



*Valley Forge*  
Audubon Society

***Calendar of Events***  
***Bird Walks, Hikes, Programs,***  
***& Special Events***  
***March 2020 – August 2020***

[www.valleyforgeaudubon.org](http://www.valleyforgeaudubon.org)  
[www.facebook.com/ValleyForgeAudubon/](https://www.facebook.com/ValleyForgeAudubon/)

## About Us

Valley Forge Audubon Society (VFAS) was founded in 1960 to encourage conservation of natural resources, including wildlife, plants, soil, air, and water.

VFAS is a chapter of the National Audubon Society serving residents of Chester County, Delaware County, and Montgomery County in Southeastern Pennsylvania. The society sponsors a variety of programs and events related to birds, wildlife, and conservation including bird and nature walks, hikes, and educational programs. Valley Forge Audubon Society is an all-volunteer organization with no paid staff.



## General Program Information

For last minute changes, cancellations, or pop-up events, please check our website [www.valleyforgeaudubon.org](http://www.valleyforgeaudubon.org), our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/ValleyForgeAudubon/](https://www.facebook.com/ValleyForgeAudubon/) or our MeetUp Calendar of Events at ([www.meetup.com/Valley-Forge-Audubon-Society-Calendar-of-Events/](https://www.meetup.com/Valley-Forge-Audubon-Society-Calendar-of-Events/))

## Important Program Registration News

This spring we will be updating our website to improve our calendar and registration process. If you are interested in a program that requires registration and our new registration portal is not yet available, please send us an Email at [valleyforgeaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:valleyforgeaudubon@gmail.com) so you can be added to the registration list. Please include the number of participants, and if it's a family program, the number of children that will be attending.

## *Legend*

	Bird or Nature Walk
	Birding and Boating Bring or rent a kayak or canoe while we explore a local waterway and look for birds
	Brewbirding After each bird walk, anyone interested in adding a new beer to their life list is welcome to join us at a local craft brewery for brews and bites
	Family Program Geared towards parents and children.
	Hike For hike registration, call or email the leader. For general information on Thursday morning hikes, call Ann Lane at 443-472-8716 and leave a message. If extreme weather conditions are forecast the day of the event, phone the leader or check our MeetUp page for cancellations
	Photo Walk Bring your camera and spend time photographing local birds and other wildlife. Non-photographers are welcome but these walks will be at a slower pace to accommodate photographers.
	Special event or educational program
	Wine and Wings After each bird walk, visit a local winery for a glass of wine and snacks/lunch

## March



**Hike: The Wilmington Waterfront, Meet at Banks  
Seafood Kitchen and Raw Bar  
101 S. Market St, Wilmington, DE  
Thursday March 5, 10 am**

The hike will be along the Christina River in Wilmington, around the DuPont Environmental Center, and on the first part of the Jack Markel trail. It is, however, mainly an out-and-back route, so the length can easily be adjusted to individual desires.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take I-95 south to exit 6 onto DE-9 and follow signs to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (DE-4). Turn left onto MLK Blvd. and go ½ mi to S. Shipley St. Turn right onto S. Shipley, go under the railway, and continue slightly right into the parking lot by Banks Seafood as Shipley turns left and becomes Rosa Parks Drive. Bring water and lunch or money to buy lunch at Banks or any of the restaurants along the river.

*Leader: Ann Lane, [lane822@verizon.net](mailto:lane822@verizon.net), phone: 610-429-0129, or cell (day of hike only): 443-472-8716.*



**Hike: George Lorimer Preserve, North Valley Rd,  
Tredyffrin Township, PA (6 mi)  
Thursday March 12, 10 am**

This 88 acre Chester County preserve has ponds, Valley Creek, Willow Run, woods, fields, views and wildflowers (in season).

**DIRECTIONS:** From King of Prussia, take Rt 202 south to the Rt 252 south exit. Drive down the long ramp and turn right onto Rt 252. Drive south on 252 for 0.5 miles. Turn right onto West Swedesford Rd and drive 1.1 miles. Turn right onto North Valley Rd. Preserve is 0.3 miles on your right.

**OR:** From the intersection of Rts 30 and 252 in Paoli, drive north on 252 for 1.3 miles to the light at W. Swedesford Rd. [Howellville Rd is on the right.] Turn left onto W. Swedesford Rd and follow as above. Bring lunch and water.

*Leader: Ingrid Cantarella-Fox cell: 484-432-2150,  
[ingridcf@verizon.net](mailto:ingridcf@verizon.net)*



**Bird Walk: Tracking Timberdoodles**  
**Friday March 13, 6:30 – 8 pm**  
**Registration Required (See below)**

Have you ever gone on a “snipe hunt”? Here is your chance! This evening program will target the American Woodcock, also known as the Timberdoodle, on its singing ground. Join us for a brief information session and bird walk, after which we will settle in to (hopefully) hear and see male woodcocks during their amazing courtship displays, known as “sky dances”, in the dusk twilight.

Bring a flashlight, binoculars, and dress for the weather, keeping in mind that the temperatures will be dropping as night falls. Appropriate footwear is necessary as the walk will cover approximately ½ mile over uneven ground that may be muddy or frozen.

**Registration is required** as this event will be cancelled or rescheduled if there is inclement weather or unfavorable conditions. **Please register** by contacting the leaders or through Valley Forge Audubon Society’s MeetUp group at [www.meetup.com/Valley-Forge-Audubon-Society-Calendar-of-Events/](http://www.meetup.com/Valley-Forge-Audubon-Society-Calendar-of-Events/)

**Location: Coventry Woods Park – Jones Road entrance**  
**Address: 2375 Jones Rd, Pottstown, PA 19465**

*Leaders: Patty Werth (484-985-8164, [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*



**Hike: Valley Forge National Park, Knox Quarters**  
**Parking Lot (approx. 4.5 miles)**  
**Thursday March 19, 10 am**

Join us for another in a series of interesting and varied VFNHP hikes. We will walk to bathroom facilities on the hike. We will do Mt Misery and Mt Joy, but there is an option to omit Mt Joy and walk the flatter Creek Trail instead. Bring water! We’ll plan on lunch at McKenzie’s after the hike.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Rt 202: Exit 202 at Devon and take Rt 252 north into the park. Park in the large Knox’s Quarters Parking Lot on the left before the covered bridge. OR: From the intersection of Rts 23 and 252, drive south on 252 to Knox’s Quarters Parking Lot on right just after the covered bridge.

*Leader: Marilyn Furfari, cell: 610-945-5228*

Valley Forge Audubon Society Calendar of Events  
March 2020 - August 2020

---



**Bird/Nature Walk: John James Audubon Center  
at Mill Grove  
1201 Pawlings Rd, Audubon PA  
Saturday March 21, 8 am**

Join us for a free, guided bird walk at Mill Grove. We'll visit the creek, cross the meadows, and hike through the woods on both paved and unpaved trails. Children and beginners are welcome! We have extra binoculars, so don't worry if you forget yours or don't have them. Walks begin in the main parking lot and will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Please check our MeetUp or Facebook page for cancellations.

*Leader: Vincent Smith 484-410-1157 or [nyctea34@aol.com](mailto:nyctea34@aol.com)*



**Hike: Horseshoe Trail, from Welkinweir, Green  
Valleys Assn., 1368 Pfizer Rd, Pottstown (5.5 Miles)  
Thursday March 26, 10 am**

**DIRECTIONS:** North on Rt 100, from intersection of Rts 100 & 401, go North about 2.2 miles to Prizer Rd on left (there is a sign for Green Valleys Assn.). Go about a mile to the 2nd entrance to Green Valleys Assn. Park there.

*Leader: Gary Rigg, 610-716-7654.*



**Bird/Nature Walk: John James Audubon Center  
at Mill Grove  
1201 Pawlings Rd, Audubon PA  
Saturday March 28, 8 am**

Join us for a free, guided bird walk at Mill Grove. We'll visit the creek, cross the meadows, and hike through the woods on both paved and unpaved trails. Children and beginners are welcome! We have extra binoculars, so don't worry if you forget yours or don't have them. Walks begin in the main parking lot and will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Please check our MeetUp or Facebook page for cancellations.

*Leaders: Joe Hudson ([jhudson@gmail.com](mailto:jhudson@gmail.com)) and Dan Sullivan ([dansullivan8858@gmail.com](mailto:dansullivan8858@gmail.com))*

## April



**Hike: Waterloo Mills Preserve,  
566 Beaumont Rd, Devon, PA (4+ miles)  
We will NOT be meeting at the Preserve  
Thursday April 2, 10 am**

We will NOT be meeting at the Preserve as parking is very limited, so please follow directions below. If it has rained the day before, there will be some squishy spots. Shady, but two open meadows with a beaver lodge and stream crossings (by 2 bridges and level stepping stones). Bring hiking poles so you don't fall in. Bring water and your lunch as there is a picnic area on the Township grounds which has a nice view over a valley, or go to Bertucci's, 523 W Lancaster Ave, Wayne 19087, which has a bar and many advertised specials. Make sure to let us know you are coming, please as I must clear this with Brandywine!

**DIRECTIONS:** Meet & park at Easttown Township lot (Hilltop House), at 566 Beaumont Rd (corner of Newtown Rd) Berwyn, PA. There is a water fountain and toilets at the meeting spot. We will carpool a short distance to the Waterloo Mills entrance on Waterloo Rd.

*Leaders: Jenny Kirkpatrick, 610-999-7977 and John Herzog, 651-206-3107*



**Hike: Springton Manor Farm,  
860 Springton Rd, Glenmoore, PA (5 miles)  
Thursday April 9, 10 am**

A rich variety of trails pass through woods, along the Indian Run Creek and around agricultural fields and meadows. We'll also walk to a nearby park and eat lunch by the Brandywine Creek. Bring lunch and water.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the Rt 30 Bypass, take the Rt 322 exit in Downingtown. Drive west on 322 for about 4 mi to the 4th traffic light. Make a soft right onto Springton Rd. Continue across Highspire Rd. Drive 0.5 miles to park entrance on the right. Park in the Office/Visitors Center lot.

*Leader: Ann Lane, [lane822@verizon.net](mailto:lane822@verizon.net), phone: 610-429-0129, or cell (day of hike only): 443-472-8716.*



**Hike: Hibernia Park**  
**1 Park Rd, Coatesville, PA (5 miles, 3 mile option)**  
**Thursday April 16, 10 am**

Around this historic 900 acre Chester County Park, we will walk along varied trail types, meadows, interior park roads and rocky paths through the woodlands, with views of the Brandywine Creek West Branch and Chambers Lake. From 1793 to 1876 this land was a bustling iron industry, whilst the beautiful Hibernia Mansion dating back to the late 1700s, sits regally on top of the hill. The interior park road is hilly and some trail spots may be muddy. Bring water and snacks. Picnic lunch afterwards at benches near the park headquarters, or we can suggest Cafe Milan, 1245 Horseshoe Pike (Rt 322), Downingtown, 19335.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the Rt 30 Bypass, exit at Rt 82 (Coatesville) and turn north. Drive north on Rt 82 for 2.2 miles. Turn left onto Cedar Knoll Rd and drive 1.3 miles to park entrance. Park in large lot to left of park headquarters. There are toilets at the park headquarters.

*Leaders: Sue & Terry Grills, 484-719-5955 and 484-632-6008, email: [rodgersuel@gmail.com](mailto:rodgersuel@gmail.com)*

**Nature Book Club**  
**Reads & Company Bookshop**  
**234 Bridge St, Phoenixville PA**  
**Thursday April 16, 7 pm**

Join us for our first book club meeting and book discussion. We hope to meet about once each quarter.

Our first book is “*White Feathers: The Nesting Lives of Tree Swallows*” by Bernd Heinrich. The surprising, rich life of tree swallows in nesting season—with Heinrich’s beautiful illustrations and photographs—by the acclaimed naturalist.

This book will be released in February and will be available for purchase at Reads & Company, which will be offering a 20% discount to book club members.

Valley Forge Audubon Society Calendar of Events  
March 2020 - August 2020

---

**Weekend in Ithaca and Visit to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
Friday April 17 to Sunday April 19**

This weekend visit will be at the height of migration season, so you will likely be seeing many warblers and other migrating species.

You will provide your own transportation and arrive in the afternoon of Friday April 17 and meet the group for dinner. On Saturday April 18, we will visit birding hotspots in the area. On April 19, we will start our day with a bird walk on the Cornell grounds, followed by a behind the scenes tour of the lab. Depending on time availability, we may fit in one last bird walk before heading home. We may visit some wineries in the area as well.

A block of 10 rooms has been reserved at \$139/night at the Greek Peak Mountain Resort for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday night (if you want to stay an extra night). Rooms must be booked by March 15. You will need to call (1-800-955-2754) to get this rate. If you prefer, you can make other lodging accommodations and make arrangements to meet up with the group each day. Additional details will be provided after registration.

**This trip is limited to 20 people. Registration is required by Emailing the leader.**

*Leader: Jim Ermer (jimermer430@gmail.com)*



**Bird/Nature Walk: John James Audubon Center  
at Mill Grove  
1201 Pawlings Rd, Audubon PA  
Saturday April 18, 8 am**

Join us for a free, guided bird walk at Mill Grove. We'll visit the creek, cross the meadows, and hike through the woods on both paved and unpaved trails. Children and beginners are welcome! We have extra binoculars, so don't worry if you forget yours or don't have them. Walks begin in the main parking lot and will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Please check our MeetUp or Facebook page for cancellations.

*Leader: Vincent Smith 484-410-1157 or [nyctea34@aol.com](mailto:nyctea34@aol.com)*

Valley Forge Audubon Society Calendar of Events  
March 2020 - August 2020

---



**Bird/Nature Walk: Black Rock Sanctuary**  
**953 Black Rock Rd, Phoenixville, PA**  
**Sunday April 19, 8:30 am**

Black Rock Sanctuary is good birding for the earlier Spring migrants. Early migrants that we might find include ducks (wood, blue-winged teal, ring-necked), green herons, ospreys, chimney swifts, phoebes, vireos (blue-headed, warbling), gnatcatchers, sparrows (savannah, swamp), and warblers (parula, palm, pine, and yellowthroat). Beginning birders welcome.

*Leader: Rick Keyser [rick.keyser@verizon.net](mailto:rick.keyser@verizon.net)*



**Hike: Between the Tracks and the River,**  
**Valley Forge National Historic Park**  
**Betzwood area (4-5 miles)**  
**Thursday April 23, 10 am**

We will walk across the river for a loop hike on the south side of the river. The bluebells should be out for this hike. Bring water and lunch. Meet in the Betzwood parking area near the restrooms. There are picnic tables for lunch after the hike.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take Rt 422 west to the Rt 363 exit (Trooper Rd). Stay in the left lane. Turn left when the turning light turns green and take Trooper Rd south towards the river. Turn right at the stop sign. Drive past the restrooms and park on the left.

*Leader: Esther Underhill, 610-827-7776, cell: 267-615-1577 (morning of hike only), [underwalt@aol.com](mailto:underwalt@aol.com)*

**Gardening with Nature in Mind**

**Waterways, Walkways, and Wildlife**

**Native Plant Pop-Up Garden**

**Newtown Township Administration Building**

**209 Bishop Hollow Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073**

**Tuesday April 21, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm**

Discover the role of native plants and rain gardens in maintaining habitat for people, birds, and other wildlife at a **Pop-Up Garden**. Valley Forge Audubon, Audubon PA, and the Newtown Township Environmental Advisory Council will be hosting a native plant pop-up garden at the Newtown Township Administration Building Newtown Square PA in support of PA Audubon's conservation work.

Join the experts to discuss ways you can help build healthy habitats for your family, community, and wildlife. Join us early at 5:30 to walk the Garden.

Visit the Native Plant **Pop-Up Garden** free of charge any day through May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Plants provided by Mostardi Nursery, 4033 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square PA 19073



**Brewbirding: Union Meadows Park/  
Fork and Ale**

**1281 East Main Street, Douglassville, PA**

**Thursday April 23, 5:30 pm**

Union Meadows Park near Birdsboro is located in the Union Township Recreation area. This level area along the Schuylkill River consists of wooded riparian areas, fields, a vernal pool, and contains a 1.6 mile shaded gravel walking trail. Located at 1281 East Main Street, Douglassville, there are flush toilets on site and plenty of parking. Beginners and children (accompanied by an adult) are encouraged to join us.

After birding, anyone interested may join us for dinner at the adjacent Fork & Ale gastropub.

*Leaders: Patty Werth (484-985-8164, [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*

Valley Forge Audubon Society Calendar of Events  
March 2020 - August 2020

---



**Bird/Nature Walk: John James Audubon Center  
at Mill Grove  
1201 Pawlings Rd, Audubon PA  
Saturday April 25, 8 am**

Join us for a free, guided bird walk at Mill Grove. We'll visit the creek, cross the meadows, and hike through the woods on both paved and unpaved trails. Children and beginners are welcome! We have extra binoculars, so don't worry if you forget yours or don't have them. Walks begin in the main parking lot and will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Please check our MeetUp or Facebook page for cancellations.

*Leaders: Joe Hudson ([judson@gmail.com](mailto:judson@gmail.com)) and Dan Sullivan ([dansullivan8858@gmail.com](mailto:dansullivan8858@gmail.com))*



**Hike: Delaware Canal in New Hope and Lambertville  
1605 Danielle Bray Hwy. Lambertville (7 miles)  
Thursday April 30, 10 am**

Loop walk along PA's Delaware Canal and NJ's Raritan & Delaware Canal, through New Hope, Pa, and NJ's Lambertville & Stockton. Dead level, with last mile coming after wonderful lunch at Lambertville Station Restaurant and Inn.

**DIRECTIONS:** Get to Rt 202 North, go forever, or until you just get into NJ, then make an immediate right onto Rt 29, then make an immediate right onto road that parallels The Holcolombe Jamison Farmstead. Park in lot.

*Leader: Gary Rigg, 610-716-7654*

**Valley Forge Audubon Society Annual Meeting  
John James Audubon Center Classroom  
1201 Pawlings Rd, Audubon PA  
Thursday April 30, 6:30 pm**

Our annual meeting will be to approve the board of directors and our new by-laws, which are available at

<https://valleyforgeaudubon.org/valley-forge-audubon-society/>

The meeting will be followed by "Planting with Purpose" a native plant lecture at 7:30 pm

**Planting With Purpose: Saving Nature at Home and Beyond**  
**John James Audubon Center Classroom**  
**1201 Pawlings Rd, Audubon PA**  
**Thursday April 30, 7:30 pm**

Want a yard alive with birds, butterflies, and other interesting creatures – one that’s attractive and welcoming to family and friends, too? Though habitat is disappearing and many species are declining, even small changes in your yard can help nature in a big way. Learn how you can garden with native plants for beauty — and for nature.

Backyards for Nature co-directors, Edie Parnum and Barb Elliot, PhD will be speaking on how you can begin to incorporate native plants in your garden.

**This lecture is presented in advance of our Spring garden tour. Learn about native plants tonight and then visit native plant gardens on May 16.**

## *May*



**Family Program: Back Pack Explorer-Bird Watch-  
What Will You Find?**  
**Reads & Company Bookshop**  
**234 Bridge St, Phoenixville, PA**  
**Sunday May 3, 1 pm**

Back Pack Explorer – Bird Watch is a book geared toward children ages 4 to 8 and leads them through the basics of birding, from identifying common birds to learning about habitat and migration and listening for bird songs. We will read the book at the bookstore before going out to look for birds on a nearby trail, using the book as our guide.

*Leader: Vince Smith at [nyctea34@aol.com](mailto:nyctea34@aol.com) or 484-410-1157*

Valley Forge Audubon Society Calendar of Events  
March 2020 - August 2020

---

**Gardening with Nature in Mind**

**Birds, Books, and Refreshments**

**Native Plant Pop-Up Garden**

**Newtown Township Administration Building**

**209 Bishop Hollow Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073**

**Wednesday May 6, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

Join us at the closing celebration of our native plant **Pop-Up Garden** with complimentary food and beverages as well as prizes and a chance to take home beautiful native plants for your yard.

This event is supported by Valley Forge Audubon, Audubon PA, and the Newtown Township Environmental Advisory Council, Newtown Square, PA in support of PA Audubon's conservation work.

Come early at 5:30 to walk the Native Plant Pop-Up Garden.

Plants provided by Mostardi Nursery, 4033 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square PA 19073.



**Hike: Schuylkill River and Canal**  
**(From Lock 60 to Rt 113 and return)**  
**Mont Clare, PA (6 miles)**  
**Thursday May 7, 10 am**

A hike along this historic canal; trails along the river; through Upper Schuylkill Valley County Park, cross bridge on Rt 113 and return via south side of river.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the intersection of Rts 23 and 29 in Phoenixville take Rt 29 North. Cross river via bridge, immediately at end of river bridge turn left onto Canal Rd (sign for Lock 60 on right side of Rt 29). Continue to end of Canal Rd to parking on left. Bring water and money for optional lunch at Fitzwater Station or in Phoenixville.

*Leaders: Jeff and Pat Robbins, cell 610-952-2136*  
[jrobbinsbuffalo@yahoo.com](mailto:jrobbinsbuffalo@yahoo.com)



**Bird/Nature Walk: Meng Preserve**  
**Mine Hill Rd, Schwenksville, PA**  
**Saturday May 9, 8 am**

It's International Bird Migration Day. Join us for an early morning bird walk as we explore the Stone Hill Greenway in Lower Frederick Township. This walk is at the beginning of the spring migration. The goal is to intercept neo-tropical local breeding birds as well as those that are just passing through to regions further north. Dress for the weather and bring your binoculars and ID books.

*Leader: Vincent Smith [nyctea34@aol.com](mailto:nyctea34@aol.com) or 484-410-1157*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Coventry Woods**  
**1954 St. Peters Rd, Pottstown, PA**  
**Wednesday May 13, 8 am**

Coventry Woods Park in northern Chester County consists of 688 beautiful acres of mostly deciduous forest with numerous springs, streams, fields, and ponds throughout. Part of the Hopewell Big Woods, Coventry Woods is an excellent place to bird and May is a good time to see many species of migrating birds, including numerous warblers. This bird walk will cover 1-2 miles and may take 3-4 hours.

Meet at the Fernbrook access to Coventry Woods (1954 Saint Peters Rd, Pottstown). Bring binoculars and dress for the weather. The trails are unpaved and some are steep. A portable restroom is on site. This is a joint walk with the West Chester Bird Club.

*Leaders: Patty Werth (484-985-8164 [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*



**Hike: Mt. Cuba Center**  
**3120 Barley Mill Rd, Hockessin, DE**  
**Thursday May 14, 10 am**

Mt. Cuba Center is a historic mansion and gardening center featuring botanical gardens and native plants, formal gardens, experimental gardens, and the ponds on the West Slope Path. The walking areas vary from asphalt to brick to dirt paths. In addition, the meadows provide a natural path for extended walking to see native grasses, wildflowers, and butterflies in a pristine area. Come join us to enjoy a magnificent display of wildflowers in bloom. Limited food is available; restrooms are in the mansion. Bring your lunch to eat on the grounds or eat at Buckley Tavern. We will meet at Mt. Cuba Center parking lot off Barley Mill Rd at 10 am. Hours are 10-4; Admission is \$10; a group rate might be available.

**DIRECTIONS:** One option is to drive south on Rt 202. Turn right onto Rt 1 South to Chadds Ford. Turn left onto S Creek Rd, Rt 100. Then turn left onto Baltimore Pike, Rt 1. Make a right onto Twaddell Mill Rd to Owl's Nest Rd. Turn right onto Way Rd, Rt 82. Turn left onto Barley Mill Rd to the parking lot, our meeting place. Depending on where you live, this is a 45 minute trip.

*Leaders: Lynn McNaughton, (cell) 484-639-2034, and Bill Delaney, (cell) 215-740-8310*



**Reads & Company Bookshop  
and Valley Forge Audubon Society  
present  
David Allen Sibley  
Location TBA  
in the Phoenixville area  
Friday May 15, 7 pm  
(Registration required)**

David Sibley will be speaking about his new book “**What It’s Like to be a Bird: From Flying to Nesting, Eating to Singing – What Birds are Doing and Why**”. After the talk, Mr. Sibley will be signing copies of his book. Depending on the venue, there may be an attendance fee.

**Once the location is known, it will be posted on our website and Facebook page, as well as the bookstore’s website. You must register for this program at <https://www.readsandcompany.com/>**

**Garden Tour: Local Native Plant Gardens  
Saturday May 16, 9 am to 1 pm  
Registration Required (See below)  
Rain Date: Sunday May 17, 9 am to 1 pm**

If you are thinking about incorporating more native plants into your garden, come out to see what others have done to transform their yards into a paradise for birds and pollinators.

Visit local gardens at your own pace. Tours will begin at 9:15 am and continue every 30 minutes at each location. The gardens consist of a sunny garden in Eagleville/Audubon area, a shade garden in the Valley Forge/Phoenixville area, and a mixed sun and shade garden in the Charlestown/Phoenixville area. Other gardens may be added.

You **must** register for the tour at <https://valleyforgeaudubon.org> or by sending an eMail to [valleyforgeaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:valleyforgeaudubon@gmail.com). (See registration note on page 2). Once you register, you will be sent the addresses to each property.

Valley Forge Audubon Society Calendar of Events  
March 2020 - August 2020

---



**Bird/Nature Walk: Spring Migration at Cape May**  
**Saturday May 9, 9 am** (Changed from May 16)

Meet at the hawk watch platform at Cape May Point State Park. We will be looking for spring migrants throughout Cape May.

*Leaders: Joe Hudson ([judson@gmail.com](mailto:judson@gmail.com)) and Dan Sullivan ([dansullivan8858@gmail.com](mailto:dansullivan8858@gmail.com))*



**Hike: Linvill and Chester Creek Trails,**  
**Linvilla Orchards**  
**137 W. Knowlton Rd, Media, PA (6 miles)**  
**Thursday May 21, 10 am**

We will meet at Linvilla Orchards and hike for about 0.75 mi on the unpaved hilly Linvill Trail to reach the Chester Creek Trail, which opened in 2017. It is a wide, paved, level trail. We will walk this trail to Lenni Rd for about 2 1/4 miles. This will be an out and back hike, so folks can cut it short if needed. There are scenic bridges and serene views, we will see the restored Kings Mills across the creek with its water fall and we will cross the controversial Mariner East 2 pipeline construction. There are restrooms at Linvilla Orchards. The Linvilla Farm Store has lots of foods including ice cream, a bakery, and picnic benches.

**DIRECTIONS:** Linvilla is located between Rt 352 and Rt 452 south of Rt 1. You can find directions from your home by searching [linvilla.com](http://linvilla.com). From Rt 1 take Rt 352 South, at the third traffic light (look for sign to Linvilla Orchards) turn right onto Knowlton Rd, after 0.6 miles turn right onto Linville Rd (at a sign for Hidden Hollow Swim Club), at the top of the hill turn left into Linvilla Orchards. Park on your left under the line of trees at a distance from the shops. We will gather by this drive, near the large dark green sign that reads RED LOADING in white lettering with an arrow that points up the hill to where hayrides etc. start. Bring lunch if you plan to picnic.

*Leader: Christa Farnon, home phone 610 649 2668, cell on day of hike 610 659 5512*



**Brewbirding: Goose Run Park/Sly Fox Brewery**  
**1286 Levensgood Road, Boyertown, PA**  
**(please note the directions below)**  
**Monday May 25, Memorial Day, 8 am**

Goose Run Park (Douglass Township, Berks County) consists of 82.5 acres of open space and wooded trails which provide habitat for a variety of species including Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark. During the bird walk last year on this date we observed 41 species (<https://ebird.org/checklist/S56867545>).

After the walk we will celebrate Memorial Day with brews and eats at the Sly Fox Brewery, 331 Circle of Progress Drive, Pottstown.

Directions: This township-owned park has 2 entrances; we will meet at the gravel parking lot off of Levensgood Road (NOT Goose Run Road. Do NOT put Goose Run Park into your GPS.) From Hwy 100 North, take the Farmington exit. Turn left onto Farmington Rd. for 0.7 miles, then a slight left onto Evans Rd for 0.4 miles. Turn left onto Colebrookdale Rd. In 1 mile, turn left onto Levensgood Rd. Continue for about 0.6 miles around the bend to the gravel parking lot on the right.

*Leaders: Patty Werth (484-985-8164, [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*



**Hike: Belmont Plateau Area**  
**3250 Chamounix Drive, Philadelphia, PA**  
**(4.5 Miles)**  
**Thursday May 28, 10 am**

Meet at Philadelphia Youth Hostel

**DIRECTIONS:** Get to City Line Ave, US Rt 1, in the Bala Cynwyd area, go into Philadelphia on Belmont Ave from Rt 1, make the first left onto Ford Ave., go about a mile and you will go through a short tunnel, make a left on the first road you hit which will be Chamounix, go down it and park on the left in front of a stables, then walk 100 feet to the Youth Hostel (a nice “mansion”)

*Leader: Gary Rigg, 610-716-7654*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Valley Forge National Park  
Meadows  
Saturday May 30, 8:30 am**

We will bird in the fields between Huntington's & Varnum's Quarters on mowed paths. We should see meadowlarks, sparrows (Field, Song, & Chipping), kingbirds, woodpeckers, goldfinches, catbirds, mockingbirds, and many other resident & migrating passerines. A variety of raptors should be seen including common ravens, kestrels, red-tailed hawks, and accipiters. We will also see butterflies so bring your camera.

Meet at Washington Memorial Chapel.

*Leader: Rick Wolf (610-933-6414) [randewolf@icloud.com](mailto:randewolf@icloud.com)*



**Bird/Nature Walk: French Creek State Park  
Scott's Run  
Sunday May 31, 8 am**

French Creek State Park is an Important Bird Area, and the Scott's Run Lake area provides especially good birding with its mix of deep woods, fields, riparian areas, the lake, and early successional habitat. Flycatchers, warblers (including Hooded), and vireos should be abundant. This walk of about 2 miles will cover varied terrain with some moderate hills.

Directions: Once in French Creek State Park, take Scott's Run Rd to the loop road leading to the Scott's Run boat launch. Drive past the boat launch and the restrooms for about 1/10 mile to a long parking area where we will meet.

*Leaders: Patty Werth (484-985-8164, [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*

## June



**Hike: Rolling Hill, Mill Creek and beyond**  
**1301 Rose Glen Rd, Gladwyne, PA (about 5 miles)**  
**Thursday June 4, 10 am**

Up and down hills, through mostly wooded areas with old mill ruins along the creek.

**DIRECTIONS:** from the intersection of routes 76, 476 and 23, go east on Rt 23 (Conshohocken State Rd) for about 3 miles. Turn left at Youngsford Rd (traffic light) and almost immediately bear right into Rose Glen Rd. (sign often hidden in tree!). Continue about 400 yards to entrance of Rolling Hill on right and proceed upwards to parking lot on left. Bring lunch and water.

*Leader: Evamarie Malsch, 215-984-8377, cell 610-212-7186 (only on day of hike)*



**Spring Bird Count**  
**John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove**  
**1201 Pawlings Rd, Audubon PA**  
**Saturday June 6, 8 am**

This annual Event includes teams of birders surveying 11 sections within the prescribed area: a 15 mile radius diameter circle, the center of which is the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove. Beginning and experienced birders are welcome. Section leaders will notify past participants. New volunteers **please register by June 1** to be assigned to a team and site. Not all birding takes place at John James Audubon Center.

*Please register with Vince Smith at [nyctea34@aol.com](mailto:nyctea34@aol.com) or 484-410-1157 to be assigned to a team and location.*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Hopewell Furnace NHS  
Baptism Creek  
Sunday June 7, 8 am**

The Baptism Creek watershed in Hopewell Furnace NHS is a deeply forested area that is home to a large variety of birds. Additionally, since the forest fire of 2012 burned this area, the returning early successional growth has become one of the most reliable places to observe bird species that prefer this specific habitat, including the Hooded Warbler. This walk of approximately 2 miles will be on trails that are uneven, rocky, and possibly muddy and which are usually not accessible to a group, but Hopewell Furnace NHS is graciously allowing parking access for this event.

Directions: From the main entrance to HFNHS on PA-345, go east on Hopewell Rd for about 1/10 mile. Parking will be in a designated area on the north side of Hopewell Rd.

Leaders: *Patty Werth (484-985-8164, [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*



**Hike: Marsh Creek State Park, West Boat Launch,  
Lyndell, PA 19354 (5-6 miles)  
Thursday June 11, 10 am**

We will walk along the Brandywine and on equestrian trails within the park. Bring lunch and water and be prepared for muddy trails.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the Rt 30 Bypass, exit at Rt 282. Follow the signs, turning left and then right onto Rt 282 west. Stay on Rt 282 until Lyndell Rd. (Lyndell Post Office is on NE corner.) Turn right onto Lyndell Rd and follow signs to the park. At the top of the hill you will see the lake to the east. Turn down the road to the west boat launch area. Restrooms available.

**OR:** From 282 South of Lyndell you may take Reeds Rd east and follow signs as above.

Leader: *Esther Underhill, 610-827-7776 [underwalt@aol.com](mailto:underwalt@aol.com), cell (day of hike) 267-615-1577*



**Photowalk: Valley Forge National Historic Park  
Knox Quarters/Covered Bridge Area  
Saturday June 13, 8:30 am**

We will be walking on trails, through meadows, and along Valley Creek in search of bird, butterfly, and landscape photo opportunities.

Bring sunscreen, bug spray, and water. In the event of rain, the walk will be cancelled.

*Non-photographers welcome but the pace of the walk will be slow with an emphasis on getting good photographs.*

Meet at the Knox Quarters parking lot.

*Leaders: Nanette Guida (201-566-7179) ([birdshaman15@gmail.com](mailto:birdshaman15@gmail.com))  
and Tony Nastase (610-202-1249) ([tonynastase@comcast.net](mailto:tonynastase@comcast.net))*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Warwick Park  
382 County Park Rd, Pottstown, PA  
Wednesday June 17, 8 am**

The 535-acre Warwick County Park in northern Chester County includes dense hardwood forest, wetlands, meadows, and riparian areas along a section of French Creek, an "exceptional value" stream. This diversity provides excellent habitat for birds. This walk on mainly flat (and possibly muddy) terrain on unpaved trails will cover approximately 2 miles. A modern restroom is on site.

Directions: From the intersection of Routes 100 and 23, proceed west on Route 23 for 3.4 miles. Turn left onto County Park Road (entrance is somewhat hidden) and continue 0.3 miles to the entrance to Warwick County Park, on the left. Follow the drive to the last parking lot on the left.

*Leaders: Patty Werth (484-985-8164, [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*



**Hike: Horse-Shoe Trail Maintenance**  
**Rees Rd, Charlestown, PA**  
**Thursday June 18, 10 am**

The semi-annual work trip to keep the trail corridor open. Wear old clothes, a long-sleeved top and gloves. Bring clipping tools. There are no bathrooms. Bring lunch and water.

**DIRECTIONS:** If you have E-Z Pass, take the PA Turnpike to slip exit 320. Turn north onto Rt 29. Drive under the Turnpike and take the first right onto Whitehorse Rd. Drive 0.6 miles to top of hill. The sign says Union Hill Rd on your left. Turn right onto Rees Rd. After a stop sign, drive a short distance to the HST grass parking lot on the right. **OR:** From Rt 202 take the Rt 29 North exit. Take Liberty Blvd. to Rt 29. Turn right onto 29. Follow as above. **OR:** From the intersection of Rts 23 and 252 in Valley Forge NHP, drive west on Rt 23 for 2.9 miles to Whitehorse Rd on east side of Phoenixville. Turn left onto Whitehorse Rd and drive 3.0 miles to Rees Rd. Turn left and follow as above.

*Leader: Ingrid Cantarella-Fox [ingridcf@verizon.net](mailto:ingridcf@verizon.net)  
cell: 484-432-2150*



**Hike: Pea Patch Island/Three Forts Ferry**  
**45 Clinton St, Delaware City, DE (2-3 miles)**  
**Thursday June 25, 10 am**

Don't miss the 10:00 a.m. ferry to Fort Delaware on Pea Patch Island in the Delaware River to visit the prison where as many as 12,500 Confederate soldiers were imprisoned at one time during the Civil War. After a hike on the nature trail, we'll take the ferry to Fort Mott, NJ to see the fortifications and walk to the cemetery where 2,400 Confederate prisoners were buried. Ferry costs \$12 for Adults and \$11 for Seniors (62+).

**DIRECTIONS:** Drive south on I-95 to Delaware Rt 1 (Exit 4A). Drive south on Delaware Rt 1 to Exit 152. At the top of the ramp, turn left and follow Rt 72 East. Drive straight ahead at the intersection with Rt 9. Take Rt 9 south into Delaware City. Turn left at the light onto Clinton St and follow it to the boat dock. (Driving time from I-95 and 202 in Wilmington is about 25 minutes.) Bring lunch and water.

*Leader: Gary Rigg, 610-716-7654*



**Bird/Nature Walk: John James Audubon Center  
at Mill Grove**  
1201 Pawlings Rd, Audubon PA  
Saturday June 27, 8 am

Join us for a free, guided bird walk at Mill Grove. We'll visit the creek, cross the meadows, and hike through the woods on both paved and unpaved trails. Children and beginners are welcome! We have extra binoculars, so don't worry if you forget yours or don't have them. Walks begin in the main parking lot and will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Please check our MeetUp or Facebook page for cancellations.

*Leaders: Joe Hudson ([judson@gmail.com](mailto:judson@gmail.com)) and Dan Sullivan ([dansullivan8858@gmail.com](mailto:dansullivan8858@gmail.com))*

## July



**Hike: Perkiomen Trail: Spring Mount Village  
to Crusher Rd, Schwenksville, PA (4-6 miles)**  
Thursday July 2, 10 am

A flat, shady walk with great views of the creek, passing the Philadelphia Folk Festival Grounds and nice rock formations. You may walk two miles north and return or walk 3 miles and return. Bring water and lunch or eat nearby after the hike.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take Rt 422 West to the Collegeville exit (Rt 29 north). Continue on Rt 29 north to Schwenksville. Turn right onto Spring Mount Rd—at the “Spring Mountain Ski Area” sign. Continue to Main St. Cross over Main St and park in the lot by the Tavern.

*Leaders: Pat and Jeff Robbins, cell: 610-952-2136*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Meng Bird Census**  
Meng Preserve, Mine Hill Rd, Schwenksville, PA  
Sunday July 5, 8 am

Join us on a bird walk at the Meng Preserve as we gather data on the breeding birds at this location located within the Stone Hill Greenway.

*Leader Vince Smith [nyctea34@aol.com](mailto:nyctea34@aol.com) or 484-410-1157*



**Hike: Ridley Creek State Park**  
**351 Gradyville Rd, Newtown Square, PA (5 miles)**  
**Thursday July 9, 10 am**

This will be predominantly a trail hike, but some short road stretches may be necessary. Bring plenty of water and a snack. Bring lunch to eat in the park or pick a place and eat out afterward.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the intersection of Rts 252 and 3 in Newtown Square, drive west on Rt 3 to the Intersection with Providence Rd. (La Locanda restaurant is on the corner.) Turn left (south) on Providence Rd and proceed to a four way stop. Turn right onto Graydyville Rd. Follow signs to Park Office it will be a left onto Sandy Flash Rd and then right into the parking area. Park in the 1st lot on the left.

**OR:** from the intersection of Rt 352 and Gradyville Rd, drive east on Gradyville Rd. Follow signs for Park Office. Turn right onto Sandy Flash Rd and follow as above.

*Leader: Bev McGeehan, [gbten@comcast.net](mailto:gbten@comcast.net), cell: 610-764-0494*



**Family Program: Fireflies-Nature's Fireworks**  
**John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove**  
**1201 Pawlings Rd, Audubon PA**  
**Thursday July 9, 8:30 – 10 pm**  
**Registration Required (See below)**

Join us for an evening to discover the world of fireflies or lightning bugs (which are neither flies nor bugs). Learn about their amazing behavior and life cycle. The program begins just before dusk. Pre-registration required. Please register at [www.valleyforgeaudubon.org](http://www.valleyforgeaudubon.org) or send an eMail to [valleyforgeaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:valleyforgeaudubon@gmail.com). (Please see registration note on page 2).

**Ages:** Adults and children 6 and up

*Leader: Dr Tim Halverson (Field biologist)*



**Brewbirding: Coventry Woods/  
Hidden River Brewery  
1954 St. Peters Rd, Pottstown, PA  
Friday July 10, 5:30 pm**

TGIF! Come celebrate Friday with us during and after a bird and nature walk in the dense woodland forests of Coventry Woods, a North Coventry Township park and eBird hotspot. The trails are unpaved and moderately steep, so sturdy boots are recommended. After the walk we will quench our thirst and stave off hunger at Hidden River Brewing Company, 1808 Schuylkill Rd (Rt 724), Douglassville.

*Leaders: Patty Werth (484-985-8164, [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*



**Boating and Birding: Schuylkill Canal  
Mont Clare, PA  
Sunday July 12, 10 am**

BYO kayak/canoe or rent one on-site and join us for a paddle on the Schuylkill Canal. We will look for birds while paddling – a perfect chance to practice multi-tasking!

We will meet at Fitzwater Station (264 Canal St, Phoenixville) where boats can be rented if needed. We will paddle up the canal to Lock 60, and then will boat either back down the canal or down the river, depending on the interest of participants. (The river option will include two short portages.) Each trip is roughly 5 miles of paddling and should last 2 1/2 – 3 hrs. We will end the trip back at Fitzwater Station where we will no doubt be lured inside by the smell of good food and the promise of cold beverages.

*Leaders: Patty Werth (484-985-8164, [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*



**Hike: McKaig Nature Preserve**  
**889 Croton Rd, Wayne, PA (3 miles)**  
**Thursday July 16, 10 am**

This small wooded preserve contains two small streams, wildflowers, and is a good birding location. There are no bathrooms at the preserve; so, plan accordingly. Bring water and lunch or money for lunch nearby.

Directions: From the intersection of Rt 202 and Gulph Rd in King of Prussia, drive south on S. Gulph Rd to the traffic light at Valley Forge Memorial Gardens. Turn right onto Brooks Rd and then right onto Croton Rd. Drive about 0.5 miles to the Roberts Elementary School parking lot on left.

OR from the Schuylkill Expressway going east, take Exit 330 (Gulph Mills). Turn left at the bottom of the ramp onto S. Gulph Rd. (Do not take the turn onto 320.) Drive NW about 1.9 miles and turn left at the "Y" onto Croton Rd or drive to the light at Brooks Rd and follow as above.

Leader: Ann Lane, [lane822@verizon.net](mailto:lane822@verizon.net), phone: 610-429-0129, or cell (day of hike only): 443-472-8716



**Family Program: Dragons and Damsels**  
**Meng Preserve, Mine Hill Rd, Schwenksville, PA**  
**Saturday July 18, 10 am**  
**Registration Required (See below)**

Dragonflies and damsel flies represent an ancient order of insects that have been on earth since before the dinosaurs. We'll learn about their life history, territorial behavior, and how to recognize individual species. If you have an insect net and a large bug jar (not made of glass), bring them along. Please register at [www.valleyforgeaudubon.org](http://www.valleyforgeaudubon.org) or send an eMail to [valleyforgeaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:valleyforgeaudubon@gmail.com). (Please see registration note on page 2).

Ages: Adults and children 6 and up

Leader: Dr Tim Halverson (Field biologist)



**Hike: Militia Hill/Fort Washington State Park**  
**420 Militia Hill Rd**  
**Fort Washington, PA (4-5 miles)**  
**Thursday July 23, 10 am**

If the meadow we hike through is in bloom, it will help us enjoy the Green Ribbon Trail. Also, some pretty Wissahickon Creek views.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Rt 476, take exit 20 (Plymouth Rd), stay to the left up to Plymouth Rd & turn right. Turn left at the light (short distance) for Butler Pike. In a short distance (before the curve), turn right on Militia Hill Rd (stay straight!). Go about 2 miles to the dead end at Stenton Ave (traffic light) & turn left. In about 100 yds, turn right on Militia Hill Rd (traffic light). Stay on this for over a mile (you'll cross Joshua Rd) to the entrance on the right (there's a Militia Hill Picnic Area sign but it's small so slow down). There's also a Fort Washington Park sign to the left of the entrance, but it faces the road so it's harder to see. Follow the road as it curves to the right and turn right into parking lot. (There's a bird-viewing stand opposite parking entrance).

*Leader: Marilyn Furfari, cell: 610-945-5228*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge**  
**(Brigantine)**  
**Absecon, NJ**  
**Saturday July 25, 9 am**

We will drive the 8-mile loop road and check out birds at stops along the way. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot.

*Leaders: Joe Hudson ([judson@gmail.com](mailto:judson@gmail.com)) and Dan Sullivan ([dansullivan8858@gmail.com](mailto:dansullivan8858@gmail.com))*



**Hike: Horseshoe Trail (and others)  
East from Warwick County Park  
Pottstown, PA (5 miles)  
Thursday July 30, 10 am**

Lunch to follow at St. Peter's Bakery, one mile away.

**DIRECTIONS:** From intersection of Rts 100 & 23, go West on Rt 23 3.4 miles and make a left on County Park Rd, go 1/4 mile and make left into park. Meet at Park Headquarters, Lois Brooks' Bench.

*Leader: Gary Rigg, 610-716-7654*

## *August*



**Wings, Wines, and Worts  
Manatawny Creek Winery  
227 Levensgood Rd, Douglassville, PA  
Saturday August 1, 8 am**

Expanding upon our popular Brewbirding series, this bird walk will take place on the grounds of the Manatawny Creek Winery. This lovely 90-acre property on the banks of the Manatawny Creek has a self-described "tremendous bird problem" as birds are attracted to the wonderful-tasting grapes in the vineyards. It makes for more work for the winery as they have to net their vines, but it's great for birders!

Following our morning walk we will relax at the tasting room where many award-winning wines (some with birds on the labels) as well as up to 5 house-brewed beers may be enjoyed. The winery has snacks for purchase but participants are welcome and encouraged to bring a sack lunch.

*Leaders: Patty Werth (484-985-8164, [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*



**Hike: Natural Lands Gwynedd Preserve**  
**640 S. Swedesford Rd, Ambler, PA (4-5 miles)**  
**Thursday August 6, 10 am**

This wildlife preserve is a 279-acre oasis of meadows, woodlands, and wetlands. We will walk some of the 7.5 miles of unpaved trails, some of which may be muddy. Bring lunch and water.

**DIRECTIONS:** From King of Prussia, take Rt 202 north 4.6 miles. Turn left onto Township Line Rd. Take the first right onto Swedesford Rd and drive about 0.5 miles to the preserve entrance on your left. Park in the lot near the entrance.

*Leader: Esther Underhill, 610-827-7776, cell: 267-615-1577 (morning of hike) [underwalt@aol.com](mailto:underwalt@aol.com)*



**Brewbirding: Upland Farms Park/  
Suburban Beer Garden**  
**301 Pottstown Pike, Chester Springs, PA**  
**Wednesday August 12, 5:30 pm**

Upland Farms Park is a relatively new 56-acre passive use park in Upper Uwchlan Township. Our evening bird walk will traverse both paved and natural surface trails through open fields and woodlots, after which we will gather at Suburban Restaurant and Beer Garden (570 Wellington Sq, Exton, PA) for farm-to-table food and craft beers and ciders.

*Leaders: Patty Werth (484-985-8164, [pattyww@comcast.net](mailto:pattyww@comcast.net)) and John Werth (215-859-1148)*

Valley Forge Audubon Society Calendar of Events  
March 2020 - August 2020

---



**Hike: Wissahickon Gorge**  
**120 Northwestern Ave. Philadelphia, PA**  
**Thursday August 13, 10 am**

We will do a level and mix it with not so level tree-lined walk, visit the Indian Statue, and check out the meadow.

**DIRECTIONS:**

- Take the Blue Rt (476) to Exit 19 (Germantown Pike - East).
- At end of the ramp, turn right onto Germantown Pike and drive 3.2 miles to Northwestern Ave.
- Turn right and park at end of street. We'll meet at the corner of Northwestern and Forbidden Drive.

OR: Drive west on Germantown Ave. to Northwestern Ave. and turn left.

*Leader: Marilyn Furfari, cell: 610-945-5228*



**Photowalk: Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area**  
**Kleinfeltersville, PA**  
**Saturday August 8, 8:30 am**

We will explore several areas including the wildlife drive, the meadow at the visitor center and a few forested areas where we can find eastern towhees, wood thrushes, and ovenbirds. In the fields and meadows, grassland birds and butterflies are abundant.

Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot (GPS: 100 Museum Rd, Stevens, PA). Bring sunscreen and hat, bug spray, lunch, snacks and plenty of water. Rest rooms and picnic tables are located at the visitor center.

In the event of rain, the walk will be cancelled.

***Non-photographers welcome but the pace of the walk will be slow with an emphasis on getting good photographs.***

*Leaders: Nanette Guida (201-566-7179) ([birdshaman15@gmail.com](mailto:birdshaman15@gmail.com))  
and Tony Nastase (610-202-1249) ([tonynastase@comcast.net](mailto:tonynastase@comcast.net))*



**Hike: State Line Woods**  
**950 Merrybell Lane, Kennett Square, PA (4-5 miles)**  
**Thursday August 20, 10 am**

A variety of terrain - thru woods, meadows and rolling hills for this hike near Kennett Square. This preserve is managed by The Land Conservancy of Southern Chester County (TLC). A Land Manager from TLC will accompany us and will point out natural features of this area. Suggested donation \$3 (optional). Bring water and lunch or eat in Kennett Square after the hike.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Rt 202 South turn right on Rt 1 South. Pass Longwood Gardens. Turn left at traffic light onto Bayard Rd (at CVS/WAWA). Proceed about 2 miles to the "T" at Old Kennett Pike and turn right. Take the first left onto Merrybell Lane (Look for TLC sign). Drive up the lane to the parking area.

*Leader: Fran DeMillion, [fran@demillion.com](mailto:fran@demillion.com) (H)610-444-3644, cell: 610-316-2937 (for day of hike)*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Bombay Hook NWR**  
**2591 Whitehall Neck Rd, Smyrna DE**  
**Saturday August 22, 9 am**

Bombay Hook protects one of the largest remaining expanses of tidal salt marsh in the mid-Atlantic region. The refuge, located along the coast of Delaware, is mostly marsh, but also includes freshwater impoundments and upland habitats that are managed for other wildlife. It is an important stop on the Delaware Bay for shorebirds, wading birds, and waterfowl.

Bring water, sunblock, and insect spray.

We will meet in the parking lot at refuge headquarters at 9am and bird until noon.

*Leaders: Joe Hudson ([jhudson@gmail.com](mailto:jhudson@gmail.com)) and Dan Sullivan ([dansullivan8858@gmail.com](mailto:dansullivan8858@gmail.com))*



**Hike: The Willows**  
**490 Darby Paoli Rd, Villanova, PA (4 Miles)**  
**Thursday August 27, 10 am**

Bring a picnic lunch to eat after the hike at Willows' picnic tables.

**DIRECTIONS:** Get to Rt 30. Going East toward Wayne make a right onto Conestoga Rd. (Not to be confused with the one West of Paoli). Go about a mile and a half and make a right on Church Rd, follow it till it dead ends (as Brooke Rd) at Darby Paoli Rd. Make a left and then a quick right into Willows, go up and park to the right.

*Leader: Gary Rigg, 610-716-7654*



**Bird/Nature Walk: John James Audubon Center  
at Mill Grove**  
**1201 Pawlings Rd, Audubon PA**  
**Saturday August 29, 8 am**

Join us for a free, guided bird walk at Mill Grove. We'll visit the creek, cross the meadows, and hike through the woods on both paved and unpaved trails. Children and beginners are welcome! We have extra binoculars, so don't worry if you forget yours or don't have them. Walks begin in the main parking lot and will be cancelled due to inclement weather. Please check our MeetUp or Facebook page for cancellations.

*Leader: Vince Smith at [nyctea34@aol.com](mailto:nyctea34@aol.com) or 484-410-1157*

## ***JOIN US***

Valley Forge Audubon Society is looking for Committee members to help with program planning, advocacy, and conservation/citizen science.

We are also looking for people with knowledge of birds, wildlife, ecology, or conservation who have an interest in leading a nature walk or presenting an educational program.

Please reach out to us at [valleyforgeaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:valleyforgeaudubon@gmail.com) for additional information

### **Board of Directors Meeting Schedule**

We meet at the John James Audubon Center on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.

March 10  
April 14  
May 12  
June 9  
July 14  
August 11

Come see what we're up to!

### **Advocacy Update**

The Valley Forge Audubon Advocacy Committee promotes the policy and legislative priorities of the National Audubon Society by engaging with members, communities, elected officials and other organizations to advance this agenda. Recent activities include projects such as the "Plants for Birds" pop-up gardens with local municipalities, collaborating with other chapters on Delaware River Watershed initiatives, and contacting targeted legislators to advance priority legislation.

The advocacy committee meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm. If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Ralf Graves, committee chair, at [ralfgraves@comcast.net](mailto:ralfgraves@comcast.net) .

