



THE EDMUND NILES HUYCK PRESERVE

Connecting people to nature through conservation, education, research, and recreation since 1931



Cover image: "Mimic"
© Virginia Thomson

SPRING 2023

Myosotis Messenger



Conservation
Excellence

A LETTER TO OUR MEMBERS



Anne G. Rhoads, Ph.D.,
Executive Director

Dear Members,

Practicing patience is something that benefits everyone; it allows us to minimize worry and to take advantage of the time to focus on something else worthwhile. Patience is the name of the game when running a nonprofit nature preserve and field station.

I'm writing this letter from a window overlooking Lincoln Pond and the beautiful sight of the venerable hemlock stand along its eastern shore. I feel the familiar sense of wonder and admiration that I have felt toward that part of the forest since I took my first walk around the pond 14 years ago. I also worry. This stand has been one of our focal stands for protection against hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA), an invasive forest pest that ultimately kills entire hemlock forests if left untreated. We are doing our best to prevent such a devastating loss in each of our six highest priority hemlock stands. You have likely read before about our partnership with the New York State Hemlock Initiative (NYSHI) (based at Cornell University), a group whose focus is on hemlock conservation and especially finding biological control solutions to HWA.

This past fall, NYSHI released 2,392 *Laricobius nigrinus* beetles at a high priority hemlock stand along Lake Myosotis—this was one of a handful of releases of *Laricobius* beetles of this magnitude in New York State. We feel fortunate to have been chosen as a release site, but it took more than luck. The insects are expensive—\$1-\$3 per bug (but they come to us at no cost because of the public funding that NYSHI receives), so NYSHI is very selective about releases. At a recent New York State Hemlock Managers Meeting that Stewardship Coordinator Garrett Chisholm and I attended in western New York, the NYSHI listed the main criteria for being a release site: relatively healthy trees that will be protected (not cut) over the long-term and organizational commitment, staffing, and knowledge for stewardship. In other words, the Huyck Preserve is an ideal site. Now we patiently wait—are the chemical treatments we have completed providing effective shorter-term protection against HWA? Are the biocontrol insects (*Laricobius* beetles and earlier releases of *Leucotaraxis* (silverflies)) overwintering and establishing (which is what is required for them to be the long-term, landscape-scale protection against HWA that is needed to save the species)? Time and diligent monitoring of the insect populations and the health of the hemlock trees themselves will reveal the answers.

Perhaps you, too, sometimes feel a hint of impatience while visiting the Preserve as you walk along still-muddy trails, are skeptical about again launching your boat from the rocky shore of Lake Myosotis, or wonder at the scenic but forlorn Davis Cottage awaiting restoration into a trailside interpretive center near the boat racks. Fear not, those projects are progressing thanks to the Recreational Trail Program grant discussed in our Spring 2022 *Myosotis Messenger*. The behind-the-scenes work of getting through the required steps with the funding agency (Federal Highway Administration via NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation), hiring contractors, and working through plans is moving forward. Things take time, but we are hopeful the outcome will be worth the wait and the hard work we've been investing.

With your continued support, the dedicated staff, board, volunteers, and partners of the Huyck Preserve are advancing the important work of our four-pronged mission of conservation, education, research, and recreation to the best of our abilities every day. While we await the current fruits of our labor, let's all use this time to enjoy the return of spring—the sweet call of migratory birds, the swelling of buds on the trees, the bluebird sky against the lingering snow, and the gradual greening of the landscape. We also look forward to seeing you and your family at an upcoming spring or summer event, at the beach (including at our opening day pizza party on June 24th), or at our summer education programs.

Anne G. Rhoads, Ph.D., Executive Director

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

The Huyck Preserve reached a wonderful milestone last year! Our field-based education programs were recognized by New York State Outdoor Education Association with a three-page article in their publication, *PATHWAYS*. The article is a testament to the dedication of our team, and to their commitment to excellence in science education. If you haven't read the article in *PATHWAYS*, the link is <https://tinyurl.com/2p845jwx>. Over 700 students benefited from our outdoor classes last year through field trips offered to six local school districts, the fall homeschool program, and the increasingly popular K-12 summer program. As a membership organization, we wouldn't be able to provide this level of education without your support, and we heartily thank you.

Alexandra van Horne, President, Board of Directors

ANNOUNCING THE HUYCK PRESERVE READ + HIKE BOOK CLUB

Come discuss themes of ecology and humanity's relationship with nature with other book and nature lovers in this reading and hiking club! Each meeting, we will go on a leisurely hike with stopping points for book discussion. Book club meetings take place once a month. Participants may choose to come to all the meetings, some meetings, or just one!

Hikes will start from the **Eldridge Research Center, 284 Pond Hill Road**, and meet from **3 - 4:30 PM**.

READING LIST AND MEETING DATES

MAY 6

The Darkness Manifesto: On Light Pollution, Night Ecology, and the Ancient Rhythms That Sustain Life by Johan Eklöf

JUNE 3

Beaverland: How One Weird Rodent Made America by Leila Philip

JULY 9

Bicycling with Butterflies: My 10,201-Mile Journey Following the Monarch Migration by Sara Dykman

AUGUST 6

An Immense World: How Animal Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us by Ed Yong

SEPTEMBER 9

A Darker Wilderness: Black Nature Writing from Soil to Stars edited by Erin Sharkey

OCTOBER 14

Remarkably Bright Creatures: A Novel by Shelby Van Pelt



SUMMER SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW ANNOUNCEMENT

The Huyck Preserve is excited to welcome Walter Carson, Ph.D., as this summer's Senior Research Fellow. Dr. Carson has spent the last 25 years studying the ecology of the Eastern Deciduous Forest Biome and tropical forests in Panama, Costa Rica, and Ecuador. He is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. Join us at one of our summer research events to meet Dr. Carson.

MEMBERSHIP MOMENTS

FEATURING ALINE GALGAY, ESQ., MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER

Aline Galgay, Esq., describes herself as an open space preservationist and says it is her philosophy to dedicate her time and services to causes that will benefit the planet. For many years, she has donated her time as an attorney to the Huyck Preserve and other land trusts, including the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy. Recently, Aline has helped the Huyck Preserve with the real estate closings of a donated property off of Pond Hill Road and the purchase of the Stegler property on the west side of Lake Myosotis.

When her sons, Michael and Brandon, were young, Aline used to take them swimming at the lake. Like many members, she was surprised to learn that the cabin visible across the lake from the beach was on a small, privately owned parcel that was not part of the Huyck Preserve. She felt that the use of the property seemed at odds with the Preserve's mission and said that it was a “no-brainer” that she would want to help when the Preserve reached out in 2022 for legal assistance with the acquisition. With her help, the Preserve was able to close on the property.

Aline enjoys quiet moments on the trails and loves to hike, walk with her dog, and snowshoe in the less frequented parts of the Preserve. She particularly likes going out in the “off-season” when few people want to be out on the trails. “It’s my happy place,” says Aline, “Up here, where there are many people with large tracts of land, we can snowshoe in our backyard. But there’s something special that draws us to the Preserve.”

Aline’s enthusiasm and passion for using her skills to support what she believes in is infectious. When her sons were in high school, both of them worked as Building and Grounds Assistants. Her oldest son was also an Odum Intern, and her younger son helped rebuild the bridge over the falls after it washed away during Hurricane Irene. During one summer’s Rensselaerville Ramble, many of her husband Patrick’s coworkers from the Albany and Rensselaer County areas came to join them in the race held as a fundraiser for the Preserve and the Rensselaerville Library. It was an exciting year for the Ramble, with bear sightings by the falls. Aline says that seeing the people from her husband’s work become involved in a big event at the Preserve and appreciate its beauty was a great feeling.

With an increase in regional visitors and full-time residents in the surrounding area since 2020, Aline is excited for the ongoing interest in the Huyck Preserve, and hopes that a new generation of families will extend their support of nature to the Preserve and beyond.

HUYCK HIGHLIGHT

BY SARAH NELSON WEISS, MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER

There was a time in the far distant past when people experienced time not as a linear march into the future, but rather as a cycle, a round of moments that return again and again. Since I became Trail Steward for Loops One and Two [known as the Valley and Hill Trails off of Partridge Path on our updated trail map] in 2020, I’ve put a couple thousand miles on the Huyck Preserve trails. Around the Loops I go, around the lake, around the pond, circling the familiar trails. My “job” is easy—keep an eye on trail conditions, clear away what debris I can, let Adam know about the bigger trunks and branches. I report back to Garrett monthly, and a couple times a year take my clippers out and cut invasives.

The rest of the time, I am simply part of the rhythm of the days and seasons. In the woods, where the spin and rotation of the earth are more important than how many times it has gone around the sun, I know when and where I will hear the Wood Thrush late on a summer afternoon. It is the same with the first red eft under the white pines and the wild chorus of the peepers in the spring; the dependable knocking of a woodpecker; the shimmering aspen leaves in autumn; the intense quiet of the snowy woods, with an unbroken trail stretching out ahead.

An endless cycling of days, and it feels not so much that time is passing, but that the forest and I are returning over and over again to the same point, spiraling through a familiar progression, retracing our steps. It’s a different way of being human, and a daily opportunity to remember my place in the bigger reality.

Interested in becoming a trail steward or volunteering in another role? Training opportunities are available! Email info@huyckpreserve.org to learn more.



Sarah with a massive grapevine on the Valley Trail (Loop One section of Partridge Path)

UPDATES FROM THE LAND

BY GARRETT CHISHOLM, STEWARDSHIP COORDINATOR

This winter, the mammals of Lincoln Pond

have been out in full force. Maybe you have seen a mink scurrying about the edge of the pond. Or, as you were enjoying the view of the spillway, you noticed the muskrats splashing around in the persistent flow of water. Lincoln Pond, in most seasons, is an excellent gateway into the unseen world of the Huyck Preserve. Day and night, the Preserve is flourishing with active wildlife even in winter. Evidence of one of Lincoln Pond's most active residents can easily be spotted year-round: the beaver!

After relocating from the back of Lincoln Pond to the hillside below Bullfrog Camp in 2021, the beavers are again shaping the dynamics of the ecosystem, lending themselves to their nickname of “ecosystem engineer.” One surprise that has developed in the last few years is a shift in the diet of our Lincoln Pond beavers. Recognized favorite food sources of beavers include deciduous trees such as aspen, willow, birch, and red maple and shrubs like speckled alder. A walk around Lincoln Pond reveals that the beavers here appear to have taken a liking to another staple of the Preserve's landscape: the eastern hemlock. The Preserve has over 350 acres of hemlock trees, and some of our most majestic surround Lincoln Pond. Along the eastern course of Lincoln Pond Trail, a myriad of girdled and downed hemlock lies as evidence of the beaver's current activities.

Hemlock is widely known to be one of the least favorite food sources of beavers, yet there is documentation of beavers felling hemlocks in significant numbers. There is much speculation and no clear answers to explain this behavior. One hypothesis is that beavers turn to hemlock when other food sources are exhausted and when they are preparing to abandon the pond. However, at Lincoln Pond, other preferred food sources continue to exist. Another thought is that beavers actively manage forest species composition by ridding the area of hemlock and making way for more preferred hardwood trees and shrubs. Some evidence here and elsewhere begins to support this hypothesis since trees are often girdled (killed through bark removal) but left to stand and not used entirely. One final idea is that hemlocks provide certain nutrients needed by beavers but unavailable through other food choices. Could these explanations be at play together? Might a changing climate also play a role, especially if this switch to hemlocks is a universally new behavior? Perhaps a future visiting researcher will take this question on.



Top: A beaver swimming in Lincoln Pond

Bottom left: A mink spotted on the shore of Lincoln Pond.

Bottom right: Beavers chew marks on hemlock trees along Lincoln Pond trail. Note the marks at different heights. This occurs when a beaver is chewing on a tree while standing on top of snow-covered ground. As snow falls or melts, the beaver will be standing at a different height if it continues to chew on the tree.

Have you spotted wildlife at the Preserve? We are always interested to see what our trail users have spotted on the land—please send your pictures to garrett@huyckpreserve.org for a chance to be featured in one of our Flora and Fauna Friday social media posts!

BATS AT HUYCK: USING ULTRASOUND TO IDENTIFY BAT SPECIES DIVERSITY

BY JONATHAN TOWNSEND, VISITING RESEARCHER

Big brown bat
(*Eptesicus fuscus*)



Bats have the worst PR:

they are portrayed as dirty, disease-ridden harbingers of evil. Nothing could be further from the truth. Bats are clean animals, although their droppings (called guano) can build up under their roosts, and like all animal waste, can be a health hazard if handled improperly. Despite reports pointing to bats as the source of zoonotic diseases like Covid-19 and Ebola, a close review of the scientific literature has shown no direct link between bats and these human illnesses. Other scientific literature shows that bats are no more likely than any other group of wild or domestic animal to spread disease. Less reported is the fact that humans have been living alongside bats for millennia, and the risk of disease from a bat encounter is close to zero.

Bats are an incredibly diverse and important group of animals. They account for 20-25% of all mammal species, making chiropters (the taxonomic order to which bats belong) the second most diverse order of mammals next to rodents. There are over 1,400 species of bat, with more documented every year. Bats eat a diverse array of foods. At the Huyck Preserve and throughout most of the United States, bats are generally insect eaters. About 70% of bats are insectivorous, and around the world they also eat fruit, nectar, pollen, fish, birds, small mammals and even blood. This results in a wondrous array of diversity in their shape and form. Their diversity makes them key participants in how the environment operates (they are known as keystone species)—they are critical pollinators and seed dispersers, and they control insect populations to the benefit of human economies, public health, and wild ecosystems alike.

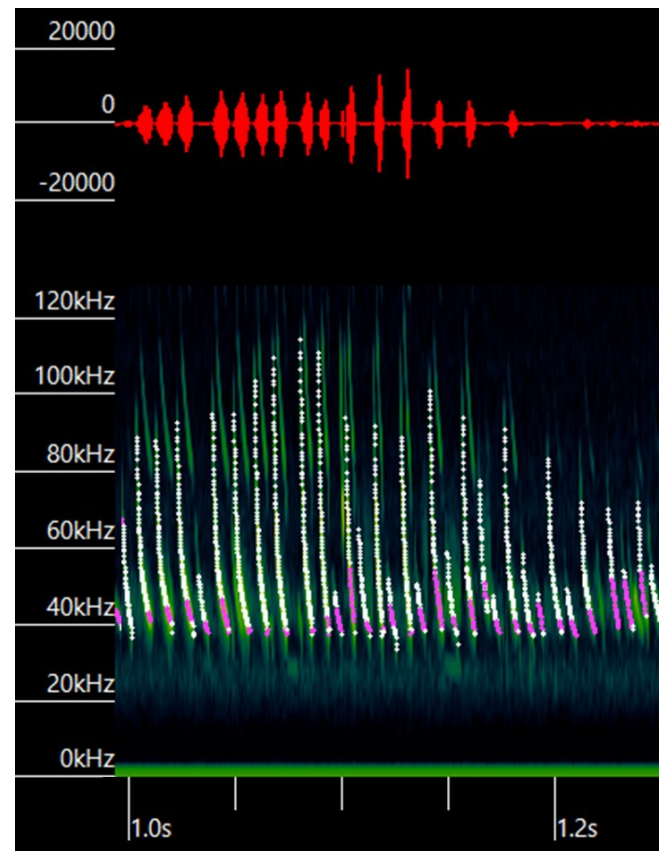
One of bats' most incredible abilities is the use of ultrasound to navigate while flying in the dark. This is called echolocation. Ultrasound is sound that is above the frequency or wavelength that human ears can process. Think of echolocation as a biological version of sonar, where bats essentially fly in the night sky screaming so loud that we humans cannot hear it, and then interpret the resulting echo from that vocalization to navigate and forage. Their abilities are so refined they can detect something as thin as a human hair, and they regularly detect and avoid nets that biologists set up to capture and study them.

It is this unique skill that brought scientist Donald R. Griffin to the Huyck Preserve in 1939, where he conducted groundbreaking studies on the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), native to this region, and deduced through his research and named the process of echolocation for the first time! It is also what brought me to the Preserve last summer. Scientists now study bats by using an ultrasonic microphone to capture and record bat's echolocation (called a "call"). Bats have unique patterns in their calls, making it possible to tell what species of bat is flying by without ever seeing or touching the bat. As part of my doctoral research, I am using this equipment to study how bats are using the landscape, and what portions of the landscape are particularly critical for a given species of bat. This is important, as bats in our region are under immense conservation pressure. Our hibernating cavity-roosting bats have had population declines of 90-99% from a fungal disease called White-nose syndrome (that originated in Howe Caverns, not far from the Preserve); and our migratory foliage-roosting species are experiencing equally substantial impacts from wind energy-related mortality. The need for improved conservation measures is urgent, and a better understanding of bat habitat will allow for better targeted and more effective projects to save them.

My time at the Huyck Preserve last season was supported by a Huyck Research Grant. The grant gave me the resources to extend my Ph.D. research in this region of New York State, and I'm very grateful for this opportunity. Not only was I excited about coming to the place where bat echolocation was first scientifically documented, I had a terrific time traipsing around the Preserve, setting up my bioacoustic survey gear all over to create as large a snapshot of the Preserve's bats as possible. The trip was made

even more enjoyable by the interns, staff, guest researchers, and visitors.

The real delight came when I got around to analyzing the acoustic data back home in the fall. I found that there was healthy bat diversity present, with several species of bat documented using recordings of their echolocation calls. These species include the big brown (*Eptesicus fuscus*), silver-haired (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*), eastern red (*Lasiurus borealis*), hoary (*Lasiurus cinereus*) and little brown (*Myotis lucifugus*) bats. There were also calls that indicated the potential presence of Indiana (*Myotis sodalis*) bats, a federally Endangered species; and northern long-eared (*Myotis septentrionalis*) bats, recently upgraded from federally Threatened to federally Endangered. These last two species can be problematic to identify with acoustic surveys of this nature. Based on the quality of the recordings I was able to capture, it is likely that Indiana bats are present at Huyck, but further surveys need to be conducted to assess the presence of northern long-eared bats. I'd love to come back to conduct some netting projects that seek to physically capture the bats to definitively confirm their presence. The presence of species in the *Myotis* genus alone is very exciting. These are the species hardest hit by White-nose syndrome (the reason that northern long-eared bats were upgraded to Endangered this year), which had its epicenter near the Huyck Preserve. The presence of one species in this group would be wonderful, and a testament to the quality of habitat types that can be found at the Preserve. Donald Griffin would be pleased.



Top: Echolocation call of the Little Brown bat, *Myotis lucifugus* showing spectrogram (bottom) and amplitude (top, in red)
 Bottom left: The acoustic array on the shore of Lincoln Pond
 Bottom right: Summer crew (left to right: Tanvi Jain, Jon Titus, Ph.D., Angela Yuan, and Carrson Widen) standing by the acoustic array attached to a bridge on Lincoln Pond Trail



Jonathan Townsend is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Geography at the University at Buffalo where he is studying the biogeography and conservation of bats in the Chautauqua County, NY region. He is also a biologist and native plant specialist at Royal Fern Nursery, and sits on the Board of Directors at the Greystone Nature Preserve near Fredonia, NY.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

The Huyck Preserve would like to congratulate past Huyck Research Grant recipient Meghan Barrett, Ph.D. and team Annette Kang, Angelina Gomez, Devenet Kainth, and Sean O'Donnell, Ph.D. for having their research on grass-carrying wasps (*Isodontia auripes*), some of which was conducted at the Huyck Preserve, recently published in the Journal of the Kansas Entomological Society. Their paper details variation in nest construction, prey capture, and body size in grass-carrying wasps.

Barrett, M., Kang, A., Gomez, A., Kainth, D., and O'Donnell, S. 2022. Nest architecture, prey, and body size in the grass-carrying wasp, *Isodontia auripes*, at two sites in New York (Hymenoptera: Sphecidae). Journal of the Kansas Entomological Society 94(3): 199-212.

EAGLES IN NEW YORK: GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS

BY KELLY MARTIN, WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR

The main reason we have worried about eagles' survival for the past 50 years is diminished, but another problem now threatens their safe existence. I am a state licensed and federally permitted wildlife rehabilitator. Since 1980, I have provided care for sick, injured, orphaned, and displaced native wild animals with the goal of returning healthy animals back to their natural wild environment. When I started out, Bald Eagles were hovering at the edge of extinction in the United States. Decades of use of the deadly pesticide DDT had taken its toll and, despite the 1972 ban on its use, eagle populations were still sparse. (DDT is known to bio-accumulate when eagles eat contaminated fish, which causes outright poisoning along with thinning of their nest eggs resulting in poor hatching success.) Over the past 35 years, eagle numbers have rebounded in the wild with the help of captive breeding programs and other projects by state and federal conservation agencies, raptor rehabilitators, and falconers.

I'm a wildlife rehabilitation generalist: I enjoy handling a variety of birds, mammals, reptiles, and the occasional amphibian. Recently, I have seen more Bald Eagles come in for rehabilitation. The reasons are varied: eagle population numbers are high enough now that we sometimes care for victims of territorial fights over mates or nesting and hunting locations—eagle talons can cause serious injuries in such fights. Two adult eagles came into care under my license in 2022 from an Oneonta location, and it was obvious they had injured each other in a fight. One is still undergoing medical treatment at Cornell's Wildlife Health Clinic, and another was sent to a rehabilitator with a 180-foot-long flight cage to assess its condition. Unfortunately, that eagle will not be able to be released, and we are seeking a permanent residence for it.

There are many reasons animals end up in care, but vehicle collisions top the list. Three additional eagles that came in under my license in 2022 were suspected of having been struck by vehicles. Sadly, one died under care, and one had to be euthanized. The third, an adult eagle that came from Otsego Lake in Cooperstown, was ultimately treated at Cornell. This past October we were able to release that bird within sight of its nest.

Closer to Rensselaerville, the Hannacroix Reservoir appears to be another prime habitat for Bald Eagles. In the late fall we rescued an adult eagle there that had been observed on the ground for a few days but didn't have obvious signs of injury. When we captured this bird, we saw another adult and a juvenile nearby. The grounded eagle was sent to Cornell for evaluation and sadly died of acute lead poisoning after two days.

Almost every eagle that comes into rehabilitation now tests positive for lead.



Almost every eagle that comes into rehabilitation now tests positive for lead. Not all blood levels are high enough to cause sickness or death as with the Hannacroix Reservoir eagle, but this is a serious problem. Most uptake of lead by eagles comes from scavenged food sources, such as gut piles left by hunters that use lead bullets to hunt deer. Copper bullets are an option, but these are more expensive, not readily available, and frequently what is sold is simply copper-coated lead and not solid copper. NYSDEC recommends that hunters switch to copper ammunition and clearly states the reasons why on their website. However, as of now, this is a hunter's choice and it is still legal in NY to use lead.

Until copper bullets are more readily available, and New York State mandates their use, hunters can reduce the poisoning impact on eagles and other wildlife by bagging up gut piles for municipal landfill or burying them on private land with approval.

Wildlife rehabilitation offers a rare opportunity to handle wild animals. The work is sometimes an absolute joy, and at other times it is heart-wrenching. We can't avoid all wildlife injuries that occur because of human activities, but we can in many instances make better choices that reduce our negative impacts on wildlife.

Kelly Martin (left) and Charley Koop (right) release a Bald Eagle in Cooperstown after it was cared for following a vehicle collision.

HUYCK PRESERVE SNAPSHOTS

IMAGES FROM THE COMMUNITY



Who Goes There?
© Virginia Thomson



Ferns © Janis Sutherland



Stone Wall © Janis Sutherland



Beaver Chewed Tree
Near Lincoln Pond



Fun at Winter Fest! Top: S'mores making outside the Research Center, Middle: Volunteers Laurel Rhoads-Goodman and Susan Cunningham, Bottom: Visitors warming up inside



Crisp Air Day © Dennis Wax



Native History guided hike with Justin Wexler and Anna Plattner of Wild Hudson Valley



Top: Wildlife rehabilitator Kelly Martin shows guests at the Preserve's Owl Prowl event a rescued Barn Owl
Bottom: Two of Kelly's rescued Screech Owls



A Family Fish © Virginia Thomson



Volunteers cut invasive bittersweet vines.



Icy Rensselaerville Falls

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONTHLY EVENTS

APRIL

EARTH DAY EVENTS

BITTERSWEET CUTTING VOLUNTEERING

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 | 10 AM - 12 PM | *This is a free event.*

SPRING TREE ID HIKE

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 | 12:30 - 2 PM

Follow author, arborist, and tree expert Bill Logan on a leisurely walk to learn about tree identification in spring and tree architecture.

Suggested donation of \$5; members and children under 12 free

MAY

SIGNS OF SPRING

SATURDAY, MAY 6 | 10 AM - 12 PM

Join us for a spring hike! We will look for markers of springtime changes experienced by plants and animals.

Suggested donation of \$5; members and children under 12 free

SPRING WILDFLOWER WALK

SATURDAY, MAY 20 | 10 AM

Wildflower expert Chris Shiralli returns. Join us for this gentle walk in search of some of our favorite flowers.

Suggested donation of \$5; members and children under 12 free

JUNE

NATIONAL TRAIL DAY:

TRAIL CLEAN UP AND PAINT BLAZING

SATURDAY, JUNE 3 | 10 AM - 12 PM

Lend a hand! Volunteers are invited to stay for a potluck lunch. *This is a free event.*

JULY

SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

JULY 8 | 1 - 4 PM

Forests and climate change - risks and resilience

Join us for presentations and a discussion with a panel of experts. *Registration is not required but is helpful for planning.*

PLEIN AIR PAINTING WORKSHOP

JULY 15 | 1 PM - 4 PM

Create your own landscape painting on the shores of Lincoln Pond. *Suggested donation of \$5; members and children under 12 free*

THURSDAY NIGHT LECTURE SERIES BEGINS

POTLUCK AT 6 PM | LECTURES AT 7 PM

Gather at the Research Center every Thursday night starting July 13 and continuing until August 10 for an engaging scientific lecture series following a communal, pot-luck meal.

Please bring a dish to share or a suggested donation of \$5.

Stay tuned for event details and full lecture series schedule.

Registration is not required.

Registration is required for all events unless otherwise noted.

Please see our website at
www.huyckpreserve.org/events
for registration and event details.

Email info@huyckpreserve.org with questions.

ANNUAL EVENTS

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SATURDAY, JUNE 17 | 1 - 3 PM

Meet with board members and staff, and cast your vote at the annual board election. Guests will also learn more about current and future happenings at the Preserve and hear about SRF Walter Carson, Ph.D.'s, research.

BEACH OPENING

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

Join us for a pizza party from 5 - 7 PM with pizza available for purchase from Be Golden Farms on the shore of Lake Myosotis to celebrate the start of the 2023 swimming season.

Memberships and beach passes may be purchased at the event.

BENEFIT GALA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

We will enjoy cocktails and appetizers on the shore of Lincoln Pond, and attendees can view auction items on display and bid through our virtual auction site.

In-Person Gala, August 5, 5 - 8 PM

Virtual Auction

opens: Friday, August 4 at 8 AM

closes: Saturday, August 5 at 8 PM

STAY TUNED!

For updates, please see our events page at
www.huyckpreserve.org/events
or follow us on Facebook for event postings.

Want to receive updates in your inbox?
Join our email list by checking the "please send Huyck Preserve announcements" box on your membership renewal form or emailing info@huyckpreserve.org.

2023 SUMMER EDUCATION PROGRAM DATES

NATURE STUDY

GRADES K-2: July 10-14, 9 AM - 12 PM

GRADES K-5, WEEK 1: July 10-14, 1 - 4 PM

GRADES K-5, WEEK 2: July 17-21, 9 AM - 12 PM - **FULL**

GRADES 3-5: July 17-21, 1 - 4 PM

\$120 for Members, \$200 for Non-Members

The Nature Study program at the Huyck Preserve introduces elementary school children to nature through a week-long, half-day program. Students learn about nature through exploration of our forest trails and streams. What animals and plants live in our forests, pond, and streams? The kids will find out! We use science-themed games and crafts to reinforce the basic concepts of ecology and environmental science we've discussed out in the woods.

Have your children attended Nature Study in the past? We hope they will return this year, as we offer new lessons and activities each year while bringing back popular favorites!

ECOLOGICAL EXPLORATIONS

Registration for this program is **FULL** for 2023.*Families may call the Preserve office (518-797-3440) to join the wait list.*

GRADES 6-8: July 24-28, 9 AM - 4 PM

\$250 for Members, \$320 for Non-Members

Ecological Explorations provides the opportunity for middle school students to explore the Preserve's natural treasures and ecological concepts in an immersive, hands-on format. Students spend time hiking the Preserve's trails, exploring the ecosystems of the streams, lake, pond, and forests, problem solving, participating in group challenges and activities, and frequently end the day swimming at the lake.

WILDLIFE ECOLOGY RESEARCH PROGRAM

GRADES 9-12: July 31 - August 11 (M-F), 9 AM - 4 PM

\$475 for Members, \$600 for Non-Members

Wildlife Ecology Research is an intensive two-week day program where high school students learn basic ecological principles through hands-on research experience. Ecologists from colleges and universities around the region will instruct students on broad topics in ecology. Wildlife Ecology Research culminates in small group research projects that are mentored by program staff as well as by undergraduate Odum Interns. This program aims to provide a significant academic experience that will help students prepare for courses and research experiences at the college level while letting them explore career options in the natural sciences.



Visit www.huyckpreserve.org/summer-programs for more details and registration.

Please email info@huyckpreserve.org with questions. To register at the member rate, please call (518) 797-3440.



HUYCK PRESERVE and Biological Research Station

2023-2024 Membership Form

Membership year is May 1 - April 30

Name _____

☐ Please update my info below:

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Phone _____ Cell _____

- ☐ Please keep my donation anonymous by leaving it out of Huyck Preserve publications.
- ☐ I would like to sign up for paperless correspondence. Please send my newsletter to my email provided below.
- ☐ Please send Huyck Preserve announcements to my email provided below.

Email _____

Membership Levels

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Please make checks payable to the Huyck Preserve.

**To make a payment online, please visit
www.huyckpreserve.org/membership.**

Thank You!

The Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve, Inc. is a registered 501(c)3 organization and all gifts including dues are deductible to the extent provided by law.

Connecting people to nature through conservation, education, research, and recreation



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