



Belfast Bay
Watershed

BELFAST BAY WATERSHED NEWS

Salmon from Schools to Streams

It's that time again. Students from nine area schools participating in the Salmon-in-Schools Program will be releasing their salmon fry into Wescot Stream in Waldo/Swanville. After carefully nurturing 200 eggs for 4 months, students will release the fry into the world to take their chances living and growing, eating aquatic insects and hiding from predation until time to go to sea, about three years from now.

BBWC purchases and maintains chillers and tanks for each school, and provides the salmon eggs and helpful support for raising them for release.



Tom King delivers salmon eggs to
Drinkwater School in January



Students release fry into Wescot
Stream in May

Hills to Sea Trail forges ahead

The eastern end of the cross-Waldo-County trail may possibly be completed by this fall or winter. It will join the western half coming from Unity, which has been completed to Frye Mountain, the halfway point. The trail crew is clearing and blazing the way this summer. To get involved, call 338-4427 or email skipen@midmaine.com



Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition

P.O. Box 152, Belfast, ME 04915

www.belfastbaywatershed.org

Evening Programs at the Belfast Library

Our last two programs until the fall series begins:

May 4, 6:30-8:30. Book Discussion: Elizabeth Kolbert's *The Sixth Extinction*. Part of ongoing Earth Days Waldo County series.

May 19, 6:30 pm. "The Eastern Wildway: Everglades to the Arctic." John Davis , cofounder of Wildlands Network. In 2011 Davis walked, cycled, skied, canoed and kayaked from the Florida Keys to Quebec to make the case for an Eastern Wildway. Davis will share highlights from this 7,600-mile trek through the wilder parts of the East, and talk about **the importance of the Maine Woods to this rewilding vision.**

John will also speak on Wed. May 18 in Unity and Friday May 20 at 7pm in Damariscotta at the Oats Barn of Round Top Farmhouse.

Bird Week is May 14-21

(More info: 338-1147)

Sat. May 14, 7:00 am. Bird walk on Sears Island; meet at the gate. 9:00 Searsport Town Hall presentation, coffee, donuts. Nature walks at 10:30 and 12:00 on Sears Island and Long Cove Preserve. Cosponsored with Coastal Mountains Land Trust (CMLT) and Friends of Sears Island.

Sun. May 15, 7:00 am Hills to Sea Trail. Meet at Belfast Area Children's Center, Rt. 137.

Mon. May 16, 7:00 am. St. Clair Preserve, Knights Pond, Northport (CMLT). Meet at the boat launch on Knights Pond.

Tues. May 17, 7:00 am McLellan-Poor Preserve, Belfast-Northport (CMLT). Meet at the trailhead on Herrick Road at the town line.

Wed. May 18, 7:00 am Ducktrap River Preserve, Lincolnville (CMLT). Meet at the trailhead on Rt. 52 in Lincolnville, 7 miles south of the Rt. 1 light.

Thur., May 19, 7:00 am Head of Tide Preserve, Doak Road, Belfast (CMLT). Meet at the parking lot on Doak Road.

Fri., May 20, 7:00 am Hauk-Fry Preserve, Swanville (CMLT). Park roadside at 323 Oak Hill Road, Swanville.

Sat. May 21, 9:00 am paddle of Goose River, Swanville. Meet at the put-in below the Swan Lake dam behind Swan Lake Grocery, off Rt. 141. Bring boat, paddle, PFD, water, lunch, protection from sun, wind, rain, bugs; binoculars if you have.

Sat. May 21, 7:30 evening Full Moon Woodcock Watch at David and Cloe's farm, 210 Oak Hill Road, Swanville

June Outing: **June 11, Sat.** 9:30-12:30. Paddle Knights Pond in Northport. Meet at the boat launch/ beach on Knights Pond Road. Bring paddle, boat, PFD, water, lunch, sun, wind, rain, bug protection. Swim suit? Picnic on the beach after paddling.



*Bobolink
Dan Avenier*

Head of Tide Preserve Educational Activities

All events will begin at the Head of Tide Preserve parking lot on Doak Road, Belfast, a property conserved by Coastal Mountains Land Trust. FMI: 338-1147.

Picnic Table Building Workshop **May 6 Fri.** 9:00-12:00. WCTC students will lead this workshop at Head of Tide Preserve. Bring your lunch to try out the new tables.

Bird and Wildflower Walk May 19, Thursday, 7:00-10:00 am. Cloe Chunn will walk us around the preserve to discover incoming spring migrants and greet our faithful year-round residents. Specialties to Head of Tide are nesting ospreys and prairie warblers. We will also keep an eye to the ground for spring wildflowers. Bring binoculars and wear dull or dark colors.

Permablitz Work Party and Parking Lot Potluck June 5, Sunday. 9am - noon. Karin Wittmann and Denis Wang will facilitate plantings and educational workshops.

Reading the Landscape walk June 5, Sunday. 1:00-3:00. Walk the Land with Aleta McKeage, professional ecologist. Explore the varied landscapes and learn about the intricate ways that plants, animals and people interact in this very diverse and beautiful place, and how its richness and functionality can be preserved and restored by our actions. We'll meet the common plants in the preserve, and learn their role in the ecosystem.

Butterflies, Dragonflies, and Other Insects July 2, Saturday. 10:00-12:00. Roger Rittmaster, Maine Master Naturalist, will help us learn the difference between a butterfly and moth, a dragonfly and a damselfly, honeybees and bumblebees. Why are insects essential to the lives of other species, including us? Roger, author of *Butterflies Up Close: A Guide to Butterfly Photography*, will lead us in an exploration of the diversity of insect life in one of the most varied of CMLT's preserves.

Fern Walk July 7, Thursday, 10:00-12:00. Hildy Ellis, a botanist from Knox-Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, and Cloe Chunn will introduce us to many local ferns, tell us about their life cycles and how to identify them. Come make new Fern Friends and learn about their role in our natural systems. Linger and eat a bag lunch if you like. Bring water, lunch, sun and rain protection, and a magnifying glass.

Geology Walk August 3, Wed., 9:00-12:00. Henry Berry, a geologist from the Maine Geological Survey, will lead a geology walk along the Passagassawakeag River bluffs and around the preserve. Come and learn the interesting history of the land we walk on, and how we are part of it today. Linger and eat a bag lunch if you like. Bring water, lunch, sun and rain protection.

Permablitz Work Party August 3rd Saturday, 9:00 – noon. Karin Wittmann and Denis Wang will facilitate plantings and educational workshops.

Bigelow Lab Ocean Ecologist Speaks at Waterfall Arts August 18

As part of the *Tiny Giants: Marine Microbes Revealed on a Giant Scale*, Dr. Nick Record of the Bigelow Laboratory of Marine Sciences will give a talk on critical issues facing Penobscot Bay and the Gulf of Maine. The talk, co-sponsored by BBWC, is scheduled for Thursday, August 18 at 7 pm at Waterfall Arts, 256 High Street in Belfast.

Dr. Record is a computational ocean ecologist and Senior Research Scientist at the Bigelow Lab. He works on many aspects of the Gulf of Maine ecosystem, from physics to microbes to whales, particularly on how the system responds to changing climate. He is one of the photographers featured in the *Tiny Giants* exhibit, a traveling exhibit created using three different microscopes to make large scale photographic enlargements of marine microbes at risk.

The images draw viewers in to the amazingly complex and beautiful world of microscopic marine creatures, so vital to our global environment. They produce half of the oxygen we breathe, are the basis of food for the entire marine food web from fish to whales, and are helping to mitigate the effects of climate change.

The *Tiny Giants* exhibit will be on display from August 15 through September 9.



Thalia democratica, a salp

Coastal Mountains Land Trust Educational Field Trips

CMLT has many nature walks scheduled in or near the Belfast Bay watershed area. Therefore, a few are selected here, but to learn more, please visit their website www.coastalmountains.org or call 236-7091.

All walks are scheduled for 10:00 am-12:00 noon.

Sat., May 7 – Vernal Pools field trip, Tanglewood 4H camp in Lincolnville, by Abbey Feuka.

Sat., June 4 – Spring plants and wildflowers. Merryspring Nature Center, Camden. Dr. Eric Doucette, president of Josselyn Botanical Society.

Sat., July 2 – Butterflies, Dragonflies and Other Insects. Head of Tide, Belfast. Roger Rittmaster, Maine Master Naturalist.

Sat., Aug. 6 – Edible and Poisonous Mushrooms. McLellan-Poor Preserve, Northport. Dr. David Porter, emeritus professor of mycology, University of Georgia.

Sat., Oct. 1 – Mosses and Lichens in the St. Clair Preserve, Knights Pond in Northport. Roger Rittmaster and Cloe Chunn, Maine Master Naturalists.

Sat., Nov. 5 – Geology of Maine's Beaches. Lincolnville Beach. Dr. Stephen Norton, emeritus professor, University of Maine.

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www.belfastbaywatershed.org