

## SUNDAY, August 4

### 1. Paddling the Neponset River Estuary

**Time:** Sunday, August 4, 10:00 AM departure, 4:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$18.00

**Note:** Canoeing experience required, bring binoculars, suitable for families as long as they can swim with life vest, English only, rain or shine.

Canoe the Neponset River estuary, the only Boston river not dammed at the mouth. Turn up Sagamore Creek and on past remains of the first commercial railroad in US. Observe wildlife and extensive salt marsh, rapidly filling with *Phragmites*.

### 2. Whales and Birds of the Stellwagen Bank

#### National Marine Sanctuary

**Time:** Sunday, August 4, 9:00 AM departure, 2:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$40.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, suitable for families, English only, lunch provided.

Participants will travel with a NOAA marine ecologist N offshore on a comfortable commercial whale watch vessel to observe the whales, seabirds, and other marine life of the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary. It will be a 2 hour round trip from Boston with about 3 hours for observation. Along the way we'll stop to hear the history of the Boston Harbor Islands and learn how the Deer Island sewage treatment plant was instrumental in cleaning up Boston Harbor.

## MONDAY, August 5

### 3. Birding the Newburyport /Plum Island Area

**Time:** Monday, August 5, 8:30 AM departure, 3:30 PM return

**Cost:** \$68.00

**Note:** Not disability accessible, suitable for families (12 years minimum), English only, bring binoculars, lunch provided.

The Newburyport Plum Island area is one of the best bird watching destinations on the east coast. Join us as we explore the Merrimack River estuary, including the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, looking for a wide variety of birds including shorebirds, egrets and herons, wood-warblers, and waterfowl.

### 4. A Farm's Role in Environmental Education

**Time:** Monday, August 5, 9:00 AM departure, 4:30 PM return

**Cost:** \$59.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, bring old clothes and comfortable shoes, suitable for families (3 years minimum), English only, will use shelters in case of rain, lunch provided.

Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary embodies our interrelationship with the natural world, where we connect sustainable farming with habitat and wildlife protection. We will discover the unique landscape and history that integrates people with the land. No need to bring lunch; we'll just harvest our own.

## MONDAY, August 5, *continued*

### 5. Historic Lowell: Birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution

**Time:** Monday, August 5, 9:00 AM departure, 4:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$60.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, suitable for families (minimum 6 years), will take place rain or shine, English only.

Visit Lowell, Massachusetts to discover an early (1826) planned industrial city. Industry harnessed waterpower to drive machines but accompanying processes and urbanization polluted the water resources. Cruise through Lowell's historic locks, canals, and the Merrimack River on a National Park Service boat tour to investigate the impact of industrial pollution using ground water modeling tanks. Take a trolley to view Lowell and to visit the Boott Cotton Mills Museum. Learn about mill girl life and immigrant workers while touring a restored boarding house.

### 6. Landscape and Literature: The Timeless Influence of Nature in Concord

**Time:** Monday, August 5, 9:00 AM departure, 5:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$58.00

**Note:** Partially disability accessible, rain or shine, lunch provided, English only.

From revolutionary America to modern America, nature has inspired artists, poets, writers, and thinkers. Make your own pilgrimage to Walden Pond and to Concord's historic landscapes to see how some of America's finest writers have drawn their inspiration.

### 7. Mount Auburn Cemetary: Urban Sanctuary

**Time:** Monday, August 5, 9:00 AM departure, 12:30 PM return

**Cost:** \$28.00

**Note:** Limited disability access, must be able to walk rough terrain and steps, English only, no lunch, indoor back up in case of rain.

Mount Auburn Cemetary was founded in 1831 as the nation's first landscaped cemetary. It is an urban sanctuary, a unique outdoor museum of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century sculpture and architecture, and a valuable sanctuary for birds and other wildlife. Staff will demonstrate how the landscape – trees, shrubs, flowering plants, ponds, and gentle hills are managed to offer horticultural diversity and amenities for wildlife.



## TUESDAY, August 6

### **8. Community Farm and Forest Tour With Homegrow Lunch**

**Time:** Tuesday, August 6, 9:00 AM departure, 4:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$45.00

**Note:** Partially disability accessible, suitable for families, vegetarian lunch provided, shelters in case of rain, English only.

You'll see hands-on learning programs at two community farms: Land's Sake and Natick Community Farm. Youth at both farms have raised animals, tapped maples, and cultivated public land near public schools for 25 years. Enjoy a lunch of certified organic produce which is grown, harvested, prepared and sold by students.

### **9. Scarp, Kettlehole and Wampanoag: Cape Cod by Kayak**

**Time:** Tuesday, August 6, 7:00 AM departure, 5:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$87.00

**Note:** Disability accessible (excluding transportation), not suitable for young children, English only, bring rain gear, lunch provided - lobster wraps and vegetarian option.

Kayak Cape Cod's stunning Nauset Marsh and find out from four local naturalists how this landscape has sustained hundreds of people for thousands of years. This wet and wild excursion will demonstrate how environmental history - geologic, ecological, archeological, colonial, and modern - is a vital part of environmental education.

### **10. Tour Boston's Charles River By Bike**

**Time:** Tuesday, August 6, 10:00 AM departure, 4:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$29.00

**Note:** Limited disability access, lunch provided, sufficient biking ability and stamina, dress for weather, bring a hat, no bad weather backup.

Take a leisurely 20-mile (flat terrain) loop bike ride along the edge of the Charles River, past the site of the Boston Pops July 4<sup>th</sup> Concert site, Boston's historic Back Bay, Harvard, MIT, and the Museum of Science. Enjoy a boxed lunch on a floating dock in Watertown Square.

### **11. Tour of Historic Lexington and Concord**

**Time:** Tuesday, August 6, 8:30 AM departure, 1:30 PM return

**Cost:** \$38.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, suitable for families, English only, rain or shine, lunch provided.

An experienced local guide will take participants to historic points of interest in both Lexington, the first inland town in America and the birthplace of the American revolution, and Concord, where Colonial Minutemen turned back the British Regulars. We will make stops at Lexington Common, Minuteman National Historic Park Center, and Concord Old North Bridge.

### **12. "Toxic Tour" of Roxbury**

**Time:** Tuesday, August 6, 9:00 AM departure, 12 Noon return

**Cost:** \$38.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, suitable for families (12 years minimum), English only, use umbrellas if it rains, no lunch.

Join the youth of the Roxbury Environmental Empowerment Project for their award winning "toxic tour" of Roxbury. The tour visits different sites in the neighborhood, each of which exemplifies their work as youth organizers for environmental justice. The tour takes visitors to, among other sites, a major diesel bus depot, an abandoned electroplating facility, an air monitor, and piece of land that was once a certified hazardous waste site. At each stop, youth leaders tell a story of their work to make their community a clean, healthy place to live.

### **13. Unique Coastal Habitats of Buzzards Bay**

**Time:** Tuesday, August 6, 8:00 AM departure, 5:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$56.00

**Note:** Ability to canoe and hike on sand, no disability access, suitable for families (12 years and older), English only, in the event of bad weather activities at Lloyd Center, lunch provided.

Explore Allen's Pond, a pristine coastal salt pond, by canoe. Its exceptionally productive salt marshes are home to fish, shorebirds, raptors and rare plant species. Also, explore the unique dune ecosystem at Cherry and Webb Beach and discover how 5<sup>th</sup> graders are helping restore the dunes.

### **14. Whales and Birds of the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary**

**Time:** Tuesday, August 6 9:00 AM departure, 2:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$40.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, suitable for families, English only, lunch provided.

Participants will travel with a NOAA marine ecologist offshore on a comfortable commercial whale watch vessel to observe the whales, seabirds, and other marine life of the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary. It will be a 2 hour round trip from Boston with about 3 hours for observation. Along the way we'll stop to hear the history of the Boston Harbor Islands and learn how the Deer Island sewage treatment plant was instrumental in cleaning up Boston Harbor.

[\*More Field Trips Next Page\*](#)



The Boston TEE Party

## WEDNESDAY, August 7

### **15. Boston Schoolyard Initiative: A Public/ Private Model**

**Time:** Wednesday, August 7, 9:00 AM departure, 12:30 PM return

**Cost:** \$41.00

**Note:** Disability accessible suitable for families, English only (translators with advance notice), lunch provided, will need rain gear.

The Boston Schoolyard Initiative is an award-winning public/private partnership that has rebuilt and revitalized half the public schoolyards (64) in Boston. This tour will allow participants to see schoolyard sites and talk with organizers and educators about the design/ development process and the ongoing use of school grounds as Outdoor Classrooms.

### **16. Creative Approaches to Environmental Education: The Needham Science Center**

**Time:** Wednesday, August 7, 8:00 AM departure, 12 Noon return

**Cost:** \$17.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, not suitable for young children, no lunch, English only.

See the educational techniques used by the nationally recognized Needham Science Center, part of the Needham Public Schools. Needham Science Center was recognized for their innovative science teaching techniques on a shoestring budget. The Center includes unique techniques, displays, teacher loan materials, a discovery room and a 32-acre outdoor classroom. A "goody bag" will be given to all.

### **17. Saltmarsh Ecology on Belle Isle Marsh**

**Time:** Wednesday, August 7, 8:00 AM departure, 12 Noon return

**Cost:** \$10.00

**Note:** Not disability accessible, bring books if possible, should have boots, suitable for families, English only, lunch not provided.

Come explore this remarkable 1500 acre marsh surrounded by East Boston. Compare *Phragmites* marsh (where tide is restricted) to pristine saltmarsh with full tidal flushing. A special boardwalk enables passage through *Phragmites*.

### **18. School Composting Up On the Roof**

**Time:** Wednesday, August 7, 9:00 AM departure, 1:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$10.00

**Note:** Disability accessible (elevator to roof), suitable for families (7 years minimum), in case of rain will visit indoor school composting program, English only, no lunch.

We will visit a school composting system on the roof of an elementary school in Boston's Chinatown. The composting system was set up to provide a closed loop recycling system for the school's rooftop organic garden. The garden and compost program was designed and developed by a second grade teacher with her students. Lunch on own in Chinatown.

## THURSDAY, August 8

### **19. Ecotarium Canopy Adventures**

**Time:** Thursday, August 8, 3:00 PM departure, 8:30 PM return

**Cost:** \$50.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, suitable for families and children over 7, English only, supper provided.

Ecotarium is an environmental science museum focused on New England ecosystems including urban ecosystems. Explore indoor & outdoor exhibits. Interact with staff & experience programs on tree canopy walkway, native meadow, enrichment for wildlife, sample the microdiner and more. Light supper outdoors.

### **20. Experience Worcester's Outdoor Classrooms and Urban Wild Trails**

**Time:** Thursday, August 8, 9:00 AM departure, 5:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$37.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, multiple language alternatives, suitable for families (8 year minimum), lunch provided, dress for walking trails and poking around a brook, bad weather back up.

Spend the morning exploring and discussing the grounds at Flagg Street Elementary School. First graders plant, maintain, and monitor a butterfly garden, second graders a bat garden, third/fourth graders tap maple trees. At the headwaters of the Blackstone River, experience a 1000 foot nature trail, and Beaver Brook where fifth/sixth graders help to monitor stream flow. Enjoy a picnic lunch at Mass Audubon Society's 400-acre Broad Meadow Brook Sanctuary. Its marked trails, watershed displays, and gift shop will welcome you.

### **21. Habits and Habitats of Our New England Bats**

**Time:** Thursday, August 8, 6:00 PM departure, 8:30 PM return

**Cost:** \$47.00

**Note:** Not disability accessible, need good walking shoes and flashlight, suitable for families (10 years minimum), English only, no bad weather backup, no meal provided.

This two part presentation will feature an informative slide presentation on bats and field trip conducted by wildlife researcher John Foster of the New England Naturalist Training Center. We will travel to the 200 acre Charles River Reservation to view bats as they come out at dusk to feed. With the use of an echolocation bat detector we will be able to hear as they feed, travel and interact with each other.

### **22. New England Aquarium**

**Time:** Thursday, August 8th, 10:00 AM departure, 3:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$37.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, suitable families, English only, lunch provided,

Visit exhibits that showcase the diversity, importance, and beauty of aquatic life and habitats, and highlight critical aquatic conservation issues with an emphasis on species, habitats, and issues critical to New England. Learn about the Aquarium and four exhibits, including the 200,000 gallon tank underwater Caribbean Coral Reef and Living Links.

## FIELD TRIPS

### FRIDAY, August 9

#### **23. Back Bay Fens: First Link of Olmsted's Emerald Necklace**

**Time:** Friday, August 9th, 8:30 AM departure, 12:30 PM return

**Cost:** \$10.00

**Note:** Not disability accessible, suitable for families (10 years minimum), English only, rain or shine, no lunch.

A national park service ranger will lead this two to three hour walking tour of the Olmsted-designed Back Bay Fens, part of the "Emerald Necklace" park system. It will focus on the transformation of "the filthiest mudflats to be found anywhere in Massachusetts" into an urban oasis of greenery. Enjoy the meandering waterway and graceful stone bridges of what may be the nation's first wetlands restoration project.

#### **24. Exploring the Arnold Arboretum for Educators**

**Time:** Friday, August 9, 9:00 AM departure, 12 Noon return

**Cost:** \$10.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, not intended for children, English and Spanish, no bad weather back up, no lunch.

We will explore the tree collections of the Arnold Arboretum while doing hands-on science activities that encourage close observation of natural phenomena. These collections, laid out in a naturalistic landscape by Frederick Law Olmsted, make up the oldest display of temperate tree species in North America.

#### **25. Glorious Essex Bay, Crane Beach and Choate Island by Kayak and Foot**

**Time:** Friday, August 9, 8:00 AM departure, 5:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$95.00

**Note:** Not disability accessible, suitable for families (minimum 10 years), English only, rain or shine, lunch provided.

Join local experts for an outdoor day of natural history, geology and kayaking, splitting time between a kayak tour of Essex Bay Estuary and hiking the beautiful barrier beachfront and vegetated dune trails of Crane Beach, a diverse shoreline comprised of pristine salt marsh, white sand beaches, sandbars, and rocky shores.

### SATURDAY, August 10

#### **26. "Reading the Landscape" at Quabbin Reservoir**

**Time:** Saturday, August 10, 8 am departure, 5:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$39.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, suitable for families (10 years minimum), English only, indoor time extension in the event of rain, lunch provided.

Explore central Massachusetts, the Harvard Forest's dioramas and trails, and Quabbin Reservation, source of Boston's drinking water. Discover the dramatic changes in this landscape over the past 300 years and learn to "read" the evidence of its past.

### SATURDAY, August 10, continued

#### **27. Integrated Learning Aboard the Historic Schooner Ernestina**

**Time:** Saturday, August 10, 1:00 PM departure, 5:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$15.00

**Note:** Not disability accessible, suitable for families, rain or shine, no lunch.

Come aboard the historic state-owned 156' *Schooner Ernestina* and explore the Boston Harbor Islands during a three-hour sail. Participants will help raise the sails and then move through a series of active learning stations designed to integrate math, science, history and literature.

### SUNDAY, August 11

#### **28. Integrated Learning Aboard the Historic Schooner Ernestina**

**Time:** Sunday, August 11, 1:00 PM departure, 5:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$15.00

**Note:** Not disability accessible, suitable for families, rain or shine, no lunch.

Come aboard the historic state-owned 156' *Schooner Ernestina* and explore the Boston Harbor Islands during a three-hour sail. Participants will help raise the sails and then move through a series of active learning stations designed to integrate math, science, history and literature.

#### **29. Paddling the Neponset River Estuary**

**Time:** Sunday, August 11, 10:00 AM departure, 4:00 PM return

**Cost:** \$18.00

**Note:** Canoeing experience required, bring binoculars, suitable for families as long as they can swim with life vest, English only, rain or shine.

Canoe Neponset River Estuary, the only Boston river not dammed at the mouth. Turn up Sagamore Creek and on past remains of the first commercial railroad in the U. S. Observe wildlife and extensive salt marsh, rapidly filling with *Phragmites*.

#### **30. Sailing EcoTour In the Gulf of Maine**

**Time:** Sunday, August 11, 9:30 AM departure, 5:30 PM return

**Cost:** \$117.00

**Note:** Disability accessible, suitable for families (6 years minimum), English only, rain or shine, lunch provided.

Sail on the *Ninth Wave*, a 48-foot sailing catamaran from historic Newburyport Harbor to explore The Great Marsh, Gulf of Maine, and the Isle of Shoals or Stellwagen Bank depending on the wind. Participants will search for marine mammals and pelagic birds. Using ecological sampling instruments, test water quality, study plankton under the microscope and take a turn at the helm if desired.