



Belfast Bay Watershed

# BELFAST BAY WATERSHED NEWS



## Earth Days Waldo County was a busy week in April

Left: Geology Walk of the Belfast Rail Trail with two Maine geologists.  
*Gene Randall photo*

Right: Earth Skills Workshop  
Fire making with bow drill, weaving cordage from milkweed fiber, making baskets from willow and red osier dogwood.



Below: Nancy Zane teaches Map and Compass  
*Cloe Chunn photos*



More Earth Days Waldo County events included hikes, films with discussions, a Permaculture demonstration, and potluck meal.

Right: Maine Senator Mick Devin, also a marine biologist, addresses a full Abbott Room audience about Ocean Acidification and Warming, Marine Plastics, and their disastrous effects on marine life, fisheries, and their far-reaching effects on Maine communities.



Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition

P.O. Box 152, Belfast, ME 04915

[www.belfastbaywatershed.org](http://www.belfastbaywatershed.org)

## Last Evening Program at the Belfast Library until Fall

Thursday, May 18, 6:30 pm. Bird Identification and Conservation. Jody Telfair, a Maine Master Naturalist, will join our Bird Week efforts with a review of bird identification. She will discuss ways to help birds, resident and migratory, in their plight for survival. Free and open to the public.

## Evening Ocean Program in Rockland

Thursday, May 4. **Ocean Frontiers III**, a documentary showcasing leaders in Northeast Atlantic Ocean stewardship and the new blue economy, at the Strand Theater. The event, co-sponsored with Island Institute, begins at 6:00 with a reception, 7:00 film, followed by panel discussion, Q&A.

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## Welcome, Two New Board Members!

Gene and Marianne Randall moved from Winter Park, Florida, to Belfast, at the end of 2015 to be closer to Gene's family (all 30 of them!!). After a career in accounting and finance management (Gene) and education (Marianne), and extensive involvement in local and state affairs, they now look forward to enjoying the wonders of the Maine outdoor environment, local activities, and family gatherings.

One of their first experiences in Belfast was attending a BBWC monthly program. They found this energetic group to be welcoming, well organized, and that they shared many similar interests and passions for the natural world.

Gene and Marianne participated in the 2016 Pen Bay Stewards Program and found it to be an amazing and informative experience and a wonderful introduction to their new home here in Maine. Since then, Gene & Marianne have helped with various local activities (Gene's computer skills are getting a good workout.) including the garden club and the Master Gardner Program. In addition, they worked on the Head of Tide permaculture project, helped establish a garden at Penobscot Shores, and have hiked portions of the Hills to Sea Trail.

Gene and Marianne eagerly look forward to being part of the BBWC Board, Gene as the treasurer and Marianne as the membership and outreach person.



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## Cathy Morgan Bird Week, May 13-20: more info: 338-1147

Saturday, May 13. 9:00-1:00. **Paddle the South Branch of the Marsh River**, Frankfort/Prospect, 6 miles roundtrip in flatwater. Marsh wrens, saltmarsh sharptail sparrows, red-winged blackbirds, waterfowl. Meet at the Frankfort boat launch on Rt. 1A. Bring kayak/canoe, paddle, PFD, water, lunch, sun/rain/bug protection, binoculars.

6 bird walks from May 15-20. Each starts at 7:00 am. Wear tick repellent clothing.

Mon. 15<sup>th</sup>: Head of Tide Preserve, CMLT, Doak Road, Belfast.

Tues. 16<sup>th</sup>: Cloe and David's farm, 210 Oak Hill Road,  
Swanville.

Wed. 17<sup>th</sup>: Ducktrap River Trail, CMLT, Rt. 52, Lincolnville.

Thur. 18<sup>th</sup>: In Town Nature Trail. Meet at the Muck (Kirby Lake), Belfast.

Fri. 19<sup>th</sup>: Mainstream Preserve, CMLT, Prospect. Meet at 7:00 at the Searsport Irving Station to carpool.

Fri., May 19<sup>th</sup>: 7:30 pm. **Evening Woodcock Watch** with Mike Shannon at Cloe and David's farm, 210 Oak Hill Road, Swanville. Rain date tomorrow.

Sat., May 20: Sears Island, finale of Bird Week. Meet at the causeway gate to Sears Island in Searsport. 7:00 am.

(7:30 pm Rain date for Woodcock Watch, see May 19<sup>th</sup> listing.)

Thursday, May 18, 6:30 pm, Belfast Library: Jody Telfair, a Maine Master Naturalist, will review our **Bird Identification Skills and Talk about Conservation of Migratory and Resident Birds**.

## Outings

Outings are open to anyone who wants to participate. For more information or in questionable weather, call 338-1147.

Saturday, May 27. 10:00-12:00. **Birdsong and Wildflowers of Ragged Mountain**, Rockport. Meet at the Georges River Trail crossing on Rt. 17 near Mirror Lake in Rockport. Bring water, lunch, protection from rain, ticks. Cloe Chunn and Roger Rittmaster.

Friday, June 2. 9:00-1:30. **Grand Opening of Hills to Sea Trail**, Celebration at Waldo County Technical Center. See website for details.

Friday, June 23. 1:00-4:00 pm. **Sedge Walk with Matt Arsenault** at the Bessey Tract of Meadow Brook Preserve, Swanville. Meet at 1:00 pm at the Swanville Transfer Station on Rt. 141 (Swan Lake Ave.) Bring water, snack, hand lens, tick protection. Cosponsored with Coastal Mountains Land Trust.

Thursday, July 13. 10:00-12:00. **Fern Walk with Hildy Ellis** at Head-of-Tide Preserve, on the Doak Road, Belfast. Bring water, hand lens, tick protection. Optional bag lunch afterward at the picnic area. Cosponsored with Coastal Mountains Land Trust.

Friday, July 28. 10:00-12:00. **Insect Safari with Kathy Murray**, state entomologist, at Head of Tide Preserve, Doak Road, Belfast. All ages. Bring nets and containers, dress for ticks. Optional bag lunch afterward at the picnic area. Cosponsored with Coastal Mountains Land Trust.

## BBWC Board of Directors

Tom King, President  
Karin Wittmann, Vice President  
Cloe Chunn, Secretary  
Barney Lutsk, Treasurer  
David Bond  
Skip Pendleton  
Gene Randall  
Marianne Randall  
John Tipping

### Staff

Paul Eagle, Publicity and Website

## Subscribe on-line

to this newsletter and monthly reminders of activities on our website

[www.belfastbaywatershed.org](http://www.belfastbaywatershed.org) or send an e-mail to [info@belfastbaywatershed.org](mailto:info@belfastbaywatershed.org)

Visit our website **Calendar** for updates on outings and programs that did not make it into the newsletter.

## Members invited

Come jump on board and help expand and strengthen our work in the community and watershed. Visit our website, call a board member, or email us at [info@belfastbaywatershed.org](mailto:info@belfastbaywatershed.org)

Mission: *The Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition works to support conservation and stewardship of natural, scenic, and public access resources of the Belfast Bay watershed through research, community-building, and education.*