

Nature Center of Cape May

1600 Delaware Avenue, Cape May, NJ 08204
Phone: 609.898.8848 / Fax: 609.898.8512
E-mail: nccm@njudubon.org / Website: <http://nccm.njudubon.org>



PUBLIC VISITATION HOURS:

September through February: Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
The center will be closed for the holidays between Saturday, December 24, through Monday, January 2, 2012.
Closed Sundays and Mondays. Open other times for special programs.
FREE ADMISSION AND FREE PARKING YEAR-ROUND.

Staff:

Gretchen Whitman, Sanctuary Director
Sue Slotterback, Program Director
Kim Hannum, Senior Naturalist
Carol Domenico, Clerical Assistant/Nature Store Associate

Associate Naturalists:

Fred Beyer, Audrey Conant, Paige Cunningham, Linda Dill,
Hal Miller, Judy Moehler, Bill Rogers, and Phil Zimmerman

Support Personnel:

Linda Horner, Public Relations Consultant
Charlotte Todd, Friends Group and Curriculum Consultant
Meg Miller, Volunteer Coordinator
Betty Jean Webersinn, Rutgers Cooperative
Extension's 4-H Youth Development Program,
4-H Junior Intern Program Coordinator,
and Children's Programs Curriculum Consultant

A big "Thank you!" to all our volunteers!

Winter 2011-12 Programs

December through February

FREE ADMISSION TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES

Observation deck and tower provide a panoramic view of the harbor and surrounding area.
The upstairs lounge provides an indoor harbor observation area and a place to relax, play games with friends, or read alone.
Birding from the deck on the second story of the welcome center provides the best viewing advantage for spotting birds in the harbor and around the meadow.
Aquaria with local marine life, natural history artifacts, and our busy songbird feeding station (seasonal).
Monthly exhibits in the Trucksess Welcome Center, featuring special art and natural history displays.
NJ Audubon Nature Store with the best in nature gifts, field guides, clothing, and children's discovery items.
Children's hands-on activities allow them to occupy their time while exploring nature.
Children's Garden full of fun, exploration and sensory experiences.

Wildlife habitat meadows feature a Monarch butterfly, milkweed, and wildflower garden, a songbird grass-land meadow, and a new nature trail and bridge crossing a meandering stream.

Theme gardens include butterfly, hummingbird, seaside, drought-tolerant, shade, and songbird gardens.

Beachcomb the harbor during low tide and search for shells and other interesting treasures.

Picnic tables for an enjoyable lunch overlooking scenic Cape May Harbor.

Spectacular sunsets and magical twilight. Watch the changing colors of the sky from the Cape May Harbor waterfront.

Program Registration

Most programs require preregistration with payment. You may register by phone at 609.898.8848 with a credit card. We reserve the right to cancel programs. Refunds are available only if we cancel the event. Walk-ins are welcome on a space-available basis. Become a member of NJ Audubon and receive discounts in the gift shop and on many programs!

An asterisk (*) denotes that the program takes place at a location other than the nature center.

Daytime Family Program

MOMMY AND ME CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Fridays,
September 23 to December 9
(No class November 25)

10:30 to 11:30 A.M.

For ages 2 to 4 years.

For curious naturalists-to-be and their parents, guardians, or grandparents. Each week, we'll encourage children and parents to explore the natural world together through focusing on a different aspect of nature with stories, song, crafts, activities, outdoor experiences, and lots of fun. Adult participation is required, and preregistration is necessary.

Cost for session: \$70 members,
\$90 nonmembers.

Continued

Garden Programs

GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE WORKSHOPS with Pat Sutton Saturday, November 26

BATTLESTAR BACKYARDIA: Battling the Alien Invaders / How to Deal with Invasive Species.

10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Join Pat Sutton for this series of four property-owner workshops on how to enhance your backyard landscaping for wildlife. Native plants and wildlife-friendly practices are the key. The final workshop addresses a key issue, learning to I.D. invasive problem plants and how to rid your garden of them. Come learn how to plan your own backyard, no matter how small, to attract showy hummingbirds, Monarchs and other butterflies, nesting birds such as bluebirds, wintering birds, and so much more! Valuable handouts will include Pat's list of native trees, shrubs, and vines most utilized by wildlife and a list of primary book and internet resources. These workshops have been scheduled for early winter, the perfect time to begin planning next year's gardens, order plants and seeds, and dream of the garden to come. The first workshop is the backbone to the series (try not to miss it) and will supply a good foundation for the following sessions. Each will include a question-and-answer session and a visit to a nearby backyard habitat. During a working lunch, participants will have the

opportunity to discuss their own gardens. Before this program, download, print, and read the NJ Audubon articles by Pat Sutton: "How to Create a Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden" and "Recommended Plantings to Attract Hummingbirds, Butterflies, and Moths."

They are available at <http://www.njaudubon.org/SectionBackyardHabitat/CreateaGarden.aspx> and

<http://www.njaudubon.org/SectionBackyardHabitat/RecommendedNectarPlants.aspx>

Limit: 30 participants; preregistration is required.

Cost: \$35 members, \$45 nonmembers (includes handouts).

COMMON BACKYARD BIRDS ATTRACTED TO A BACKYARD HABITAT: Create It and They Will Come Saturday, December 10

10:30 A.M. to noon

Pat Sutton will share accounts of the many visitors that have been attracted to the South Jersey wildscape in Goshen, Cape May County, that she and her husband have nurtured for over thirty years. They've tallied 211 species of birds and 75 species of butterflies in their tiny half-acre wildlife oasis. Each season brings new entertainment, like the winter gathering of 109 White-throated Sparrows feeding on millet scattered on the ground; or the summer

gathering of 83 Leopard Frogs attracted to their two wildlife ponds. Old hanging baskets left up all winter host a pair of Carolina Wrens each freezing-cold winter night – the safest nighttime refuge from the neighbor's outdoor cats. Spring brings dazzling breeding-plumaged warblers feasting on caterpillars in the Suttons' woodlot of native trees. Dozens of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds entertain from mid-April until mid-September. Pat will share many "Backyard Habitat for Wildlife Tips." Create a backyard habitat and birds and other wildlife will come.

Limit: 30 participants; preregistration is required.

Cost: \$15 members, \$20 nonmembers.

BIRDSEED SALE DAYS

Maintaining birdfeeders is a great way to benefit our feathered friends during the cold winter months when food is scarce. Don't miss these great opportunities to stock up on birdseed for the winter AND support the Nature Center of Cape May. We order a variety of top-quality birdseed including our own New Jersey Audubon S.A.V.E.™ brand N.J. locally grown black oil sunflower seed, thistle seed, custom blends, suet, and other varieties. Call or stop by NCCM for an order form, and get on our mailing list.

Pickup dates:

December 10

(orders due November 26)

March 10, 2012

(orders due February 25, 2012).

Nature Center of Cape May Winter 2011-12 Events at a Glance

Saturday, November 26	Orders Due for Winter Birdseed Sale
Saturday, November 26	Gardening for Wildlife Workshops
Thursday, December 1	Holiday Wreath and Garland Workshop
Friday, December 2	Holiday Wreath and Garland Workshop
Fridays, December 2, 9	Mommy and Me Children's Program
Saturday, December 3	Holiday Wreath and Garland Workshop
Saturday, December 10	Common Backyard Birds: Create Backyard Habitat
Saturday, December 10	Pickup Date for Birdseed Sale
December 24 thru January 2	Center Closed
Saturdays, January 7 and 14	Winter Wonders on Cape May Harbor
Saturdays, January 21 and 28	Winter Wonders on Cape May Harbor
Saturdays, February 4 and 11	Winter Wonders on Cape May Harbor
Saturdays, February 18 and 25	Winter Wonders on Cape May Harbor
Saturday, February 25	Orders Due for Spring Birdseed Sale
Sunday, February 26	Kids Can! Expo
Saturday, March 10	Pickup Date for Birdseed Sale

Family Programs

HOLIDAY WREATH AND GARLAND WORKSHOPS

Thursday, December 1

10:00 A.M. to noon

Friday, December 2

10:00 A.M. to noon

5:30 to 7:30 P.M. (Girls' Night Out)

Saturday, December 3

10:00 A.M. to noon

12:30 to 2:30 P.M.

Using fresh evergreens of Douglas fir, spruce, pine, cedar, and other natural materials, create a handcrafted wreath or garland of distinction that will rival those

Continued

KIDS CAN! EXPO

Sunday,
Feb 26, 2012

11:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

A day of family fun and excitement featuring:

- Hands-on science
- Nature crafts
- Music
- Live Animals
- Games
- Exhibits
- A showcase of environmental and historical organizations from the region offering children's programs
- Stage performances
- Food
- And much, much more!



NEW JERSEY
AUDUBON
www.njaudubon.org



New Jersey Audubon's

Nature Center of Cape May

609.898.8848

Cape May City Elementary School • 921 Lafayette St., Cape May

B-EARTH-DAY PARTIES

at the Nature Center of Cape May

Looking for something different for an upcoming birthday celebration?

What about a nature theme? Seashore, birds, reptiles, gardens, and more! Celebrate your child's next birthday party with us. An outdoor experience (weather permitting) allows for even more hands-on fun! Each program includes a one-hour nature program with an NJ Audubon naturalist engaging the children with age-appropriate games and activities and one hour of free time and room use for your cake, ice cream, and gift-giving. Call for our detailed brochure or check us out online at www.njaudubon.org.

The fee of \$75 for NJ Audubon members and \$100 for nonmembers covers up to ten children. Additional participants are \$5 per child. Additional time can be added to the two-hour program for \$50 per half-hour. A \$50 nonrefundable deposit is required to hold your date. Parties must be booked two weeks in advance.

**To book a
BIRTHDAY PARTY
call 609.898.8848**

**Check out our Nature Store for a
great selection of birthday presents
and party favors!**

gracing the pages of expensive specialty catalogs. The process is easy to learn, and even beginners leave with impressive creations. Materials and supplies are provided, but you're welcome to bring your own special decorations. Preregistration is a must.

Cost: \$15 members,
\$20 nonmembers.

NOTE: We will need plenty of fresh evergreens for these workshops. If anyone has evergreens from their yard to donate, please call NCCM at 609.898.8848 to arrange for delivery or pickup. Thank you!

WINTER WONDERS ON CAPE MAY HARBOR Saturdays,

January 7, 14, 21, and 28
February 4, 11, 18, and 25

10:30 A.M. to noon
Come see what's floating in the harbor or passing overhead! The nature center's second-story deck

provides an ideal vantage point to see a variety of diving ducks and other winter visitors. Learn what makes Cape May birding so famous in a relaxed, fun setting. Bring your binoculars if you have them (or borrow a pair of ours).
Cost: Free!

KIDS CAN! EXPO * Sunday, February 26, 2012

11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

A special family event sponsored by the nature center every February. Celebrate winter with our full day of games, exhibits, live animals, crafts, entertainment, learning, and FUN for kids of all ages. Many environmental groups and cultural organizations

Become a New Jersey Audubon member and enjoy discounts on tours, events, and field trips at all NJ Audubon centers. Members also get a 10% discount at our Nature Stores (greater discount on optics).

will be participating and providing activities. Volunteers from the Kiwanis Club of Cape May will be serving good things to eat. Stage performances will take place throughout the day. And don't miss our nature exhibits and live animals. Join us for the FUN! Walk-ins welcome.

*The location is Cape May City Elementary School, 921 Lafayette Street, Cape May.

Cost of admission: \$6 per person (children under 3 are free). 