

# UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION'S 2025 INTRODUCTION TO BIRD IDENTIFICATION, ECOLOGY & HABITATS COURSE

## Course Announcement & Overview

Weekly Online Lessons: March 8 – May 30 (on your own schedule)

Optional Field Trips: April 5 – June 28

**COMING SOON! - Registration Opens February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Email [matt.tarr@unh.edu](mailto:matt.tarr@unh.edu) now to receive the course registration link**

### Course Instructor:

**Matt Tarr** (Online Lessons & Trip Leader)  
Extension Professor, State Wildlife Habitat Specialist  
UNH Cooperative Extension



Please contact Matt for any questions about the course: [matt.tarr@unh.edu](mailto:matt.tarr@unh.edu) / 603-953-4425

### Course Trip Leaders:

**Phil Brown** (Harris Center for Conservation)  
Bird Conservation Director & Land Specialist

**Christine Costello**  
Retired US Forest Service Biologist

**Chris Liazos** (Antioch University)  
Master's Student

**Nate Marchessault**  
Ecologist, Harris Center for Conservation

**Jane Wing**  
Avid Birder & Trip leader

**Course objective:** This is an online and field-based course. Online lessons are designed to improve your ability to accurately identify common songbird and songbird-like (e.g., woodpeckers) bird species encountered throughout New Hampshire. Field trips to various forest, shrubland, field, wetland, and suburban habitats will teach you how to identify any bird species we encounter during each trip. Through a combination of online and field instruction, you will gain a better understanding of the habitats where you can expect to encounter each bird species and the specific things you can do on your land to attract and benefit birds.

### Specific learning outcomes

By completing the online lessons and participating in field trips, you will improve your ability to:

- Identify common bird species based on species-specific characteristics of size & shape, plumage color patterns, songs & calls, habitat, behavior, and seasonal geographic range.
- Predict what bird species will occur in different habitats.
- Identify things you can do on your land to attract and benefit a variety of bird species.

### Who is this course for?

Anyone interested in improving their ability to identify birds by sight & sound and in learning more about bird ecology and the habitats birds require. This class is appropriate for beginners with little or no previous birding experience and for experienced birders who want to sharpen their birding skills and learn more about bird ecology and habitats. Many students of this course enroll again to continue practicing and improving their birding skills!

### Prerequisites for getting the *most* out of this course:

- Interest in improving your ability to identify birds by sight and sound.
- Commitment to complete weekly online lessons that average from 1 to 2.5 hours each week.
- Commitment to practice identifying birds by sight & sound as often as possible during the course.
- Participating in birding field trips offered as part of this class or by other birding groups, as frequently as your schedule allows.

## Required course equipment:

- *Peterson Field Guide to Birds of Eastern and Central North America 7<sup>th</sup> edition (2020)\**
- Binoculars\*
- Outdoor clothing appropriate for standing and slow walking over terrain indicated for each field trip, water & food necessary to sustain you through the entire length of each trip, insect/tick repellent, and sunscreen as needed.

\*After registering for the course you will receive a link to the following course resources:

- **Some Notes About Field Guides** (this will answer questions you might have about whether you need to purchase a new field guide)
- **Binocular Ins & Outs With Tips for Purchasing New Binoculars** (this provides helpful guidance for how to select binoculars and set them up to work their best)
- **An Audio Guide To Identifying New England Birds By Ear. Volume I: The Songbird Songs & Calls You Should Learn First.** Matt Tarr, UNH Cooperative Extension 2025.

## Course Co-Sponsors

This course is co-sponsored by the following partnering organizations: [University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension](#), [New Hampshire Fish & Game Department](#), [New Hampshire Division of Forests & Lands](#), [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service](#), [Harris Center for Conservation Education](#), [NH Audubon](#), [National Audubon Society](#), [Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire](#), [New Hampshire Timberland Owner's Association](#), [NH State Parks](#).



## Civil Rights Statement

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## COURSE FORMAT & EXPECTATIONS

This course includes a combination of online-lessons and optional field trips designed to provide you with the most effective methods for identifying songbirds and songbird-like birds you are likely to encounter in New Hampshire.

### ONLINE LESSONS

- Online lessons include a combination of audio and video lessons that will be e-mailed to you at the beginning of each week of the course beginning March 8, 2025.
- **There is no specific meeting time for online lessons; you complete these lessons on your own schedule.** Weekly lessons require 1 to 2.5 hrs/week and are in parts so you don't need to complete them all in one sitting. To get the most out of the class, I encourage you to complete each lesson by the end of the week it is assigned to not fall behind due to the amount of material covered in the course. Birding field trips will regularly review birds introduced in online lessons.
- **A total of 50 bird species will be introduced in online lessons** (see the *Weekly Online Lesson Schedule* below). Each weekly lesson provides detailed instructions for how to identify 2 to 6 new bird species by sight & sound, as well as the habitat needs and basic ecology of each species.
- Weekly online quizzes include a combination of audio recordings, photos, and videos of birds. Quizzes are designed to help you practice your bird ID skills and identify where additional practice will be most helpful.
- Beginning the week it is introduced, you will have continuous access to the material contained in each online lesson until January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

### WEEKLY ONLINE LESSON SCHEDULE

The following topics and bird species will be covered in each weekly online lesson:

#### Online Lesson Week 1 (March 8 – March 14)

- Week 1 Quiz - Let's Get Started Bird Quiz!
- *Birding Basics Lesson*: Size & Shape
- *Birding Basics Lesson*: Introduction to the Peterson Field Guide and Grouping Birds by Size & Shape
- *Species Identification Lesson*: **American Crow, Common Raven**

#### Online Lesson Week 2 (March 15 – March 21)

- Week 2 Quiz (covering Week 1 material)
- *Birding Basics Lesson*: Introduction to Using Color Pattern to ID Birds
- *Birding Basics Lesson*: Introduction to Bird Songs & Calls
- *Species Identification Lesson*: **Black-capped chickadee, Tufted titmouse, Northern Cardinal**

#### Online Lesson Week 3 (March 22 – March 28)

- Week 3 Quiz (Covering Week 1-2 material)
- *Birding Basics Lesson*: What Birds Can I Expect Here?
- *Species Identification Lesson*: **Red-winged blackbird, Common grackle, European starling**
- *Species Identification Lesson*: **Blue jay**
- *Species Identification Lesson*: **Mourning dove**

#### Online Lesson Week 4 (March 29 – April 4)

- Week 4 Quiz (Covering Week 1-3 material)
- *Species Identification Lesson*: **Red-breasted nuthatch, White-breasted nuthatch, Brown creeper**
- *Species Identification Lesson*: **Dark-eyed junco, White-throated sparrow**

### **Online Lesson Week 5 (April 5 – April 11)**

- Week 5 Quiz (Covering Week 1-4 material)
- *Species Identification Lesson: House finch, Purple Finch*
- *Species Identification Lesson: American goldfinch*

### **Online Lesson Week 6 (April 12 – April 18)**

- Week 6 Quiz (Covering Week 1-5 material)
- *Species Identification Lesson: Song sparrow*
- *Species Identification Lesson: House sparrow*
- *Species Identification Lesson: Eastern phoebe*
- *Species Identification Lesson: Eastern bluebird*

### **Online Lesson Week 7 (April 19 – April 25)**

- Week 7 Quiz (Covering Week 1-6 material)
- *Species Identification Lesson: Downy woodpecker, Hairy woodpecker*
- *Species Identification Lesson: Pileated woodpecker, Northern flicker*

### **Online Lesson Week 8 (April 26 – May 2)**

- Week 8 Quiz (Covering Week 1-7 material)
- *Species Identification Lesson: Yellow-bellied sapsucker, Red-bellied woodpecker*
- *Species Identification Lesson: Black-and-white warbler, Ovenbird, Eastern towhee*

### **Online Lesson Week 9 (May 3 – May 9)**

- Week 9 Quiz (Covering Week 1-8 material)
- *Species Identification Lesson: Chipping sparrow, Pine warbler, Swamp sparrow*
  - Peterson Birding by Ear: Chippers & Trillers
- *Species Identification Lesson: Baltimore Oriole*

### **Online Lesson Week 10 (May 10 – May 16)**

- Week 10 Quiz (Covering Week 1-9 material)
- *Species Identification Lesson: Hermit thrush, Wood thrush, Veery*
  - Peterson Field Guides “Birding by Ear: Thrushes”
- *Species Identification Lesson: American Robin, Rose-breasted grosbeak, Scarlet tanager*

### **Online Lesson Week 11 (May 17– May 23)**

- Week 11 Quiz (Covering Week 1-10 material)
- *Species Identification Lesson: Blue-headed vireo, Red-eyed vireo*
- *Species Identification Lesson: Black-throated green warbler, Black-throated blue warbler*

### **Online Lesson Week 12 (May 24 – May 30)**

- Week 12 Quiz (Covering Week 1-11 material)
- *Species Identification Lesson: Gray catbird, Northern Mockingbird,*
- *Species Identification Lesson: Chestnut-sided warbler, Yellow warbler, Common yellowthroat*

### **Optional Final Online Quiz (Week of May 31)**

- Final Cumulative Quiz (Covering Week 1-12 material)

## COURSE FIELD TRIPS

- Field trips are not required, but you are encouraged to participate in as many as you can.
- Field trips will visit a variety of forest, shrubland, field, wetland, and suburban landscapes. We will visit many properties where habitat management has been conducted specifically to benefit birds. All course trips occur in NH unless noted otherwise.
- Field trips provide an ideal opportunity to practice your learned skills on real birds in their habitat and with an instructor pointing out specific features to look and listen for. Most students who have taken this course report their ability to identify birds increased the most as a result of participating in the field trips.
- During field trips we will look specifically for the bird species covered in online lessons, but we'll discuss tips for how to identify *any* birds we encounter. **We observed over 120 bird species during course field trips in 2024.**
- To help ensure an effective student-to-instructor ratio, field trips are limited to the first 10 to 16 people who register for the trip. Each trip is led by a course instructor and the trip leader is listed for each trip in the trip schedule.
- Each trip has a *Trip Rating* that is based on the difficulty of the terrain we cover during the trip. Trips are rated 1-4 as follows:
  - (1) **Stationary** trips occur primarily at a fixed location and involve little or no walking during the trip
  - (2) **Smooth-walking** trips occur on roadways or smooth, wide trails
  - (3) **Uneven-ground or narrow trail** trips require walking on uneven surfaces (e.g., exposed rocks or roots, boardwalks, steep trail sections) or on narrow trails where brushing against vegetation can't be avoided
  - (4) **Off-trail** trips require some walking through forest, shrubland, or field without a trail.
- **You must preregister for every trip you would like to attend.** Every student must register individually. Due to limited space and high demand for field trips, trips are open to registered course participants only.
  - When you register for the course, you can register for **UP TO FOUR trips** that are scheduled for Trip Weeks 1-6 (April 5 – May 16).
  - In mid-April, you will have the opportunity to register for **UP TO FOUR trips** scheduled for Trip Weeks 6-12 (May 17-June 28).
- Participating in *any* field trip will expose you to the risk of coming in contact with ticks. If you participate in a trip, please assume that you have picked up ticks and do a thorough tick-check immediately after participating the trip.
- Your course registration fee allows you to participate in course field trips for free – but please see the trip cancellation policy below:

## TRIP CANCELLATION POLICY

The number of people I can admit into this course is based largely on how many spots are available in trips. Once trips are full I need to close registration and this usually means there are many people who won't be able to participate in the course. Because trips fill up fast, many students who register for the course are not able to participate in as many trips as they would like. **To make this course as accessible for as many people as possible, it is important that you only register for trips you know you will be able to attend and arrange your schedule to attend every trip you register for.**

- **You will be automatically charged a \$15 administration fee for any trip you register for but don't attend.** This is the policy regardless of when, or the reason why, you cancel or don't attend a trip you registered for. Please check your schedule carefully before registering for any trip.
- Out of courtesy for your fellow students and trip leaders, please plan to attend every trip you register for and be sure to sign the attendance sheet at the beginning of each field trip.

## WEEKLY COURSE FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

When you register for the class you can immediately register for a total of UP TO FOUR trips scheduled for Trip Weeks 1-6

### Trip Week 1: April 5 - April 11

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
April 5 (Sat)	7:30am-9:30am	Concord	(3) Birch Street Community Gardens	Matt
April 5 (Sat)	10am-noon	Concord	(3) Birch Street Community Gardens	Matt
April 7 (Mon)	7am-9am	Surry	(2) Joslin Road Gravel Pit	Jane
April 8 (Tue)	2pm-4pm	Laconia	(2) Former Laconia State School Campus	Matt
April 8 (Tue)	4:30pm-6:30pm	Laconia	(2) Former Laconia State School Campus	Matt
April 9 (Wed)	8am-10am	Hancock	(2) Blanchette Property	Matt
April 9 (Wed)	10:45am-12:45am	Hancock	(2) Blanchette Property	Matt
April 10 (Thur)	7am-9am	Charlestown	(2) Charlestown Great Meadows	Jane
April 11 (Fri)	7am-9am	Dover	(3) Herd Property	Matt

### Trip Week 2: April 12 - April 18

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
April 12 (Sat)	8am-11am	Swanzey	(2) Keene Dillant-Hopkins Airport	Chris
April 12 (Sat)	7:30am-9:30am	Newington	(3) Arboretum Drive - North of Pease Runway	Matt
April 12 (Sat)	10am-Noon	Newington	(3) Arboretum Drive - North of Pease Runway	Matt
April 14 (Mon)	7am-9am	Peterborough	(2) MacDowell Lake	Jane
April 15 (Tue)	7:30am-9:30am	Andover	(2) Blackwater Conservation Area	Matt
April 15 (Tue)	10am-Noon	Andover	(2) Blackwater Conservation Area	Matt
April 16 (Wed)	7am-9am	Keene	(2) Keene State WMA	Jane
April 17 (Thur)	9am-12pm	Stoddard	(3) Pitcher Mountain	Phil
April 18 (Fri)	3pm-6pm	New Durham	(4) Birch Ridge Community Forest	Matt

### Trip Week 3: April 19 - April 25

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
April 19 (Sat)	7am-9am	Concord	(2) West Locke Road	Matt
April 19 (Sat)	9:30am-Noon	Concord	(2) West Locke Road	Matt
April 22 (Tue)	7am-9am	Hancock	(2) Elmwood Junction	Jane
April 22 (Tue)	5:30pm-8:15pm	New Hampton	(3) Kelly-Drake Conservation Area	Matt
<i>(Note: The trip above will listen for American Woodcock after sunset)</i>				
April 23 (Wed)	7:30am-9:30am	Albany	(3) Pequawket Pond	Christine
April 24 (Thur)	8am-10am	Hancock	(3) Harris Center	Phil
April 24 (Thur)	7:30am-9:30am	Durham	(3) Adams Point WMA	Matt
April 24 (Thur)	10:30am-12:30	Durham	(3) Spinney Lane	Matt
April 25 (Fri)	7am-9am	Greenfield	(3) Greenfield State Park - Hogback Trail	Jane



## **WEEKLY COURSE FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE**

### **Trip Week 4: April 26 - May 2**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
April 26 (Sat)	7:30am-9:30am	Haverhill	(3) Bedell Bridge State Park	Matt
April 26 (Sat)	10am-12:30pm	Haverhill	(3) Bedell Bridge State Park	Matt
April 28 (Mon)	7am-9am	Swanzey	(2) Keene Dillant-Hopkins Airport	Jane
April 29 (Tue)	8am-11am	Rindge	(3) Converse Meadow Pond	Nate
April 30 (Wed)	7am-9am	Claremont	(2) Moody Park	Jane
April 30 (Wed)	2:30pm-5pm	Laconia	(2) Former Laconia State School Campus	Matt
May 1 (Thur)	7am-9:30am	Fremont	(2) Spruce Swamp - Rockingham Rec Trail	Matt
May 1 (Thur)	10am-12:30pm	Fremont	(2) Spruce Swamp - Rockingham Rec Trail	Matt
May 2 (Fri)	7am-9am	Amherst	(2) Peabody Mill Environmental Center	Jane

### **Trip Week 5: May 3 - May 9**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
May 3 (Sat)	8am-11am	Chesterfield	(2) Madame Sherri Forest	Chris
May 3 (Sat)	7am-9:30am	Rochester	(2) Pickering Ponds	Matt
May 3 (Sat)	10am - 1pm	Rochester	(2) Pickering Ponds	Matt
May 6 (Tue)	8am-11am	Hudson	(2) Benson Park	Matt
May 7 (Wed)	2pm-4pm	Meredith	(2) Laverack Nature Trail	Matt
May 7 (Wed)	4:30pm-6:30pm	Meredith	(2) Laverack Nature Trail	Matt
May 8 (Thur)	7am-10am	Dublin	(3) Beech Hill	Phil
May 9 (Fri)	7:30am-9:30am	Rumney	(3) Quincy Bog Natural Area	Matt
May 9 (Fri)	10am-Noon	Rumney	(3) Quincy Bog Natural Area	Matt

### **Trip Week 6: May 10 - May 16**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
May 10 (Sat)	6am-8am	Whitefield	(2) Airport Marsh	Matt
<i>(Note: The trip above is open to the public and doesn't count as one of your four trips if you sign up)</i>				
May 10 (Sat)	8am-2pm	Whitefield	(3) Pondicherry - Cherry Pond & Little Cherry Pond	Matt
<i>(Note: The trip above is open to the public and doesn't count as one of your four trips if you sign up; this trip is a 7 mile walk with some sections of abandoned train tracks and exposed roots)</i>				
May 13 (Tues)	6:30am-8:30am	Derry	(3) Broadview Farm	Matt
May 13 (Tues)	9am-11am	Derry	(3) Broadview Farm	Matt
May 14 (Wed)	7:30am-9:30am	North Conway	(3) Dahl Sanctuary	Christine
May 14 (Wed)	8:15am-10:15am	Belmont	(2) Lake Winnisquam Scenic Trail	Matt
May 14 (Wed)	10:45am-12:45am	Belmont	(2) Lake Winnisquam Scenic Trail	Matt
May 15 (Thur)	6:30am-8:30am	Greenfield	(3) Cilley Family Forest	Matt
May 16 (Fri)	6am-8:30am	Wilton	(3) SPNHF Heald Pond Trail	Matt

## WEEKLY COURSE FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

**In mid-April, registered students can register for a total of UP TO FOUR trips scheduled for Trip Weeks 7-12**

### Trip Week 7: May 17 - May 23

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
May 17 (Sat)	6am-9am	Brentwood	(3) Deer Hill WMA	Matt
May 17 (Sat)	9:30am - 12:30pm	Brentwood	(3) Deer Hill WMA	Matt
May 20 (Tue)	8am-11am	Hinsdale	(2) Hinsdale Setbacks	Nate
May 20 (Tue)	2:30pm-5pm	Belmont	(2) Village Spur Trail	Matt
May 20 (Tue)	5:30pm-8pm	Belmont	(2) Village Spur Trail	Matt
May 21 (Wed)	7:30am-10:30am	Brownfield, ME	(3) Brownfield Bog - Maine	Christine
May 22 (Thur)	7am-9am	Amherst	(3) Ponemah Bog	Matt
May 22 (Thur)	9:45am-11:45am	Amherst	(3) Ponemah Bog	Matt
May 23 (Fri)	8am-11:30am	Bethlehem	(3) Trudeau Road	Matt

### Trip Week 8: May 24 - May 30

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
May 24 (Sat)	4:15am-7am	Concord/Hopkinton	(3) Mast Yard State Forest	Matt
<i>(Note: The early trip above should provide a good opportunity to listen for Whip-poor-wills)</i>				
May 24 (Sat)	7:45am - 10:45am	Concord/Hopkinton	(3) Mast Yard State Forest	Matt
May 27 (Tues)	8am-11:30am	Bethlehem	(3) Underhill Acres - Veilleux Property	Matt
May 28 (Wed)	7:30am-9:30am	Rye	(2) Odiorne State Park	Matt
<i>(Note: Odiorne SP gate attendants might charge an additional fee of \$4 per person to enter the park)</i>				
May 28 (Wed)	10am-1pm	Rye	(2) Odiorne State Park	Matt
<i>(Note: Odiorne SP gate attendants might charge an additional fee of \$4 per person to enter the park)</i>				
May 29 (Thur)	7am-9am	Harrisville	(4) Hiroshi Property	Phil
May 30 (Fri)	6:30am-8:30am	Meredith	(2) Laverack Nature Trail	Matt
May 30 (Fri)	9:15am-Noon	Meredith	(3) Page Pond Community Forest	Matt

### Trip Week 9: May 31 - June 6

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
May 31 (Sat)	6am-8:30am	Plymouth	(4) Oxbows, River, Fields by Route 93	Matt
May 31 (Sat)	9am-Noon	Plymouth	(4) Oxbows, River, Fields by Route 93	Matt
June 1 (Sun)	8am-11am	Langdon	(2) Glovers Ledge	Chris
June 3 (Tue)	7am-9am	Kennebunk, ME	(3) Kennebunk Plains Preserve - Maine	Matt
June 3 (Tue)	9:30 am-Noon	Kennebunk, ME	(3) Kennebunk Plains Preserve - Maine	Matt
June 4 (Wed)	7:30am-10am	Bartlett	(3) Thorne Pond Conservation Area	Christine
June 5 (Thur)	7am-9am	Surry	(2) Surry Mountain Trail	Phil
June 6 (Fri)	2pm-5pm	Unity	(3) Marshall Pond	Matt



## **WEEKLY COURSE FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE**

### **Trip Week 10: June 7 - June 13**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
June 10 (Tue)	6am-8am	Epping	(3) Burley Farm	Matt
June 11 (Wed)	7:00am-9:00am	Sullivan	(3) Smith Property	Matt
June 11 (Wed)	9:30am-11:30am	Sullivan	(3) Smith Property	Matt
June 11 (Wed)	7:30am-10am	Carroll	(3) Old Cherry Mountain Road	Christine
June 12 (Thur)	7am-9am	Washington	(3) Pillsbury State Park	Jane
June 12 (Thur)	8am-11am	Antrim	(3) Loveren's Mill Cedar Swamp Preserve	Phil
June 13 (Fri)	8am- 10am	Grafton	(2) Bog Road	Matt
June 13 (Fri)	10:30am-12:30pm	Grafton	(2) Bog Road	Matt

### **Trip Week 11: June 14 - June 20**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
June 14 (Sat)	7am-9am	Dover	(3) Strafford County Farm	Matt
June 14 (Sat)	9:30-Noon	Dover	(3) Strafford County Farm	Matt
June 16 (Mon)	7am-9am	Rindge	(2) Monadnock Branch Rail Trail	Jane
June 16 (Mon)	7am-11:30	Alton	(4) Straightback Mountain	Matt
<i>(Note: This trip involves a slow walk up a steep and rocky, washed-out carriage road)</i>				
June 17 (Tue)	8am-11am	Swanzy	(2) Keene Dillant-Hopkins Airport	Nate
June 18 (Wed)	7am-9am	Lempster	(3) Duck Pond, Long Pond Town Forest	Jane
June 18 (Wed)	8am - Noon	Lancaster	(2) Weeks State Park	Matt
June 19 (Thus)	8am - 11:00am	Brighton, VT	(3) Moose Bog - Vermont	Matt

### **Trip Week 12: June 21 - June 28**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>(Trip Rating) &amp; Location</b>	<b>Leader</b>
June 21 (Sat)	8am-Noon	Bethlehem	(3) Trudeau Road	Matt
June 23 (Mon)	7am-9am	Hinsdale	(2) Hinsdale Setbacks	Jane
June 24 (Tue)	7am-10am	Brentwood	(3) Deer Hill WMA	Matt
June 25 (Wed)	7am-9am	Keene	(2) Stonewall Farm	Jane
June 25 (Wed)	8am-11:30am	Pelham	(3) Gumpas Pond Conservation Area	Matt
June 26 (Thur)	8am-10:30am	Thompson & Meserves Purchase	(2) Jefferson Notch Road	Matt
June 27 (Fri)	7am-9am	Surry	(2) Joselin Road Gravel Pit	Jane
June 28 (Sat)	6:30am-10am	Rochester	(2) Pickering Ponds	Matt

## COURSE FEE & REGISTRATION OPTIONS

**COURSE REGISTRATION OPENS: 9am Tuesday, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Email [matt.tarr@unh.edu](mailto:matt.tarr@unh.edu) now to receive the course registration link**

**On Monday Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>, you will be emailed a course registration link that will open at 9am on Tuesday, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>**

### HOW MUCH WILL THE COURSE COST?

One course fee provides you access to online course materials (until January 2026) and the option to register for course field trips at no additional cost. ***You can participate fully in this course regardless of your ability to pay a course fee!***

- \$60 if you don't want certificates of completion for the course.
- \$95 if you want to receive certificates of completion for the course:
  - You will receive a certificate of completion for every weekly online lesson you complete (lessons range from 1.0 hrs to 3.0 hours per week for a total of 16.5 hrs if you complete all 12 online lessons).
  - You will receive a certificate of completion for every course field trip you attend (course field trips average 2 to 3 hours).
  - Society of American Foresters (SAF) credits will be assigned for weekly lessons and for each field trip.

**Please make plans to register as soon as possible on February 4<sup>th</sup>. This course usually fills by the end of the first day of registration, so there is a good chance you will not get in if you don't register on the 4<sup>th</sup>.**

- Prior to Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, review the *Weekly Course Field Trip Schedule* to find the trips you are interested in.
- **When you register for the course, you can register for UP TO FOUR trips that are scheduled for Trip Weeks 1-6 (April 5 – May 16)**
  - Register for these trips when you register for the course (many trips fill up fast).
  - Beginning mid-April, you will have the opportunity to register for UP TO FOUR trips that are scheduled for Trip Weeks 6-12 (May 17-June 28).
- Be sure to check the Trip Rating of each trip to ensure you are registering for trips that are appropriate for your abilities. Trips are rated 1-4 as follows:
  - (1) **Stationary** trips occur primarily at a fixed location and involve little or no walking during the trip
  - (2) **Smooth-walking** trips occur on roadways or smooth, wide trails
  - (3) **Uneven-ground or narrow trail** trips require walking on uneven surfaces (e.g., exposed rocks or roots, boardwalks, steep trail sections) or on narrow trails where brushing against vegetation can't be avoided
  - (4) **Off-trail** trips require some walking through forest, shrubland, or field without a trail.
- Early morning bird trips tend to encounter the greatest abundance and diversity of birds, but trips at any time of the day usually provide plenty of opportunities to observe a variety of bird species.
- Only register for trips you know you will be able to attend; check your calendar carefully before registering for each trip and plan to attend every trip you register for. **(See the Trip Cancellation Policy on Page 5 of this document).**