



www.300committee.org

2018 Winter and Spring Speaker Series

Presented by

**The 300 Committee Land Trust
& Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries, Inc.**
at the Falmouth Historical Society's Cultural Center



www.saltpond.org

Thursdays at 7:00 pm

The talks are free and open to the public. Please join us!

January 11



Anchors, Caviar, and Endangered Sturgeon:

A Story of Fisheries Research on the Hudson River

Atlantic Sturgeon, once harvested to provide high society with their caviar, were by the early 1900's decimated in terms of their population along the East Coast of North America. Declared a federally endangered species in 2012, we believe that their population is now recovering. In this talk, **John Madsen, Associate Professor in the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Delaware** will describe novel interdisciplinary methods he has employed, including acoustic telemetry and high-resolution side-scan sonar, to estimate the population and to identify spawning and other critical habitats for this iconic species.

February 8



Living with my Wild Neighbors

"Help! A bird struck my window..." "There's a baby squirrel at my doorstep... Now what?" Wild Care, Inc. is a nonprofit wildlife hospital located in Eastham that is dedicated to the rescue and release of injured and orphaned wildlife on Cape Cod. Wild Care operates a Wildlife Helpline, and rehabilitates over 1,300 animals per year; everything from Bald Eagles to Deer Mice. **Wild Care's Executive Director Stephanie Ellis** will cover "what to do" when you find animals in distress, who to call on Cape Cod, and will provide tips for living with our wild neighbors at this lecture. A rehabilitated Eastern Screech Owl will be the star of this wild encounter.

March 8

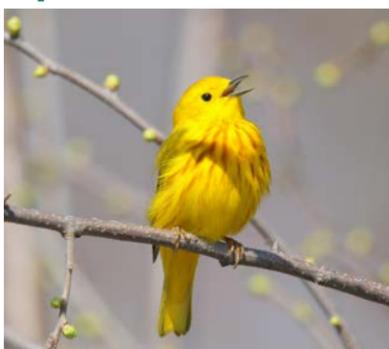


Cranberry harvest in a Massachusetts Cranberry bog (Lindsay Scott, WHRC)

New Thinking about Cranberry Farming in SE Mass Watersheds

Southeastern Massachusetts produces 15% of the world's cranberries and the effects of cranberry farming on local waters is a concern. The MA cranberry industry also faces challenges from increased production in Wisconsin, Quebec and other places. **Chris Neill, Ecologist and Senior Scientist at the Woods Hole Research Center**, and colleagues have undertaken work that has the potential to reduce nutrient releases into local waters. In this talk, he will discuss the direct impacts to streams and ponds resulting from cranberry crop management and will explore future adaptations in water management and cranberry production that could both benefit the environment and sustain cranberry farming for our region.

April 12



State of the Birds 3: Massachusetts Birds and Our Changing Climate

People are passionate about birds, and each year more than 1 million Massachusetts residents enjoy watching wildlife as a hobby. As part of its commitment to protect the nature of Massachusetts, Mass Audubon has completed their third research project looking at the past, present, and projected future status of the birds that call the Commonwealth home. Join us as **Joan Walsh, Gerard A. Bertrand Chair of Natural History and Ornithology for Massachusetts Audubon Society**, helps us examine how we can expect our treasured native birds to respond to the anticipated changes in climate, as well as discuss ways that we can all help to put the brakes on climate change.

May 10



Wildflowers of Forests and Meadows

As spring is gaining traction on Cape Cod, **Ted Elliman**, former staff botanist at the **New England Wild Flower Society** will present a timely talk about woodland and field wildflowers, both common and rare, that occur throughout Massachusetts in hardwood forests, pine woodlands, and open meadows. Ted will emphasize many of the colorful, spring-blooming blossoms that flower in the woods in May and early June, but will also discuss a number of later, summer blooming plants, such as asters, goldenrods, and Joe-Pye weeds. This is sure to be a colorful and informative presentation!

The 300 Committee is a private, non-profit land trust dedicated to preserving and protecting natural lands in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries, Inc. is a member-based, nonprofit corporation founded in 1962 to preserve the natural resources of the town of Falmouth and to protect wildlife habitat, historic buildings and open space.