



**Cape Cod Bird Club Field Trips - Coordinator, MJ Foti  
Winter 2025**

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

**New Year's Day with Ed Banks – Mid-Cape** **Wednesday, January 1, 2025 – 12-4**  
Meet in the Stop & Shop parking lot at Patriot Square on Route 134 in South Dennis. Please join us for this annual *New Year's Day* outing! Get your 2025 checklist off to a great start. Click off your yard birds in the morning and join us at noon. We will bird the mid-Cape and perhaps some other hotspots. Party hats optional! Leader: Ed Banks, [68edbanks@gmail.com](mailto:68edbanks@gmail.com) (508-769-6762),

**Outer Cape Ramble – Wellfleet, Truro, P-town** **Saturday, January 11 – 8:00am**  
We will meet at Wellfleet Town Pier, then continue exploring the ponds, beaches and harbors of the Outer Cape. Gull Pond, Pamet Harbor, Head-of-the-Meadow Beach, Highland Light and Race Point Beach are all possible target destinations. Our final stop will be Macmillan Wharf in Provincetown. We can expect wintering waterfowl, alcids and other northern visitors and also keep our eyes and ears open for passerines sheltering in the brush. You can carpool with friends/family members or drive individually. Leader: Jeff Bryant, [five\\_loons@yahoo.com](mailto:five_loons@yahoo.com)

**Fort Hill and Hemenway Landing, Eastham** **Sunday, January 12 – 8:00am**  
Join us for a walk along the loop trail to Hemenway Landing as we watch for marshland species more easily observed on the high tide. Bitterns and rails are possible along with a variety of waterfowl and raptors. High tide is 10:06 AM. Wear knee-high boots if you want to search for passerines in the marsh. Expect at least 2 miles of trail walking on varied terrain with mixed elevation. Leader: William von Herff, [williamvonherff@gmail.com](mailto:williamvonherff@gmail.com)

**Eastham Ponds and First Encounter Beach** **Sunday, January 19 – 8:00am**  
Meet at Great Pond beach parking area by turning right off Samoset Road onto Great Pond Road to begin the day viewing a nice variety of dabbling and diving ducks. Wiley Park is the next stop where we'll explore a short, wooded trail offering additional views of Great Pond. From there we'll head to First Encounter Beach and finally, a short hop to Herring Pond - a productive spot for wintering waterfowl. If you have a scope, bring it along. Varied terrain with ~ 2 miles of walking. Leader: Jeff Bryant, [five\\_loons@yahoo.com](mailto:five_loons@yahoo.com)

**Corporation Beach, Dennis and Brewster Ponds** **Sunday, January 26 – 8:00am**  
Meet at Corporation Beach off Route 6A in South Dennis where you can observe a variety of overwintering waterfowl, grebes, loons, alcids and the occasional Harlequin Duck directly from the parking area. From there we'll visit freshwater ponds including Scargo Lake, Slough Pond and Walkers

Pond. Our observations will be primarily stationary and accessible for all levels of mobility. Bring a scope if you have one. Leaders: Peter Bono, [pbono@prba.com](mailto:pbono@prba.com) MJ Foti, [maryjo1226@yahoo.com](mailto:maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

**Hinckleys, Seymour and Long Ponds – Harwich/Brewster      Sunday, February 2 – 8:00am**

From Route 124 (Pleasant Lake Ave.) turn on Headwaters Drive. The Cape Cod Rail Trail parking lot is about a half mile down on your left. A short walk on paved bike trail will bring you to our first stop, Hinckleys Pond. We'll then head to nearby Long Pond Beach in Harwich to view from our first of three vantage points. We'll finish up at Seymour Pond which includes a 10-minute walk each way along the bike trail. These mid-cape ponds host a variety of waterfowl including Greater and Lesser Scaup, Mergansers, Bufflehead and American Coot as well as the less common Barrow's Goldeneye. Leader: MJ Foti, [maryjo1226@yahoo.com](mailto:maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

**CC Canal and Sandwich hotspots      Sunday, February 9 – 8:00am**

Take Scusset Beach Road to the main entrance of Scusset Beach State Reservation. Parking is .25 miles past the entrance at the fishing pier. We'll begin at the canal and follow up with visits to the ponds, marshes, bays and backwaters of the Upper Cape. These will include Scusset Beach, Town Neck Road Beach, Shawme Lake and Greenbriar Nature Center. Nearby Sandy Neck Beach is also an option depending on time and energy level. You can carpool with friends/family members or drive individually. Leader: MJ Foti, [maryjo1226@yahoo.com](mailto:maryjo1226@yahoo.com)      *Co-sponsored trip with Brookline Bird Club!*

**Coast Guard Beach/Salt Pond Visitor Center – Eastham      Wednesday, February 12 – 8:00am**

Follow Route 6 to Eastham and turn right at Salt Pond Visitor Center onto Nauset Rd. This will become Doane Rd. which you'll follow to Ocean View Drive. Turn right and park in the lot by Nauset Coast Guard Station. You'll be walking south along the beach and return along the inside of the inlet on the rising tide. High tide is 11:52 AM. Expect to walk about 2 miles in soft sand. The second leg of the trip is a stop at Salt Pond Visitor Center for further exploring. There are year-round bathrooms available. Leader: Jeff Bryant, [five\\_loons@yahoo.com](mailto:five_loons@yahoo.com)

**Owl Prowl - West Barnstable      Wednesday, February 19 – 5pm**

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](mailto:maryjo1226@yahoo.com) Mike Tucker [bnatural2@gmail.com](mailto:bnatural2@gmail.com)

**Please sign up for this walk using the link below (limit 20 participants):**

<https://forms.gle/xGb5Mne89PuaTS4XA>

**Herring River – Wellfleet      Sunday, February 23 – 8:00am**

We'll meet at the parking area at the far side of the dike on Chequessett Neck Road in Wellfleet. Ample parking will be available on both sides of the street during low tide. We'll scan for waterfowl from the dike itself. Then we will hike the trail on the West side of Herring River to High Toss Road before crossing back again. This is a great area for rail and heron activity. The abutting woodland is winter habitat for woodpeckers and a variety of sparrow species. This is also a strong area for sightings of birds of prey. Expect up to 2 miles of walking on uneven terrain. Warm, waterproof footwear is recommended. Leader: Ross Sormani, [rsormani@yahoo.com](mailto:rsormani@yahoo.com)

**Bells Neck Conservation Area – Harwich      Sunday, March 2 – 8:00am**

Meet at Bells Neck Road at the landing of the West Reservoir. 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. Waterproof footwear is recommended. Expect about 2 miles of walking on varied terrain, sometimes narrow dirt trails with a slightly steep hill leading to the foot bridge. Leader: Jeff Bryant, [five\\_loons@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:williamvonherff@gmail.com)

**Owl Prowl - West Barnstable (please note time change) Tuesday, March 11 – 6:30pm**

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](mailto:maryjo1226@yahoo.com) Mike Tucker [bnatural2@gmail.com](mailto:bnatural2@gmail.com)

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<https://forms.gle/aNAzeT2MGLBPZv6Y8>

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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: Mike Tucker [bnatural2@gmail.com](mailto:bnatural2@gmail.com)

**Cape Cod Bird Club Health Guidelines: (January - March 2025)**

- Please consider others and do not participate in a trip if you are feeling unwell;
- Individuals should feel comfortable wearing a mask at any point during a trip;
- It is up to each participant to decide whether or not they wish to carpool. Though a trip leader may offer to carpool, it is the personal choice of the trip leader.