, 997 Craigville Beach Road, Centerville. There

is a $5/person fee for this walk. Pre-registration is requested; click here or call (508) 771-2585 to sign up or for more info.

June 9 (Sunday) – ALLOWANCE BROOK (SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED) – *Birding trip to Great Blue Heron Rookery* in Sudbury, 8:00 AM – 10:30 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary. The Lyons-Cutler Reservation, located along Allowance Brook in Sudbury, contains wetlands and beautiful red maple, mixed oak and white pine uplands. The upland forest descends gently to a swamp with a Great Blue Heron rookery where we can get very close views of the domestic life of the herons and hear their growling offspring. Around the swamp we could also see Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Phoebe, Tree and Rough-winged Swallow, Red-Winged Blackbird, Kingfisher, Swamp Sparrow, Northern Flicker, and Eastern Bluebird. The hike through the woods could produce several species of warblers, Wood Thrush, Brown Creeper, Baltimore Oriole, Brown Thrasher, Blue-Headed Vireo, and migrating flycatchers of various species. Fee: $18/members, $22/non-members. Click here or call (781) 259-2200 to sign up or for more info.

June 9 (Sunday) – STONY BROOK (CHARLES WATERSHED) – *Herons at the Nest* Walk, 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM in Norfolk, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Stony Brook Wildlife Sanctuary. "Join us for an easy walk to a magnificent rookery which serves as home to more than 30 pairs of great blue herons near Stony Brook. Herons (and occasionally other birds) raise their young in giant stick nests built high up in standing dead trees in the middle of wetlands. Heron rookeries are places of great activity. We will have ample opportunities to watch these magnificent creatures gently gliding to and from their nests in the process of caring for their young. Wetlands are generally very busy places in the summer, so we will spend time searching for the many other species (such as Wood Ducks and Hooded Mergansers) that call these habitats home. We will carpool from Stony Brook a short distance to the rookery." Bring cameras and binoculars. Fee: $8/members, $10/nonmembers. Click here or call (508) 528-3140 to sign up or for more info.

June 9 (Sunday) – CONNECTICUT WATERSHED – *Guided birding expedition* at Bear Swamp in Ashfield, 7:00 AM – 9:30 AM, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. "A rare opportunity to visit this special property with naturalist John Greene. We will explore a variety of habitats looking and listening for breeding birds." Please call (413) 684-0148 or email pvregion@ttor.org to pre-register; click here for more info.

June 10 (Monday) – STATEWIDE – *The Future of Water*, part of The Future of Nature speaker series, sponsored by the Massachusetts office of The Nature Conservancy. Speakers include Sandra Postel, Director, The Global Water Policy Project; Steven Solomon, author of *Water: The Epic Struggle for Wealth, Power and Civilization*; and Brian Richter, director of Global Freshwater Strategies, The Nature Conservancy. The event takes place from 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM at the Virginia Wimberley Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the BCA, Boston, MA. Click here to sign up and here for more info on the speakers.

June 11 (Tuesday) – MYSTIC WATERSHED – "*DePAVE the WAY to a GREENER ARLINGTON*" presentation, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM, part of the Arlington Stormwater Awareness Series. The presentation will take place in the Selectmen's Hearing Room, 2nd floor, Arlington Town Hall, Massachusetts Avenue in Arlington Center. Presenters Ms. Lenni Armstrong and Mr. Cador Pricejones have been making Somerville neighborhoods greener for the last three years by organizing "de-paving" events through the Somerville Climate Action group. Click here for more info; you can also view past sessions of the Arlington Stormwater Awareness Series online at acmi.tv.

June 12 (Wednesday) – SHAWSHEEN RIVER – *Annual Meeting of the Shawsheen River Watershed Association.* Click on http://www.shawsheen.org for more details.

June 12 (Wednesday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Holyoke Rows Boathouse Challenge Canoe and Kayak Race* in Holyoke, 5:00-6:00 PM registration, proceeds benefitting Holyoke Rows. The race begins at 6:30 PM sharp. 10K racing, 4K recreational and 6K Barton Cup Qualifier events, all taking place on a loop course on

the Connecticut, mostly deep water with minimal current. The race begins/ends at the Jones Ferry River Access Center. Click here or contact Mark Wendolowski at (413) 626-3862 or lmsc80@yahoo.com for more info.

June 13 (Thursday) – WARE RIVER (CHICOPEE WATERSHED) – *Bike Ride the Mass Central Rail Trail from Rutland to the White Valley Bridge*, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by Wachusett Greenways. Join us for a casual bike ride along a favorite stretch of the rail trail and visit the newest section from Coldbrook Road to the Ware River. Bring a brown bag lunch. Contact Colleen Abrams at (508) 829-3954 or colleen.abrams@verizon.net to sign up or for more info.

June 13 (Thursday) – FRENCH RIVER (FRENCH and QUINEBAUG WATERSHED) – *General Meeting of the French River Connection*, 7:00 PM start, sponsored by the French River Connection (FRC). The meeting will take place at the Senior Center, which is housed in the Dudley Municipal Complex, West Main Street, Dudley. The featured speaker, FRC member and environmental consultant Glenn Krevosky, will facilitate a discussion about keeping the French River clean and navigable….do's and don'ts for users.

June 13 (Thursday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Annual Meeting of the Neponset River Watershed Association* (NepRWA), 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM at Meditech in Canton. "Enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres and drinks in the beautiful atrium of the Meditech building, and mingle with Neponset friends from around the watershed. Our guest speaker for the evening, celebrated Boston Globe environmental reporter, Beth Daley, will share her experiences writing about water issues during challenging environmental times. Daley has covered feature stories, urban schools, space, war, and – for most of the past decade – the environment. She specializes in exploring big, environmental issues from angles of particular relevance to New Englanders. Beth's work has been recognized with national journalism awards. She was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 2008 for her exploration of how global warming is affecting New England, and she received several awards for a 2011/2012 series she co-wrote on seafood substitution in Boston-area restaurants. NepRWA Executive Director Ian Cooke will conclude the evening with a presentation of projects and plans for the coming year". Click here to sign up or for more info.

June 13 (Thursday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Wild Edibles Walk*, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in Marshfield, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's South Shore Regional Office. The South Shore is home to more than 100 species of edible wild plants, many of which are more nutritious and/or flavorful than their cultivated counterparts. Join Russ Cohen, foraging expert and author of *Wild Plants I Have Known...and Eaten*, on a ramble through Mass. Audubon's North River Wildlife Sanctuary to learn about at least 18 species of edible wild plants. Keys to the identification of each species will be provided, along with information on edible portions, seasons of availability, and preparation methods, as well as guidelines for safe and environmentally-responsible foraging. Fee: $8/members, $10/nonmembers. Click here or call (781) 837-9400 to sign up or for more info.

June 13-14 (Thursday-Friday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *1st Annual Cape Coastal Conference: State of the Cape: Changing Waters and Shorelines, Linking Science with Local Solutions and Decision-Making* in Hyannis, hosted by the Waquoit Bay Reserve's Coastal Training Program. Click here or contact Tonna-Marie Rogers, Coastal Training Program Coordinator, at (508) 457-0495 ext. 110 or tonna-marie.surgeon-rogers@state.ma.us for more info.

June 14 (Friday) – STATEWIDE – *Program on the Mass. Sustainable Water Management Initiative (SWMI)*, 7:30AM - 11:00AM, sponsored by the Environmental Business Council of New England (EBC). This EBC presentation will explain the final SWMI Framework, highlight municipal pilot projects conducted to "test" its application, and outline next steps. The perspectives of water suppliers and watershed groups will also be presented. Speakers include: Julia Blatt, Executive Director, Massachusetts River Alliance; Bethany Card, Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Resource Protection, Mass. Department of Environmental Protection; and Jennifer Pederson, Executive Director, Massachusetts Water Works Association. The program takes place at the offices of Brown Rudnick LLP, One Financial Center in Boston. The registration fee for government and non-profit-affiliated people is only $25. Click here to sign up or for more info.

June 14 (Friday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Family Dusk Paddles: Welcoming the Summer*, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. Explore the Ipswich River at dusk. Bring your family and join us for an evening paddle in a canoe as we learn more about the river and some of its inhabitants. Celebrate the coming of summer with the solstice just around the corner as we canoe on the Ipswich River. As we paddle along, we'll look for plants and animals that are equally excited about the approaching season. Canoes, paddling gear and basic instruction are provided. Fee: Adults $13/members, $15/non-members; Children $11/members, $13/non-members. Click here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

June 14 (Friday) – SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED – *Wetland Delineation for Beginners*, 8:30AM – 11:30 AM in Maynard, sponsored by the Mass. Association of Conservation Commissions. This workshop is designed for Conservation Commissioners new to wetland delineation methodology. Participants will learn how to delineate Bordering Vegetated Wetlands using the DEP manual "Delineating Bordering Vegetated Wetlands under the MA Wetlands Protection Act". Commissioners will gain a better understanding of how to evaluate this resource area based on vegetation, soils and other indicators of hydrology. DEP manual included. Please bring appropriate clothing for field session (waterproof footwear, rain gear, etc.) Limit: 20 students. Leaders: Michael Howard and Greg Hochmuth. Fee: $95/MACC Members, $110/Non-members, $45/Students. Click here or call (617)489-3930 to sign up of for more info.

June 14-15 (Friday – Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Fifth Annual Waltham Riverfest*, in downtown Waltham. Riverfest is a celebration of the wonderful resources, both natural and artistic, that run though the heart of Waltham. Activities include music, dancing, painting, strolling, shopping, eating, and boating the entire weekend, as well as a canoe tour on Friday evening). This year there will be new and exciting additions to the music and entertainment. The Moody Street Bridge will have Art Vendors along the length of it on Saturday. There will also be a guided river walk on Saturday morning by the Waltham Land Trust. Send an e-mail to info@downtownwaltham.org if you'd like to volunteer, or click here for more info.

June 15– June 21

June 15 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Guided Kayak Tour* , 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, on Martha's Vineyard. Join a Felix Neck naturalist on an exciting kayak adventure on Sengekontacket Pond. Paddle by Sarson's Island to see nesting shorebirds. Watch American oystercatchers, cormorants and shorebirds feed and frolic. Explore the salt marsh and search for pond wildlife. This trip will focus on the natural history of saltwater communities found on Martha's Vineyard. Must be age 11 or older, accompanied by an adult, to paddle. Fee: $60.00/members, $80.00/nonmembers. Fee is for 2 people in a tandem boat. Single boats available - call to reserve. Click here or call (508) 627-4850 to sign up or for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Paddle the Ipswich River* in Middleton, 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM, sponsored by the Ipswich River Watershed Association. Join local paddling experts from the Middleton Stream Team for a river adventure from Farnsworth Landing at Route 114 to Peabody Street. Please bring your own boat, pfd, lunch and water. Contact Cynthia at cingelfinger@ipswichriver.org or (978) 412-8200 to sign up or for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Picnic Paddle to Perkins Island*, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Topsfield, sponsored by and taking place at Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. "Looking for a unique location for your next family picnic? Why not join us for a leisurely paddle up the Ipswich River and enjoy your lunch on Perkins Island? Thanks to an intrepid group of Boy Scouts, we now have comfortable picnic tables at which to sit and enjoy our meal. Even on the hottest summer day, Perkins Island remains cool, thanks to towering pines that provide plentiful shade. This program is sure to fill fast, so pack your lunch and sign up today!" Please pack your lunch in a cooler or waterproof container. All equipment and basic canoeing instruction

will be provided. Fee: Adults: $16/Members; $18/nonmember. Children (ages 5-14): $12.00/members, $14.00/nonmembers. Click here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – HOOSIC RIVER – ***Hoosic River Revival Community Conversation #2d***, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM in North Adams, sponsored by Hoosic River Revival. "We want your feedback on our new Conceptual Drawings (ideas) for revitalizing the Hoosic and the adjacent area. As we did at Conversation #1 in 2010, we will have food, drink, babysitters, and our consultants will present information on the river and describe/ show/explain each of the river revitalization drawings. In between, we will have small group discussions led by professional engineers and city planners. The Conversation will take place at the St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church, 70 Marshall St. in North Adams. Contact Judy Grinnell at (413) 212-2996 for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – ***15-17 Mile whitewater paddle***, sponsored by the Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. "Join us for a fun day paddling quick water & level I & II Rapids. This paddle starts a Fife Brook Dam and ends at the park & ride parking lot. We will be portaging around Zoar Gap with vehicle assistance. PFD's, spray skirts, helmets, food & water required. Experienced river paddlers only. This trip is limited to 8 boats. Put in & take out locations subject to change without notice. No one paddles without both spray skirts & helmets. Dinner afterwards at local restaurant." Click here or contact trip leader Elaine Cibelli [(508-832-9060 (best time to call: before 9:30PM); elaine_cibelli@hotmail.com] to sign up or for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – ***Westfield River Canoe and Kayak Cruise***, sponsored by the Westfield River Watershed Association. This annual (mostly flatwater) paddle from downtown Westfield to Robinson State Park in Agawam will be held in conjunction with Robinson State Park Day (hosted by the Friends of Robinson State Park). The put-in is a quarter-mile downstream of the new Great River Bridge (boat drop off at the end of Fowler St., off Meadow Street just south of the river and east of the Great River Bridge; with parking at the SE corner of the Great River Bridge area). Registration runs from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM. Participants will register, unload boats and gear, drive their vehicles to Robinson State Park and return to the launch area by shuttle, with staggered launches beginning at 11:00 AM. Organizers recommend that participants be experienced paddlers, given that river conditions may be unpredictable. Bring your own canoe/kayak and life jacket(s), sunscreen and drinking water. There is a fee for this event ($10/person or $20/family), to cover the cost of insurance and refreshments at the end of this 2-3 hour paddle, which has a more natural feel than you'd expect given that the route basically parallels the heavily traveled Route 20. Paddlers can also check out the 2:30 PM short hike on the park's Yellow trail to the Westfield River's edge, crossing Veronica Brook and ending at park headquarters, as well as the 3:30 PM dedication of a park beautification project to late attorney Alexandra Dawson, a passionate advocate for the environment and for protection of wetlands and a friend to Robinson State Park. Click here or contact Fran Siska at (413) 562-4998 for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – CIONNECTICUT WATERSHED – ***Early Detection Invasive Species Identification & Reporting Workshop***, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Mass. Audubon's Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary in Easthampton. The Westfield River Watershed Invasive Species Partnership (WISP), Connecticut River Watershed Invasive Species Partnership (CRWISP), Connecticut River Watershed Council (CRWC), and Silvio O. Conte National Wildlife Refuge are co-hosting a workshop on the identification of invasive plant species that are new to the Connecticut River Watershed. Bryan Connolly, State Botanist, will give a presentation detailing identification of these "Early Detection" species, along with information on native look-a-likes and how to report invasive Sightings. Following a lunch break, there will be a short walk to look at invasive plants in the field, including new invader Japanese stiltgrass. This program is geared towards land stewards and conservation professionals, but volunteers interested in invasive species identification and removal are encouraged to attend. Attendance is FREE; bring a lunch. Registration is limited so please RSVP to Zara Dowling, invasive.coordinator@gmail.com.

June 15 (Saturday) – MILLERS RIVER – ***Dragonflies along the Millers River***, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM in Athol, sponsored by (and meeting at) the Athol Bird and Nature Club's Millers River Environmental Center. Meet naturalists David Small and Lula Field for an afternoon of intensive dragonfly searching. Participants

should bring snacks, insect net, and a sense of adventure; be prepared for wet feet. Children welcome with adult. Severe weather cancels. Click here or contact Dave Small [(978) 413-1772, Dave@dhsmall.net] for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Lancaster River Festival*, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, sponsored by the Lancaster Friends of the Nashua River. This free event will take place on the Cully Field property bordering the Nashua River (directly across from the Lancaster Fairgrounds) along Route 117 in Lancaster. The River Festival offers families and individuals the chance to get out and enjoy a day of fun activities on the banks of the Nashua River, one of the most beautiful natural resources in the town of Lancaster. The field will be full of LOTS of fun family activities plus feature a musical tent where groups will be playing all day long. The Festival also will include Canoe Rides (Still River Outfitters), Livestock and Petting Zoo (Lancaster 4-H), educational displays by Mass. Audubon and Mass. Fish and Wildlife, a BBQ (Lancaster Boy Scouts) and Ice Cream (Juniper Farms). Click here or contact Peter Stanton at (508) 523-5916 or pstanton@wbjournal.com for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Canoe the Nashua River and the Lancaster River Festival*, 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary. Adults and families are invited to come out and enjoy a downstream, flat-water paddle on the Nashua River, meandering through the superbly scenic Bolton Flats Wildlife Management Area. This program will begin and conclude at the annual Lancaster Nashua River Festival (see above listing). Canoes, PFDs, and paddles are provided. Fee: Members: Adult $12.00, Child $8.00; Nonmembers: Adult $18.00, Child $12.00. Click here or call (978) 464-2712 to sign up or for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – MUDDY RIVER (CHARLES WATERSHED) – *"Explore Boston's Back Bay Fens, Rose Garden, and Riverway" walk*, 10:00 AM – 1:30 PM, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Meet at corner of Huntington Ave. & Museum Rd. (Museum stop on Green Line "E"). Bring lunch & water. Heavy rain cancels. No dogs; non-AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Sharon Marshall, (617) 542-4551 (best time to call: 7-9 pm)] with any questions.

June 15 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Father's Day Weekend Canoe & Breakfast*, 7:00 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary. Celebrate Father's Day early with a relaxing canoe trip! Watch the morning mist rising off the water. Keep an eye out for great blue herons and other birds gliding over the water. Enjoy the beautiful views as we paddle through Rocky Narrows Reservation and Broadmoor to the South Natick Dam. A hearty breakfast will be served midway on the banks of the river. Canoes, paddles, lifejackets, a basic paddling overview & guides are all provided. Fee: Adults $39/members; $45/non-members. Click here or call (508) 655-2296 to sign up or for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *"No Portage Loop Paddle"* on the Charles in Dedham and West Roxbury, sponsored by the NH Paddlers Committee of the Appalachian Mountain Club. The "loop" part of this trip is enabled via paddling the "Long Ditch", a canal of sorts, dug in the seventeenth century to facilitate hay gathering. This is a relatively short trip on flatwater, with only one small obstacle requiring a 10' carryover. "This trip requires that you can keep up with the group. Rain or high winds cancels. Alcohol and pets are not permitted. Full information including directions will be sent when you sign up. This trip is limited to 12 boats!" Click here or contact trip leader Phil Sego at (617) 807-0311 (8AM – 8PM) to sign up or for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – TAUNTON RIVER – *Taunton River Trail dedication and walk*, 8:30 AM start, sponsored by the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). "The Taunton River Trail is an on-road bike route and off-road bike path that will eventually extend from the City of Fall River to the City of Taunton. In addition to the creation of the bikeway, the Trail initiative will include efforts to preserve an extensive greenway along the Taunton River and to interpret the river's rich human and ecological history. Please join us for several events to initiate this project on Saturday morning. All of the events are free and open to the public. The Taunton River Trail Committee will dedicate a kiosk at Sweet's Knoll State Park in Dighton (1387 Somerset Avenue, Route 138) at 10:00 AM. Prior to the ceremony, the Fall River Bicycle Committee will sponsor a bicycle ride along the Trail route in Somerset and Dighton, arriving at Sweet's Knoll State Park for the

ceremony. The ride will begin at 8:45 AM. Meet at the commuter parking lot at Riverside Avenue and old Route 6 in Somerset (at the Somerset side of the old Brightman Street Bridge). Following the 10:00 AM ceremony at Sweet's Knoll, you're invited to take a walking tour of the future bike path, led by Ron Medeiros."

June 15 (Saturday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Introduction to Stand-up Paddling*, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies. Stand-Up Paddle Boarding is a fun way to explore the waterways, improve your balance and get a fantastic core workout. Anyone can Stand-Up Paddle, including people with no surfing or paddling experience at all. You must be comfortable in the water and want to try something new, though. Wear clothing and footwear that you don't mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by an Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures Certified Instructor. Fee: $50/members, $60/nonmembers. Limit: 10; open to ages 14 and older. Preregistration required; click here or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

June 15 (Saturday) – SWAN RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Swan River from Swan Pond to Nantucket Sound and back* in Dennisport, sponsored by the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Meet at put-in (Clipper Lane off Upper County Road, Dennis) at 10:00 AM for a 10:30 AM launch. Paddle down the river to its mouth on Nantucket Sound for lunch, & return circumnavigating pond, about 7 miles total. PFD required; Spray Skirt also (if windy). While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Betty Hinkley, (508) 255-2818, bhinkley@mindspring.com] with any questions.

June 16 (Sunday) – PALMER RIVER (MOUNT HOPE/NARRAGANSETT BAY WATERSHED) – *Flatwater "round trip" paddle* in Rehoboth, sponsored by the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA). The paddle is suitable for all types of boats and all levels of experience. As this is a "round trip" paddle, no shuttle is required. Meet at the put-in (just east of the Providence Road bridge over the river – see map) at 10:00 AM. Bring water and a lunch. Click here for more info on RICKA-sponsored flatwater trips; and click here or contact trip leader Henry Dziadosz [henry@twincitysupply.com , (401) 567-0313] for more info on this particular trip.

June 16 (Sunday) – CANOE RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – *Guided nature walk in Mansfield*, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the Natural Resources Trust of Mansfield (NRT). "Join the NRT for a guided nature walk through two of Mansfield's picturesque conservation areas. This spring's walk will be in the Marie Streese Conservation Area (bisected by the scenic Canoe River, followed by a walk in the NRT-owned Dorothy York Conservation Area." Walkers should meet at Marie Streese property, near the corner of Ware and Branch Streets. Click here for more info.

June 16 (Sunday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *River Walk on the Goggin and Little Properties* in Marshfield, 1:00 PM start, sponsored by the North and South Rivers Watershed Association (NSRWA). "Join us for a tour of one of the newest lands to be saved on the North River: the 50 acre Goggin property and the 25-acre abutting Little property. Tom Whalen, Marshfield's Community Preservation Chair will be the walk leader. The walk will take you through both properties and down to a dock that has panoramic views of the North River. New boardwalks should also have been installed over some wetlands by the time of our walk." Pre-registration is required; no fee for NSRWA members, $5 for non-members on the day of the walk. Click here or contact the NSRWA at (781) 659-8168 to sign up or for more info.

June 16 (Sunday) – SUDBURY and CONCORD RIVERS – *Father's Day paddle*, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the Norumbega Chapter of the Wooden Canoe Heritage Association. "We will launch at Sherman's Bridge over the Sudbury River. It is on Sherman's Bridge Road at the Lincoln/Sudbury line and from there to the take out in Concord at the Old North Bridge it is about an 8 mile run. Plan on meeting in time for a 9:00 AM launch, bring a lunch and we will spend some time at the National Park in Concord. For those who may want to join in without doing the paddling portion, we usually arrive at the Old North Bridge a little past

noon. Feel free to bring a lunch and meet us there." Click here or contact John Fitzgerald at (978) 371-2438 or jmbfitz@hotmail.com for more info.

June 16 (Sunday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Flatwater paddle* in Topsfield, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. "Meet at the Topsfield Fairgrounds Parking Lot Entrance on Route 1 in Topsfield. You should see a number of vehicles there with canoes on the roof. We will shuttle from there to the launch, which is on Rowley Bridge Road. Then we shuttle the vehicles to the take out, which is at the Bradley Palmer State Forest. We get on the river by 10:00 AM and take out about 3:30 to 4:00 PM. Bring: canoe or kayak, lunch, drink, water, sun screen, bug repellent, eyeglasses retainer strap, sun hat, life jacket." While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to click here or contact the trip leader [Kenneth Kaiser, (978) 664-5984 (best time to call: Before 9 PM); kkaiser@alum.mit.edu] with any questions.

June 16 (Sunday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Father's Day Tide Pool Cruise*, 8:45 AM-10:45 AM, sponsored by Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center. Join Lisa Hutchings and the crew of the Yankee Clipper for an exciting exploration of the lower Merrimack River ecosystem. Each cruise features a specific theme with hands-on science, interactive props, and seasonal wildlife. "We'll also look for seabirds, seals, and waterfowl on every trip. Your family will have a wonderful time cruising and learning about this vital part of the area's natural history. The Yankee Clipper is U.S. Coast Guard-inspected and licensed, and has life jackets and a marine toilet for your convenience." Fee (suitable for children 3 - 12 years): Members: Adult $22.00, Child $16.00, Nonmembers: Adult $29.00, Child $19.00. All children must be accompanied by adults. Click here or call (978) 462-9998 to sign up or for more info.

June 16 (Sunday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Bird walk at the Housatonic WMA and October Mountain*, 6:00 AM (!) start, sponsored by the South Shore Bird Club. Mourning Warblers are a specialty on this trip, as well as other warblers and vireos. Olive-sided Flycatchers may also be present. Meet at the parking area for the George L. Darey Housatonic Valley Wildlife Management Area, on New Lenox Road, which is off of Route 7 in Lenox. Go east from Route 7 on New Lenox Road and follow it 1.5 miles; the WMA parking area will be on the right; the Housatonic River bridge is just beyond (see map). Click here or contact trip leader Glenn d'Entremont at gdentremont1@comcast.net for more info.

June 16 (Sunday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Father's Day canoe trip* at Bartholomew's Cobble in Sheffield, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. "Paddle the winding Housatonic to view the beauty of this meandering river as it passes through agricultural fields and floodplain forests. Watch for bald eagles flying over Bartholomew's Cobble. With your guide, learn about the river's history and what is happening to restore some of its most precious habitats and species from its upper reaches in Pittsfield through Massachusetts and into Connecticut. Paddles, life preservers, and boats are provided." Please pre-register by calling (413) 229-8600 or writing to bcobble@ttor.org. Fee: Adult $24; Child (10-16) $10 (members); Adult $30; Child (10-16) $15 (nonmembers). Click here for more info.

June 17 (Monday) – SUDBURY, ASSABET and CONCORD RIVERS – *Annual Meeting of OARS: For the Assabet, Sudbury and Concord Rivers*, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM in West Concord, sponsored by OARS. The meeting will be held in the Wheelhouse at the Bradford Mill (1st floor), 33 Bradford Street, West Concord. "A brief business meeting at 7:30 PM will be followed by an informal wine, cheese, and dessert social with delightful slides of our rivers and activities. Come hear about our plans for the summer and coming year! Please RSVP by email or call 978-369-3956."

June 17 (Monday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Stream crossing workshop* in Pittsfield, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM, presented by Baystate Roads. The workshop will take place at the Koussevitzy Arts Center, Room K111, Berkshire Community College, 1350 West Street in Pittsfield. The workshop will focus on making stream crossings safer and more resilient in the face of future storms. Many crossings fail, in some cases repetitively, due to the inability to pass high flows and materials stirred up by the river. These crossings require ongoing maintenance and repairs when they become plugged with debris. Click here to sign up or for more info. (This

workshop is presented in collaboration with the Massachusetts Rivers Alliance, Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, Franklin Regional Council of Governments, American Rivers, Berkshire Environmental Action Team, The Nature Conservancy, The Connecticut River Watershed Council, Housatonic Valley Association, UMass Amherst, and Tighe and Bond Engineers. Funding is provided by Massachusetts Environmental Trust and Westfield River Wild and Scenic Advisory Committee.)

June 18 (Tuesday) – BOSTON HARBOR WATERSHED – *Tour of the Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant*, 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM, sponsored by the Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts (SBN). "The MWRA's Deer Island Sewage Treatment Plant is the centerpiece of MWRA's $3.8 billion program to protect Boston Harbor against pollution from Metropolitan Boston's sewer systems. The plant removes human, household, business and industrial pollutants from wastewater that originates in homes and businesses in 43 greater Boston communities. If you're interested in taking the tour to learn more about water conservation, pollution prevention and other exciting sustainability initiatives at Deer Island sign-up today!" Click here or contact Taryn Johnson at taryn@sbnmass.org to sign up or for more info.

June 18 (Tuesday) – BLACKSTONE RIVER – *Paddle the Blackstone River* from 122 in Uxbridge to the Blackstone Gorge in Blackstone, launching promptly at 6:15 PM, sponsored by the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA)'s Blackstone Valley Paddle Club. "Suitable for experienced paddlers only and boats under 15 feet. We will be running the Millville rapids, which are short but are rated class II. As this is a shuttle trip, please arrive as early as you can. National Park Service Rangers will join us this evening." Club membership is required to take part in this event; click here for more details. Click here or contact Cheryl at stonefoxfarm@cox.net or (401)647-5887 for more info on this trip. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the Message Board and the website for updates.

June 18 (Tuesday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Guided Kayak Tour*, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, on Martha's Vineyard. Join a Felix Neck naturalist on an exciting kayak adventure on Sengekontacket Pond. Paddle by Sarson's Island to see nesting shorebirds. Watch American oystercatchers, cormorants and shorebirds feed and frolic. Explore the salt marsh and search for pond wildlife. This trip will focus on the natural history of saltwater communities found on Martha's Vineyard. Must be age 11 or older, accompanied by an adult, to paddle. Fee: $60.00/members, $80.00/nonmembers. Fee is for 2 people in a tandem boat. Single boats available - call to reserve. Click here or call (508) 627-4850 to sign up or for more info. [This same excursion is also offered on June 20, 22, 25, 27 and 29 and July 2 and 4.]

June 19 (Wednesday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Sunset Kayak Tour*, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies. Paddle the Slocum River, explore the ecosystem; tour includes basic kayak equipment & instruction. Paddlers of all abilities welcome! Wear clothing and footwear that you don't mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by an Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures Certified Instructor. Fee: $38/members, $45/nonmembers. Limit: 10; open to ages 14 and older. Preregistration required; click here or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

June 19 (Wednesday) – MASHPEE RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Guided walk along the Mashpee River* with Connie Boyce, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History. Click here or call Connie at (508) 394-2683 for more info on this year's walk, and click here to read an article about and view photos taken on last year's walk.

June 19 (Wednesday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *River Ecology Paddle and Potluck*, sponsored by the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA). Russ Cohen of the Mass. Department of Fish and Game's Division of Ecological Restoration will share river ecology information during a paddle downstream from Lee, and ending behind HVA's office. A potluck supper will follow. The paddle will run from 3:00 PM to about 6:00 PM, and the post-paddle potluck from 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM. Bring your own boat, or reserve a space in a canoe. Some

quick water is encountered early in the trip, and downed trees will have to be negotiated. Paddlers should have some experience. While participation in this paddle trip is free, pre-registration is required. Click here or contact Alison Dixon [adixon@hvatoday.org, (413) 394-9796] to sign up or for more info.

June 20 – 23 (Thursday – Sunday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *"Turtles of the Outer Cape"*, a Cape Cod Field School four-day course, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. "This course is designed to offer unique opportunities to learn more the turtles of Cape Cod with an emphasis on two species--the eastern box turtle, a species of special concern, and the threatened diamondback terrapin--as well as provide a 'hands-on' introduction to wildlife research methods. For over 30 years we have been studying the populations of box turtles and terrapins in Wellfleet Bay. Through nesting surveys, mark and recapture studies, radio telemetry, and habitat and prey analysis, we have built a solid foundation of data to begin understanding the life histories of these animals and the human impacts affecting them. Over the course of the four action-packed days, you will become actively involved in adding to this collection of data. We will teach you how to use telemetry equipment to find radio-tagged box turtles on our property. Field walks along the salt marshes and in the uplands are scheduled to search for nesting female diamondback terrapins and record their activities. Using dip nets and canoes, we catch terrapins in the salt marsh creeks. Once caught, they will be weighed, measured, marked and then released. Be prepared to get wet and muddy!" Instructors: Sanctuary Director Bob Prescott, Wheaton College Professor of Biology and author Barbara Brennessel, "Turtle Guy" Don Lewis and research scientist and educator Sue Wieber Nourse. Fee: $255.00/members, $275.00/ nonmembers. Click here or call (508) 349-2615 to sign up or for more info.

June 20 (Thursday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Freemans Pond Salt Marsh Restoration and Recognition of Massachusetts Rivers and Wetlands Months*, 10:00 AM in Brewster, sponsored by the Mass. Department of Fish and Game's Division of Ecological Restoration. The event begins with a short indoor program at Brewster Town Hall, followed by a site visit.

June 20 (Thursday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Screening of "Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000"*, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM, at the Ayer Public Library, 26 East Main Street in Ayer. A 30-minute documentary film, *Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000* is an exhilarating success story of how one woman mobilized clean-up of one of America's most polluted rivers-for herself, for her community, and for future generation-and became a citizen leader honored by the United Nations. It's a gripping account of an ordinary person who realized her power to make a difference. The screening will be followed by a lively personal discussion with the film's central figure, world-renowned local citizen leader, Marion Stoddart. Marion will speak about what local citizens can do to help complete the vision of the Nashua River Watershed Association's Greenway Program, which aims to permanently protect a corridor along both banks of the Nashua River, its main tributaries, and its smaller streams. The event is free and open to the public; click here for more info.

June 20 (Thursday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Evening Walk in West Cambridge*, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Moderate-paced 5-mi. city walk includes Longfellow Park, Brattle Street and many historic stops, with a return along the Charles River. Meet in front of Harvard Square T-Stop at top of stairs. Heavy rain/storm cancels. No dogs; non-AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [George Hovorka, (781) 665-0418] with any questions.

June 21 (Friday) – MILLERS RIVER – *Millers River Blue Trail Solstice Paddle*, sponsored by the Millers River Watershed Council. A group will paddle down the Blue Trail, running from Athol downstream to Orange. Paddlers can leave their boats in Athol at Cass Meadow/Rich Park at 5-5:15 PM, then drive your car to Orange Riverfront Park and catch the $1 shuttle back for the launch in Athol by 6 PM. The 2 hr +/- paddle will culminate with a visit to a local ice cream stop for fellowship. RSVP…. by June 18th. Click here or contact Keith Davies at (978) 248-9491 for more info.

June 21 (Friday) – QUINEPOXET RIVER (NASHUA WATERSHED) – *Hike the Mass Central Rail Trail in Holden*, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by Wachusett Greenways. "We'll hike from Mill Street to

Manning, then alongside the Quinapoxet River down to Canada Mills. Distance approximately 2-4 miles, depending on whether we drive or hike back. Bring a snack, water, bug spray, and sturdy shoes. Walking poles are useful for scrambling down river banks." Contact Margaret Lock at (978) 422-9720 to sign up or for more info.

June 21 (Friday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *First Day of Summer Sunset Hike*, 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies. "Watch the sun setting over the estuary and tour the grounds to discover the creatures that are coming to life as the sun sets and the forest goes to sleep. Bring a flashlight if you have one, and be ready to enjoy the sunset and views over the river. At the conclusion of this hike, light refreshments will be served to celebrate the arrival of summer. All ages are welcome on this family-friendly hike." Leader: Jen Wimmer, Lloyd Center Outreach Specialist. Fee: $4/members; $5/nonmembers. Pre-registration is required; click here or call the Center's Event line at (508) 558-2918 to sign up. If you have specific questions regarding the program, contact Jen at (508) 990-0505 ext. 14 or jen@lloydcenter.org.

June 21 (Friday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – *Summer Solstice Celebration* at Copicut Woods, 7:00 PM start, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. "Celebrate the arrival of summer and the quiet beauty of Copicut Woods at twilight with a candlelit walk down Miller Lane. We'll begin by making candle lanterns that will light our way down the trail at dusk. The call of whippoorwill often marks the arrival of summer on this magical night that you'll never forget." Click here for more info.

June 21 (Friday) – BOSTON HARBOR WATERSHED – *Summer Solstice Picnic* at World's End Reservation in Hingham, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM, sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations. "Bring your family and a picnic for our annual celebration of summer. Enjoy live music and the chance to catch the most beautiful sunset over the Boston skyline". On the way to the picnic grounds, be sure to check out the Damde Meadows Salt Marsh Restoration Project, completed several years ago by the Trustees in partnership with the Mass. Division of Ecological Restoration. Fee: $15/car (members), $20/car (nonmembers). Click here for more info.

June 21 (Friday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Evening Canoe on the Charles*, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary. Enjoy a paddle down one of the most beautiful stretches of the Charles River, past Medfield State Hospital and up into the Medfield marshes. Watch as the sun sets over the river and listen for the evening sounds of birds, frogs and other creatures. Canoes, paddles, lifejackets, a basic paddling overview & guides are all provided. Fee: Adults $33/members, $39/non-members. Click here or call (508) 655-2296 to sign up or for more info.

June 21 (Friday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Summer Solstice Paddle*, 5:30 PM – 8 PM at Barton's Cove in Gill, sponsored by the Connecticut River Watershed Council (CRWC). "This 2-hour solstice paddle around Barton's Cove will take us to one of the most riveting spots on the Connecticut River and provide you a glimpse of a longer 10-mile round-trip paddle to the French King Bridge. Barton's Cove is famous for its geological, archeological, and historic features, as well as its birding and fishing. We'll see some of those features and enjoy one of the beautiful spots on the river. Turners Falls is also an important part of our hydroelectric relicensing efforts over the next few years, and we'll find out what's so important about relicensing at this site." For more information about the paddle or other CRWC events, fees, rain date, or to sign up for this trip, contact the CRWC at (413) 772-2020.

June 21 (Friday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Summer Solstice Sunset– Moonrise Kayak*, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM, sponsored by the Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center. At the summer solstice, poet Mary Oliver asks, "… what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" Perhaps we can begin by celebrating the birth of summer on a paddle through the sunset and moon-rise? The peak of day length and the suns energy also has profound impacts on the plants and animals that live year-round in the Cove. During this evening paddle, we'll share poems about the turning of the seasons and observe how plants and animals of the Cove may view the day. Two nights before the Full Strawberry Moon, we also hope to paddle in both sunlight and moonlight as we immerse our-selves in the longest day of the year. This program is appropriate for

both beginning and experienced paddlers. Fee: FREE with own kayak, $25/boat with kayak rental (tandem kayaks available). Click here or call (toll-free) (800) 859-2960 to sign up or for more info.

June 21 (Friday) – CHELSEA CREEK (MYSTIC WATERSHED) – *Third Annual Summer Solstice Festival* at Condor Urban Wild in East Boston, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM, sponsored by the Boston Natural Areas Network, the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, the Neighborhood of Affordable Housing (NOAH) and Chelsea Creek Action Program. This family-centered event allows children and adults to participate in face painting, scavenger hunts and games while listening to live music and enjoying views of the Chelsea Creek estuary. Click here for more info.

June 21 (Friday) – TEN MILE RIVER – *Summer Solstice walk At Seekonk Meadows*, 6:45 PM - 8:15 PM, sponsored by the Ten Mile River Watershed Council. "Join the Council for our fourth annual Summer Solstice Hike at Seekonk Meadows. This year the route will be changed slightly and will follow trails around Gameno Pond. There will be great views of the pond from a ridge above the water, and we will visit a spot on Cole's Brook hidden in a pine forest. This walk is 1.5 miles. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Bug spray will be provided. Meet at the Seekonk Library, Newman Ave in Seekonk. Click here or email hiking@tenmileriver.net for more info.

June 21-23 (Friday-Sunday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – *2013 Deerfield River DemoFest* in Charlemont, sponsored by Zoar Outdoor. Click here or write to info@zoaroutdoor.com for more info.

June 21-23 (Saturday-Monday) – SUDBURY/ASSABET/CONCORD RIVERS – *Riverfest*, sponsored by the Concord, Assabet, & Sudbury Wild & Scenic River Stewardship Council. The Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers provide a range of recreational opportunities to those within the greater Boston area. A natural respite, the river offers occasions for hiking, birding, fishing and boating. It is also a great educational resource to teach students about ecology of river systems. Riverfest is a weekend long celebration of the three rivers. All events are free and open to everyone. Click here for more info.

June 21 (Friday) – ASSABET, SUDBURY and CONCORD RIVERS – *River Solstice Celebration*, 6:30 PM in Concord. Celebrate the arrival of Summer with Musketaquid and OARS for the kick-off of Riverfest (June 21-23), a weekend of celebrating our Wild and Scenic Rivers! The evening begins at 6:30 PM with a picnic on the grounds of the Old Manse. Bring food, drink, and a blanket, and relax while listening to music performed by the Voices for the Earth Chorus, Snow Crow, among others, and taking in an incomparable view. At 8 PM launch your canoe, rowboat, or kayak for an illuminated flotilla up the Concord River to the confluence of the Assabet and Sudbury rivers at Egg Rock. Bring along a **candle lantern** that you can attach to your boat. [Directions to make a candle lantern.] For those who want to participate without getting wet, the best viewing spot is from the Lowell Road Bridge just outside Concord Center. You are also welcome to participate in the Drum and Dance Circle with Earth Drum Council at the Old Calf Pasture, which will begin at 8:00 PM. All are welcome to come for the picnic, the music, the flotilla, the drumming, or all four. And everyone is encouraged to bring a candle lantern. Click here, email OARS or call (978) 369-3956 for more info. For canoe rental, call South Bridge Boat House at (978) 371-2465, and ask for the Solstice group rate.

June 22 – July 4

June 22 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *River Cleanup* in Pittsfield, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, co-sponsored by the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) and the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT). Meet at the Wahconah Park parking lot on Wahconah Street, Pittsfield. "Clean up groups will then be organized to focus on sections of the West Branch of the Housatonic River. Canoes will be used to move collected trash to an exit point. What YOU should bring: Water, sunscreen, insect repellent, change of clothes; What WE provide: Morning snacks! LUNCH! Trash bags and gloves." Clean ups on the West Branch are cosponsored by the City of Pittsfield. Contact Alison Dixon [adixon@hvatoday.org, (413) 394-9796] or Jane Winn at jane@thebeatnews.org or (413) 230-7321 to let them know you're coming.

June 22 (Saturday) – HOP BROOK (HOUSATONIC WATERSHED) – *Botanical field trip to Hop Brook Floodplain and Tyringham Cobble*, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by the New England Wild Flower Society (NEWFS). "The secluded Tyringham Valley is one of the most scenic areas in the southern Berkshires. This field trip takes us through a variety of natural and pastoral landscapes, climaxing with a panoramic view from the top of the Tyringham Cobble, owned by The Trustees of Reservations. We look closely at the flora of the Hop Brook floodplain, a calcareous wetland community with a remarkable variety of grasses, sedges, ferns, and wildflowers, including several rare species. As we hike towards Tyringham Cobble, we explore successional old fields and mixed hardwoods-hemlock slopes. Songbirds and butterflies, as well as wildflowers, grace the meadows of this special area. The hike is about four miles long and moderately strenuous. Wear suitable footgear (feet may get wet in the floodplain) and bring a lunch." The trip is led by NEWFS Senior Botanist Ted Elliman. Fee: $38/members, $46/nonmembers. Click here to sign up or for more info.

June 22 (Saturday) – QUINEBAUG RIVER – *Flatwater paddle in West Dudley*, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM, co-sponsored by Mass. State Representative Peter Durant and The Last Green Valley. Enjoy a leisurely hour of paddling with some old friends or with some newfound friends. Access to the impoundment where the paddle will take place is along West Dudley Road (aka Paper Mill Road), just east of its intersection with Rte. 131, at the West Dudley Portage area (click here and scroll down to "River Mile 18.0" for more info). This event is "BYOB" (bring your own boat). Please RSVP to Joe at (617) 722-2060 or joseph.mckenna@mahouse.gov if you would like to take part in this event.

June 22 (Saturday) – QUINSIGAMOND RIVER (BLACKSTONE WATERSHED) – *Family Canoeing at Ekblaw Landing* in Grafton, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by Mass Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary. "Thinking about canoeing? Join us for a family-friendly canoeing experience in the Blackstone River watershed. This is the perfect experience for beginner paddlers, since we will practice in flat, quiet water and then head out to test our steering skills. Learn about the creatures that rely on our rivers while enjoying a peaceful outing on the water. This program is part of the Campaign for a Fishable/Swimmable Blackstone River by 2015." Audience: Family (suitable for children 8-16 years). Fee: Members: Adult $20.00, Child $8.00; Nonmembers: Adult $25.00, Child $8.00. Life jackets, paddles, and canoes are provided. Click here or call (508) 753-6087 to sign up or for more info.

June 22 (Saturday) – SUDBURY RIVER (SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED) – *Family Fishing Day* at Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Sudbury, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Cast a line, learn about fish in our waters, safety, ethics, and fishing equipment at the Refuge. If you have fishing equipment, bring it along. A limited quantity of fishing equipment and bait will be available. MassWildlife is participating in this festival in cooperation with the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Contact Susan Russo at (978) 443-4661 ext. 34 or Susan J Russo@fws.gov for more details.

June 22 (Saturday) – CONCORD RIVER (SUDBURY, ASSABET, CONCORD WATERSHED) – *Birds of the Concord River Canoe Trip*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Concord, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary. "Come explore an historic and beautiful section of the Concord River. Watch for herons, egrets and more as we paddle through parts of the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. We'll stop for a short while to explore the refuge out of the canoes." Canoes, paddles, lifejackets, a basic paddling overview & guides are all provided. Registration is required. Fee: Adults $35/members; $42/non-members. Click here or call (508) 655-2296 to sign up or for more info.

June 22 (Saturday) – SHAWSHEEN RIVER – *Lower Shawsheen River paddle*, 8:30 AM start, co-sponsored by the Shawsheen River Watershed Association and the Merrimack River Watershed Council. "Join us for an easy paddling trip on the Shawsheen River where you can enjoy the woods, meadows, flowers, birds and other wildlife. We will be meeting in Andover at 8:30 AM, and paddle through Lawrence and North Andover, ending up in the Merrimack River near the Route 495 Bridge. The trip will take about 3 hours. Well-behaved children are welcome." Registration is required; contact trip leaders Jack Brady [(978) 912-2924 or shawsheenriver@comcast.net] or Bob Rauseo [bob_otter@comcast.net] to sign up, or click here for more info.

June 22 (Saturday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Seventh Annual Nashua River Flatwater Canoe and Kayak Race* in Groton, sponsored by the New England Canoe and Kayak Racing Association (NECKRA). Several entry classes available for 10-mile long course and 4-mile short course. Registration begins at 9:00 AM; race begins at 11:00 AM. Barbeque after the race. Click here, here or contact Stephen Miller at stephen.miller@.pobox.com for more info.

June 22 (Saturday) – CONCORD RIVER (SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED) – *Flatwater paddle* in Concord, 9:30 AM start, sponsored by the Souhegan Watershed Association. "From history to wildlife – join us for an easy paddle which passes under the Old North Bridge replica, (part of the Minute Man National Historical Park), then proceeds through the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge." Meet at 9:30 AM in Concord, MA, at Lowell Road bridge. From Rte 3 take Rte 62 to Concord Commons. Lowell Rd is on west side of Colonial Inn at north end of Commons. Click here or contact trip leader Julie Smith [(603) 891-0267 or cantdog@comcast.net] for more info.

June 22 (Saturday) – TAUNTON RIVER – *Canoe trip on the Taunton River*, 8:00 AM start, sponsored by the Taunton River Watershed Alliance. "This trip will launch at South Street in Raynham where it crosses the Taunton River (across from Riverbend Apartments), continuing downriver to Dighton Rock State Park. It will last four to five hours. We will break for lunch around noon near the VFW; participants should bring their own lunch. Drinks will be available for purchase at the VFW. We expect to arrive at the Dighton Rock State Park between 3 and 4 PM. After arriving at the State Park, we will have a presentation on the history/industry of the Taunton River at the Park Museum. If you wish to have dinner at the Park, barbeque facilities are available; bring your own food." Fee: $10/TRWA members; $15/others. Call the TRWA office [(508) 828-1101] for info on group rates. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Canoes or kayaks are available to rent at the Nemasket Kayak Center, Dean's Plaza, Route 44, Raynham, (714) 501-2205, www.nemasketkayak.com. Click here or contact Carolyn LaMarre at (508) 828-1101 or trwadirector@gmail.com for more info.

June 22 (Saturday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *River Day: the Westport River – a Resource for Generations*, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by the Westport River Watershed Alliance. The event will take place at the Head of Westport Landing (for activities, education, exhibitors, music, food, fun – starts at 10:00 AM) and Hix Bridge Landing for the "River Paddle" Kick-off at 9:00 AM. Come celebrate WRWA's 35+ years of environmental stewardship and learn about the many environmental resources in the watershed. Click here or call (508) 636-3016 for more info.

June 22 (Saturday) – DUCK CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle to explore Duck Creek from Wellfleet Harbor*, sponsored by the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Meet at the put-in at 10:00 AM for a 10:30 AM launch. Directions: From Route 6 in Wellfleet at the traffic light just past P.J.'s turn left toward Wellfleet Center and Harbor. Go 0.3 m and turn left on East Commercial Street. Go 0.7 m to the Town Marina and Harbor. Turn right on Kendrick Ave. The parking lot for Mayo Beach is a few hundred feet on the left. Life vest and spray skirt required. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Don Paladino, (508) 349-2950 or djp1958@comcast.net] with any questions.

June 22 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Moonrise Kayak Paddle*, 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, on Martha's Vineyard. "See Sengekontacket Pond in a new light, moonlight, as we celebrate the different full moons of summer. With a guide, you will kayak on the pond as the sun sets and the moon rises. Kayaks, paddles and lifejackets are all included. Must be age 11 or older, accompanied by an adult, to paddle. Fee: $70/members, $90/nonmembers. Fee is for 2 people in a tandem boat. Single boats available - call to reserve. Click here or call (508) 627-4850 to sign up or for more info. [This paddle also runs on 6/23.]

June 22-23 (Saturday- Sunday) – SUDBURY, ASSABET and CONCORD RIVERS – *"Riverfest" Paddle and Camp*, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Paddle all of the Wild and Scenic portions of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord (SuAsCo) Rivers. Launch on the Sudbury River in

Framingham, paddle 15 miles to camp (optional) near Egg Rock in Concord, with a shore component at Old North Bridge. Sanitary facilities and s'mores will be provided. Bring your own water craft, floatation, camping gear and food. Cars will be shuttled to Concord near the camp site if your craft cannot handle all of your camping gear. Launch on Sunday on the Assabet River in West Concord and continue another 15 miles down the Concord River to take out in Billerica. Meet us along the way/leave early if you cannot paddle the entire day. Click here or contact trip leader Bill Fadden [(508) 877-8893 (before 9 PM) or faddenwn@aol.com] to sign up or for more info.

June 23 (Sunday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Canoe Trip in Lenox*, 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Berkshire Sanctuaries. "Watch for frogs, fish, herons, muskrats, and signs of beavers along the meandering and scenic Housatonic River. This leisurely paddle will take us through the George Darey Wildlife Management Area. Join us to learn about the natural history of the waterway that is the heart of the Berkshires." Canoes, paddles and PFDs will be provided. The trip will be led by Berkshire Wildlife Sanctuary Director Rene Laubach. Fee: Adults $20/members, $25/non-members. Children must be at least 10 years old, accompanied by an adult, and know how to swim. Pre-registration is required; click here or call (413) 637-0320 to sign up or for more info.

June 23 (Sunday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – *Rafting trip on the Monroe Bridge Section of the Deerfield*, sponsored by the Berkshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Class 4 rapids in this section. Rafting trips are very popular, so register early - but no later than the Wednesday before the trip. Minimum age is 14. Strong swimming skills required. Rain does not cancel. Trip meets at 10AM at the Big Y parking lot, just off the I-91/Rte 2 rotary in Greenfield, MA. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact trip leader Al Howcroft [(413) 256-1301 (best time to call: M-F 3:30-6:30 PM)] to sign up or for more info.

June 23 (Sunday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Foraging walk along the Westport River West Branch with Russ Cohen*, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, sponsored by the Westport River Watershed Alliance. Participants will explore the coastal shore land at Westport Point and enjoy a tasting of wild treats after the walk. Space is limited, so pre-registration is required by calling (508) 636-3016 or registering online. Fee: $25/WRWA member, $30/nonmember. Click here or call the Alliance's office at the number above for more info.

June 23 (Sunday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Paddle the Neponset River Estuary*, 10:30AM-12:30PM, sponsored by the Neponset River Watershed Association (NepRWA). "Meeting place is at Neponset II Park, on Hill Top St. in Dorchester. We'll launch our canoes, and paddle the salty water, exploring and discussing the estuary. We'll return to Hill Top St. around 12:30PM. Participants must bring their own canoe or kayak, paddles, life-jacket, and drinking water, and be able to swim. Limited spaces are available, and registration is required. Register with Carly Rocklen at rocklen@neponset.org or (781) 575-0354, ext.303. Please indicate if you'll have room in your boat for another individual. Rain date: Sunday, June 30, 5PM-7:30PM, same location. This event is free and open to the public." Click here for more info.

June 23 (Sunday) – CONCORD RIVER (SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED) – *Early Morning Paddle* (part of Riverfest), 5:15 AM (!) start, sponsored by the Carlisle Conservation Commission and the River Stewardship Council. Paddle through bird-rich habitat to the Route 4 bridge, with breakfast at the Riverview Restaurant in Billerica before heading back. Meet at the boat landing on the Bedford side of the Route 225 bridge over the Concord River. The trip will last about three hours. Click here or contact Ken Harte for more info.

June 22 (Saturday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Essex River Day*. This event was created to encourage those who have a boat to offer neighborly boat rides to those who may not have a boat and don't have ready access to appreciating the wonders of the Essex River. [Please email psilva@essexma.org or call the Harbormaster at the non-emergency telephone number (978) 768-6511 if you have available space on your boat or if you would like to be matched with a host captain and crew for a ride.] The event has since expanded into a full day of events, culminating with a pick-up softball game for all ages, a

cook out with vendors, live music and a bonfire at Memorial Park, 24 Martin Street in Downtown Essex. Click here or here for more info.

June 23 (Sunday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Groton Greenway River Festival*, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM, sponsored by the Groton Greenway Committee. The Festival returns, complete with the famous cardboard canoe races. All events are free. There will be canoeing all day courtesy of Nashoba Paddler LLC, lots of environmental displays and children's activities, and musical guests including Native American drummers. Food will be available for purchase. The Festival is held on the bank of the Nashua River at the Petapawag boat launch, Nod Road, Groton. Click here, here or contact Pete Carson at pbcarson@charter.net for more info.

June 24 (Monday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Women's Canoe Trip*, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies. Girls' night out! Enjoy canoeing the historic Slocum River. Transportation to launching site & all equipment provided. Wear clothing and footwear that you don't mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by Liz Moniz, Lloyd Center Outreach Director. Fee: $20/members, $25/nonmembers. Limit: 12; open to ages 14 and older. Pre-registration required; click here or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

June 25-26 (Tuesday-Wednesday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *A Hands-On Wetland Restoration Workshop for Professionals*, hosted by (and taking place at) Mass Audubon's Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary in Barnstable. "Isolated wetlands provide vital habitat to many species of amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Unfortunately, a majority of these ecosystems have been lost or degraded due to draining and filling throughout New England. These landscape modifications are now affecting recovery efforts for endangered species, reducing water quality, increasing flooding, and reducing ground water supplies. Fortunately, it's now possible to restore these altered and degraded wetlands, re-establishing the hydro-periods, aquatic vegetation, and animal life that once existed. This hands-on workshop is designed for individuals interested in learning how to use practical, low cost techniques for restoring naturally appearing and functioning wetlands. Participants will see how wetland projects can be planned in land trust properties and other private conserved lands, public land, and even on school grounds to benefit plants, animals, and people. This workshop is intended for biologists, land managers, foresters, hydrologists, engineers, technicians, educators, and other non-profit and environmental organization professionals. Fee: $175, which includes lunches on both days, hand-out materials, and a signed copy of the book *Wetland Restoration and Construction - A Technical Guide* by Thomas Biebighauser. Click here or contact Ian Ives at (508) 362-7475 ext. 9350 or iives@massaudubon.org to sign up or for more info.

June 26 (Wednesday) – CHILDS RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Childs River* in Falmouth, sponsored by the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Nice river and possible Bay paddle. Meet at the put-in at 10:00 AM for a 10:30 AM launch. Directions: Route 28 to Whites Landing Rd, Falmouth (near Mashpee town line). PFD and spray skirt required. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Bill Fischer, (508) 420-4137 (best time to call: before 9PM); wmbarbarafischer@comcast.net] with any questions.

June 26 (Wednesday) – SPICKET RIVER (MERRIMACK WATERSHED) – *Spicket River Greenway field trip*, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM in Lawrence, sponsored by the Ecological Landscaping Association. "The Spicket River Greenway is a three-mile long 'emerald bracelet' of green spaces and walking paths connecting parks and open space through multiple neighborhoods and encompasses riverfront restoration and neighborhood revitalization. Join us to learn more about this successful urban project." Join tour guide Brad Buschur, from Groundwork Lawrence, to learn more about the Greenway. Click here to sign up and here for more info.

June 26 (Wednesday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Screening of "Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000"*, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM, at the Forbush Memorial Library, 118 Main Street, in Westminster. A 30-minute documentary film, *Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000* is an exhilarating success story of how one woman mobilized clean-up of one of America's most polluted rivers-for herself, for her community, and for future generation-and became a citizen leader honored by the United Nations. It's a gripping account of an ordinary person who realized her power to

make a difference. The screening will be followed by a lively personal discussion with the film's central figure, world-renowned local citizen leader, Marion Stoddart. Marion will speak about what local citizens can do to help complete the vision of the Nashua River Watershed Association's Greenway Program, which aims to permanently protect a corridor along both banks of the Nashua River, its main tributaries, and its smaller streams. The event is free and open to the public; click here for more info.

June 27 (Thursday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Screening of "Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000"*, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM, at the Princeton Public Library, 2 Town Hall Drive, in Princeton. A 30-minute documentary film, *Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000* is an exhilarating success story of how one woman mobilized clean-up of one of America's most polluted rivers-for herself, for her community, and for future generation-and became a citizen leader honored by the United Nations. It's a gripping account of an ordinary person who realized her power to make a difference. The screening will be followed by a lively personal discussion with the film's central figure, world-renowned local citizen leader, Marion Stoddart. Marion will speak about what local citizens can do to help complete the vision of the Nashua River Watershed Association's Greenway Program, which aims to permanently protect a corridor along both banks of the Nashua River, its main tributaries, and its smaller streams. The event is free and open to the public; click here for more info.

June 27 (Thursday) – BLACKSTONE RIVER – *"Climate Change at River Bend" walk* in Uxbridge, 6:30 PM start, sponsored by the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. "Join us for a walk through the woods on Goat Hill and view a well-known landscape with fresh eyes and a new awareness. Man has always manipulated the landscape to meet his needs, how is today different? We will examine the many notions about Climate Change as we walk through the forest on the way to the Goat Hill Lock. Please bring bug repellent and water. We will meet at the entrance to the forest in the open field on the North side of Goat Hill, across East Hartford Ave. across from Tri-River medical Center. You can park in the open field by the entrance to Goat Hill or at River Bend Farm Visitor Center and make a short walk along the Tow Path, crossing East Hartford Avenue to the Open Field". The walk will be led by Ranger Chuck Arning. Click here for more info.

June 27 (Thursday) – NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED – "*Evening with the Herons*", 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the Coolidge Reservation in Manchester-by-the-Sea, co-sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations and Mass. Audubon. "View the amazing spectacle of the evening flight of herons, egrets, and ibises returning to their night roost into the largest heronry in Massachusetts, just off the coast of Coolidge Point. Bring your picnic dinner to enjoy while we discuss the life-and-death struggle in the colony." Pre-registration required – call (978) 281-8400 or write to capeann@ttor.org. Fee: $12/members, $18/nonmembers. Click here or here for more info.

June 28 (Friday) – NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED – *Cape Ann Capers: The Edge of the Sea*, 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM in Gloucester, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. "Join us as we explore the habitats of Mass Audubon's Eastern Point Wildlife Sanctuary. The cool breezes, superb coastline, and easily observed wildlife will delight your senses. We'll visit tide pools, salt marshes, woodlands, and adjoining fields using hands-on activities as we investigate each habitat." Instructors: Meg and Victor Atkins, Sanctuary Field Teachers. Audience: Family (suitable for children 5 - 12 years). Fee: Members: Adult $8.00, Child $7.00; Nonmembers: Adult $10.00, Child $8.00. Be sure to wear old sneakers or water shoes and clothes that you don't mind getting a bit dirty and wet. Click here to sign up or for more info.

June 29 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Kayaking Barnstable Harbor's Sandy Neck and Great Marsh Ecosystem*, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Long Pasture Sanctuary in Barnstable. "Join us as we kayak Cape Cod's largest barrier beach and salt marsh system and see for yourself why this is one of the state's most impressive coastal ecosystems. Traveling the great marsh by kayak offers a whole new perspective on nature, and an intimacy with the tide. It also allows you to get into shallow waters, where larger boats can't go! Launching from Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary, we will explore the many tidal creeks and islands of the harbor, looking for shorebirds, osprey, horseshoe crabs and other creatures of the marsh. We'll also come ashore at the Sandy Neck barrier beach lighthouse. Barnstable Harbor can be windy and choppy. Weather may shorten trip - depending on conditions of seas and wind. This trip is intended for those

with previous kayaking experience, yet all experience levels are welcome Children 12 and over may participate with a parent. Participants will be required to wear a life vest." Fee: $40/members, $45/nonmembers. Click here or call (508) 362-1426 to sign up or for more info.

June 29 (Saturday) – BOSTON HARBOR WATERSHED – *Parks and Greenways Walk* in Quincy, 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This is a 7-mile walk with beach, woods, salt marshes and historic sites. Bring lunch. Directions: Take Quincy Shore Drive to Wollaston Yacht Club pier at Beach St; or take the Red Line to the Wollaston stop, then walk one mile. No dogs; non-AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Mike Tuohey, breadcrumbs60@gmail.com] with any questions.

June 29 (Saturday) – NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED – *Wild Edibles of Eastern Point*, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Gloucester, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. The seashore of New England provides a bounty for the intrepid forager. In this introductory program, learn to identify some of the common wild edibles that can be found along the shore and in the woods of Mass Audubon's Eastern Point Wildlife Sanctuary. We will also discuss the ethics of collecting wild edibles and how to prepare what we find. While we will not be able to collect any edibles from this site, almost all of the species we will find can be found at similar sites throughout eastern Massachusetts. Instructor: Andrew Prazar, Sanctuary Education Coordinator. Fee: $10.00/members, $12.00/nonmembers. Registration is required; click here or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

June 29 (Saturday) – SWIFT RIVER (CHICOPEE WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Swift River in Ware and Belchertown,* sponsored by the Berkshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Enjoy a beautiful stretch of this cold river emanating from the Quabbin Reservoir. Experienced paddlers only. Register by Thursday before at 9 PM. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click here or contact the trip leader [Elbert Bowler, (413) 532-4464, treble13@comcast.net] to sign up or for more info.

June 29 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT WATERSHED – *Nasami Farm Perched Swamp Tree Exploration,* 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Whately, sponsored by the Pioneer Valley Institute. Nasami Farm, owned by the New England Wild Flower Society, is home to a unique habitat, a Black Gum/Pin Oak/Swamp White Oak 'perched' swamp. This is a swamp not directly connected to the water table, but perched above it on layers that prevent draining usually associated with old glacial lake beds. The Great Swamp, of which this property is a part, is one of the largest and best examples of a perched swamp left in Massachusetts. We will be looking mostly at the trees and their bark, but also checking out any wildflowers we might see. The trail is level and the distance covered about two to three miles at an easy pace. This is a great walk for kids and their parents. Fee: $5 (free for PVI members and kids under 12). Click here, here or contact trip leader, naturalist Nancy Goodman, at wildeyes@rcn.com for more info.

June 29 (Saturday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – *Charlemont Downriver Canoe and Kayak Race*, sponsored by the New England Canoe and Kayak Racing Association (NECKRA). A six-mile race on Class I and II water. Registration starts at 11:00 AM; race starts at 1:45 PM. Awards at the Charlemont Inn; trophies to the top three finishers in each class. Click here or contact race organizer Ray LePage at scubanubaray@msn.com for more info.

June 30 (Sunday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) *Annual North River Paddle*, sponsored by the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA). Arrive at the put-in (see map) at 8:00 AM in order to allow for sufficient time to unload boats and run the shuttle to the takeout (see map). Launch is at 9:00 AM sharp to take advantage of the outgoing tide. The route is 11.6 miles and is an easy 4 hours, unless there are significant winds from the Northeast. We will stop at the approximate halfway point in a comfortable pine grove to consume whatever provisions you bring. Bring water - No restrooms at launch site, portapotty at take out. Click here for more info on RICKA-sponsored flatwater trips; and click here or contact trip leader Ron Cichowski [(508)868-3471, n3303j@erols.com] for more info on this particular trip.

June 30 (Sunday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – *Dragon Slayer Whitewater Race*, sponsored by the New England Canoe and Kayak Racing Association. Registration is from 11:00-11:45 AM at the Monroe Bridge put-in, and the race begins at 12:00 Noon sharp. This race takes place on the "Dryway", a Class III-IV run that is only suitable for expert whitewater paddlers with the proper gear. Click here or contact Mark Wendolowski at (413) 626-3862 or lmsc80@yahoo.com for more info.

July 2 (Tuesday) – MILL RIVER (BLACKSTONE WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Hopedale Pond* impoundment on the Mill River in Hopedale, launching promptly at 6:15 PM, sponsored by the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA)'s Blackstone Valley Paddle Club. Suitable for all boats and all levels of experience. "The town was settled in 1842 as a Utopian socialist commune, and evolved into the home of the Draper Corp, at one time the world's largest manufacturer of automatic cotton looms. Hopedale has an area of only 5 square miles, a population of about 6,000 and is located in the Blackstone Valley. National Park Service Rangers will join us this evening." Club membership is required to take part in this event; click here for more details. Click here or contact Cheryl at stonefoxfarm@cox.net or (401)647-5887 for more info on this trip. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the Message Board and the website for updates.

July 3 (Wednesday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Sunset Kayak Tour*, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies. Paddle the Slocum River, explore the ecosystem; tour includes basic kayak equipment & instruction. Paddlers of all abilities welcome! Wear clothing and footwear that you don't mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by an Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures Certified Instructor. Fee: $38/members, $45/nonmembers. Limit: 10; open to ages 14 and older. Preregistration required; click here or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

July 3-4 (Wednesday-Thursday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Independence Day Celebration at the Charles River Esplanade*, featuring performances by the Boston Pops Orchestra, followed by fireworks (Thursday only). One of the best ways to take in this celebration is from a canoe or kayak in the river. Click here for additional info.

July 4 (Thursday) – BOSTON HARBOR WATERSHED – *Walk at the World's End Reservation* in Hingham, 8:30 – 11:30 AM, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. This will be a five-mile walk at The Trustees of Reservations' World's End Reservation, replete with scenic views of restored salt marshes and open water, and the Boston skyline in the distance. Bring snack/water. Directions: From Rte.3A rotary in Hingham, take Summer St. 0.5mi. to light, L on Martin's Lane to entrance. There is a $6 fee to park (no charge for TTOR members). Avoid Route 228 due to holiday event road closures. Storm cancels. No e-mail after 7/1. No dogs; non-AMC members $1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to contact the trip leader [Beth Mosias, (781) 335-5034 (best time to call: 7-9 pm)] with any questions.

Last But Not Least –

If you have a river- or wetland-related event that **falls outside** of the time period covered by the ***Massachusetts Rivers and Wetlands Months Calendar*** (4/27 – 7/4/13), it is possible that you can get it listed on the **Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism** (aka MOTT or Massvacation.com) **website** – click here to submit your info. [See also MOTT's science/nature and outdoor activities web pages.]

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Mass. Division of Ecological Restoration – *2013 Massachusetts Rivers and Wetlands Months Calendar*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Timothy P. Murray, Lieutenant Governor
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Secretary
Department of Fish and Game, Mary B. Griffin, Commissioner

251 Causeway St. Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 626-1540
http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/der/index.htm

The mission of the Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) is to restore and protect the health and integrity of the Commonwealth's rivers, wetlands, and watersheds for the benefit of people, fish, and wildlife.