



Belfast Bay
Watershed

BELFAST BAY WATERSHED NEWS

Conservation Opportunities!

Check these and join us in caring for the world.

Stream-Smart Workshop

Maine Audubon workshop to aid fish passage at road crossings, culverts, dams, and other barriers. Offered around the state; closest place is Rockland, March 13, 8:30-12:30.

FMI and to register: Becca Wilson 781-2330 x 222, bwilson@maineaudubon.org

To carpool: 338-1147

Be a Frog Monitor

Frogwatch USA Training at Hidden Valley Nature Center, Jefferson, Sat., March 28. 9:00-12:30. FMI: andy@hvnc.org 207-200-8840

Penobscot Bay Stewards

a month long crash course in the natural, economic, and cultural history of our region, providing volunteer opportunities to follow. Meet interesting people, visit great places. See pages 3-4.

Work with us on trails, education, or research. For trails, call 338-4427 or email skipen@midmaine.com

Waldo County Earth Days, April 16-26

a ten day festival honoring our Mother Earth with teach-ins, kids' activities, and a parade. See page 2.

Bird Week, May 9-16

Learn to identify and appreciate our feathered friends. Join us on bird walks and watches. Help guide some of the outings (338-1147).

Sat. May 9, 7:00-10:00. Birds and Flowers of the Little River Trail.

Sun. May 10, 7:00-10:00. Bird Sears Island.

Mon. May 11, 7:00-10:00. Birds and Amphibians of Meadow Brook Preserve

Tues. May 12, 7:00-10:00. Bird Cloe and David's farm, Swanville

Wed. May 13, 6:30-9:30. Bird Ducktrap River Trail; 7:30 pm Woodcock Watch

Thur. May 14. 7:00-10:00. Bird Hurds Pond and Hawk-Fry Preserve by canoe

Fri. May 15. 7:00-10:00. In-Town Nature Trail

Sat. May 16, 9:00-1:00. Paddle/bird the Goose River.

Details in May newsletter. FMI for all events: 338-1147

Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition

P.O. Box 152, Belfast, ME 04915

www.belfastbaywatershed.org

Evening Programs at the Belfast Library

Our educational programs are offered on Thursday evenings once per month in the Abbott Room. Programs are free and open to all. Light refreshments are served.

March 19, 6:30 pm. "Bird Migration," Jody Telfair. Jody has chased birds all over the globe, and will share what she knows about birds and their migratory behavior, especially birds we consider "ours" in Maine. She will emphasize how we can help them in their current struggle for survival.

April 16, 6:30 pm. "Current Topics of Climate Change." Geologist Sid Quarrier will touch on topics such as Antarctica, the Arctic's effect on weather patterns, the role of methane, and tipping points, followed by a group discussion of what is known about climate change and why procrastination makes it increasingly difficult to solve problems.

May 21, 6:30 pm. "The Arctic: Eye-Witness to Change." Karen and Rick Miles, owners of the *Wanderbird*, will share their long-term observations of climate and conditions in the Arctic, where they have led tour groups on the *Wanderbird* for decades.

Waldo County Earth Days, April 16-26

BBWC is one of several community groups that have come together to create Waldo County Earth Days. From April 16 to 26, focus will center on earth stewardship, and the variety of events should appeal to families as well as adults. Events are as follows:

Thursday, April 16, 6:30 - 8:00: Current Topics of Climate Change (see Evening Programs above)

Sunday, April 19, Rev. Rob McCall, writer of Awanadjo Almanac on WERU, will speak on "Feeling at Home with Nature and Nature's God" at the Belfast UU Church, Miller St. next to library.

Wednesday, April 22, 6:30 - 8:00: Local author Jim Merkel will speak on the societal benefits of "de-growth"--that is, living as sustainably and with as little impact as possible on the land. Abbott Room, Belfast Free Library. Preceding this event will be a potluck dinner at the UU Church at 5:30. Family crafts projects will be provided for children of those attending the presentation.

Thursday, April 23, 6:45 - 8:30: Showing of the film "A Fierce Green Fire," the story of the birth of the American environmental movement. Admission is free; donations are accepted. Colonial Theatre, 163 High Street, Belfast.

Friday, April 24, 6:30 - 8:30: George Jacobson of U/Maine's Climate Change Institute will speak on the science of climate change, past, present, and future. State Representative Mick Devin will then speak on ocean acidification and the role climate change plays on the health of the ocean's resources. Audience discussion will follow. Community environmental organizations will also have information tables available before the program, which begins at 7:00. First Congregational Church, Church Street, Belfast.

Sunday, April 26: Family-centered Earth Day parade. Costumes are encouraged for participants in this event, the theme of which will be organic gardening. Little peas-in-pods and their tomato siblings will gather at Waterfall Arts at noon to prepare for the parade, which will start at 1:00 at Waterfall Arts and end at 2:00 at the Boathouse. At Heritage Park, 3:00: An Earth Day puppet pageant rounds out the celebration. FMI on all events: 669-2903 or beverlyteach@gmail.com

Check our website for further developments.

Penobscot Bay Stewards Program

May 2015

Would you like to learn more about the Penobscot Bay region and help preserve its unique character and history? The Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition is again collaborating with the Maine Coastal Program to offer the Penobscot Bay Stewards Program to area residents. This is a unique opportunity to learn about the Penobscot Bay region and ways to conserve its resources.

The program will run morning through afternoon on Tuesdays and Thursdays from April 28 through May 28. Topics to be covered include Penobscot Bay history, marine life, island ecology, coastal land, intertidal and marine habitats, geology, the Penobscot Nation, fisheries, aquaculture, water quality, conservation issues, and current regional issues with impacts on our environment and human life. Leading authorities in their fields will give presentations and lead field trips.

The program will include classroom presentations, short hikes in nature preserves and state parks, and field trips to Rockland, Blue Hill & Stonington, Hurricane Island, Indian Island, Castine, and the Belfast area. Some days will require early morning departures and boat trips. Participants should be prepared to car pool and bring a bag lunch.

The course is free, but participants are expected to volunteer 30 hours to local conservation efforts of their choice during the coming year. Classes will provide an ample selection of possible projects. The Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition (www.belfastbaywatershed.org) qualifies as such a conservation organization.

Why should you join the Stewards? As you learn more about Penobscot Bay, the Mid-Coast, and local watersheds, you'll realize how very important and fragile they are. With this knowledge, you can be part of efforts to preserve and protect this valuable resource.

The course is limited to 20 enthusiastic participants who will participate in the entire program.

If you would like more information, email penbaystewards@gmail.com or call Penny at 207-631-7572, or Barney at 207-218-1088.

The application deadline is April 1.

Mail applications to: Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition
 P.O. Box 152
 Belfast, ME 04915

2015 Penobscot Bay Stewards Program APPLICATION

Please attach an additional sheet of paper, if necessary.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone numbers: _____
E-mail: _____

How did you hear about Penobscot Bay Stewards?

Why are you interested in becoming a Penobscot Bay Steward?

What is your related background and experience include formal and informal training and experience?

What are your skills and interests?

<input type="checkbox"/> computers	<input type="checkbox"/> marine science	<input type="checkbox"/> fundraising
<input type="checkbox"/> editing/writing	<input type="checkbox"/> public speaking	<input type="checkbox"/> photography
<input type="checkbox"/> working with children	<input type="checkbox"/> graphic arts	<input type="checkbox"/> mapping
<input type="checkbox"/> naturalist activities	<input type="checkbox"/> teaching	<input type="checkbox"/> organizing
<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____		

Please describe your current and previous volunteer activities, including involvement in other organizations.

Do you have any physical limitation that could affect your participation in program activities?

References (Please provide two, and include all information requested.)

Name: 1. _____ 2. _____
Phone number: _____
Relationship: _____

The Penobscot Bay Stewards are volunteers who learn about the natural and cultural elements that shape the Penobscot Bay region and turn this awareness into action. Thirty hours of volunteer service are required of each Steward.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Welcome New Board Members!



Barney Lutsk
Living in Belfast has been a wonderful experience thanks to the Pen Bay Stewards program, as well as my

volunteer work with the YMCA and Senior College, and having my grand-children near by. I grew up in Virginia and raised my daughters and worked in CT for many years: 10 years as a partner consulting for non-profits, 10 years as a home-care nurse, and 8 years working for Aetna as a nurse supervisor/ project lead. I am excited about the great work and the leadership of the BBWC in the Belfast Watershed. Living in a beautiful setting on Penobscot Bay exceeds all my expectations. Life is GOOD.



John Tipping

John is the owner and chief lab technician at Lotic, Inc., a consulting firm specialized in the biological assessment of surface waters. He was educated at Indiana University, University of Pennsylvania, and Ohio State, and has worked at Lotic since 1997. He enjoys cycling, hiking, cross country skiing, and splashing about in the never ending search for interesting aquatic insects.

Beverly Roxby
Bev Roxby moved to Belfast three years ago from Frenchboro, a quiet little island off the coast of Bass Harbor. She majored in environmental ed in graduate school at SUNY/Syracuse, and directed two environmental camps while there. Bev taught middle school English in NH for almost 30 years before coming to Maine. She grew up in Illinois with a passion for mountains, ocean, and wilderness. Her outdoor interests include hiking big mountains, kayaking, skiing, and managing her two golden retrievers. Her focus is to promote awareness of the conditions that compromise our planet.



Matt Vance



Matt recently came to our watershed from New Orleans where he satisfied his conservation itch through employment in the state park system and various wildlife projects. A

conservationist at heart, Matt obtained a Conservation Biology degree from Lake Superior State University where he conducted an award winning thesis on bridging the needs of nesting piping plovers and recreationists. This propelled a career in public and private agencies with a focus on the human-wildlife interface. Matt hopes to draw upon his years of professional experience and focus on projects that meet the needs of people and our natural resources.

Outings

Anyone is welcome on outings. For more information, or in questionable weather, call 338-1147 for details.

March 14, Sat. 10:00-2:00. Snowshoe/ski the Gibson Preserve, Searsmont. Meet at Renys outer parking lot at 10:00 to carpool. Georges River Land Trust. Bring water, lunch, extra layers.

April 11, Sat. 10:00-1:00. Passy Rail Trail. Meet at the Railroad Museum and Train Station at 10:00. Four miles RT. Bring water, lunch, extra layers.

May 9, Sat. 7:00-10:00 am. Birds and Flowers of the Little River Trail. Meet at Walsh Ball Field parking lot on Rt. 52, Belfast. Bring water, lunch, rain gear, binoculars.

Bird Week, May 9-16: see page 1.

May 16, Sat. 9:00-1:00. Paddle the Goose River, Swanville. Meet at 9:00 at the put-in behind Swan Lake Grocery off Rt. 141. Bring water, lunch, protection from sun, rain, wind, insects. Binoculars optional.

June 13, Sat. 9:00-2:00. Paddle the scenic and historic Penobscot River from Hampden to Frankfort. Meet at McLaughlin's Marina, 100 Marina Road, Hampden, at 9:00 am. Drive to Hampden on Rt. 1A, turn right at Burns Construction (brown building) and sign to McLaughlin's Restaurant and Marina. This is a 12 mile paddle with the falling tide. Bring boat, paddle, PFD, water, lunch, protection from sun, wind, rain. Money to eat at McLaughlins afterward (optional).

Calendar

March 13, Fri. Stream-Smart workshop. Page 1

March 14, Sat. Snowshoe/ski the Gibson Preserve. See left

March 19, Thurs. Bird Migration program, Jody Telfair. See p. 2

March 28, Sat. FrogWatch training. See page 1

April 11, Sat. Passy Rail Trail. See left

April 16, Thurs. "Current Topics of Climate Change." Sid Quarrier. See p.2

April 16-26 Waldo County Earth Days schedule, see p. 2

April 28, Tues. First day of Pen Bay Stewards

May 9, Sat. Birds and Flowers of the Little River Trail. See left

May 9-16 Bird Week schedule: see page 1.

May 16, Sat. Paddle the Goose River. See left

May 21, Thurs. program "The Arctic: Eye-Witness to Change." Karen and Rick Miles, see p. 2

May 28, Thurs. Last day of Pen Bay Stewards

June 13, Sat. Paddle the Passy. See left.

You are invited to participate

BBWC invites you to help with our mission of exploring our watershed, educating others about it, and raising community awareness about issues in our watershed. Please join us!

To subscribe to the newsletter on-line, contact Francine Brown at fbrown711@roadrunner.com

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.

