



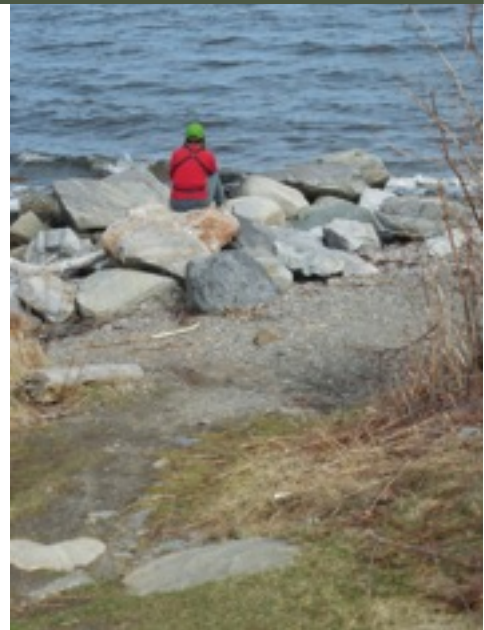
BELFAST BAY WATERSHED NEWS



*State Champion
Copper Beech*

The
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Cedars on Charles Street



Allyn Street Rangeway

New: Belfast In-Town Nature Trail

Belfast In-Town Nature Trail is so new that it is not marked yet, and BBWC does not have a complete map and text guide on our website. A project in collaboration with Habitat Belfast, the trail meanders in a circuit for about 5 miles along pleasant streets, visiting parks, rangeways, the harbor, the beach, and other venues where nature rules. To show people the way, Cloe Chunn is offering a series of walks on short parts of the nature trail through town. Each walk will take about 2 hours, and acquaint you with what to look for and enjoy along the way.

- May 5, Mon. 8:00-10:00 am. Meet at City Park entrance.
- May 6, Tues. 8:00-10:00 am. Meet at Wales Park, Main St.
- May 7, Wed. 9:00-11:00 am. Meet at Wales Park, Main St.
- May 19, Mon. 8:00-10:00 am. Meet at the Boathouse.
- May 20, Tues. 9:00-11:00 am. Meet at City Park entrance.

Welcome, Habitat Belfast!

A new local organization has combined the leadership of conservation groups in the community under the umbrella “Habitat Belfast.” The idea was started half a year ago by Aleta McKeage, who also directs the GreenWays Eco Center, located though the same doorway as Belfast Office Supply. The GreenWays Center rents office and conference space to conservation groups.

Habitat Belfast works on projects around the area, including the Belfast In-Town Nature Trail, reclaiming waste areas crowded with invasive species, and planting wildlife friendly gardens.



Aleta McKeage, the spark for these activities, is an ecologist licensed in invasive species removal and native plant replacement, and a project manager who has completed work for municipalities, land trusts, state and federal governments. Aleta specializes in ecological land stewardship integrated with outreach and community building, and is an expert in invasive plant ecology and control. Her research interests are dynamics of degraded and restored plant communities in New England. Aleta coordinates the GreenWays Consulting Group, and is serving as a Project Coordinator for Friends of Sears Island.

Bird Bus

There is one spring bus trip left:

Friday, May 9, 8:30-11:30.

Call the YMCA to register, 338-4598. Dress for the weather, bring binoculars and water. One restroom stop is included. Register by May 5.

Evening Programs

Our last evening program until fall:

May 15, 6:30 pm. Tour the Belfast Cohousing and Ecovillage with Mike and Margie Shannon and learn how it came to be. Meet at the Cohousing on Village Road, off Tufts Road, which is off of Edgcomb Road. Call 338-1147 for directions.

Map Meet-Up

in Collaboration with Habitat Belfast

May 14, Wed. 6:30 pm, Belfast Library.

6:30 pm - Social Mapshow, diverse collection of maps on display from the community

7:00 pm - Bethany Atkins will speak on using maps as a vehicle to promote habitat conservation. Bethany is a biologist for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, where she compiles and translates ecological data and collaborates closely with state, local and regional land use planners to develop approaches to maintaining wildlife habitat.

7:30 - Main Presentation: Margot Carpenter will speak about the art and science of cartography. Her specialty is creating lucid maps through visual hierarchy, GIS data, and hand-drawn elements, and she'll use her own maps and other good examples to illustrate these primary concepts and to explore some of the challenges of this type of modern mapmaking. For nine years, Margot Carpenter has been an independent cartographer, creating maps as Hartdale Maps in Belfast.

An Appeal for your Support

Dear Members and Friends,

May, 2014

Now in our eleventh year as a non-profit membership organization, the Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition is well-established as a dynamic presence working to support conservation and stewardship in the Belfast Bay Watershed. Below are some of our projects in the past year.

Maintained the Little River Community Trail.

Built new trails on five preserves in the area.

Started the Belfast In-Town Nature Trail.

Continued to hold well-attended monthly outings as well as the Thursday evening educational series.

Collaborated with the YMCA to offer Bird Bus trips in spring.

Facilitated the Penobscot Bay Stewards program with assistance from the state.

Continued the Salmon-in-Schools program in five local schools.

Started six chapters of FrogWatchUSA around the state.

Continued the reintroduction of salmon in the Passagassawakeag and Wescot Stream.

Continued a water quality monitoring program in the Passagassawakeag, Wescot Stream, and Belfast Bay.

Continued 2 five-year studies: winter birds in the bay, and breeding birds in the watershed.

Assisted with sturgeon restoration in the Passagassawakeag and Penobscot rivers.

Provided *Belfast's Important Birding Locations*, *Belfast Birding Coastal Corridor*, *Plants of the Little River Community Trail*, and *Little River Community Trail List of Bird Species and Abundances*.

Offered workshops, an insect safari, and many bird walks.

Staffed and taught at Earth Day for Drinkwater and East Belfast schools.

Provided scholarships for environmental education programs.

Your board has some ambitious plans for this coming year as well. Funds to support all these activities come entirely from membership contributions and grants for special projects. We invite your continuing support by contributing at any of the levels listed on the enclosed membership form. Our strategy is to keep expenses low, to make only one annual appeal, and to continue to offer quality events for free (except for Bird Bus and some workshops), so that all can participate. **Your tax-deductible contribution at any level will make a big difference!**

Thank you!

The Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition Board of Directors

Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition Membership Form

The Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition is a group of organizations and individuals working to support conservation and stewardship of natural, scenic, historic, and public access resources of the Belfast Bay watershed through research, community-building, and education.

To become a member please print and fill out this page, make check payable to BBWC and mail to:

**BBWC
P.O. Box 152
Belfast, Maine 04915**

Dragonfly _____	\$5	Snapping Turtle _____	\$100
Newt _____	\$10	Atlantic Salmon _____	\$250
Salamander _____	\$25	Sturgeon _____	\$500
Wood Frog _____	\$50		

Member (s): _____

Address _____

Town_____ **State**_____ **Zip Code** _____

Phone_____ **Email**_____

Would you like to volunteer for projects or serve on a committee?

Publicity_____ **Programs** _____ **Fundraising** _____ **Education**_____ **Refreshments** _____

Science & Research_____ **Work on Trails** _____ **Volunteer as Needed** _____

(For information) Skip Pendleton 338-4427 or
Cloe Chunn 338-1147

Do You Love Frogs?

Want to do something to help?

Become a frog monitor and do citizen science for FrogWatchUSA!

No expertise needed. Training is Free!

In Liberty: May 31, Saturday, 8:30 am-12:00.

Place: Liberty Library, next to Liberty Tool on Rt. 173

To sign up: Contact Cloe Chunn, cloechunn@gmail.com 338-1147

Trainers: Larkspur Morton and Cloe Chunn



red admiral butterfly



Do You Love Butterflies?

The North American Butterfly Association (NABA) has two butterfly counts in our area in July.

July 5, Sat. Knox County Butterfly Count. 8:30-4:00, starting at the Camden Snow Bowl parking lot and ending at the Sweet Grass Farm (Winery) Preserve in Union. Novices welcome for part or all day! Please sign up in advance: rogerrittmaster@gmail.com

July 11, Friday. Lower Penobscot Butterfly Count. Beginners welcome! Donation of \$3 for NABA (North American Butterfly Assn). Wear insect protection. The count circle includes Prospect, Stockton, Frankfort, Searsport, Swanville, Verona Island, and portions of Bucksport, Winterport, and Monroe. One to two hours (or more) volunteer time is welcomed, between 9:30 am and 5 pm. Please sign up with Pat Snyder at 567-3137 (dorine38@aol.com).

Sun and Moon in Summer

May 14	Full Moon
June 13	Full Moon
June 21	Summer Solstice
July 12	Full Moon
August 10	Full Moon

BBWC Board of Directors

- John Langhans, President
- Francine Brown, Vice President
- Cloe Chunn, Secretary
- Debbie Mitchell, Treasurer
- Skip Pendleton
- Maynard Clemons
- Tom King
- Cathy Morgan
- Heide Purinton-Brown
- Janet Weinberg
- Karin Wittmann

Outings



Wilderness Skills Hike in April, 2014

May 10, Sat. 7:00-10:00 am. Bird Walk on Sears Island. Meet at the end of the causeway to the island in Searsport. Bring binoculars, water, snack. Cosponsored with Friends of Sears Island.

May 21, Wed. 6:30-10:00 am. Bird walk along the Ducktrap River with Kristen Lindquist and Cloe Chunn. Meet at the Ducktrap River Trail on Rt. 52 in Northport. Bring binoculars, water, snack. Wear waterproof boots. Cosponsored with Coastal Mountains Land Trust.

June 7, Sat. 10:00-2:00. Paddle the Goose River, Swanville. Meet at Swan Lake Dam behind Swan Lake Grocery on Rt. 141 in Swanville. Bring boat, paddle, PFD, water, lunch, sun, rain, and wind gear. If you need (or have extra) space in a canoe, please call 338-1147. Choice of 4 or 7 miles.

Butterfly Walk on Sears Island

July 13, Sunday. 1:00-3:00 pm. Meet at the end of the causeway to Sears Island, Searsport. Bring binoculars (close-focusing ideal).

The walk will be guided by Roger Rittmaster, a retired physician and Maine Master Naturalist. He will no doubt notice many plants and animals besides butterflies as you walk with him. Roger will also give tips on how to photograph butterflies, which he has published in his book *Butterflies Up Close, a Guide to Butterfly Photography*.

Calendar

- May 3, Sat. Quest at Head-of-Tide. 236-7091.
 May 3, Discover Your Inner Naturalist! FMI: 338-1147
 May 5, Mon. 8:00 am. In-Town Nature Trail, p. 1
 May 6, Tues. 8:00 am. In-Town Nature Trail, p. 1
 May 7, Wed. 9:00 am. In-Town Nature Trail, p. 1
 May 9, Fri. 8:30-11:30. Bird Bus, see p. 2.
 May 10, Sat. Bird Walk on Sears Island, see left.
 May 14, Wed. 6:30. Map Meet-Up, see p. 2.
 May 15, Thur., 5:00 Board meeting at Cohousing
 6:30 Cohousing Tour/Talk , see page 2.
 May 19, Mon. 8:00 am. In-Town Nature Trail, see p. 1
 May 20, Tues. 9:00 am. In-Town Nature Trail, see p. 1.
 May 21, Wed. Bird Walk Ducktrap River, see left.
 May 31, Sat. FrogWatch training, see p. 5.
 June 7, Sat. Paddle the Goose River, see left.
 July 5, Sat. Knox Co. Butterfly Count, see p.5.
 July 10, Discover Your Inner Naturalist! FMI:338-1147
 July 11, Fri. Lower Penobscot Butterfly Count, p. 5
 July 13, Sun. 1:00-3:00pm. Butterfly Walk on Sears Island. See left.

You are invited to participate

The Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition invites you to help with our mission of exploring and enjoying our watershed, educating others about it, and raising community awareness about issues in our watershed.

Please feel free to attend a program or an outing and see what we are doing. To subscribe to the newsletter on-line, contact Francine Brown at fbrown711@roadrunner.com

Contact information:

Skip Pendleton 338-4427 Cloe Chunn 338-1147

Mission: The Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition is a group of organizations and individuals working to support conservation and stewardship of natural, scenic, historic, and public access resources of the Belfast Bay watershed through research, community-building, and education.