



SAVE WALTON POND REMEMBERINGS – PART 3

Hi Everyone,

As I shared in the July and August newsletters, the Save Walton Pond Project began moving animals from June to August with the help of the Winding Trails' Summer Campers and a small tight-knit group of adult volunteers. As the Campers returned to school, we would expand our volunteers to local organizations and businesses.

The boards in the Walton Pond dam were slowly removed to drain the water for access to the muddy bottom. As seen in the upper left photo, the groups were digging through the muddy bottom to locate hidden mussels. These volunteers were a great help in this process because of the mussel numbers still remaining. During September 2010, the volunteers collected a total of 1,847 mussels. During their best day of digging, they uncovered and processed 956 of them.

As shown in the upper right photo, our next step was to capture the remaining fish using large seine nets. The net was deployed over a large area and slowly moved in to form a narrow trap. At this point, other volunteers would bring in individual nets to scoop out the fish which were then moved into large containment tubs connected to aerators. These tubs were then sorted into specific species of fish that fell into three size categories. After weighing and logging the information, they were put in the Animal Mover tubs, shown in the lower left, for transport to Dunning Lake. Our largest collection was 4,738 fish of which 4,420 were sunfish. That was probably the longest day of processing with many working late into the night.

During the mussel and fish moving, we still had occasional frogs, tadpoles, and turtles being found. The frogs and tadpoles caught numbered at 198 with 1 newt found. The turtles that were relocated numbered at 22. During September, there were 6 relocated painted turtles that returned to Walton. This was to continue into October and November with an additional 14 relocated turtles coming back to hibernate in the mud. We found that the homing instinct in certain painted turtles was very strong with some returning up to 3 times from their original move to Dunning Lake.

During the month of September 2010, we moved a total of 6,806 animals that weighed 1,360 pounds... nearly two-thirds of a ton.

Our thanks go out to all those that volunteered during the Save Walton Pond Project! Your help saved thousands of animals and allowed us to rebuild Walton Pond to survive for another 75+ years of service for future generations.

Look forward to seeing you out and about!

Miss Judy

SCROLL DOWN THROUGH THE NEWSLETTER TO FIND THESE SECTIONS:

- WINDING TRAILS NATURE EVENTS
- FISHING IN CONNECTICUT
- NIGHT SKY WATCHING
- OTHER NATURE EVENTS IN CONNECTICUT

WINDING TRAILS NATURE EVENTS

Registration is required 3 days prior to the event. If not enough people signup, the program is canceled.

With the ever-changing environment around COVID-19, we are unsure at this time what programs will be able to safely run. We are hoping to be able to offer all of these programs in some form, but will keep the website updated with changes as needed.

- | <u>DATE/TIME</u> | <u>EVENT</u> |
|--|--|
| • Saturday, September 12th
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Click on this link to register: | SATURDAY MORNING FAMILIES W/ YOUNG CHILDREN WALK – FALL IS COMING
Fee-based Program for Public / Free Program for Members
Open to the Public & Winding Trails' Members
https://www.windingtrails.org/register/?id=1092 |
| • Saturday, September 12th
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Click on this link to register: | SATURDAY AFTERNOON FAMILY NATURE WALK – FALL IS COMING
Fee-based Program for Public / Free Program for Members
Open to the Public & Winding Trails' Members
https://www.windingtrails.org/register/?id=1093 |
| • Saturday, September 19th
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Click on this link to register: | WORLD ANIMALS – A TRAILS FUND EVENT
Free Program for the Public & Members
Open to the Public & Winding Trails' Members
https://www.windingtrails.org/register/?id=1088 |

UPCOMING EVENT IN OCTOBER

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Saturday & Sunday, October 3rd & 4th
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Click on this link to register: | NATURE'S OPEN HOUSE – FAIRY HOUSE TOUR FOR THE TRAILS FUND
Fee-based Program for Public and Members
Open to the Public & Winding Trails' Members
https://www.windingtrails.org/register/?id=1049 |
|---|--|

DURING YOUR VISIT,

Please follow these simple state guidelines that are in effect at the start of September.

We ask anyone that has potentially been exposed to the coronavirus, either directly or through a member of their household, to abstain from visiting the property.

Everyone should continue to keep at least 6 feet away from each other whenever possible.
Immediate Family Members Are Exempt.

If you cannot remain 6 feet apart, a facemask should be worn.
Facemasks are required when using the bathhouse.

FISHING IN CONNECTICUT

Fishing is a great activity that gets one outdoors and provides a way to see the many diverse areas of the state of Connecticut. Also, it provides a way to enjoy and develop a life skill as one socializes with family and friends.

INTRODUCTION TO FISHING CLASSES via ZOOM

CARE has begun to resume Introduction to Fishing classes in a COVID approved fashion. Over the next four weeks, 1-hour ZOOM Introduction to Fishing classes have been scheduled from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. **To register, simply email justin.wiggins@ct.gov**

Students are then provided login credentials along with a list of online resources (["Let's Go Fishing" student workbook](#), ["Let's Go Fishing" YouTube videos](#), [Catchable Freshwater Fish Identification Activity](#)) to view prior to the ZOOM meeting.

Here is a list of ZOOM class dates currently scheduled:

- Wednesday, September 2
- Thursday, September 10
- Wednesday, September 16
- Friday, September 18

After attending a ZOOM class, students are sent an invitation to register for a CARE lead fishing trip (limit 20 people per outing).

Requirements of Fishing Trip Participants

All participants are required to follow these protocols while attending a CARE fishing trip:

- Bring your own fishing equipment. (loaner equipment will be available if necessary)
- Provide facemasks and hand sanitizer for everyone in your group
- Wear facemasks at all times during class
- Stay at least 6 feet away from other persons outside your group including a CARE Instructor
- Stay in your group at all times during class
- Provide all snacks and beverages for your group
- Bathroom facilities may be limited at some fishing sites. Plan accordingly
- We will supply bait but it would be nice if you could bring a container for bait that your group can share (an insulated cup with top, small cooler, coffee cup, cleaned yogurt container, etc.)

DIY FISHING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

To help the public have greater access to enjoy the fishing experience, the State of Connecticut has developed a variety of ways to keep the public up to date on what is happening within the state. Here is how to access many of them:

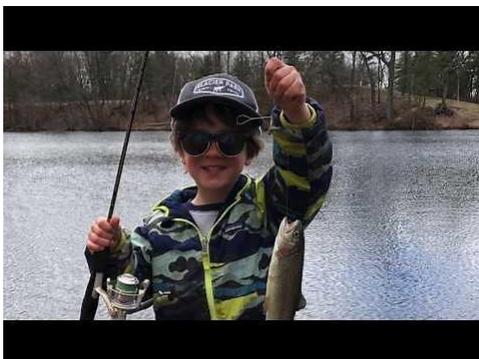
- **TROUT FISHING**

Follow These Links to Learn More About Trout Parks

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/General-Information/Trout-Parks>

& Trout Stocking:

<https://ctdeep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=70d13bc033854b89a87c04b1d11b1a43>



CT Trout Park Tutorial

Join Justin Wiggins of the CT DEEP Fisheries Division and his son Quinn as they teach you the basics of trout fishing at Wharton Brook Pond - one of many trout parks located in Connecticut. To learn more about trout parks visit our website at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XDpl8OzrSsU>

- **PANFISH FISHING**

"Panfish" is a term for the group of fish that includes black crappies (aka calico bass), yellow perch, white perch, rock bass, and all sunfish species. Panfish likely got their name for how terrific they are in the frying pan!

To learn all about how to catch panfish and cook them, follow this link:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/CARE/Panfish-Primer>

- **LET'S GO FISHING VIDEO SERIES**

Since CT DEEP is not able to offer C.A.R.E. Fishing programs during the COVID crisis, they developed a series to get you started. It includes all the basics: setting up your rod, what equipment to have, baits and lures, rules and regulations, and how to cast.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3l-ZMBS6Y-w3Cew583XOEnieQg5dwXL0>

The latest additions to this series include:

How to Put a Nightcrawler on a Hook and **How to Put a Mealworm on a Hook**

- **Fishing Guide**

Electronic **Fishing Guide**

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/General-Information/Fishing-Guide>

- **Current Regulations**

Inland fisheries <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Freshwater/Current-Inland-Fisheries-Regulations>

Marine fisheries <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Saltwater/Current-Recreational-Marine-Fisheries-Regulations>

- **Mobile app**

["Connecticut is Fishy!"](#)

- **Those that use social media will find these links helpful:**

[Facebook](#) Connecticut Fish and Wildlife Facebook

[Twitter](#) CT DEEP Fisheries Twitter

[FishBrain](#) Social Fishing App to Track Your Catches, Socialize with Other Anglers, and Get Fishing Intel

- **Educational brochures:**

Freshwater Fish in English or Spanish

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/fishing/general_information/InlandEnglishBrochurepdf.pdf?la=en

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/fishing/general_information/MarineEnglishBrochurepdf.pdf?la=en

Saltwater Fish in English or Spanish

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/fishing/general_information/InlandSpanishBrochurepdf.pdf?la=en

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/fishing/general_information/MarineSpanishBrochurepdf.pdf?la=en

- **Subscribe to:**

CT Fishin' Tips (monthly e-Newsletter)

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/General-Information/CT-Fishin-Tips>

Fishing Report (weekly e-Newsletter from September to November)

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Weekly-Report/Weekly-Fishing-Report>

- **Youth Fishing Passport**

The [Youth Fishing Passport Program](#) is a free product available to youth who are age 15 or younger. The program has [sponsors](#) who offer free or discounted fishing items and has the activity, [Fishing Challenge](#), which encourages families to spend quality time fishing together.



- **CT Fish Blog ... New Feature That You Need to Check Out!**

The CT Fish Blog uses ArcGIS StoryMaps to share topical Fisheries Division information with the public in an easily digestible format. Starting in 2020, entries will be distributed the first Friday of each month.

All entries will also be archived in a collection found here:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/03eecac288ad44d6bb2241057babc907>



NIGHT SKY WATCHING

FULL MOON INFORMATION



The **Full Corn Moon** will occur on **September 2nd at 1:23 a.m. EDT**. When the Harvest Moon happens in October, closest to the Autumnal Equinox, September's Full Moon is called the Corn Moon. This full Moon corresponds with the harvesting corn.

OTHER OBSERVATIONS THIS MONTH INCLUDES:

PLANETS

- **Mercury** is hidden in the sun's glow all month.
- **Venus** is seen in the eastern sky at dawn as a bright Morning Star for the entire month.
- **Mars** rises in the evening and reaches its highest point before dawn.
- **Jupiter** is seen at dusk and sets shortly after midnight.
- **Saturn** is seen roughly 8° east of Jupiter.



CELESTIAL EVENTS

- **September 2nd** Moon phase – **Full Moon at 1:22 a.m. EDT**
- **September 6th** The waning gibbous Moon and Mars rise together as a close pair in Pisces. Watch the gap between them shrink as they climb higher. The Moon glides under the planet for viewers in North America.
- **September 7th** Moon phase – waning gibbous
- **September 10th** Moon phase – last quarter at 5:28 a.m. EDT
- **September 13th** Moon phase – waning crescent
- **September 15th** The zodiacal light is visible in the east beginning about 2 hours before morning twilight. Find a dark Viewing site and look for a tall pyramid of dim light tilted toward the right stretching through Cancer and Gemini into Taurus. Enjoy this until the end of the month.
- **September 17th** Moon phase – new moon at 7:00 a.m. EDT
- **September 21st** Moon phase – waxing crescent
- **September 22nd** **Autumn begins in the Northern Hemisphere at the Equinox, 9:31 a.m. EDT.**
- **September 23rd** Moon phase – first quarter at 9:56 p.m. EDT
- **September 24th** A trio comprising the waxing gibbous Moon, Jupiter, and Saturn arrange in an arc about 11° long adorns the southern horizon.
- **September 26th** Moon phase – waxing gibbous

Sources: Old Farmer's Almanac – Astronomy
Astronomy September 2020
A Year of the Night Sky Calendar 2020

<http://www.almanac.com/astronomy>
Kalmbach Publishing Company
Ziga Media

To obtain a two-page star map of the night sky, go to this link... <http://skymaps.com/downloads.html>. Scroll down the page to find **The Evening Sky Map – Northern Hemisphere Edition** and click on the download for the current month,

AT THE COPERNICAN OBSERVATORY AND PLANETARIUM IN NEW BRITAIN

PUBLIC EVENTS CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Until further notice, all planetarium shows and observing sessions are canceled due to the COVID-19 campus shutdown. Continue to check the website for further information as we move forward through this health crisis. We are looking forward to meeting you all under the stars once again. Be safe and stay healthy!

Astronomy Outreach @ CCSU

While the campus is currently closed (including the Copernican Planetarium and Observatory), the astronomy staff at CCSU is still committed to engaging with the citizens of Connecticut and helping you learn about and enjoy the universe!

- Learn about the constellations through fun micro-videos posted one per day!
 - 88 Constellations in 88 Words Over 88 Days can be found [here](#).
- Short YouTube videos about Harry Potter related astronomy activities...
 - Making a Sky Wheel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7kODmcRM1SI>
 - Galaxy Model <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-H82bM0uNQ>
 - Centaurs <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bf1GkXhpYMw>
 - Exploring Jupiter's Moons <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fRy9f1vaUlw&t=42s>

AT THE WESLEYAN VAN VLECK OBSERVATORY IN MIDDLETOWN

PUBLIC EVENTS CANCELED FOR FALL 2020

All public events at or sponsored by the astronomy department have been canceled. Thanks for your understanding.

SPACE STATION OBSERVING

NASA's Spot the Station service gives you a list of upcoming sighting opportunities based on your zip code through an interactive map for thousands of locations worldwide and will let you sign up to receive notices of opportunities in your email inbox or on your cell phone. The space station looks like a fast-moving plane in the sky and is bright enough that it can even be seen from the middle of a city! It can traverse the entire sky in 3 to 7 minutes. The notice gives the date, time, duration of visibility, and direction of travel. Enter in the town closest to your viewing location. Do note that there can be a series of dates during the year that it is not visible over Connecticut. The link for further information is <http://spotthestation.nasa.gov>.

OTHER NATURE EVENTS IN CONNECTICUT

ANSONIA NATURE & RECREATION CENTER – Upcoming Events

The Ansonia Nature and Recreation Center, the building, and the playground are closed to the public until further notice. All exterior parts of the property are open. For a map of the property, click the following:

<http://ansonianaturecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/Ansonia-Nature-Center-Trail-Map.pdf>

Virtual Programming is available: [Check our Facebook page for updates on Events and Programs.](#)

CT DEEP Events in CT – Upcoming Events

TO LEARN MORE INFORMATION, HOVER OVER PROGRAM TITLE AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS:

Event	Date	Time	Location
The History of Our Things	8/15/2020 - 9/12/2020	10:00am	At your computer
Webinar: Forest Plant ID	9/7/2020	5:00pm-6:00pm	At your computer
Teacher Professional Development Opportunity	9/8/2020	3:00 pm	At your computer
Teacher Professional Development Opportunity	9/14/2020	11:30 am- 12:15 pm	Backyard Exploration Series At your computer
Coverts Project 2020	9/17/2020 - 9/20/2020	Thurs, Sept 17@6:30 PM - Sun, Sept. 20@ 3PM	Napinars Webinar Series Great Mountain Forest Canaan
Webinar: Creatures of the Night	9/21/2020	1:00pm-2:00pm	At your computer
Teacher Professional Development Opportunity	9/21/2020	11:30am - 12:15pm	At your computer Napinarss Webinar Series
Moth Diversity and Study	9/22/2020	6:00 pm	At your computer
Teacher Professional Development Opportunity	9/28/2020	11:30am - 12:15pm	Project WET Webinar At Your Computer Napinars Webinar Series

CT Forest & Park Association – Upcoming Events

- **HIKE THE BLUE-BLAZED TRAILS OF CONNECTICUT**

Statewide Locations

The CT Forest & Parks Association would like to remind you that the Blue-Blazed Trails in Connecticut are **STILL OPEN** to benefit your physical and mental health... having a natural and no-cost way to reduce stress, anxiety, and stir craziness is **IMPORTANT** to you and your family!

Follow This Link to Learn More: <https://www.ctwoodlands.org/public-policy/stuck-indoors-get-outside>

CT Public – Available Resources

Connecticut Public has collected a multimedia treasure trove of educational (and entertaining!) learn-at-home resources for students, families, and educators. This includes tips, tools, and advice on how to keep our minds, our bodies, and our curiosity healthy during these challenging times. Link for the site: <https://ctpublic.org/learn-at-home/>

Learning Snacks for Students

This whole not-going-to-school-and-staying-home-all-day is tough, we get it. Our goal is to help you take learning from home one day at a time. We have found the best way to get through it is with snacks of all kinds. [Click here](#) to find some learning snacks that take just a few minutes to do, rrrrrridiculous but related content, recipes for real-life snacks, and a little something extra for the most studious among us. [Go now »](#)

Signup to Receive Weekly Learn At Home Updates

Each week we will pack up some fresh Learn at Home ideas and send them along with a schedule of our TV programming built just for students, and links to helpful resources. **SIGN UP NOW »**

CT River Watershed Council – Upcoming Events

Due to the current health risks inherent with large gatherings, and in accordance with state and local mandates, we have postponed our current events until further notice. Please join us virtually for the following...

GO WITH THE FLOW – Resources for Things to Do From Your Home

<https://www.ctriver.org/river-resources-for-trying-times/>

CT State Museum of Natural History & Archaeology Center at UConn – Upcoming Events

- No Events at Time of Publication

Visit their website to check out for calendar updates at this link: <http://www.cac.uconn.edu/mnhcurrentcalendar.html>
If you would like to be added to their mailing list to receive a printed copy of their programs, call 860-486-4460.

Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut – Upcoming Events

Virtual Learning at <https://elcct.org/virtual-learning/>

Indian Rock Summer Day Camp link:

<https://elcct.org/programs/http-elcct-org-wp-content-uploads-2018-02-brochure-2018-without-forms-for-email-and-web-pdf/>

Farmington River Watershed Association – Upcoming Events

- No Events Posted at Time of Publication

RIVER FRIENDLY LAWN CARE TIPS:

<https://frwa.org/newsroom-blog/river-friendly-lawn-care-tips/>

MID-SPRING LAWN CARE TIPS:

<https://frwa.org/newsroom-blog/mid-spring-mid-april-to-mid-September-lawn-care-tips/>

LATE-SPRING WEED CONTROL TIPS:

<https://frwa.org/newsroom-blog/mid-spring-mid-april-to-mid-September-lawn-care-tips/>

SPRING LAWN CARE:

<https://frwa.org/newsroom-blog/spring-lawn-weed-control-lawn-care-part-iv/>

LAWN IRRIGATION:

<https://frwa.org/newsroom-blog/spring-lawn-care-tips-part-v-irrigation/>

LAWN CARE – PART VI:

<https://frwa.org/newsroom-blog/lawn-carevi/>

GRUB CONTROL:

<https://frwa.org/newsroom-blog/grub-control/>

Friends of American Legion & Peoples State Forests (FALPS) – Upcoming Events

THE TRAILS AT BOTH STATE FORESTS ARE OPEN AS OF THIS PUBLICATION... GO TAKE A WALK!

Use this link for information about their forests and maps of the Forest Trails - <https://falps.org/our-forests/>

Roaring Brook Nature Center – Upcoming Events

DUE TO THE COVID-19, THE NATURE CENTER WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

For Virtual and Live Activities, check out this list:

1. Click [HERE](#) to visit our *Online Learning Center!*
2. Pick up a FREE "Busy Bag" in front of the Nature Center and hike along the trails.
Trails are open each day dawn until dusk.
3. Purchase an "Activity Box" by clicking [HERE!](#)
4. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for more activity ideas!
5. PLEASE CALL 860-693-0263 WITH ANY INQUIRIES.

Visit their website to check out their calendar at this link for more information!

<http://www.roaringbrook.org/events/events.html>

Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area in Burlington, CT – Upcoming Events

ALL PROGRAMS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

All public programs at Sessions Woods WMA are canceled until further notice and the Conservation Education Center is temporarily closed to the public due to COVID-19 and social distancing requirements. The trails are open for solitary recreation only and all visitors should be following social distancing guidelines.

If the parking lot is full when you arrive, please come back at another time to help reduce crowding on the trails.

For additional information about a program, click on the link or call their office at 860-424-3011.

Visit their website to obtain their trail map:

https://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/wildlife/pdf_files/maps/maps_other/swtrail.pdf

Sharon Audubon Center in Sharon, CT – Upcoming Events

DUE TO THE COVID-19, THE AUDUBON CENTER WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Trails are open every day from dawn until dusk.

VIRTUAL LEARNING WITH THE COMMUNITY NATURALIST – <https://sharon.audubon.org/events>

- **Ask the Naturalist** on Facebook Livestream... <https://www.facebook.com/SharonAudubonCenter>
 - Every Tuesday at noon
- **Ask the Rehabber** on Facebook Livestream... <https://www.facebook.com/SharonAudubonCenter>
 - Every Thursday at 3:00 p.m.

Visit their website for other events at this link: <http://sharon.audubon.org/events>.

Or call the Audubon Center for information at (860) 364-0520

For a copy of their trail maps, visit: <http://sharon.audubon.org/trail-maps>

White Memorial Conservation Center – Upcoming Events

Like many of you, we have been closely monitoring the rapidly evolving situation regarding COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

Our number one priority will always be the health and safety of our visitors and staff.

VIRTUAL LEARNING on FACEBOOK LIVE or ZOOM: <https://whitememorialcc.org/calendar/>

- Click on a Calendar Event to get the link or register for the event.

SPECIAL EVENTS & VIRTUAL VAULT: <https://whitememorialcc.org/special-events/>

For a copy of their trail maps, visit: <https://whitememorialcc.org/trail-maps/>

While enjoying White Memorial, please be respectful and courteous to others and follow social distancing etiquette.

Look forward to seeing you out and about!

Miss Judy

Judy Witzke, Park Naturalist

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Fostering a Love for the Outdoors/Creating a Sense of Community/Developing Leadership and Life Skills