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City Nature Challenge 2019

Meets on-location at Lusitania Meadow

We're Getting Ready for the 2019 City Biodiversity Challenge! Between April 26th and 29th, many cities across the world will be competing to see who can make the most observations of nature, find the most species, and engage the most people in the worldwide 2019 City Nature Challenge (CNC). In partnership with Earthwise Aware, we will help document the diversity of species at Fresh Pond's

We are currently looking for a group of volunteers to help us with the day, call Ranger Jean at (617) 349-4793 to help out. Have your smart-phone at the ready, we'll have the guidebooks and experts... it's time to take some photos for (citizen) science!

Save the Date: Fresh Pond Day 2019 Saturday, June 15th from 11:00am to 3:00pm





Fresh Pond Reservation is truly Cambridge's green gem - an urban wild that protects Fresh Pond, Cambridge's in-city drinking water reservoir. Fresh Pond Day is the Cambridge Water Department's annual tribute to this unique Reservation that is a vital natural resource, an invaluable sanctuary for wildlife, and a beloved recreational escape in the City, join in the festivities! Live wildlife presentations, parade, live music, facepainting, truck climb-aboards, tours and more will abound, and - it's free and open to all!

Interested in participating? Contact: tpuopolo@cambridgeMA.gov

News from the Cambridge Animal Commission:

2019 Dog Licenses Valid 4-1-2019 to 3-31-2020

State law requires that all dogs over 6 months have a current dog license from the city or town you live in. The dog license period in Cambridge runs from April 1 of current year to March 31 of following year. Cambridge residents can apply for or renew their dog's license online or download the paper application and renew via mail or in person, following instructions on the respective form.

https://www.cambridgema.gov/services/annualdoglicense

The fee for a dog license for a spayed/neutered dog is \$10, or \$30 for a dog that is not spayed or neutered. Dog licenses are renewed annually. The fine for an unlicensed dog is \$50.



In order to obtain a dog license, owners must have a current rabies vaccination. Dogs can be vaccinated at the veterinarian's office, at clinics held at some pet stores, or low cost clinics held periodically.



Cambridge Rabies Vaccination Clinic (Dogs Only)

The Dept. of Public Works - 147 Hampshire Street, Cambridge

If your dog is 6 months or older, rabies vaccinations are required by state law. Come to the DPW building and get yours out of the way now! \$15.00/dog, cash or check only. For further information please call the Animal Control office at (617) 349-4376

Fresh Pond Reservation: Protecting the Cambridge

water supply since 1889

Cambridge Water Department www.cambridgema.gov/water **Ranger Number:** (617) 349-4793



Friends of Fresh Pond Reservation

www.friendsoffreshpond.org friendsoffreshpond@yahoo.com Available online at:

cambridgema.gov/water/freshpondreservation/publicprogramming

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Between

9:30am

and 1mm

Thursdays

10am to Noon



PUBLIC PROGRAMMING Fresh Pond Reservation:

Protecting the Cambridge Water Supply Since 1889

Did you know that all of the water is treated on-site? Tours available! Please read and respect all posted rules; this is a public shared-use area, open green space, and active drinking water reservior.

Volunteer Opportunities

Woodland Restoration Area Gardening

Meets at the Woodland Habitat (Northeast Sector)

Join other stewardship-minded volunteers in caretaking the native plant restoration area next to Lusitania Meadow, and learn about the diversity of native plant life! We seek dedicated participants who enjoy camaraderie and hard work that includes weeding, pruning, planting, watering new plantings, hauling wood chips and moving logs. Please email friendsoffreshpond@yahoo.com if you would like to come, and for more information.

Fresh Pond Stewards

Meets at the volunteer trailer near the front of the Water Treatment Facility, 250 Fresh Pond Parkway.

Join our weed-warrior crew! We are Fresh Pond citizens dedicated to keeping invasive plants at bay for the benefit of wildlife, water and humans alike. No experience or long-term commitment necessary! All tools are provided; sturdy shoes, pants, long-sleeves and a water bottle are strongly recommended. Meets at the volunteer trailer in the lower parking lot. Contact tpuopolo@cambridgeMA.gov for more information. (Monday evenings soon to be included! Stay tuned next month!)

Interested in Volunteering?

Now seeking groups of 10-25 people!

Corporate groups, school groups, and neighborhood groups unite! If you can get a group (minimum 10) together, you can reach out to us an find out what opportunites are available. Fresh Pond Reservation is visited weekly by thouands of local visitors and much of the natural upkeep is managed with the help of volunteers like you. Seasonal projects may include: working with the public, clean-ups, plantings, habitat management and more! Contact Ranger Jean at jrogers@cambridgeMA.gov with any inquiries and to find out more.



Fresh Pond Reservation: Protecting the Cambridge water supply since 1889



Cambridge Water Department www.cambridgema.gov/water **Ranger Number:** (617) 349-4793



Friends of Fresh Pond Reservation www.friendsoffreshpond.org friendsoffreshpond@yahoo.com

Fresh Pond Reservation

Public Programming

Protecting Cambridge's Public Water Supply Since 1889



Fresh Air Walks

Meets at the Ranger Station (under the clock tower), 250 Fresh Pond Parkway

These casual walks, led by Ranger Tim, will encompass Fresh Pond and take an informal look at each week in nature, life, and the city. Come alone or bring your co-workers! Parking passes available. Rain or shine. Questions? Contact: tpuopolo@cambridgeMA.gov

Spring in the City: One Bee, Two Bee, Red Bee, Blue Bee!

Meets at the Water Treatment Plant (front door), 250 Fresh Pond Parkway

Once upon a springtime, apples were flowers and bees helped turn them into the sweet fruits that you love to pick and eat. But which bees? There are over 200 species in New England and they're wonderfully diverse in size, color, and behavior. In this talk, Nick Dorian, a second-year PhD student at Tufts, will teach you all about our native bees, with a focus on the spring-emerging bees you'll be able to find in Cambridge. You'll learn about basic bee biology, why our native bees are such efficient pollinators, and how you can provide flowers and shelter to make a difference in the life of a bee.

Nature Journaling

Meets at the Ranger Station (under the clock tower), 250 Fresh Pond Parkway

This is a fun new series! We share together how to create, illustrate and maintain a Naturalist & Field journal. This includes practicing sketching, nature illustration skills, recording field observations, and simply writing about what we see, including how we feel. The series runs the first Friday of the month. Over the year, we explore a few sites of the reservoir and cover ecology, phenology, birds, insects, mammals and the many critters that make the different habitats of Fresh Pond. Please bring your own (portable) art supplies, and RSVP on Eventbrite (https://bit.ly/2HNcR6r) because space is limited.

Walter J Sullivan Water Purification Facility Tour

Meets at the front door, 250 Fresh Pond Parkway

Come learn how the Cambridge Water Department purifies drinking water for your tap after it's conveyed from nearby Fresh Pond into our facility. You'll have the chance to speak with water treatment staff, see the equipment in action and check out our water quality lab! For more information, contact Ranger Tim at (617) 349-6489 or tpuppolo@cambridgeMA.gov. Please email ahead if coming with a group.

Seasonal Walkabout @ Lusitania Wet Meadow

Meets at the "Meeting Rocks" [where the meadow meets the main trail]

Come out for a seasonal walkabout with Ranger Jean at the Lusitania Wet Meadow. We will monitor wildlife by sign, track or presence, and make note of weather, state of plants, condition of water and other abiotic resources. You can help chart the seasonal changes of some of our most active wildlife spots, or simply come to enjoy the walk. Come dressed to be outdoors for the hour. All knowledge levels welcome. We will be walking off-path. Service dogs only, please. To RSVP, please contact Ranger Jean at (508) 562-7605 or email irogers@cambridgeMA.gov. Heavy rain postpones to the following Friday.

Migratory Bird Walk #1

Register for parking and meeting information, and weather cancellations Among the migrating birds that are passing through at this time of year, we might see several species of waterfowl as well as songbirds, including a variety of warblers. In addition, many of our summer residents will have returned: tree swallows, catbirds, phoebes, vireos, orioles, grackles and red-winged blackbirds. Beginning birders are welcome. We have binoculars to lend and will show you how to use them. Led by Nancy Guppy. Register with Catherine Pedemonti at friendsoffreshpond@yahoo.com.

iNaturalist Field Training

Meets at the Ranger Station, 250 Fresh Parkway (under the clock tower)

Upload the iNaturalist app (app store/google play) and join us. We share with you how to take great pictures and record great observations! Learn how to use this great program in preparation for the City Nature Challenge where together we can make Greater Boston #1 in participation for 2019. This program is a partnership with Earthwise Aware, participants must have a smart device and dress properly for the outdoors. Contact citizenscience@earthwiseaware.org to RSVP and to receive an email update in case of inclement weather.

School Vacation Week

Fresh Pond Owl Watch

Meets on-site (follow signs from main parkin g lot at 250 Fresh Pond Pkwy

As part of the Cambridge Science Festival, join the Cambridge Rangers in the observation of Fresh Pond's resident owls and other raptors. Learn about the science of animal behavior, biology, tracking, and life history. Maybe even see an owlet! We'll have binoculars, photos, and other things owl at the ready! Sighting or not' we'll have fun.

School Vacation Week

Fresh "Ponding": A Look at Pond Life

Meets on-site at Black's Nook (best parking at 650 Concord Ave. - Maher Park)

What is "ponding"? Ponding is the act of looking through a scoop of "pond muck" to find all the beautiful things living in it! Every square inch of a healthy pond should yield something alive. Tadpoles and turtles and nymphs, oh my!

Part of the Cambridge Science Festival, meet the Cambridge Rangers on-site at the boardwalk of Black's Nook (trail map here: https://bit.ly/2G1b3DE) at Fresh Pond Reservation. We'll have the buckets, bins, nets, microscopes, magnifying glasses, and nature guides... you just need to show up and see what you can find living in these waters. It's a (micro) jungle out there!

Migratory Bird Walk #2

Register for parking and meeting information, and weather cancellations

Part of the thrill of birding is that every bird walk is unique and an opportunity for surprise sightings. We can only guess in advance what we might see and hear. At this time of year many of the birds at Fresh Pond are courting and claiming territories, so we will probably hear plenty of bird song. We welcome beginners, and we will lend you binoculars. Led by Nancy Guppy. Register with Catherine Pedemonti at friendsoffreshpond@yahoo.com.

more on the back...





