



2015 SCHEDULE of PRESENTATIONS and FIELD TRIPS

Register at www.longislandnature.org

Friday March 20, 2015

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| 8:00 - 9:00 | Registration / set up |
| 9:00 - 9:10 | Welcoming Remarks |
| 9:10 - 9:50 | <i>Effects of Excessive Nitrogen Loading on L.I.'s Coastal Ecosystems.</i>
Dr. Chris Gobler, SUNY Stony Brook University |
| 9:50 - 10:30 | <i>White-tailed deer and Their Influence on Forest Vegetation.</i>
Thomas Rawinski, U.S. Forest Service |
| 10:30 - 10:50 | BREAK: Poster Session |
| 10:50 - 11:30 | <i>Long Island Lichens: an Exploration of a Hidden World.</i>
Dr. James Lendemer, New York Botanical Garden |
| 11:30 - 12:10 | <i>Networked Ecological Initiatives for Climate Change Research and Education.</i> Kerissa Battle, Community Greenway Collaborative |
| 12:10 - 1:30 | LUNCH [NOTE: there will be a 20 minute update on the Preserve Plum Island campaign by Chris Cryder from 12:15 – 12:35] |
| 1:30 - 2:10 | <i>The Role of Ctenophores (Comb Jellies) and Factors Influencing Seasonal Population Blooms in Long Island Estuaries.</i>
Dr. Marianne E. McNamara, Suffolk Community College |
| 2:10 - 2:50 | <i>Novel Ecosystems: a Threat To Wildlife.</i>
Dr. Marilyn Jordan, The Nature Conservancy |

- 2:50 - 3:30 *Bald Eagles Nesting on Long Island.*
Michael S. Scheibel, The Nature Conservancy
- 3:30 - 4:10 *New York's Newest Immigrants: Coyotes in the Metropolitan Area.*
Chris Nagy, Mianus River Gorge Preserve
- 4:10 - 4:30 Open Discussion / closing remarks

Saturday March 21, 2015

- 8:00 - 9:00 Registration / set up
- 9:00 - 9:10 Welcoming Remarks
- 9:10 - 9:50 *Harbor Seals at Cupsogue Beach: Population Trends and Site Fidelity.*
Dr. Arthur H. Kopelman, CRESLI
- 9:50 - 10:30 *Cybertracker Conservation Track and Sign Certification: Origins and Applications.* George Leoniak, Cybertracker Conservation
- 10:30 - 10:50 BREAK: Poster Session
- 10:50 - 11:30 *Status of Orchids on Long Island, New York.*
Dr. Eric Lamont, Long Island Botanical Society
Tom Nelson, Co-author, Orchids of New England and New York
- 11:30 - 12:10 *An Evaluation of Management, Urbanization and Isolation on Grassland Biodiversity.* Polly Weigand, S.C. Soil and Water Conservation District
- 12:10 - 1:10 LUNCH
- 1:10 - 1:50 *Breeding Birds of Long Island: Past, Present & Future.*
Eric Salzman, Board Member, South Fork Natural History Museum
- 1:50 - 2:30 *Sharks and Rays of the New York Seascape.*
Dr. Merry Camhi, Wildlife Conservation Society
- 2:30 - 2:50 BREAK: Poster Session
- 2:50 - 3:30 *Coyotes on Long Island: a Framework for Planning Ahead.*
Dr. Mark Weckel, American Museum of Natural History
- 3:30 - 4:10 *Falcons on FIRE (Fire Island Raptor Enumerators).*
Drew Panko and Trudy Battaly, Fire Island Hawk Watch
- 4:10 - 4:30 Open Discussion / closing remarks

Sunday March 22, 2015 (Field Trips)

ALEWIFE SPAWNING RUN

Little Peconic River, Southampton

10 am – noon

Join retired NYSDEC Fisheries Biologist Byron Young for a first-hand look at the amazing Alewife, a type of river herring that plays a crucial ecological role in both freshwater and saltwater environments. The program will discuss the current status of fish passage on Long Island and the Peconic River alewife run. Several Alewives will be caught to collect biological data and learn key identification features.

Fee: \$12. Reservations are required and must be made at www.longislandnature.org

SEAL OBSERVATION WALK

Cupsogue Beach County Park

1 pm – 3 pm

Join Dr. Artie Kopelman of CRESLI on a walk to learn about, observe, and photograph seals at Cupsogue Beach Park. The walk is approximately 1.3 miles round trip. Meet 15 minutes prior to departure. Suitable for children.

Fee: Suggested donation of \$5 per adult and \$3 per child under 18.

Reservations required and must be made at

http://www.cresli.org/cresli/reservations/seal_walk_reservations.html

READING WILDLIFE TRACK & SIGN EVALUATION

Manorville area

8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Instructor: George Leoniak www.leoniaktracking.com

This field trip, led by George Leoniak (one of the six CyberTracker evaluators in North America) provides participants the opportunity to pursue Track and Sign Level I Certification from CyberTracker Conservation, a globally recognized non-profit that established the international standard for assessing wildlife tracking and sign skills.

This field trip is open to naturalists, environmental and outdoor educators, amateur trackers, citizen scientists, professional biologists, and students (minimum age of 16) seeking to increase their wildlife tracking and observation skills, and sign knowledge.

Fee: \$130 (\$117 for LINO members).

Reservations are required and must be made at www.longislandnature.org

For more information or questions contact Mike Bottini at mike@mikebottini.com or 631-267-5228.