

Cape Cod Bird Club Walks June-September 2024



**Please email the trip leader if you plan to attend.
Always check the website for updates or cancellations.**

JUNE

Crane Wildlife Management Area – East Falmouth

Tuesday, June 4 – 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 Allietta 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.

Leader: Peter Fang (fangmail@comcast.net) *co-sponsored with Brookline Bird Club (BBC)*

Goodwill Park – Falmouth

Friday, June 7 - 8:00am

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)

Hatches Harbor Fire Rd. to RP Light – Provincetown

Tuesday, June 11 – 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 9:55 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.

Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com) *co-sponsored with Brookline Bird Club (BBC)*

Forest Beach Conservation, South Chatham

Sunday, June 16 – 8 am

Take Rte. 6 to exit 85 and head south towards Rte. 28. Make a right on 28 and a left turn about .5 miles at Forest Beach Rd. Before reaching the beach, turn left on Bayview Rd. and immediately bear right up the hill where you will see a sign for Forest Beach Conservation. We'll scope the marsh for herons, egrets, shorebirds, osprey, gulls, passerines, and possibly Northern Harrier. We can then head to the beach where parking is free to walk the marsh trail - about .5 mi. Waterproof footwear recommended.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Updated 7/12/2024

Bells Neck Conservation Area – Harwich**Sunday, June 23 – 8 AM**

Meet at Bell's Neck Road at the landing of the West Reservoir. We will explore some hidden mixed woodland and old cranberry bogs for passerines, scope the low tide on the East Reservoir for shorebird species and waterfowl, and the West Reservoir for Black-crowned Night Herons, raptors, gulls, and terns. Waterproof boots recommended.

Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

JULY**Bridge Creek Conservation – Barnstable****Sunday, July 7 – 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)

Fort Hill and Hemenway Landing – Eastham POSTPONED to Sunday, July 14 – 8AM

Meet in the **lower** parking lot of Fort Hill Road. We'll walk the loop trail towards Hemenway Landing to observe songbird and passerine activity, then scan the marsh for incoming shorebirds, herons, egrets and possibly a bittern or rail. Expect 2 miles of easily navigable hard pack trail with mixed elevation.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Crowes Pasture – East Dennis**Thursday, July 18 - 8AM**

Turn onto School Street and make your first right onto South Street. 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 creek. We'll also visit a nest-box trail where we're likely to encounter a number of songbird species, including Eastern Bluebird, Tree Swallow, House Wren, Baltimore and Orchard Orioles.

Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

Hatches Harbor Fire Rd. to Race Point Light**Sunday, July 28 – 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. There could be wet conditions on the way out to the lighthouse, so you may want to have a pair of boots on hand. Low tide is 11:50 AM.

Leader: Ross Sormani (rsormani@yahoo.com) (co-sponsored with Brookline Bird Club - BBC)

AUGUST**West Dennis Beach (please note time)****Saturday, August 3 – 5:30PM**

Meet at the West Dennis Beach parking lot at the far end (nearest the breakwater and Bass River as you are permitted to drive). We will look for lingering, summer-breeding, endangered Piping Plovers and Least Terns, as well as migrating shorebirds. *Please note later start time.*

Leader: Peter Bono (pbono@prba.com)

Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary – Barnstable**Thursday, August 8 – 8AM**

Meet in the parking area at 345 Bone Hill Road off Rt. 6A. Long Pasture is a Mass Audubon property with a new Discovery Center, winding trails traversing woodland habitat and a dock overlooking Cape Cod Bay with panoramic views of Sandy Neck lighthouse. Admission is free for Mass Audubon members: remember to bring your Mass Audubon membership card. Non-members may make a modest \$5 donation. Visit the Mass Audubon website if you wish to enroll; membership will keep you up to date on programs at Long Pasture as well as wildlife sanctuaries throughout the state.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Forest Beach Conservation – South Chatham**Thursday, August 15 – 8AM**

Take Route 6 to exit 85 and head South towards Rt.28. Turn right on Rt.28 and a left turn at about .5 miles at Forest Beach Rd. This will take you directly to the beach – parking is free of charge. We'll walk the marsh trail to where it meets Mill Creek and return via the beach, then head towards the overlook where we'll likely find herons, egrets, shorebirds, passerines, gulls, osprey and Northern Harrier. This is another area with mixed habitat, a nice variety of bird species, and the occasional rarity. High tide 8:52.

Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

Doane Rock and Nauset Bay East, Eastham**Sunday, August 18 - 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 shorebirds, coastal waterbirds, gulls and terns that gather in impressive numbers during fall migration. Expect to walk about 3 miles of paved and dirt trails.

Ross Sormani, (rsormani@yahoo.com) and William von Herff (williamvonherff@gmail.com)

Chapin Beach – Dennis**Saturday, August 24 – 5:30PM**

From Route 6A, turn onto New Boston Rd across from Dennis Public Market. Drive .2 mi, then slight right onto Beach Street. At the 3-way intersection, take Taunton Ave to Dr. Botero Rd which leads to the parking area. We'll walk along this popular yet secluded beach with nice views of Sandy Neck Lighthouse and Grays Beach. Expect to see shorebirds, terns and gulls gathering in numbers with the falling tide. Forster's Terns occur regularly at this location. Protective footwear recommended on this rocky beach.

Leader: MJ Foti, (maryjo1226@yahoo.com) *Please note later start time.*

SEPTEMBER**Fort Hill, Eastham/Crosby Landing, Brewster****Saturday, September 14 - 8AM**

First meetup is the lower parking lot of Fort Hill where we'll walk the loop trail towards Hemenway Landing to observe songbird and passerine activity as well as scan the marsh for incoming shorebirds, herons, egrets and possibly a bittern or rail on the high tide. The following stop is Crosby Landing off 6A at the end of Crosby Rd, about a 10 minute car ride. We'll walk the marsh trail behind the dunes, and back towards the beach on the falling tide to scope for shorebirds, gulls, Eastern Meadowlark, Marsh Wren, and other passerines. Rubber boots recommended.

Leader: MJ Foti, (maryjo1226@yahoo.com) (co-sponsored with Southshore Bird Club - SSBC)

First Encounter Beach – Eastham**Saturday, September 21 – 8AM**

From Rt. 6, follow Samoset Rd. to the farthest parking area where we'll walk along the marsh trail bordered by the Herring River to observe shorebirds, herons, egrets, gulls, and terns gathering in numbers to forage on the outgoing tide. We'll also encounter other species including a variety of passerines and raptors. You may want to wear beach sandals or boots. Low tide is about 8:35 AM. The length of the trip will depend on what we find and if anyone is interested in visiting other local hotspots.

Leader: MJ Foti, (maryjo1226@yahoo.com) (co-sponsored with Brookline Bird Club - BBC)

Cape Cod Bird Club Health Guidelines: July – September 2024

- Please do not participate in trips if you do not feel well, or have recently been exposed to someone with COVID or COVID-like symptoms;
- 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 each individual trip leader.

