

**Valley Forge  
Audubon Society and  
John James Audubon Center  
at Mill Grove**



***Calendar of Events***  
***Bird Walks, Hikes, Programs,***  
***& Special Events***  
***April – August 2019***

**1201 Pawlings Road, Audubon, PA 19403**

**Phone: 610-666-5593**

**[www.valleyforgeaudubon.org](http://www.valleyforgeaudubon.org)**

**<http://johnjames.audubon.org>**

## About Us

The Valley Forge Audubon Society (VFAS) is a chapter of the National Audubon Society serving members residing in regions of Bucks County, Montgomery County, and Chester 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.

Since its inception, VFAS has been closely associated with The John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove, a 130 acre estate that was the first home in America of painter and naturalist, John James Audubon and is maintained as a museum and wildlife sanctuary in Audubon PA.



Valley Forge Audubon Society is looking for Committee Members to help with communications (social media/publicity), 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

Valley Forge Audubon Society Calendar of Events  
April – August 2019

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## *Legend*



Bird Walks



Programs and Special Events



Young Birder  
Walks



Hikes



Brewbirding: a series of bird walks that combine an interest in birding with an interest in beer-ing. After each bird walk, anyone interested in adding a new beer or two to their life list is welcome to join us at a local establishment serving craft brews and bites.



Photowalk: Bring your camera and spend time photographing birds and other local wildlife. Non-photographers are welcome but the walk will be at a slower pace to accommodate photographers.

### **General Information**

For hike registration, call or Email the event leader. For general information on hikes, call Ann Lane at 443-472-8716 and leave a message.

If extreme weather conditions are forecast for the day of any event, phone the event leader or check the MeetUp page for cancellations.

**For last minute changes and pop-up events, please check the MeetUp Calendar of Events at [www.meetup.com/Valley-Forge-Audubon-Society-Calendar-of-Events/](http://www.meetup.com/Valley-Forge-Audubon-Society-Calendar-of-Events/)**

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Bird Walks, Hikes, Programs, and Special Events

## *Recurring Walks*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Heebner Park**  
**1721 S. Valley Forge Rd, Worcester, PA**  
**Saturdays April 13, May 25, June 15**  
**8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

Join us for an early morning bird walk along the Zacharias Trail as we search for resident birds (April), spring migrants (May), and nesting birds (June). Open to children, beginners, and non-birders.

*Leader: Vincent Smith [Nyctea34@aol.com](mailto:Nyctea34@aol.com) or 484-410-1157.*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Exton Park, Exton, PA**  
**Every Thursday Year Round**  
**8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

Formerly known as Church Farm Pond and now a part of Exton Park, this pond and surrounding wetland had been a popular birding spot for years. This walk will join the Friends of Exton Park for their weekly bird walk. Beginners are welcome. Bring binoculars. The group often goes to breakfast afterwards.

*Various Leaders*



**Bird/Nature Walk: John James Audubon**  
**Center at Mill Grove, Audubon, PA**  
**Every Saturday Beginning April 6**  
**8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

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. Facebook will be updated by 7:00 a.m. the day of each walk if we need to cancel due to inclement weather.

*Various Leaders*

## *April*



**Hike: Brandywine Creek Trail (5 miles)**  
**April 4, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

The Brandywine Creek Trail runs south/north between the Creek and US-322. We will start just south of Downingtown at a parking area on the east side of US-322 — just south of the high, old railroad trestle bridge that traffic on US-322 goes under. There are several options along the hike: 1) Stay on the paved trail all the way out and back or 2) hike up into the hills to the east of the trail to add to the hike mileage. The “baseline” hike will proceed south to the Harmony Hill covered bridge and back to the starting point where the cars are parked. The roundtrip distance is about 5 miles, excluding the side excursions. Bring water. Victory Brewing - Downingtown is available for lunch and pit-stop. One or two Porta-pottys may be accessible along the trail.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take the first exit from US-30 after passing the PA-100 exit for Exton. Exit US-30 onto US-30 Business (west/left) at the first Downingtown exit. Left onto US-30 Business and then another left at the light onto Quarry Road. Proceed past the quarry to the light at Boot Road. Right onto Boot Road to the end. Left onto US-322 for about 1/4 mile to parking area on left.

*Leader: Ron Barchet, cell: 484-678-4621, [rjbarchet@gmail.com](mailto:rjbarchet@gmail.com)*

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**Hike: Valley Forge National Park, 5 miles**  
**April 11, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

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 Route 202: Exit 202 at Devon and take Route 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 Routes 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*

***2019 Drawn From Nature Art Show***

**John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove**  
**Saturday April 13 through Saturday April 27**  
**Tuesday through Saturday 10 am to 4 pm**

**Sundays: 1-4 pm**  
**Closed Mondays**

**Free admission**

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**Hike: Stroud Preserve, 5 miles**  
**April 18, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Another Natural Lands property, the pasture and woodlands of this former farm now serve as a wildlife habitat and site for research and education. There are no restrooms, so we will meet in front of Giant in the Bradford Plaza Shopping Center. Bring lunch and water, or we can eat out nearby.

**DIRECTIONS:** From West Chester, take Route 322 west to the first traffic light after Route 162 has angled off to the left. Turn left into Bradford Plaza. Giant is on the right side of the Plaza. **OR:** Go straight to the Preserve by taking Route 162 west. Drive two miles to Creek Road, turn left and drive 0.3 miles to the Preserve on your right. (If you drive past Creek Road on 162 and cross the Brandywine, you've gone too far.)

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



**Hike: St. Peter's East, 5.5 miles**  
**April 25, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

This hike is mostly on the Horseshoe Trail, some good hills. Lunch in St. Peter's Bakery Restaurant after hike.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the intersection of Rts. 23 & 100. Go West on Rte. 23, 3.5 miles, then make right on St. Peter's Road. Go about a mile, through St. Peter's Village and park in lot on left at the end of the town.

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

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**Bryn Coed Preserve, Chester Springs/  
Sedona Tap House, Phoenixville**

**April 28, Sunday**

**8 a.m. bird walk**

Bryn Coed Preserve (1869 Flint Road, Chester Springs) is a 1,505-acre mosaic of forest and farmland, and one of the newest Natural Lands preserves. This protected area includes a Pennsylvania Champion white oak, the headwaters of the Pickering Creek, and several Bald Eagle nesting spots. Miles of hiking trails meander past 19th century stone farmhouses, historical ruins, and other remnants of the land's agricultural past. Join us as we look to add new species to this new birding hotspot's bird list.

Join us after the walk for brews and/or lunch at the newly opened Sedona Tap House, 131 Bridge Street #5, Phoenixville

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



## May



**Hike: Betzwood Section**  
**Valley Forge National Park (6 miles)**  
**May 2, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

This is a loop, mostly flat. We will head out on the paved bike trail toward Pawlings Road, then take a wooded trail past the old Wetherill Barn and return via the Betzwood trail along the Schuylkill river. Hopefully, the bluebells will be in bloom.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take Route 422 west to Route 363. Take the exit for 363 north and immediately bear left onto Trooper Road south. Cross over Route 422 and drive back toward the river. Take the second road on the right into Betzwood Park. Park in the picnic area near the restrooms.

*Leader: Christa Farnon, cell: 610-659-5512, [cufarnon@gmail.com](mailto:cufarnon@gmail.com)*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Meng Preserve**  
**Lower Fredrick Township**  
**May 4, Saturday**  
**8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

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.*

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**Hike: Wissahickon Gorge (5 miles)**  
**May 9, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

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 Route (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.*



**International Bird Migration Day and  
Bird-a-Thon Fundraiser**  
**John James Audubon Center**  
**at Mill Grove**  
**May 11, Saturday**  
**8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

Join us on this special day set aside to honor all the wonderful species of birds passing through our woods, thickets, and fields. The event promises great looks at spring migrants and also raises money for VFAS. Similar to other walk-a-thons, walk leaders can be sponsored with a lump sum or per species counted at the event. If you would like to be a walk leader or sponsor a leader, please contact Vincent Smith at [nyctea34@aol.com](mailto:nyctea34@aol.com).

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



**Hike: Marsh Creek State Park (5-6 miles)**  
**May 16, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

We will walk along the lake toward the dam and see which spring woods flowers are still blooming. There will be an option to turn back through the fields for those wanting a shorter hike. We will then explore the biking trails in the area beyond the dam. Bring water and snacks. Bring lunch to eat afterward beside the lake or join a group at a nearby restaurant.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the Route 30 Bypass, exit at Route 282. Follow the signs onto Route 282 West. Stay on Route 282 until Lyndell Road. (Lyndell Post Office is on NE corner.) Turn right onto Lyndell Road 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 Road east and follow signs as above.

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



**Bird/Nature Walk: Coventry Woods**  
**1954 St. Peters Road Pottstown, PA**  
**May 18, Saturday**  
**8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

Coventry Woods is part of Hopewell Big Woods, and 153 species of birds have been recorded at this site in just the last four years. The trails are unpaved and some are steep. This walk of about 3-4 hours will cover 1-2 miles. If there is interest, there is the possibility of a second walk of similar duration and distance to follow at a different location within the 660-acre park, which usually yields some additional species. This is a joint trip with West Chester Bird Club.

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

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**Bird/Nature Walk: Freedoms Foundation,  
1601 Valley Forge Rd. Valley Forge, PA  
May 19, Sunday  
8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

The Freedoms Foundation is located on 75-acres in the heart of Valley Forge. VFAS has worked with the Medal of Honor grove to improve habitat by planting native plants and establishing a butterfly garden. The Grove has been approved for Level 1 arboretum accreditation. The Arboretum has over 50 species of trees & shrubs and they are inviting birders to visit the property. Please join us on Sunday, May 19 at 8 am for a 2.5 to 3-hour walk around the property to look for spring migrants and resident birds. Easy walking and beginner birders are welcome. Meet in the main parking lot.

*Leader: Rick Wolf; [randewolf@icloud.com](mailto:randewolf@icloud.com)*



**Hike: Washington Crossing (6 miles)  
May 23, Thursday  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

We will walk trails on PA and NJ side of the Delaware River, dead level. Bring water and lunch, or, buy lunch in NJ opposite Washington Crossing.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take the PA Turnpike/276 east to the Rt. 1 North exit, then go to the I-295 North exit. Take I-295 North to Exit 51. Turn left onto Taylorsville Road. Go to first right onto Rt. 532 then go 1/4 mile to River Road/Rt. 32. Make a left and go to the parking lot opposite the Museum in Washington Crossing.

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

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**Goose Run Park/Sly Fox Brewery**  
**May 27, Monday, Memorial Day**  
**8 a.m. bird walk**

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. This township-owned park has two entrances; we will meet at the gravel parking lot off of Levensgood Road (NOT Goose Run Road). The address is listed as 1220 Levensgood Road, which should be accessed from Colebrookdale Road.

After the walk we will gather for Memorial Day brews and eats at the Sly Fox Brewery, 331 Circle Of Progress Drive, Pottstown.

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



**Hike: Three Bridges Over the Schuylkill River (5-6 miles; shorter hike available)**  
**501 Belmont Ave, Bala Cynwyd, PA**  
**May 30, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Except for a short hill, this is a rather flat hike with the challenge of crossing a railroad bridge, although it's rarely used. We will be crossing the Pencoyd and the Tow Bridges as well as the Viaduct (Manayunk Bridge Trail). Facilities 5 minutes after hike begins. Bring lunch and water or eat at a restaurant during the hike. Short hike alternative: No bridges, no leader necessary, about 3 miles.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take the Schuylkill Expressway (I-76 E) to Exit 338. Turn right onto Belmont Ave. and continue for 0.7 miles. At the light at Levering Mill Road turn left. Drive downhill to parking lot at right.

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

## *June*



**Spring Bird Count**  
**John James Audubon Center**  
**at Mill Grove, Audubon, PA**  
**June 1, Saturday**  
**8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

This annual Event includes teams of birders surveying 11 sections within the prescribed area 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.

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



**Hike: Bryn Coed Preserve (5 miles)**  
**1869 Flint Rd, Chester Springs, PA**  
**June 6, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

This brand new Natural Lands property is immense, with a mix of fields, woodland trails, creek crossing and marshes. We will hike approximately 5 miles, with some open hills, and possible mud. Bring water. Many possibilities for lunch in the Kimberton/Phoenixville area. The address for the new parking lot is 1869 Flint Road, Chester Springs PA 19425. This is just south of St. Matthews Road.

Leader: Bev McGeehan, [gbten@comcast.net](mailto:gbten@comcast.net), cell: 610-764-049

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**Coventry Woods/Hidden River Brewery**  
**June 6, Thursday**  
**5 p.m. bird walk**

Coventry Woods (1954 St. Peters Road Pottstown, PA) is part of Hopewell Big Woods, and 153 species of birds have been recorded at this site in just the last four years. The trails are unpaved and some are steep.

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)*



**Bird/Nature Walk: Meng Bird Census**  
**June 8, Saturday**  
**8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

Join us on a bird walk at the Meng Preserve as we attempt to gather data on the breeding birds that inhabit the Meng Preserve located within the Stone Hill Greenway.

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



**Hike: State Line Woods(4-5 miles)  
950 Merrybell Ln, Kennett Square PA  
June 13, Thursday  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

A variety of terrain...through 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 Road (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)*



***Save the Date  
Migrate to the New Museum  
June 13, Thursday 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Join us to celebrate the opening of the  
new museum and visitor center at John  
James Audubon Center at Mill Grove  
Details to follow in May***





**Photo Walk: Middle Creek Wildlife  
Management Area  
Kleinfeltersville, PA  
June 15, Saturday  
8:30 a.m.**

This is a special time of year at Middle Creek. In the fields and meadows, grassland birds and butterflies are abundant and adult birds are tending to their fledglings. We hope to see bobolinks, eastern meadowlarks, eastern bluebirds, barn and tree swallows, eastern phoebes, sparrows, and warblers. Hopefully the Prothonotary warblers will be nesting again this year in their favorite swampy area. We will explore several areas including the wildlife drive, the meadow at the visitor center (hummingbird feeders!) and a few forested areas where we can find eastern towhees, wood thrushes, and ovenbirds.

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))*

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**Union Meadows Park/Fork and Ale**  
**June 16, Sunday Father's Day**  
**8 a.m. bird walk**

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. Over 150 species have been recorded here to date. Located at 1281 East Main Street, Douglassville, there are flush toilets on site and plenty of parking.

After birding, anyone interested may join us for Father's Day Brews and Brunch at the adjacent Fork & Ale gastropub.

Fledglings and nestlings welcome at this Father's Day event!

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



**Hike: French Creek State Park (6 miles)**  
**June 20, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

There are modest hills. Bring water. We'll eat after hike in restaurant in area. DIRECTIONS: Take Rt. 23 West and go west, cross Rt. 100 then go about 6 miles and make right on Rt. 345N, go a couple of miles and make a left on Entrance Road, go 1/4 mile to Park Road. Make right and park near Park office.

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

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**Hike: Horseshoe Trail Maintenance**  
**Rees, Rd, Malvern, PA**  
**June 27, Thursday**  
**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

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 Route 29. Drive under the Turnpike and take the first right onto Whitehorse Road. Drive 0.6 miles to top of hill. The sign says Union Hill Road on your left. Turn right onto Rees Road. After a stop sign, drive a short distance to the HST grass parking lot on the right. **OR:** From Route 202 take the Route 29 North exit. Take Liberty Blvd. to Route 29. Turn right onto 29. Follow as above. **OR:** From the intersection of Routes 23 and 252 in Valley Forge NHP, drive west on Route 23 for 2.9 miles to Whitehorse Road on east side of Phoenixville. Turn left onto Whitehorse Road and drive 3.0 miles to Rees Road. Turn left and follow as above.

*Leader: Ingrid Cantarella-Fox cell: 484-432-2150*

**Program: 30 Years of Bird Counts**  
**June 27, Thursday 6:30 to 8:30 pm**  
**John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove,**  
**Museum classroom**

Valley Forge Audubon Society had been conducting Spring and Christmas bird counts for 30 years. Join Vince Smith and Rick Keyser as they present an overview of the data that have been collected during the counts and the trends being seen in our local bird populations

## *July*



**Hike: Binky Lee Preserve**  
**1445 Pikeland Road, Chester Springs**  
**(approximately 4.5 miles)**  
**July 4, Thursday, 10 a.m. – 12:00 pm**

We will do a shortened hike at Binky Lee, mostly in the shade, then walk to the Bridge to Bridge Trail for lunch beside the Pickering Creek. Bring lunch and water. DIRECTIONS: From Route 100 and Route 113, drive west on 113 to Pikeland Road. (Hallman's General Store is on the corner). Turn right and drive 0.5 miles to the preserve entrance on left. Follow the drive to parking lot on the left. Restroom available in office building.

OR: From Routes 23 and 113 west of Phoenixville, drive south on 113 for 4.5 miles. Turn left on Pikeland Road.

*Leader: Esther Underhill 610-827-7776, cell: 267-615-1577 (Please note new cell #), [underwalt@aol.com](mailto:underwalt@aol.com).*



**Hike: Valley Forge National Park**  
**(approximately 4.5 miles)**  
**July 11, Thursday, 10 a.m. – 12:00 pm**

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 Route 202: Exit 202 at Devon and take Route 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 Routes 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*

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**Photo Walk: Middle Creek Wildlife  
Management Area  
Kleinfeltersville, PA  
July 13, Saturday  
8:30 a.m.**

This is a special time of year at Middle Creek. In the fields and meadows, grassland birds and butterflies are abundant and adult birds are tending to their fledglings. We hope to see bobolinks, eastern meadowlarks, eastern bluebirds, barn and tree swallows, eastern phoebes, sparrows, and warblers. Hopefully the prothonotary warblers will be nesting again this year in their favorite swampy area. We will explore several areas including the wildlife drive, the meadow at the visitor center (hummingbird feeders!) and a few forested areas where we can find eastern towhees, wood thrushes, and ovenbirds.

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))

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**Hike: Cresheim Creek in the Wisahickon Valley**

**7 Valley Green Road, Philadelphia, PA  
(5-6 miles)**

**July 18, Thursday, 10 a.m. – 12:00 pm**

Meet at the Valley Green Inn, 7 Valley Green Road. We will hike in the mostly shaded trails along the Wissahickon, and one of its tributaries, Cresheim Creek. Bring snacks and water. After the hike you can picnic at tables along the Wissahickon or have lunch at Valley Green Inn.

*Leaders: Louise Lisi, cell: 215-718-6861 and Evamarie Malsch, cell: 610-212-7186 (day of hike only)*



**Black Rock Sanctuary/  
Stable 12 Brewing Company, Phoenixville  
July 24, Wednesday  
5 p.m. bird walk**

Located along a bend in the Schuylkill River and previously used as a desilting basin, Black Rock Sanctuary, located at 953 Black Rock Road (Route 113), is 119 acres of wetlands, woodlands, and meadows. Since being reclaimed this area has become an important habitat for waterfowl and migratory birds as well as resident birds. Our walk of 1-2 miles along paved and improved trails will be followed by a trip to Stable 12 Brewing Company (368 Bridge Street, Phoenixville) where we hope to continue birding while enjoying brews in the outdoor beer garden.

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



**Hike: Haverford Community Recreation  
& Environmental Center**  
**900 Parkview Drive, Haverford, PA 19041**  
**(4 miles).**  
**July 25, Thursday, 10 a.m. – 12:00 pm**

**DIRECTIONS:** From the intersection of Routes 30 and 320, go a couple of miles and after you pass the light at Bryn Mawr Ave, go about 3/8ths of mile. Get to the left and make a left onto Darby Road, go to first light and make a right onto Parkview Ave. Go a mile to the Recreation Center on right. Park in its parking lot and meet in front of the Rec Center.

*Leader Gary Rigg, 610-716-7654*

## *August*



### **Hike: Militia Hill/Fort Washington State Park**

**420 Militia Hill Road, Fort Washington, PA  
(4-5 miles)**

**August 1, Thursday, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

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

**DIRECTIONS:** From the blue route, 476, take exit 20 (Plymouth Road), stay to the left up to Plymouth Road & turn right. Turn left at the light (short distance) for Butler Pike. In a short distance (before the curve), turn right on Militia Hill Road (stay straight!). Go about 2 miles to the dead end at Stenton Avenue (traffic light) & turn left. In about 100 yds, turn right on Militia Hill Road (traffic light). Stay on this for over a mile (you'll cross Joshua Road) 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*



### **Hike: Perkiomen Trail: Spring Mount Village to Crusher Road, Schwenksville, PA (4-6 miles)**

**August 8, Thursday, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

A flat 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 Route 422 West to the Collegetown exit (Route 29 north). Continue on Route 29 north to Schwenksville. Turn right onto Spring Mount Road – at the “Spring Mountain Ski Area” sign. Continue to Main Street. Cross over Main Street and park in the lot by the Tavern.

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



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**Hike: Willisbrook and Serpentine Preserves**  
**143 Line Road, Malvern, PA**  
**(3.5–4 miles)**  
**August 15, Thursday, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

This will be a short, easy hike, mostly flat and about half in the shade. Bring water and lunch or money to buy lunch nearby.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the intersection of Routes 252 and 30, take route 30 west about 0.5 miles to where Paoli Pike branches off to the left. Take Paoli Pike about 3.5 miles to Line Road (just past Bryn Mawr Rehab) and turn left onto Line Road. Go about 0.5 miles to the parking lot for the Serpentine Preserve. **OR:** From the intersection of Route 352 and Paoli Pike take Paoli Pike northeast toward Paoli 1.1 miles to Line Road, turn right and proceed as above.

*Leader: Ann Lane, cell: 443-472-8716, [lane822@verizon.net](mailto:lane822@verizon.net).*



**Hike: Lock 60 to Upper Schuylkill Valley Park**  
**400 Towpath Road, Mont Clare, PA**  
**(5 miles)**  
**August 23, Thursday, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**DIRECTIONS:** From King of Prussia, take Route 422 to the Oaks Exit. Turn left and drive southwest on Egypt Road to Route 29. Bear left onto Route 29 (Bridge St.). Drive past the traffic light in Mont Clare just before the bridge. As soon as you are on the bridge, turn right and take Towpath Road to the end. **OR:** From Valley Forge NHP, drive west on Route 23 to the light at Starr Street, south of Phoenixville. Turn right onto Starr Street and drive down to the light at Bridge Street. (You're on Route 29 North.) Turn right and cross the river. While still on the bridge, turn left onto Towpath Road and drive to the end. GPS does not always work for this location. Towpath Road enters from Route 29. It is Mont Clare on the North side of the river.

*Leader: Esther Underhill, home: 610-827-7776, cell: 267-615-1577 (note new cell number), [underwalt@aol.com](mailto:underwalt@aol.com)*

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**Hike: Pennypack Park**  
**8500 Pine Road, Jenkintown, PA**  
**(5 miles) (The Park is in Philadelphia.).**  
**August 29, Thursday, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

DIRECTIONS: Use your GPS or call leader for directions. Park entrance is on south side of Pine Road opposite Fox Chase Farm. There's a nice food cart on the Pine Road entrance to the park and picnic tables close by for after hike lunch.

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



*For additional August events, please check our  
website [www.valleyforgeaudubon.org](http://www.valleyforgeaudubon.org) or MeetUp  
for bird walks and programs  
[www.meetup.com/Valley-Forge-Audubon-Society-  
Calendar-of-Events/](http://www.meetup.com/Valley-Forge-Audubon-Society-Calendar-of-Events/)*



