



Quabbin Reservoir

485 Ware Road
Belchertown, MA
413-323-7221

Upcoming Programs at the Quabbin Visitor Center

Quabbin Reservoir will offer several free presentations this winter. All ages are welcome. All presentations are scheduled on Sunday afternoons from 2-3 p.m. Please call (413) 323-7221 for more information.

Sunday, January 19, 2020 2-3 pm

UNLOCKING THE HISTORY OF THE EARLIEST REGISTRANTS OF AUTOMOBILES IN CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS

Join collector Alan Young to learn about the history of license plate issuance and automobile registration in Massachusetts. With a particular focus on an actual 1910 license plate that was issued to a prominent Enfield registrant, the presentation will be interactive with trivia questions and vintage license plates given out as prizes. Attendees are welcome and encouraged to bring examples of early license plates that they may have for discussion and questions.

Sunday, February 9, 2020 2-3 p.m.

REGIONAL CONSEQUENCES OF GLOBAL WARMING

How is global warming due to human activity impacting us here in New England? How will we mitigate future climate change and adapt to changes already underway both regionally and around the world? Join Ambarish Karmalkar, Research Fellow at the Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center and a Research Assistant Professor at the Department of Geosciences at UMass Amherst for this presentation as well as a discussion on some of the current advances in climate change science.

Sunday, February 16, 2020 2-3 p.m.

DISCOVERING THE OTHER LOST VALLEY

Before the Swift River Valley was cleared and flooded, 23,000 acres were taken along the Ware River in Barre, Oakham, Rutland, and Hubbardston in a project designed to supplement the waters of the new reservoir. 350 people lost their homes in this project and three villages were removed. Join Maria Beiter-Tucker, Quabbin Visitor Center Manager, to learn more about the other lost valley, why it was cleared and the role the Ware River Watershed plays in protecting the water supply of 3 million Massachusetts residents.

Sunday, February 23, 2020 2-3 p.m.

QUABBIN ENTERS THE DIGITAL AGE

As part of the Quabbin Project, thousands of photographs were taken of the properties purchased and removed by the Metropolitan District Water Supply Commission to build the reservoir. The photos are a fascinating window into the world of the Quabbin Valley as it existed prior to 1938. In the next year the photos will finally be widely available to view through the Digital Commonwealth project. Join the DCR Archivist and the MWRA project intern metadata archivists to learn more about the project and how to access the photos.

Sunday, March 1, 2020 2-3 p.m.

VOYAGERS, VISITORS AND HOME

Join our former colleague Dale Monette as he debuts his newest book of wildlife images. This book focuses on birds that visit New England just for a stopover during migration, birds that spend months here, or birds and mammals that live here and call New England home. Five years in the making and many miles traveled, not to mention the gallons of blood lost to mosquitos in ponds and swamps! Here are the images and the stories behind them. Also included is a section on the successful bald eagle introduction as a nesting species to Massachusetts that took place at The Quabbin Reservoir during the 1980s by MassWildlife.

Sunday, March 8, 2020 2-3 p.m.

THE NATIONAL ECOLOGICAL OBSERVATORY NETWORK:

OPEN DATA TO UNDERSTAND HOW OUR AQUATIC AND TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS ARE CHANGING

Land use changes and habitat loss have resulted in an overall loss of biodiversity across much of the country. Kristin Godfrey (the Northeast regional manager for the project) will discuss how NEON collects and provides open data from across the U.S. that show how our nation's ecosystems are changing. NEON hopes to contribute to a better understanding of how human activities impact ecology and how our society can more effectively address critical ecological issues."

Sunday, March 15, 2020 2-3 p.m.

"FABRIC, FACTORIES AND FASHION" A HISTORY OF TEXTILES IN THE QUABBIN VALLEY

Fabric manufacturing was a staple of many small Massachusetts towns, including Enfield, MA. Join DCR Interpreter Nancy Huntington to discover the impact of these businesses on the growth of the Quabbin Valley towns and the lives of their residents.

Sunday, March 22, 2020 2-3 p.m.-

TICKS AND TICK-BOURNE DISEASE IN MASSACHUSETTS AND ACROSS THE US

The Laboratory of Medical Zoology based at UMass Amherst receives over 15,000 ticks from across the country and abroad, and tests those ticks for over twenty pathogens they may carry. Join Paul Killenger to learn about- results of tick and pathogen passive surveillance the lab provides as well as tick infection rates and other risk factors that contribute to tick-borne disease in humans. He will also offer practical advice on preventing tick bites and follow-up steps in case a tick does bite.

Sunday, March 29, 2020 7:30pm Quabbin Park *RESERVATIONS REQUIRED*

WALK THE MILKY WAY

Prof. James Lowenthal of the Smith College Dept. of Astronomy will discuss recent results on distant galaxies over 10 billion light years away. We'll then step outside for a short walk in the night-time environment when 80% of mammal species and many birds and insects are active, and we'll observe our own Milky Way Galaxy if skies are clear. Bring sturdy waterproof footwear and winter clothing, and only red flashlights please to preserve our night vision.

Call 413-323-7221 for reservations. Reservations will be taken after March 15,2020