

Environmental Education since 1985



New Pond Farm

Education Center

Open Minds, Open Hearts, and Open Lands

DON'T MISS ANYTHING!
Facebook: [facebook/NewPondFarm](https://facebook.com/NewPondFarm)
Twitter: [@NewPondFarm](https://twitter.com/newpondfarm)

Instagram: instagram.com/newpondfarm
#newpondfarm

and be sure to add us to your
Safe Sender's List: info@newpondfarm.org

SPECIAL EVENT



If you have an alibi, please join us for a play reading, directed by Nancy Ponturo. Theatre-goers are invited to join the actors after the performance for a champagne toast, homemade desserts, and lively conversation! Talented actors will be Nancy and Bob Ponturo, Heather and Frank Whaley, Julia Levo, Don Striano, Dorothy and Chris Luongo, and Jim O'Rielly. Seating is limited so please make your reservations soon, either online or by calling the Farm 203.938.2117.

At a large, tastefully appointed townhouse, the Deputy Mayor of New York has just shot himself accidentally. Though only a flesh wound, four couples are about to experience a severe attack of Farce. Gathering for their tenth wedding anniversary, the host lies bleeding in the other room and his wife is nowhere in sight. His lawyer, Ken and wife Chris must get "the story" straight before the other guests arrive. As the confusions and miscommunications mount, the evening spins off into classic hilarity.

Performances: Saturday, February 25th or Sunday, February 26th
Time: 7 p.m.
Cost: \$40 per NPF Member, \$50 per nonmember
Location: The Learning Center at New Pond Farm

New Pond Farm Education Center thanks all of the Actors Equity professional actors for participating in this fundraiser and supporting our mission.

Registration Information

- Registration & Prepayment required for ALL programs
- To register please call the office 203-938-2117 or visit our website www.newpondfarm.org
- One-week cancellation required for refund
- Please park at the Learning Center and dress for the outdoors

At New Pond Farm, you can expect a season filled with exploration, discovery and authentic exposure! Join us in the fresh air and experience close encounters with animals and plants, and increase your knowledge of the natural world!

**Winter-Spring
2017**

Adult Programs

Knitting and Spinning by the Fire



Sundays February 5, March 5, April 2, 12 - 3 p.m.

(if bad weather, we will cancel)

Bring your knitting projects and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with seasoned knitters and spinners. They will coach you on your knitting challenges and invite you to try your hands at their spinning wheels!

This program is free but we ask you to purchase a skein of NPF yarn (\$12) and by April donate a scarf, hat, or pair of mittens to the Farm.

Black Bears Amongst Us



Thursday January 26, 7 p.m.

We see them at our feeders and our beehives, strolling across our roads, and even enjoying our swimming pools. Join us for an informative evening with one of DEEPs Black Bear researchers, Melissa Ruszczyk. Learn about the natural history and behaviors of these large neighbors and learn about how we can peacefully coexist.

This program is free, but guests will be asked to leave a donation for DEEPs wildlife conservation efforts.

Special Author Visit: Secrets of Suburban Streams

Thursday March 16, 7 p.m.

We are honored to be hosting accomplished author, professional fly fishing guide, and national Trout Unlimited Volunteer

Coordinator, Jeff Yates, and look forward to learning about 20 fly fishing streams found right here in Fairfield County. Join us and learn where to go and what to use.

Fee: \$10 per member, \$15 per non-member

The World of Beatrix Potter

Wednesday March 29, 2 p.m.

Come for afternoon tea and scones by the fire and meet one of NPF's longtime members, Meredith McClung. Meredith is an enthusiastic member of the *Beatrix Potter Society*. She will share the fascinating life and works of this talented naturalist, author, and artist.

Fee: \$10 per member, \$15 per non-member

Native American Encampment with Walk and Talk

WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION!



Schaghticoke Indian, Darlene Kascak, will lead us on a fascinating walk and talk down to our woodland encampment. As the Education Coordinator for the *Institute for American Indian Studies* in Washington, CT, Darlene will share insight into the lifeways of the Eastern Woodland Indians that once walked our lands. A traditional Native American luncheon will be served. If you'd like to stay, there will be an hour of storytelling for families in the afternoon.

Please check our website in early February for more details!



Family Programs

Winter Astronomy Dates



Saturdays: February 4 and March 4 7:00 p.m.

Join us for spectacular sky viewing up on Astronomy Hill on these clear crisp nights and listen to our wonderful astronomers guide us through the night sky. Dress warmly, hot chocolate will be served.

Preview class of that nights sky will be held in the classroom of the Education Center 30 minutes before program start time.

Fee: \$4 per member (\$16 max per member family), \$6 per non-member (\$24 max per non-member family)

Making Backyard Bird Feeders

Saturday January 28, 10 a.m.

Join us in making all natural birdfeeders that can be used in your backyard. Take them home and experiment with different seed combinations and see what types of birds you attract. Then consider participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count in February, or better yet attend our GBBC training session on Saturday February 11th.

Fee: \$10 per member family, \$15 per non-member family

Farm Chores



Saturday February 4, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Who drinks milk, who munches hay, and who eats grain? Find out these answers and lots more. Come help us feed chickens, sheep and cows.

Members only

Fee: \$10 per family

Meet The Porcupine Lady and Her Quill Pig!



Sunday February 5, 2 p.m.

(Snow date: Sunday February 12, 2p.m.) You may know CT DEEP Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator Gerri Griswold as “The Bat Lady” but she also moonlights as “The Porcupine Lady.” Meet one of the world’s third largest rodents, a Quill Pig named The New One, and learn about the natural history of one of Connecticut’s most unique mammals!

*Fee: \$10 per member,
\$15 per non-member*

Moonlight Snowshoeing

Friday February 10, 6 p.m.

Thanks to our outdoor partner, *LL Bean*, NPF will offer the opportunity for our members to borrow sets of snowshoes (both adult and youth sizes) to be used right here on our property. You may reserve the snowshoes in advance (limited pairs available) or better yet bring your own snowshoes!

Members only

*Fee: \$5 per member
(\$20 max per NPF family)*

Great Backyard Bird Count Training Class



Saturday February 11, 10 a.m.

Come learn how to get involved in an annual citizen science project where you identify and count the number of birds in your backyard anytime between February 17-20. We will show you all the steps and helpful apps to identify the birds. We will also walk you through the steps on how to enter the data on the citizen science website.

Free

Backyard Syruping



Saturday February 11, 1 p.m.

Have you ever wanted to make your own maple syrup? Let us teach you each step of this sweet process and review the materials needed in backyard production. Dress for the outdoors!

*Fee: \$10 per member family,
\$15 per non-member family*

Build a Bluebird Box and Take It Home

Saturday February 18, 10 a.m.

Come join us and assemble a bluebird box. Once built, participants will be given details of where to place their birdhouses and when to start looking for activity at their box! Please bring a hammer and a Phillips-head screwdriver.

*Fee: \$20 per member family,
\$25 per non-member family*

Maple Syrup & Pancake Breakfast



Saturday March 4

Seating times: 8:30, 9, 9:30, and 10 a.m.

Start the morning with a breakfast of bacon and homemade pancakes topped with farm fresh maple syrup. After breakfast head down to the sugar shed to see how your syrup was made.

Members only

Reservations are required.

Fee: \$10 per person, children 3 and under are free.

\$30 max. per member family

Reptiles Rock!



Sunday March 5, 2 p.m.

Biologist and educator Michael Ralbovsky returns for an exciting high-energy show bringing us reptiles from all parts of the world. During Michael’s interactive and hands-on program, he plans to share a giant toad, a six-foot lizard, an enormous tortoise, a very long Crocodilian, and an awesome snake! Michael has worked with zoos across the country for over 40 years, and with many high-profile celebrities such as Jeff Corwin. He is known internationally for his specialized classes teaching law enforcement officers how to handle reptiles safely and humanely. Join us for a fun and educational afternoon — we guarantee that you will leave as an inspired reptile fan!

*Fee: \$10 per member,
\$15 per non-member*

Farm Chores



Sunday March 12, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Who drinks milk, who munches hay, and who eats grain? Find out these answers and lots more. Come help us feed chickens, sheep and cows.

Members only

Fee: \$10 per family

Children's Programs

What Happens to Animals in Winter (ages 4 & 5 with a parent) Saturday February 4, 10 a.m.

What happens to animals when winter comes? Where do they go? What do they eat? How do they survive? Come learn the answers to these questions and lots more!

*Fee: \$8 per member child,
\$10 per non-member child*

Valentines Day Craft (ages 6-12) Tuesday February 7, 4 p.m.

Join artist-in-residence Kris Holm for a creative afternoon, making a unique valentine for your family or friends.

Fee: \$8 per member; \$12 per non-member

Skunks, Raccoons and Bears, Oh My! (ages 6-12)

Wednesday February 15, 4 p.m.

What do skunks, raccoons, and bears have in common? Come learn about the unique characteristics of each animal and what they do to survive winter.

Fee: \$8 per member; \$12 per non-member

Windspinners and Whirlygigs (ages 6-12)

Thursday March 9, 4 p.m.

Join us for some windy weather fun as

we transform ordinary household objects into colorful and lively works of art for your garden.

Fee: \$8 per member; \$12 per non-member

Hot Air Balloons (ages 6-12)



Wednesday March 15, 3 p.m.

Teams will create their own tissue paper hot air balloons and then head outside to launch them into the atmosphere.

Fee: \$8 per member; \$12 per non-member

An Afternoon of Native American Storytelling *WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION!*

Please join us for an afternoon of Native American Storytelling with Schaghticoke Indian Darlene Kascak from the *Institute for American Indian Studies*. Please check our website in early February for more details!

SUMMER SHAKESPEARE *As You Like It*

Get Ready for Mistaken Identities,
Wrestling Matches, Family Rivalry
and Love All Rolled into a
Fast Moving Romantic Comedy
in the Woods!



This engaging hands-on theatre program with director Nancy Ponturo will incorporate acting, dance, and voice. Students will become more familiar with the intricacies of the Shakespearean language, garner a sound knowledge of the text, and get a glimpse into life in Elizabethan times, as they prepare for their performances. We aim to stimulate the students' imaginations through an innovative approach to classical material.

Dates: June 26 - July 16, excluding July 4

Times: 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
(longer rehearsals during week #3)

Evening Performances: 7/13 at Meadow Ridge, 7/14, 7/15, and 7/16 at NPF

*\$675 per NPF Family Member,
\$750 per non-member ■*



Theatre for Middle and High School Actors WINTER SHAKESPEARE

The Lunatic, the Lover, and the Poet Scenes and Monologues



Amplished actress and educator Julia Levo will create an exciting and positive environment in which actors will delve into a comprehensive exploration of Scenes and Monologues from some of Shakespeare's greatest plays. From Richard the III to Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth to Othello, we will explore these in an intensive eight-week acting program designed exclusively for middle and high school students. Students will develop skills in character development, vocal technique, acting craft and text analysis. Key scenes (using non-traditional casting) will

be woven together and performed for an invited audience during the last class.

Dates: Monday evenings January 23 through March 27 (excluding Feb. 20th)

Time: 7-9 p.m.

Meets at: New Pond Farm's Learning Center

Tuition: \$250 for NPF members and \$275 for non-members ■

THINKING AHEAD TO SUMMER: SUMMER CAMP RETURNS!!

For over 40 years, New Pond Farm has hosted a unique summer camp that brings together children from the cities of Connecticut with area youngsters. If you have an 8-12 year old who would enjoy making new friends from different backgrounds and becoming a part of the farm family, then New Pond Farm is just the place! Activities include exploring the woodlands and wetlands, Native American programs, swimming, working with the animals, fun in the gardens, cooking, hiking, outdoor games, crafts, and much more.

There will also be one fun-filled group campout per session. If you will need to borrow a sleeping bag, please let us know.

Family Membership is required.

Session I July 10-14

Session II July 24-28

Session III August 7-11

Online registration begins on February 1.

One week of camp costs \$550 and includes snacks, lunch, the campout and t-shirt.



ADVENTURE BIRTHDAY PARTIES Naturalists, Explorers & Adventurers!

Autumn - Winter - Spring - Summer

On our 102 beautiful acres we have unique resources such as diverse habitat, 19th Century barns, a maple syruping shed, and an authentically recreated Native American encampment complete with a thatched longhouse and barked wigwam; the pastures and barns are home for a variety of livestock. Our best resource however, is our enthusiastic and experienced teaching staff. They adjust our programs to fit your child's age and learning abilities. All of our programs are hands-on and active, keeping your child and his or her guests involved throughout the program.

To learn more about our Adventure Birthday Parties or to check availability, please call our office at 203.938.2117 or email info@newpondfarm.org.

We're Open to Members



Our members are welcomed to enjoy the property; winter hours are from 10am to 4pm. Anyone under 18 years old must be accompanied by a parent. We invite you to hike the trails, cross country ski/ snowshoe around the pastures, or sled down Astronomy Hill. NO SKATING!! Please park at the Learning Center and walk out to the pastures. Please call to let us know you are coming, we ask that you leave your dogs at home.



Box 116 • 101 Marchant Road • West Redding, CT 06896

Watch www.newpondfarm.org for two new exciting Native American programs for adults and children.

Dear Renewing or Prospective Member,

For over 30 years New Pond Farm Education Center has provided individuals, families and organizations with ways to explore their passions for the natural world.

Thanks to actress Carmen Mathews' vision, New Pond Farm provides a myriad of opportunities for our members, donors, volunteers, and sponsoring entities. Her dedication to programs for urban youth, the environment, agriculture and the arts paved the way for the hands-on educational experiences that take place on our glorious 102-acre property.

Thank you for helping to make all of this possible. I look forward to seeing you soon!

With warm regards,

Ann Taylor, Executive Director
ann@newpondfarm.org • 203-938-2117

New Pond Farm is a 501(c)(3) organization eligible for corporate matching grants. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.



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New Pond Farm Education Center

Connecting people to the land which enriches and sustains us all.

The Environment • Natural and Local History • Astronomy • Agriculture • The Arts

Membership Level (Annual)

- ☐ Individual \$50
- ☐ Family \$75
- ☐ Supporting Member. . \$100
- ☐ Sustaining Member. . \$300
- ☐ Patron \$500
- ☐ Sponsor \$1,000
- ☐ Guardian \$ 5,000

As a member, are you interested in providing additional support for an area that is especially dear to your heart?

- ☐ Programs for Urban Youth \$_____
- ☐ The Working Farm (animals and agriculture) \$_____
- ☐ Educational Programs \$_____
- ☐ Re-planting of Native Species \$_____
- ☐ The Arts (including performing/visual) \$_____
- ☐ Please contact me about Legacy Membership.

Name(s) _____ or sign up online at www.newpondfarm.org

Names and ages of children _____

Preferred method of receiving newsletters and calendars: ☐ e-mail ☐ USPS ☐ Both

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

e-mail address(es) _____

Tel. _____ Cell _____

Amount enclosed _____, please make check payable to New Pond Farm.

☐ Please sign me up for auto renewal annually. (Auto renewal requires a credit card.)

Amount _____ to be charged. Signature _____

Credit Card Number _____ CVC # _____ Exp Date _____

☐ My billing address is the same as above. (If not, kindly provide.)

Employer Matching Gift Program: ☐ Yes ☐ No