

Sunday, September 14, 2008 Schedule (MEET ONSITE)		
8:00-10:00am	Paddling Tour #1	Mill Creek Point Paddle, Secaucus, NJ.
9:00-11:00am	Field Trip	Liberty State Park, Jersey City, NJ.
9:00-11:00am	Field Trip	Celery Farm, Allendale, NJ.
12:00-4:00pm	Field Trip	Hawk Watch at State Line Lookout, Alpine, NJ.
1:00-3:00pm	Paddling Tour #2	Laurel Hill County Park Paddle, Secaucus, NJ.

## DIRECTIONS

### ENVIRONMENT CENTER, DEKORTE PARK, Lyndhurst, NJ:

**From Rt. 17 South** - continue south past Rt. 3 and follow from the \* under Rt. 3 West directions.  
**From Rt. 3 West:** Take Rt. 3 West to Route 17 South (Lyndhurst Exit). \* Road narrows and curves sharply to right. Turn left at first light onto Polito Ave. Continue to end. Turn left on Valley Brook Ave. Follow to end (1.6 miles). Cross railroad tracks, keep left. Environment Center is first building on left.  
**From Rt. 3 East:** Follow Rt. 3 East to the 2nd Rt. 17 South Exit (Rt. 17 South/ Lyndhurst - Service Road). Go straight through intersection onto Polito Ave. Continue to end. Left on Valley Brook Ave. Follow to end (1.6 miles). Cross railroad tracks, keep left. Environment Center is first building on left.  
**TO HARRIER MEADOW (for the early morning Bird Banding Demonstrations)** - Follow directions to the Environment Center, but after crossing the tracks, bear right and follow road over Kingsland Landfill all the way to the PSE&G substation on left. Look for gate and cars on left.

### DIRECTIONS TO AND FROM "BIRDING BY BOAT":

#### From DeKorte Park to River Barge Park, 260 Outwater Lane, Carlstadt, NJ:

Exit park and follow Valley Brook Road 1.6 miles to Polito Ave., and turn right. Take Polito .5 miles to second light (Rutherford Ave./Route 17) and turn right (northbound). Take Route 17 North for 2.3 miles (road will first curve sharply - do not exit at the service road or Rt. 3 - stay on 17, which becomes a 6-lane highway), then take exit for Rt. 120 South/Paterson Plank Rd./Sports Complex. At end of ramp, turn right at light onto 120 South/Paterson Plank Rd. Continue for 1.4 miles. Stay in left lane, and take left exit for 503 North/Moonachie. Ramp loops and merges onto 503 North - immediately go under overpass and turn right onto Paterson Plank Rd. East. Follow to end and turn left onto Outwater Ln. Go to end.

#### From River Barge Park to Environment Center, DeKorte Park, Lyndhurst:

Exit River Barge Park and take Outwater Lane to end. Road turns right and becomes Paterson Plank Rd. East - continue for .5 miles, and turn left at the sign for Rts. 3, 17, and 120 North. Merge onto 120 North and follow 1.8 miles to exit for 17 South - follow ramp to stop sign and turn right. Merge onto 17 South and follow directions from Rt. 17 South above.

#### CELERY FARM NATURAL AREA, Allendale, NJ:

**From Route 17 Northbound:** Take Route 17 through Paramus, Ridgewood, Waldwick & HoHoKus to the ONLY exit that says: "ALLENDALE". Follow Exit ramp around under Route 17 and onto East Allendale Ave. Take East Allendale Ave. for about 3/4 mile and turn right at light onto Franklin Tpk. and travel about 1/2 mile to Green Way. Turn right onto Green Way and follow it to cul-de-sac at end of street. Meet field trip leaders there. Please note that there are no comfort facilities at the Celery Farm.

#### LAUREL HILL COUNTY PARK, Secaucus, NJ:

**From Rt. 3 East or West:** Take Meadowlands Parkway Exit (just east of the Meadowlands sports complex and Hackensack River bridge). At end of ramp, turn left onto Meadowlands Parkway. Follow straight through several lights and pass Harmon Cove Towers. Turn left at the next light onto Seaview Dr. Follow Seaview to the light at New County Rd. (immediately before train station and Turnpike sign), and turn right. Follow into park - 1st parking lot on right.

**From NJ Turnpike:** EASTERN SPUR - to exit 15X. Follow ramp past train station and turn left at the light at New County Rd. Follow into park - 1st parking lot on right. WESTERN SPUR - to exit 16W to Rt. 3 East and follow Rt. 3 directions above.

#### LIBERTY STATE PARK, Jersey City, NJ:

**From the NJ Turnpike North or South:** Take exit for 14 and 14A-C, then follow signs for 14A-C (NJ Turnpike Extension/Rt. 78 East). Cross Newark Bay and go approx. 2 miles and take Exit 14B. After toll plaza, turn left; proceed under Rt. 78 straight through light and straight onto Morris Pesin Dr. Continue to last parking area on right near picnic grove. Park near building and meet field trip leaders.

#### MILL CREEK MARSH, Secaucus, NJ:

**From Route 3 East (NJ Tpk. Exit 16W to Rt. 3 East):** Pass sports complex, cross Hackensack River, pass Meadowlands Pkwy. exit, then stay right and enter service road. Pass ramp for the Turnpike and take next exit for Harmon Meadow Blvd/The Plaza/The Mall at Mill Creek. Follow Harmon Meadow Blvd. to 2nd light at Wal-Mart/Sam's Club. Turn left onto Mill Creek Dr. Go straight and bear right into Stop and Shop parking lot. Continue straight to right side of building and park by the trailhead.

**From NJ Turnpike Exits 16E (northbound) or 17 (southbound):** Pay toll. Follow signs for Secaucus. Go straight through light at Paterson Plank Rd. Continue straight on Harmon Meadow Blvd. to second light at Wal-Mart/Sam's Club. Turn left onto Mill Creek Dr. Go straight and bear right into Stop and Shop parking lot. Continue straight on right side of building and park by the trailhead.

**From Route 3 West:** Take exit for Secaucus - Service Road. Once on service road, turn right onto Mill Creek Dr. (just past the Hess station). Continue until just before it curves to the right. Turn left into Stop and Shop parking lot. Continue straight on right side of building and park by the trailhead.

#### MILL CREEK POINT, Secaucus, NJ:

Exit park, follow Valley Brook Rd. 1.6 miles to Polito Ave., turn right. Go to second light (Rutherford Ave./Route 17) and turn right (northbound). Road curves left. Take exit for Rt. 3 East. Rt. 3 East over Hackensack River, past Meadowlands Pkwy. exit, then merge right on Rt. 3 Service Rd. Stay in right lane and turn right immediately after Sunoco station onto Plaza Ctr. Go to light, turn right onto Paterson Plank Rd. Go to light, bear right at fork. Go over Rt. 3, then make approx. 8th right on Farm Rd. Make 2nd right on Meadow Ln. Follow Meadow Ln. (becomes Millridge Rd.) all the way to the end (the Point).

#### STATE LINE LOOKOUT at Palisades Interstate Park, Alpine, NJ:

**From Palisades Interstate Parkway North:** Exit for State Line Lookout is about 2 miles north of Exit 2.  
**From the Palisades Interstate Parkway South:** Stay in left lane after Exit 3. Take U-turn (well marked). Use caution, as you will need to get into the right lane immediately to exit for State Line Lookout.

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 97  
TEANECK, NJ

Hackensack Riverkeeper Inc.  
231 Main Street  
Hackensack, NJ 07601

NEW JERSEY MEADOWLANDS  
FESTIVAL OF BIRDING  
SEPTEMBER 13 - 14, 2008

Keynote by Jonathan Trouern-Trend:  
"Birding Babylon"



Mark your Calendar!  
Next year's festival will be:  
September 12-13, 2009!

Printed on Recycled, FSC Certified Sustainable,  
Chlorine-Free, Acid-Free Paper



The New Jersey Meadowlands Festival of Birding is organized by



NEW JERSEY  
AUDUBON  
SOCIETY  
New Jersey Audubon Society  
11 Hardscrabble Road, P.O. Box 693  
Bernardsville, NJ 07924  
(908) 766-5787  
www.njaudubon.com



Hackensack Riverkeeper  
231 Main Street  
Hackensack, NJ 07601  
(201) 968-0808  
www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

and is hosted and sponsored by



New Jersey  
Meadowlands Commission  
New Jersey Meadowlands Commission  
One DeKorte Park Plaza  
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071  
www.meadowlands.state.nj.us

# 5th Annual New Jersey Meadowlands



# FESTIVAL OF BIRDING

Don't miss the SPECIAL KEYNOTE PROGRAM,  
"Birding Babylon"  
by Jonathan Trouern-Trend

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 & 14, 2008  
MEADOWLANDS ENVIRONMENT CENTER, LYNDHURST, NJ  
TICKETS \$40, AGES 10-17 FREE

The New Jersey Meadowlands Festival of Birding is organized by  
the New Jersey Audubon Society and Hackensack Riverkeeper  
and is hosted & sponsored by the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission

## FESTIVAL FACTS - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

**Registration:** Your admission allows you to participate in as many field trips and programs as you can squeeze in, as well as breakfast and lunch Saturday. You can register Online, by Mail or by Phone (see registration coupon in this brochure for details). Once you register, a packet will be mailed to you that will include wrist bands (marked with your cruise # if applicable) and lunch tickets - you **MUST** bring these items to the festival with you.

**Festival takes place Rain or Shine. No refunds will be given.**

**Getting Around at the Festival:** All indoor programs are held in the Environment Center at DeKorte Park. Some cruises and field trips are reached by BUS - meet the bus by the front entrance of the Environment Center. Early morning (and some late afternoon) trips and cruises must be reached by car. Popular programs and field trips may fill quickly, so arrive early to secure your spot. The indoor displays and Birding Store will be open Saturday in the Visitor Center. All Sunday events are reached by car only.

**Birding Cruises and Paddling Tours:** YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER FOR BOAT TRIPS & PADDLING TOURS! Registration for paddling tours is limited and by telephone only - call 201-968-0808. There is enough seating for everyone at the festival to go on a birding cruise. Choose your cruise when you register. If you book online, select which cruise you like and go to the next page; it will let you know if seats are available on that trip (PLEASE LOOK for the red type at the top of the next page to confirm that enough seats are available before continuing with your purchase). If you register by mail, you can list your top three boat trip preferences, but 1st choice is not guaranteed. If you register by phone, you will know immediately if your cruise of choice is available.

**Food & Drink:** Continental breakfast will be served in the Visitor Center through 10:30am. A lunch of sandwiches (with vegetarian options), salads and drinks will be served from 11:30am until 1:00pm. You are welcome to bring your own food. No alcoholic beverages are permitted.

**Interested Children** age 10 and up (accompanied by an adult) are welcome at the festival.

**SUNDAY: ALL FIELD TRIP DAY - meet your group at the individual field trip sites on Sunday. There will be NO Festival activities at the Environment Center on Sunday.**

## ALL DAY SATURDAY AT THE FESTIVAL



**In the Visitor Center Saturday from 8am - 6pm:**

- ◆ Nature and Birding Store. Field guides, binoculars and expert help.
- ◆ Exhibits - by Festival partners.
- ◆ Loaner binoculars available at the registration desk (credit card required).
- ◆ Interactive Learning Center and Gallery.

**No exhibitors, store or indoor program Sunday**

## INDOOR PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

### Birding Basics

Learn how to use a field guide, how to choose and use binoculars, and most importantly, how to learn to identify birds.

### Colonial Nesting Birds—Our Coastal Gems

A look at our colonial nesting herons, egrets, terns and gulls featuring slides taken by some of America's best nature photographers. Get acquainted with these birds in their breeding plumages and learn their natural history.

### Rapp'n with Raptors with Tenafly Nature Center

Participants will observe live birds of prey up close and learn about their behavior, physiology, adaptations, ecological importance and natural history. Hands-on artifacts and demonstrations will capture the imagination of young and old.

### Avian Research Update

NJ Audubon recently completed a two year bird survey in the Meadowlands and uncovered some fascinating results. Come learn all about it from the field researchers involved.

### All About Butterflies with Wild Birds Unlimited

New Jersey is also home to a wide variety of butterflies. This indoor/outdoor program will introduce you to many of them. Topics will include gardening for butterflies, butterfly watching, and the amazing migration of the Monarch.



## Welcome to the Fifth Annual New Jersey Meadowlands Festival of Birding!

We're here to celebrate the nation's fastest growing outdoor pastime in one of New Jersey's most important birding areas. The New Jersey Meadowlands is truly an urban oasis. Containing over 8,000 acres of valuable wetland habitat, the Meadowlands is home to over 280 bird species.

The month of September is a great time for birding in the Meadowlands, as ducks, songbirds, and shorebirds wing their way south; and herons and egrets stalk the shallows. Overhead, we might see Red-tailed Hawks and (if we are lucky) Ospreys and spectacular Peregrine Falcons.

This year's festival includes a full lineup of field trips on Sunday, so plan to spend your weekend in the Meadowlands! Tour leaders are eager to share the joy of birding with everyone, novice and expert, old and young alike. Be sure to take time to visit the exhibits and the Nature Store. Above all, enjoy the birds!

Captain Bill Sheehan, Executive Director  
Hackensack Riverkeeper

Tom Gilmore, President  
New Jersey Audubon Society

### Keynote Program: Jonathan Trouern-Trend "Birding Babylon" 1:00 - 2:00 pm in the Auditorium

Only a lifelong birder and environmentalist could spend a year as a soldier in Iraq and see "sublime natural beauty" amid the chaos and carnage of that war-torn country. In 2004 Jonathan Trouern-Trend, a Sergeant First Class in a National Guard medical unit, was stationed at Camp Anaconda, north of Baghdad in the Sunni Triangle. He had been a birder from the age of 12, so naturally he looked for birds during his free time on base and on trips "outside the wire." He started an online journal that attracted thousands of readers, filled with such observations as "I'm lying on the ground with my eye on some guy racing around in a pickup truck, wondering if he's going to take a potshot at us (which would have been suicidal), while a pair of crested larks were not even 10 feet from me, the male displaying and dancing around." "To read about something as universally familiar as the migration of birds, or watching ducks in a pond, fulfilled a need to know that something worthwhile or even magical was happening, even in the midst of suicide bombings and rocket attacks." Toward the end of his tour, he conducted Anaconda's first Christmas Bird Count. His writings were later compiled in a small book called Birding Babylon (also the name of his blog). Trouern-Trend said that many of the birds he saw in Iraq were similar to birds he knew from home, and that the connection had helped him to acclimate to life on the base. "Birding is about making connections," he said. "It is a mark of civil society." He added that Iraq would be a wonderful place for eco-tourist birding trips: "There are flamingos, crested larks, and a chance of seeing a sacred ibis in the marshes." "In Iraq there are ten thousand ways to see the world," he writes. "I consider myself lucky to have seen it through the eyes of a naturalist." Jonathan Trouern-Trend currently works for the American Red Cross Blood Services in their Epidemiology and Surveillance program. He lives in Connecticut with his wife and their five children.



### PROGRAM REGISTRATION

- 1) Use our convenient online registration system. Log on to [www.HackensackRiverkeeper.org](http://www.HackensackRiverkeeper.org) and click on New Jersey Meadowlands Festival of Birding, OR
- 2) Fill out this registration form and mail it along with payment to the address below, OR
- 3) Call 201-968-0808 between 10am and 6pm weekdays.

**TICKETS \$40, AGES 10-17 FREE**

No. of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

check       Amex     Visa     MasterCard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

V code \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**Birding Cruise #: None\_\_\_ 1st Choice\_\_\_ 2nd Choice\_\_\_ 3rd Choice\_\_\_**

Mail to: Hackensack Riverkeeper, 231 Main Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601  
Make checks payable to Hackensack Riverkeeper.

## FIELD TRIP DESCRIPTIONS

**Richard W. DeKorte Park** - For all birders. We'll search the thickets for sparrows, the flats for shorebirds, and the open water for ducks and grebes. Learn the basics, from how to use binoculars to field marks, with excellent, patient leaders. All questions are welcome. Meet in courtyard at the Environment Center.

**Harrier Meadow** - This unique 77 acre wetlands enhancement site, usually closed to the public, features high marsh, meadows, impounded areas, and mudflats. Buses leave at 10am and 4:15pm from the Environment Center, or drive yourself there any time between 7am and 9:30am for special bird banding demonstrations.

**Mill Creek Marsh Trail** - An excellent fall migrant hotspot. Expect shorebirds, waterfowl, herons, egrets, and perhaps hunting raptors. Meet at Mill Creek Marsh trailhead.

**Celery Farm Natural Area** - A 107 acre mix of woodland, meadows, marsh, swampy areas, and a natural spring-fed pond. A 1.25 mile nature trail winds around a central marshy area and varying habitats, with observations platforms set up for birding. Meet at the Celery Farm's Green Way Gate.

**Liberty State Park** - One of the best birding spots in NJ, the Park features habitat for sparrows and other migrant landbirds, and terrific waterbirding for ducks, shorebirds, gulls and terns. Meet at Liberty State Park.

**Palisades Interstate Park, Stateline Lookout** - Situated at the highest point on the Palisades Cliffs (elevation 532 feet), Point Lookout at State Line Lookout commands unparalleled views of the Hudson River and Westchester County, on to the Long Island Sound. Meet at Stateline Lookout.

**Birding Cruises** - PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY. These birding cruises are also educational tours of the Hackensack River and Meadowlands. Bird tidal creeks and see abundant wildlife aboard a comfortable pontoon cruiser. BUSES leave Environment Center at 9am and 2:30pm for cruises. Drive car and meet at River Barge Park for 7am and 5:30pm cruises. Sign up when you register.

**Paddling Tours** - PHONE PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY. SUNDAY. Enjoy these guided paddling tours through Secaucus' salt marshes in a canoe or kayak. Look for egrets, herons, fiddler crabs, diamondback terrapins and more.

The 8am trip leaves from Mill Creek Point Park and will explore Mill Creek Marsh.

The 1pm trip leaves from Laurel Hill County Park and will explore the Sawmill Creek WMA.

There is limited space on the paddling tours. Reserve by phone - 201-968-0808.

## Saturday, September 13, 2008 Schedule

	Cruises (2 hours)	Field Trips	Indoor Programs
BREAKFAST	7am		
	8am	7:00 - 9:00 AM <b>CRUISE #1</b> NO BUS MEET AT RIVER BARGE	7:00 - 9:30 AM <b>BIRD BANDING DEMO AT HARRIER MEADOW</b> DRIVE OR WALK - COME AND GO AS YOU PLEASE
LUNCH	9am		8:30 - 9:15 AM <b>Birding Basics</b>
	10am	9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON <b>BUS TO CRUISE #2</b> (BUS LEAVES DeKORTE AT 9:00AM AND RETURNS AT 12 NOON)	9:30 - 11:30 AM <b>DeKORTE WALK</b> COURTYARD
LUNCH	11am		10 - 10:45 AM <b>Colonial Waterbirds</b>
	Noon		10:00 AM - 12:30 PM <b>HARRIER MEADOW WALK (BUS)</b>
LUNCH	1pm	<b>KEYNOTE &amp; ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE AUDITORIUM</b> <b>JONATHAN TROUERN-TREND, "BIRDING BABYLON"</b>	
	2pm		
LUNCH	3pm	2:30 - 5:30 PM <b>BUS TO CRUISE #3</b> BUS LEAVES DeKORTE AT 2:30PM AND RETURNS AT 5:30PM	2:30 - 4:00 PM <b>DeKORTE WALK</b> COURTYARD
	4pm		2:45 - 3:45 PM <b>Research Update</b>
LUNCH	5pm		4:15 - 5:00 PM <b>All About Butterflies</b>
	6pm		4:30 - 6:30 PM <b>MILL CREEK MARSH WALK</b> (meet at Mill Creek)
LUNCH	7pm	5:30 - 7:30 PM <b>CRUISE #4</b> NO BUS MEET AT RIVER BARGE	