

Cape Cod Bird Club Field Trips - Coordinator, Mary Jo Foti March - June 2025



**Join us on these free club trips.
Please email the trip leader if you plan to attend.
Always check the website for updates or cancellations**

March

Bells Neck Conservation Area – Harwich

Friday, March 7 – 8:00am

Meet at Bells Neck Road at the landing of the West Reservoir with parking in the nearby fenced-in lot. Take advantage of low tide conditions on the East Reservoir, enjoy the marsh overlook at the footbridge and scan the car bridge for raptors, waterfowl, and a possible bittern or rail. Expect about 2 miles of walking on varied terrain, sometimes narrow dirt trails with a slightly steep hill leading to the footbridge. Leader: Jeff Bryant, five_loons@yahoo.com

Doane Rock and Nauset Bay East, Eastham

Saturday, March 8 – 8am

The walk begins in the parking area beyond Doane Rock which allows us two hours to explore this area of rich, mixed habitat. We'll begin on the wooded trails leading to Nauset Bay East, then stop on the wooden bridge spanning the marsh to observe waterfowl, gulls and other over-wintering species. Expect to walk about 3 miles of paved and dirt trails. Leader: William von Herff williamvonherff@gmail.com

Owl Prowl - West Barnstable

Tuesday, March 11 – 6:30 PM

We will explore West Barnstable Conservation Area in search of resident owls including Barred Owl, Great Horned Owl, Eastern Screech Owl and Northern Saw-whet Owl. From the Marston Mills Rotary, head west on Race Lane (towards the airport hangar) for 1.2 miles. Turn right onto Crooked Cartway and follow the road until it opens onto a large, dirt parking area. Dress warm and bring a flashlight. We'll be walking about 1.5 miles of level, hardpack trails which can be uneven and strewn with roots and gravel. Leaders: MJ Foti, maryjo1226@yahoo.com **(This was a signup walk that has been filled.)**

Hatches Harbor Fire Rd. to Race Point Light – P-town

Sunday, March 16 – 8am

Meet at the dirt parking lot on the west side of Province Lands Rd. about a mile south of the National Seashore Visitor Center. From the dirt parking lot, we'll follow the fire road that runs northwest to the dike separating Hatches Harbor from the airport that leads out to both the harbor and Race Point. Gulls, terns, shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and passerines are among the many species to be encountered here. Low tide 7:41 am - waterproof footwear recommended. Leader: Ross Sormani, rsormani@yahoo.com

Scusset Beach State Reservation, Sagamore

Saturday, March 22 – 8:00am

Take Scusset Beach Road to the main entrance. Parking is .25 miles past the entrance at the fishing pier. We'll walk the bike path that parallels the canal to view wintering waterfowl, Great Cormorant and possible alcid species as well as checking out the woodland trail under the powerline. The campground area and adjacent field by the playground can host a variety of wintering passerines, including Horned

Lark and occasionally Snow Buntings. Expect 2 to 3 miles of paved trail and possibly some wooded dirt trails. Leader: Keelin Miller, capekeelin@hotmail.com

Grays Beach and Callery Darling Trails – Yarmouth Port **Wednesday, March 26 – 8:00am**
From Center Street in Yarmouth Port, follow signs to Grays Beach where we'll meet at the big parking area. This beach is noted for its extensive boardwalk across the channel from Sandy Neck Lighthouse and just a stone's throw from Dennis Chapin Beach. Along the wooded Callery Darling Trails we'll keep our eyes and ears open for passerines sheltering in the brush. Leader: Jeff Bryant five_loons@yahoo.com

Crane Wildlife Management Area – East Falmouth **Sunday, March 30 – 8:00am**
From Mashpee rotary, take Rt.151 West (Nathan Ellis Highway) approx. 4.3 miles. Shortly after Sandwich Rd intersection, the entrance to Crane will be on the right next to Allietta Softball Field. Dress in layers, especially when the wind is up, to enjoy this unique grassland habitat which is host to a rich variety of over-wintering species including Eastern Meadowlark, rare passerines such as Vesper Sparrow and a possible Northern Shrike. Hard pack trails can give way to more rock-strewn, narrow paths - between 1.5 and 3 miles of walking. Leader: MJ Foti, maryjo1226@yahoo.com

April

Robert F. Smith Cold Brook Preserve – Harwich **Tuesday, April 1 – 6 PM**
From Rt. 39 in Harwich, take Bank Street to #203 - the Harbormaster's Workshop. We will take a leisurely evening stroll to where [American Woodcock](#) can be observed while birding along the way. Cold Brook Preserve underwent a major ecological restoration project completed in fall 2024 with newly restored and easily accessible trails throughout 66 acres of wetland and surrounding woodland. The intricate pond and trail system provides ideal habitat for a variety of passerines, hawks and waterfowl in addition to otters and other mammals.
Leader: Ed Banks (68edbanks@gmail.com). *Please bring a flashlight.*

Bells Neck Conservation Area – Harwich **Saturday, April 12 – 8 AM**
Meet at Bells Neck Road at the landing of the West Reservoir with parking in the nearby fenced-in lot. Take advantage of low tide conditions on the East Reservoir, enjoy the marsh overlook at the footbridge and scan the car bridge for raptors, waterfowl, and a possible bittern or rail. Expect about 2 miles of walking on varied terrain, sometimes narrow dirt trails with a slightly steep hill leading to the footbridge. Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

Hatches Harbor Fire Rd. to RP Light – Provincetown **Saturday, April 19 – 8 AM**
Meet at the dirt parking lot on the west side of Province Lands Rd. about a mile south of the National Seashore Visitor Center. From the dirt parking lot, we'll follow the fire road that runs northwest to the dike separating Hatches Harbor from the airport that leads out to both the harbor and Race Point. Gulls, terns, waterfowl, raptors, and passerines are among the many species observed. The occasional rarity is always possible in this unique habitat. Low tide is 10:45 AM. There could be wet conditions on the way out to the lighthouse, so you may want to have a pair of boots on hand for this 4-mile hike.
Leader: Ross Sormani (rsormani@yahoo.com)

Beech Forest – Provincetown **Sunday, April 20 – 8 AM**
Join this walk to get an early jump on spring migration. Meet at the Beech Forest parking lot: from Route 6E, turn north onto Race Point Road. The parking lot is about 0.5 mile down the road on the left. We will bird the parking lot, then stroll along the sandy loop trail around Blackwater Pond in search of early migrants and other passerines. Terrain is a mix of hard packed dirt paths, paved bike trails and mild hills. Leader: William von Herff (williamvonherff@gmail.com)

Crowes Pasture – East Dennis**Friday, April 25 – 8 AM**

Turn onto School Street, make your first right onto South Street and follow till the end. Meet in the dirt parking lot on the right shortly past the cemetery. This area offers a diversity of habitats including oak and pine woodlands, fields, dunes, beach, freshwater ponds, salt marsh, and tidal creeks. There is also a nest box trail system maintained by Cape Cod Bird Club for Eastern Bluebirds and Tree Swallows.

Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

Tidmarsh Wildlife Sanctuary, Plymouth**Tuesday April 29 – 8 AM**

From the Sagamore Bridge, take Rt. 3 North 10 minutes to exit 7 (Clark Rd). Turn right at the end of the ramp to Clark Rd which becomes Beaver Dam Rd. Travel ~5 minutes to 60 Beaver Dam Rd where you will see the parking lot for Tidmarsh on the right. This 481-acre former cranberry farm is the largest freshwater ecological restoration ever completed in the Northeast. It features a winding coastal stream bordered by freshwater wetlands, plus 3 miles of trails through meadows and woodlands, along ponds, swamps, and streams. We will walk 2-3 miles of mainly flat dirt trails and boardwalks in search of nesting bluebirds, early migrating warblers, sparrows (Field, Swamp), and raptors (Kestrel, Broad-winged, Bald Eagle). *This walk is co-sponsored with South Shore Bird Club (SSBC).*

Leaders: Peter Fang (fangmail@comcast.net) Gloria Smith (glofang@comcast.net)

Lisa Schibley (lschibley@manomet.org)

May**Beech Forest Walks for May 2025 – Provincetown**

CCBC is offering bird walks for May migration. Meet at the Beech Forest parking lot: from Route 6E, turn north onto Race Point Road. The parking lot is about 0.5 mile down the road on the left. We will find the parking lot, then stroll along the sandy loop trail around Blackwater Pond for migrating warblers and other passerines. Terrain is a mix of hard packed dirt paths, paved bike trails and mild hills.

Saturday, May 3 - Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Wednesday, May 14 - Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

Tuesday, May 20 - Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

Sunday, May 25 - Leader: Marilyn Tillinghast (marilyntillinghast@gmail.com)

Tuesday, May 27 – Leader: Peter Crosson (capecodbirder@gmail.com)

Additional Walks in May**Fort Hill – Eastham****Thursday, May 1 - 8AM**

From Rte 6E, turn on Governor Prence Rd. and park in first lot on the left just past Captain Penniman House. We'll walk the loop trail towards Hemenway Landing where we'll likely encounter some early migrant activity. We'll scan the marsh for incoming shorebirds, herons, egrets and hopefully a bittern or rail. You may want to wear waterproof boots/shoes. Expect 2 miles of walking on hard pack trail with mixed elevation. Leader: William von Herff (williamvonherff@gmail.com)

Mass Audubon's Ashumet Holly Wildlife Sanctuary**Tuesday, May 6 – 8 AM**

From Mashpee rotary, take the exit for 151 west (Nathan Ellis Highway) and travel approx. 2.7 miles. Turn right onto Currier Rd, and take another right onto Ashumet Rd. The dirt parking lot will be on your left. This property is known for its variety of hollies along with areas of dense thickets, woodland trails and small but productive Grassy Pond. Expect 2-3 miles of walking along dirt trails with mild hills.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Clapps Pond – Provincetown**Saturday, May 10 – 8 AM**

Drive 1.2 miles past the traffic light at Race Point Rd. on Route 6. Parking is permitted along the side of the road as per Provincetown Parking Commission. We'll follow a wide loop-trail running along a ridge offering many overlooks of the pond, the surrounding bogs and woodlands. This is a three-mile hike with some sizable hills which we expect will take a full 2 1/2 hours to cover. We hope to be rewarded with some migrating thrushes, vireos and perhaps even one of the more southern warblers.

Leaders: Ross Sormani (rsormani@yahoo.com)

Bridge Creek Conservation – Barnstable**Saturday, May 17 – 8 AM**

From Route 6, take exit 65 for MA-149N, then merge onto Meetinghouse Way. Parking is available behind West Barnstable Fire Department - the trailhead is located to the left. Small boardwalks spring up to help navigate these boggy wooded trails as you listen for warblers, vireos, and other passerines. Past sightings include Hooded Warbler, Red-eyed and White-eyed Vireos and Virginia Rail.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

High Head – N. Truro**Saturday, May 31 – 8AM**

Meet at High Head Bike Trail parking lot. Bear left when you reach Cliff Rd to stay on High Head Rd, a dirt pathway that leads to parking for the bike trail. We'll be looking and listening for rails, bobwhites and American Bittern skulking through the marsh as well as searching overhead for raptors and scanning the thickets for passerines. Walk begins on the paved bike trail but may also include hard pack dirt trails of mixed elevation. *This walk is co-sponsored with South Shore Bird Club (SSBC).*

Leaders: Ross Sormani (rsormani@yahoo.com) Vin Zollo (vzollo1@yahoo.com)

June**Crane Wildlife Management Area – East Falmouth****Tuesday, June 3 – 8 AM**

From Mashpee rotary, take 151 west (Nathan Ellis Highway) approx. 4.3 miles. Shortly after Sandwich Rd intersection, the entrance to Crane will be on the right by Allieta Softball Field. Parking is across from Otis Model Aero Club. This unique grassland habitat is host to a rich variety of species, including Eastern Meadowlark, Grasshopper Sparrow, Bobolink, American Kestrel, and possibly Blue Grosbeak. After, we can cross the road and scan Coonamessett Field for raptor activity. Those wishing to can continue on to Mass Audubon's Ashumet Holly Wildlife Sanctuary located just minutes from Crane.

This walk is co-sponsored with Brookline Bird Club (BBC)

Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

Goodwill Park – Falmouth**Saturday, June 7 - 8:00 AM**

Meet at the entrance on Goodwill Park Rd off Gifford Street, about .6 miles north of the Jones Rd/Gifford St intersection. A variety of warbler species, Brown Thrasher, and many nesting songbirds are among the species you can expect in this beautiful woodland habitat.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Robert F. Smith Cold Brook Preserve – Harwich**Friday, June 13 – 8:00 AM**

From Rt. 39 in Harwich, take Bank Street to #203 - the Harbormaster's Workshop. Cold Brook Preserve underwent a major ecological restoration project completed in fall 2024 featuring easily accessible trails throughout 66 acres of wetland and surrounding woodland. The intricate pond and trail system provides ideal habitat for a variety of passerines, hawks and waterfowl in addition to otters and other mammals.

Leader: Al Curtis (alcurtis48@gmail.com)

Bells Neck Conservation Area, West Reservoir – Harwich**Sunday, June 22 – 8 AM**

Meet at Bell's Neck Road at the landing of West Reservoir with parking in the nearby fenced-in lot. We'll pick up the trail at the north side of West Reservoir and take a counter-clockwise route to the western

edge by the herring run. We'll then complete the circuit by following the trail along the southern edge of the reservoir. This is a known roosting area for Black-crowned Night Heron. Expect 2-3 miles of walking on somewhat rocky and root-strewn trails. Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

Forest Beach Conservation, South Chatham

Saturday, June 28 – 8 AM

Take Rte. 6 to exit 85 and head south towards Rte. 28. Make a right on 28 and a left in .5 miles at Forest Beach Rd. This will take you directly to the beach where parking is free of charge. We'll walk the marsh trail to where it meets Mill Creek and return via the beach – about one mile of walking in soft sand – before heading towards the overlook on Bay View Road. There you will find a generous parking lot with an overlook offering panoramic views of Nantucket Sound. Waterproof footwear recommended.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)