

August 2010

AT THE
W!LD
CENTER

Raquette River Week

When: July 31st - August 8th

The Raquette River Blueway Corridor Project is sponsoring a week of activities focusing on the Raquette River Corridor from its origin at Blue Mountain Lake to its mouth on the St. Lawrence River at Akwesasne (near Massena, NY). Events will take place in communities along the entire 174-mile-long watercourse and shoreline. The Wild Center will sponsor daily activities throughout the week including lectures, demonstrations, clean-up activities, and naturalist walks.

Walking in the Wild

Enjoy weekly walks with a Wild Center Naturalist this summer. Learn the basics of birding while improving your identification, ecology, and natural history skills. These programs are in partnership with Northern New York Audubon, the Adirondack Park Visitor's Interpretive Center and Whiteface Mountain. Registration is required. To register contact Sally Gross at sgross@wildcenter.org or visit www.wildcenter.org/events.

Wild Wednesdays at the Adirondack Park Visitor Interpretive Center

When: Every Wednesday morning in August

8:00a.m. - 10:00a.m.

Join The Wild Center naturalists on Wednesdays at the Adirondack Park Visitor's Interpretive Center in Paul Smith's to discover the rich diversity of habitats on its 1500 acres, including Northern Hardwood forests, open marsh, sphagnum bogs, streams, conifer wetlands, and ponds. Starting in June we'll focus on spring migrating birds and wildflowers. As the season progresses we'll explore pond life, wetlands, insects, and bog orchids. Free.

Boreal Birds and Bogs at Bloomingdale Bog

When: August 14th

8:30a.m. - 10:30a.m.

Bloomingdale Bog is superb habitat for boreal species such as the boreal chickadee, gray jay, and black-backed woodpecker. The area encompasses a large bog wetland area and cedar woods with sedge marsh and coniferous woods. Easy walking along an old railroad bed. Free.

Whiteface Mountain Ecology Exploration on Whiteface Mountain

When: August 7th

8:30a.m. - 11:00a.m.

This interpretive hike will focus on mountain habitats and birds on Whiteface Mountain Veteran's Memorial Highway and summit. We will stop along the way to look at the forest transition and check out the incredible views. At the summit, be prepared for a short hike ~ ¾ mile on rough, rocky ground. This is a great opportunity to study the alpine ecosystem and possibly see or hear the rare Bicknell's Thrush. Cost: \$5.00 (payable at the Tollhouse).

Farmers Market at The Wild Center

When: Every Thursday from June 24th - September 30th

11:00a.m. - 3:00p.m.

Join us in The Wild Center's Esplanade Tent for a weekly Farmers Market where you can meet farmers and take home wonderful local food grown in the Adirondack region. The Wild Center has joined with the Adirondack Farmers' Market Cooperative, Inc. which promotes and manages markets across the region. Entrance to The Wild Center exhibits and additional programming requires admission. All related Farmer Market outdoor programming is **free** and open to the public.

Nature Play at The Wild Center

When: Every Wednesday from July 1 - August 26th

9:00a.m.- 12:00p.m.

Join Wild Center naturalists in a brand new program designed to connect kids to the outdoors through exploration and discovery. Using our live exhibits and 31 acre campus, each week will have different activities, such as meeting some of our animals up close, nature games, art activities, and lots of time outside. Open to kids 9-12 years. Each session costs \$15.00 for non-members and \$13.00 for members. Space is limited. Pre-registration is required. For more information and to register contact Sally Gross at sgross@wildcenter.org or visit www.wildcenter.org/events.

Naturally Speaking with Dr. O at The Wild Center

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays in August

11:30a.m.

Join Don Osterberg, PhD., Biology Professor Emeritus, SUNY Potsdam on most Tuesdays and Thursdays. In the morning, Dr. O will "take you outside" in the Flammer Theater by providing an interactive, multimedia presentation filled with in-depth natural history information on a variety of Adirondack themes. Then join Dr. O in the afternoons either on the trail or among the exhibits with a "traveling wild show". These programs are free for members or with admission.



THE W!LD CENTER

wildcenter.org

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Breakfast with the Otters at The Wild Center

When: August 7th, and August 19th

8:45a.m - 9:45a.m.

Breakfast with the Otters is a member favorite where you can enjoy an early morning private breakfast and an "otter-this-world" experience. Our animal care staff will talk about otter life and a movie on river otters will screen in the Find Out Forest. Call us early to reserve one of our breakfast dates. Reservations are required and this members-only event costs \$5.00 per person. To register contact Susan Arnold at sarnold@wildcenter.org or visit www.wildcenter.org/events.

Contemporary Landscape Photography with Carl Heilman II

When: August 10th

2:00p.m.

Join Carl Heilman for a special presentation and photo seminar as he shares his first instructional photography book, *Contemporary Landscape Photography*. Through his photographs, Carl will share tips and techniques on how to create stunning landscape photos. Following the presentation there will be a book signing.

The Life and Times of an Adirondack Beaver Family

When: August 11th

1:00p.m.

Join presenter Tom Kalinowski as he focuses on one of the few forms of wildlife that has a noticeable impact on the environment, the beaver. This program will explore the natural history of beaver as well as a brief historical view of the beaver here in the Adirondacks, and why this animal was so important in promoting the exploration of North America centuries ago.

From Exxon Valdez to Deepwater Horizon: Covering the new frontier of high-risk oil

When: August 17th

1:00p.m.

At the beginning of his career, Brian Mann, Chief - Adirondack News Bureau for NCPR, covered the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska's Prince William Sound for NPR. This summer, Brian was sent to New Orleans to cover the Deepwater Horizon spill in the Gulf for NPR. Join Brian as he shares his experiences and the challenges of providing context and deep understanding to audiences -- about climate change, high-risk oil, and energy policy -- during a time of environmental crisis.

Shingle Shanty Preserve and Research Station eXpedition

When: August 18th

8:30a.m.- 5:00p.m.

Join The Wild Center on a unique expedition to Shingle Shanty Preserve. The Preserve and Research Station is located in one of the most remote parts of the Adirondacks on a large tract of land that has been privately held since the 1850s.

Follensby Bioblitz

When: August 20th

10:30a.m. - 3:00p.m.

Learn more about the 430 species recently cataloged during a "BioBlitz" event at Follensby Pond. The Wild Center, the Adirondack All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory project at Paul Smith's College, SUNY ESF's Adirondack Ecological Center at Huntington Forest, and The Nature Conservancy's Adirondack Chapter are pleased to offer this event in celebration and recognition of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity. Join us for a full day of hands-on activities, specialized walks, up-close animal encounters and presentations including Follensby Movie premiere at 12:30 p.m. and a 1 p.m. talk with Chris Shaw focused on the history of Follensby Pond.

Canoe Trips with The Wild Center and The Adirondack Museum

When: August 25th and September 4th

Join Adirondack Museum Curator Hallie Pond and a Wild Center Naturalist for these member-only field trips. Learn the natural history and historical interpretations of these wild areas while enjoying beautiful Adirondack scenery.

Adirondack Moments:

When: September 4th

1:00p.m.

James Kraus, author of the photobook *Adirondack Moments*, photographs the fleeting moments of dramatic beauty that frequent the Adirondack landscape. He has published photographs in *Adirondack Life* and the *Adirondack Journal of Environmental Studies*. Join the photographer for a slideshow of his work where you'll see such scenes as a sunrise on a misty lake and a dragonfly with wings filled with dew. The event will be followed by a book signing.

Ampersand Salamander Survey

When: September 11th

9:00a.m.1:00p.m.

Join The Wild Center's biologist Frank Panaro and Assistant Curator Leah Filo on a salamander study ongoing since 1999. On this expedition to Ampersand Mountain you will get up close to local salamanders while contributing to a larger research project exploring salamander species diversity. The group will meet at the Ampersand trailhead. For more information and to register contact Sally Gross at sgross@wildcenter.org or visit www.wildcenter.org/events. Free.