

Sunday, September 11, 2011 Schedule (MEET ONSITE)

8:00-10:00am	Paddling Tour	Laurel Hill County Park, Secaucus, NJ.
9:00-11:00am	Field Trip	Garrett Mountain, Woodland Park, NJ
9:00-11:00am	Field Trip	Celery Farm, Allendale, NJ.
10:00-2:00pm	Field Trip	Hawk Watch at State Line Lookout, Alpine, NJ.

DIRECTIONS

SATURDAY:

ENVIRONMENT CENTER (DeKorte Park), 1 DeKorte Park Plaza, Lyndhurst, NJ:

From Rt. 17 South - continue south past Rt. 3. * 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 West - Take Rt. 3 West to Route 17 South (Lyndhurst Exit). Follow from * above.

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. Follow from ** above.

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 CRUISES, River Barge Park, 260 Outwater Ln., Carlstadt, NJ:

From Rt. 17 North or South in Carlstadt - Take exit for Rt. 120 South (Paterson Plank Rd.) Stay on 120 South/Paterson Plank Rd. for approx. 1.4 miles. Keep left, and take exit for 503 North/ Moonachie. Ramp loops and merges onto 503 North - go under overpass and turn right onto Paterson Plank Rd. East. Go to end and turn left onto Outwater Ln. Go to end.

From Environment Center (DeKorte Park) to River Barge Park - Exit park and follow Valley Brook Road 1.6 miles to Polito Ave., and turn right. Take Polito .5 miles to second light and turn right (Route 17 North) for 2.3 miles (road will curve sharply - do not exit at the service road or Rt. 3 - stay on 17), then take exit for Rt. 120 South/Paterson Plank Rd./Sports Complex. Turn right onto 120 South. Follow directions from Rt. 17 immediately above.

From River Barge Park to Environment Center (DeKorte Park) - 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 go 1.8 miles to exit for 17 South - follow ramp to stop sign and turn right. Merge onto 17 South and follow directions to Environment Center above.

MILL CREEK MARSH (for Saturday Walk), 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 (before Wal-Mart/Sam's Club). Turn left onto Mill Creek Dr. Go straight and bear right into Mill Creek Mall parking lot. Continue straight to right side of building and park by 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 (before Wal-Mart/Sam's Club). Turn left onto Mill Creek Dr. Go straight and bear right into Mill Creek Mall 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 Mill Creek Mall parking lot. Continue straight on right side of building and park by the trailhead.

SUNDAY:

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, pass Harmon Cove Towers, continue to end. Road turns sharply left and becomes Castle Rd. Follow to end and turn right on New County Rd. 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 over bridge and into park - 1st parking lot on right. WESTERN SPUR - to exit 16W to Rt. 3 East and follow Rt. 3 directions above.

GARRETT MOUNTAIN, Woodland Park, NJ:

From Interstate 80 West - From Interstate 80 Westbound take Exit 56 (Squirrelwood Road/ West Paterson) & bear left at fork. Proceed to stop sign and make a left onto Squirrelwood Road. You will cross over Route 80. Go to *. **From Interstate 80 East** - From Interstate 80 Eastbound take exit 56A (Squirrelwood Road/ Woodland Park). At end of ramp make a right onto Squirrelwood Road. Go to *. * Continue straight through the traffic light and you will pass Berkeley College on your right, the road becomes Rifle Camp Road at this point. Make your first left onto Mountain Avenue (there is a sign for Garret Heights Condos). Park entrance is on your right. Turn right and follow road, then make first left and park in the 3-tiered parking lot and meet your guides.

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. Go 1/2 mile to Green Way. Right on Green Way and follow it to cul-de-sac at end. No comfort facilities.

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.

The New Jersey Meadowlands Festival of Birding is organized by



Hackensack Riverkeeper NJ Audubon Society

New Jersey Meadowlands Commission

NJ Meadowlands Commission

Hackensack Riverkeeper Inc.
231 Main Street
Hackensack, NJ 07601

NEW JERSEY MEADOWLANDS
FESTIVAL OF BIRDING
September 10 - 11, 2011

Keynote by Sandy Komito
of *The Big Year!*



and is sponsored by:



AMERICAN DREAM MEADOWLANDS



RENAISSANCE MEADOWLANDS HOTEL

Spoo, Inc. J. Michael Parish

8th Annual New Jersey Meadowlands



FESTIVAL OF BIRDING

Keynote Address
by **SANDY KOMITO,**
Bird Chaser Extraordinaire,
Author & Subject of *The Big Year!*

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 & 11, 2011
MEADOWLANDS ENVIRONMENT CENTER, LYNDHURST, NJ
ALL AGES WELCOME - TICKETS \$40

The New Jersey Meadowlands Festival of Birding is organized by
the New Jersey Audubon Society and Hackensack Riverkeeper
and is hosted 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). Please pick up your registration packet (including wrist bands and lunch tickets) at the registration desk upon arriving the morning of the festival.

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, please select which of the 4 cruises you would like to go on (NOTE: There is no bus service to the early morning and late afternoon cruises - you must drive yourself). If you register by mail, you can list your top three cruise preferences, but 1st choice is not guaranteed. If you register by phone, you will know immediately if your preference 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.

SUNDAY: ALL FIELD TRIP DAY - arrange your own transportation and meet your group at the individual field trip sites on Sunday. There are 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

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Birding Basics, with NJ Audubon Learn how to use a field guide, how to choose and use binoculars, and most importantly, how to learn to identify birds.

The Nature of New Jersey, with NJ Audubon The program is a naturalist's answer to New Jersey's critics. The state's flora and fauna are featured in a scenic journey through the seasons across the state. A Program designed to acknowledge New Jersey's marvelous natural and scenic wonders.

Rapp'n with Raptors, with the 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.

All About Butterflies, with Wild Birds Unlimited New Jersey is also home to a wide variety of butterflies. This outdoor program will introduce you to many of them. Topics will include optics, field guides, gardening for butterflies, butterfly watching, and the amazing migration of the Monarch.

Digiscoping This indoor/outdoor workshop will teach you all about digiscoping (attaching a point and shoot or SLR camera to a high powered telescope). Learn different camera combinations, composition tips and Photoshop editing methods, then participate in a hands-on demonstration. Bring a memory card and take home your spectacular shots!



Welcome to the Seventh 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 raptors such as Red-tailed Hawks, Ospreys and 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: Sandy Komito Author & Bird Chaser Extraordinaire 1:00 - 2:00 pm in the Auditorium

Sandy Komito is the consummate bird chaser and has held the North American record for the most bird species seen in a single year since 1987. Sandy's interest in birding began as a boy in Brooklyn - by age 12 he was keeping birding records and going into the field by himself. His first Boy Scout Merit Badge was in Bird Study - he needed to see 40 different birds, but waited until he had 100! He later moved to New Jersey with his wife, Bobbye, and they lived here for 40 years before moving to Florida. One of his great joys was chasing after rare birds. During the eighties and nineties, he was the most traveled birder in America, racking up 100,000 or more travel miles each year (he was traveling like the birds, only faster!). He regularly saw 500 or more birds each year in North America (he twice saw more than 600, and twice more than 700). He has birded in all 50 states, and has visited Alaska over 40 times. In 1987, he set the North American record of 726 birds in one year, then broke that record in 1998 with 748 species sightings. He has written two books which detail these achievements, *Birding's Indiana Jones - A Chaser's Diary* and *I Came, I Saw, I Counted*. He is one of the subjects of the book and movie, *The Big Year*.



PROGRAM REGISTRATION

- 1) Use our convenient online registration system. Log on to 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 ALL AGES \$40

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.

Garrett Mountain - Best known as a spring hotspot for migrating warblers, this spot provides great birding year round, so come and explore this northernmost edge of the Watchung Ridge, including Barbour Pond and numerous diverse habitats.

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 Tour - PHONE PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY. SUNDAY. Enjoy this guided paddling tour through Secaucus' salt marshes in a canoe or kayak. Look for egrets, herons, fiddler crabs, diamondback terrapins and more.

The 8am trip leaves from Laurel Hill County Park and will explore the Sawmill Creek WMA. There is limited space on the paddling tour. Reserve by phone - 201-968-0808.

Saturday, September 10, 2011 Schedule

	Cruises (2 hours)	Field Trips	Workshops
BREAKFAST	7am		
	8am	7:00 - 9:00 AM CRUISE #1 NO BUS MEET AT RIVER BARGE	7:00 - 9:30 AM BIRD BANDING DEMO AT HARRIER MEADOW DRIVE OR WALK - COME AND GO AS YOU PLEASE
	9am		8:30 - 9:15 AM Birding Basics
LUNCH	10am	9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON BUS TO CRUISE #2 (BUS LEAVES DeKORTE AT 9:00AM AND RETURNS AT 12 NOON)	9:30 - 11 Digi-scoping
	11am		10 - 10:45 Nature of NJ
	Noon		11:30 AM - 12:30 PM All About Butterflies (meet outside in Courtyard)
1pm	KEYNOTE & ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE AUDITORIUM		
2pm	Sandy Komito Author of "The Shorebird Guide"		
3pm	2:30 - 5:30 PM BUS TO CRUISE #3 BUS LEAVES DeKORTE AT 2:30PM AND RETURNS AT 5:30PM	2:30 - 4:00 PM DeKORTE WALK COURTYARD (shorter walk)	2:45 - 3:45 PM Rappin' with Raptors
4pm		3:00 - 5:00 PM MILL CREEK MARSH WALK (drive to Mill Creek)	
5pm		4:15 - 6:00 PM HARRIER MEADOW WALK (BUS)	
6pm	5:30 - 7:30 PM CRUISE #4 NO BUS MEET AT RIVER BARGE		
7pm			