

Environmental Education Since 1985



# New Pond Farm Education Center

**WINTER - SUMMER 2025**

Dear Members and Friends,

Happy New Year to you! And Happy Anniversary to us! 2025 will be full of milestones for New Pond Farm Education Center. This year we celebrate 40 years of educating every generation on the importance of land stewardship and sustainable agriculture to ensure the beauty, diversity, and vitality of our natural world.

As you read through this three-season program calendar, we hope you will find ways to celebrate with us. From bird walks to wildflower rambles, to family campouts and astronomy nights, there's something for everyone.

This year we will also celebrate our 10th Annual Play Reading, featuring the 1940s romantic comedy "The Philadelphia Story". This special fundraiser is made possible thanks to the generosity and talent of our favorite professional actors. We hope to see you there!

June will mark the 10th anniversary of our biennial Art Show. This is an impressive and inspiring event, showcasing the creative and diverse works of our finest local artists. Please visit during Art Week to view and appreciate the art, watch and learn from the artists, and join a class to unleash your inner artist!

New Pond Farm Education Center has been an active participant in the local community for four decades and we look forward to what the future will bring!

Thank you for being a part of our story. We are incredibly grateful to all our members and friends for their continued support.

We look forward to seeing you at the farm!

## SPECIAL EVENTS



### The Philadelphia Story, a Live Radio Play

**Saturday, March 1,  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

*"The course of true love ...  
gathers no moss."*

Join Director Nancy Ponturo with her extraordinary cast of actors, and watch the hilarity unfold as Tracy Lord, CK Dexter Haven, and other memorable characters are brought to life in this classic 1940s romantic comedy.

Our thanks to actors Nancy Ponturo, Bob Ponturo, Don Striano, Julia Levo, Martin Robinson, Annie Evans, Molly Garbe Brown, and Fred Newman (also providing sound effects), and musician David Morgan for once again generously donating their time and talents for this joyful fundraiser. Please join us for the performance, libations, homemade desserts, and lively conversations with the actors.

*Location: Pryor Hubbard Hall (behind Sacred Heart Church) 30 Church Street, Redding.  
\$60 per member, \$70 per non-member. Seating is limited so please make your reservations soon!*



### Bio Blitz

**Saturday, April 26, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM**

Join an enthusiastic group of scientists and staff as we work to inventory the biological diversity of our pond, marsh stream, and surrounding areas. Help us better understand the local flora and fauna that are found in each habitat and in the process gain skills and knowledge that will lead to a deeper connection with the natural world.

*More details coming soon! Check our website, [www.newpondfarm.org](http://www.newpondfarm.org)*

### Art Show and Preview Party

**Special Preview: Friday June 6,  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Visit the art show and mingle with artists and art lovers while enjoying a signature cocktail, local wines, brews, and festive bites.

**Daily Gallery Hours: June 7 - 15,  
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

*More details coming soon!  
Visit our website at [newpondfarm.org](http://newpondfarm.org)*



This fantastic biennial event will showcase artwork by some of the region's finest artists. With paint and canvas, pencil and paper, wood, metal, or clay, their creativity will transform the enduring themes of nature and farm into beautiful works of art. A silent auction, art demonstrations, plein air painting, and activities for all ages will all be a part of this inspiring show. All art is for sale with proceeds to benefit our programs.

*Free admission to the gallery, auction, demonstrations, lectures, and classes.*

**On every acre, in all we do, we plant seeds for a lifetime of active engagement with the natural world.**



## Fireside Yoga: Flow, Breath, Restore

**Tuesdays, January 14, 21, & 28 and  
February 4, 11, & 18, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

This winter, Fireside Yoga offers a chance to slow down and reconnect. Held indoors by the warmth of a crackling fire, this series weaves together meditation, dynamic vinyasa flows, and restorative breathwork. Each practice is designed to cultivate inner warmth, balance, and calm during the colder months, inviting participants to unwind and recharge in a cozy, welcoming space

*Ages 16+, no experience required.*

*Each class is \$20 per member, \$25 per non-member*

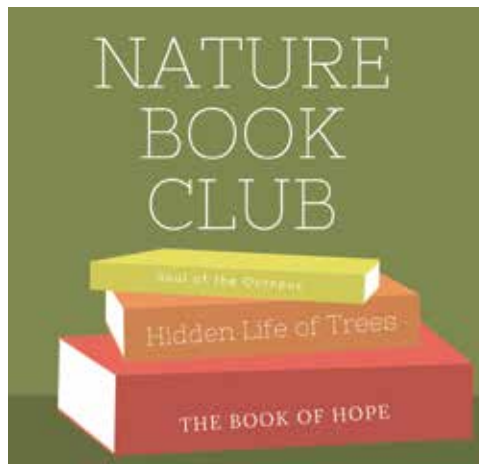


## Needlework Drop-In

**Thursdays, January 16, 23, 30, February 6,  
13, 20, 27, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

Join us for a relaxing morning of knitting, crocheting, embroidery, and other needlework. We will gather around the fireplace and share stories, ideas, and advice as we each work on our own projects. Open to all experience levels. Come be inspired, meet new friends, and learn something new. Light refreshments will be provided.

*Free. Registration requested.*



## Nature Book Club

**Wednesdays, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM**

**January 22: Soul of the Octopus,  
Sy Montgomery**

**March 19: Hidden Life of Trees,  
Peter Wohlleben**

**May 7: Walden, Henry David Thoreau**

*A collaboration between New Pond Farm, Mark Twain Library and Redding Land Trust. We will gather throughout the seasons at New Pond Farm and discuss books that inspire us, make us think, and help connect us to nature and one another.*

*Free. Register at [marktwainlibrary.org](http://marktwainlibrary.org)*

## The Voice of the Hudson Move & Discussion

**Thursday, January 30, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM  
Co-sponsored by the Mark Twain Library**

Microplastics are ubiquitous in the environment and can be found in our water, air, and food. Learn more about his important issue with educator and researcher Tim Keyes as he shares results of sampling done around the country including here at New Pond Farm. Following the discussion, watch *The Voice of the Hudson*, a 50 minute documentary film about the monumental trip 8 high school students took down the length of the Hudson, taking water samples along the way.

*Free. Registration required.*

### Volunteer Opportunities

**BioBlitz: Saturday, April 26**

**Invasives Removal: Ongoing**

**Animal Care:**

**Afterschool or Weekends**

We would love your help! For more information please contact Emily Ciffone at [emily@newpondfarm.org](mailto:emily@newpondfarm.org)



## Backyard Syruping Workshop

**Saturday, February 22,  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

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 for backyard production. Please dress for the outdoors.

*\$15 per member, \$20 per non-member*

## Astronomy Talk: The Birth & Death of a Star

**Tuesday, February 25, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Join us for an in-depth exploration of one of the universe's most fascinating phenomena—the life cycle of a star. This indoor presentation will guide you through the stages of stellar evolution, from the birth of a star in a cosmic nebula to its ultimate death, whether it fades into a white dwarf, explodes as a supernova, or collapses into a black hole. Suitable for ages 12+

*Free for members, \$5 per non-member*



## Paint & Sip

**Thursday, March 6, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM**

Enjoy a fun night out with friends as our artist instructors leads you on a step-by-step journey to create a wonderful masterpiece inspired by New Pond Farm's beauty. All experience levels are welcome. We will provide an 11x14 canvas, all painting supplies, and light refreshments.

*\$30 per member, \$40 per non-member*





## Timberdoodle Walk

**Saturday, March 8, 5:45 PM - 6:45 PM**

“Peent, peent”, the nasally call of the American Woodcock, also known as a Timberdoodle, is hard to mistake. Join NPF Board Member Bruce Ward as we look and listen for this sometimes difficult to spot little shorebird. With a preference for young forests and shrubby fields, males will be out calling and performing aerial displays in an effort to attract a mate for the spring breeding season.

*Free for members, \$10 per non-member*



## An Intro to Embroidery

**Saturday, March 15, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Learn to embroider with a master embroiderer! You will learn a variety of common embroidery stitches while creating a small floral design. All materials will be provided including a small hoop to display your work.

*\$25 members, \$30 non-members*

## Geology Walk

**Saturday, March 15, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Explore evidence of the geological processes that created New Pond Farm’s 102 acre landscape over 450 million years ago. Join Geologist Bruce Ward on a guided walk to the top of the hill beyond the Learning Center. Approximately 1.3 mile walk with some steep inclines.

*Free for members, \$10 for non-members*



## Wildflower Ramble & Brown Bag Lunch

**Monday, April 14, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM**

Each year in memory of one of our founding board members, Helen Hermes, we take a leisurely stroll down our streamside trail to discover some of her favorite spring ephemerals. Trout Lily, Rue Anemone, Dutchman’s Breeches, Trillium, and Spring Beauties will all be here to greet you! Bring a brown bag lunch and share happy conversations on our porch as you enjoy the weeping cherry blossoms and views into our early spring pastures.

*FREE thanks to the Schroeder Education Fund*



## Spring Migration: Birding with Joe Bear

**Saturday, April 26, 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM**

**Wednesday, May 7, 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM**

Catch the spring migration by joining expert birder and environmentalist Joe Bear on a leisurely 2-hour walk through our diverse habitats. We will search in open fields, woodlands, and wetlands - seeking those on their way back to their summer breeding grounds.

*Free. Registration is required*

Are you a school teacher or administrator looking for new field trip opportunities or in-school programs? New Pond Farm offers both! Visit [newpondfarm.org](http://newpondfarm.org) for more information, or contact School Program Coordinator Gwen Denny at [gwen@newpondfarm.org](mailto:gwen@newpondfarm.org)

## Birding & Breakfast with Miley Bull

**Tuesday, May 13, 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM**

Miley Bull is a one-of-a-kind treasure, a well known ornithologist, a world traveler, a raconteur, and CT Audubon Society’s Senior Director of Science and Conservation. Please join Miley for a fascinating morning in search of spring warblers, bluebirds, swallows, and other feathered residents. Breakfast treats await when you return to the Learning Center.

*\$15 per member, \$20 per non-member*



## Water, Water Everywhere

**Saturday, May 17, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM**

Where does it come from? Where does it flow? Join a walk led by geologist Bruce Ward to explore and discuss the watersheds, streams, ponds, vernal pools, springs and groundwater of New Pond Farm. Approximately 1 mile walk.

*Free for members, \$10 for non-members*



## Pollinator Garden Tour & Tea

**Tuesday, June 10, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM**

Take a break from your busy schedule and spend an afternoon visiting our farmhouse gardens. Enjoy our Fred Schroeder Pollinator Garden, brimming with native plantings, visiting bees, and butterflies. Tour our Shakespeare and Herb Gardens, and share iced tea, lemonade, and homemade treats in our shade garden which will be filled with blooming hellebores.

*Members Only! Free. Registration required.*



## ADULTS & TEENS



### Crocheting Amigurumi Sea Creatures

**3 part series: Sundays, February 23,  
March 2, March 9, 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM**

Learn to crochet in just three sessions! During this class we will cover the basics and learn how to make a simple stuffed animal. No experience necessary and all materials provided.

*\$40 per member, \$50 per non-member*



### Spring Equinox Floral Design Workshop

**Thursday, March 20, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

Join Susan Spanger of *Bloomful Floral Design* for a special floral design class that will allow you to unleash your creative side and usher in Spring, all in celebration of Mother Earth. This all-inclusive workshop will teach participants how to construct a low-profile Spring arrangement tucked in a bird's nest basket. Arrangements will be full of market-fresh flowers, such as ranunculus, tulips, freesia, pussy willow, and pheasant feather accents among others. Don't miss this opportunity to experiment with shape, line, and symmetry while composing a beautiful, balanced piece of floral art.

*\$65 per member, \$75 per non-member*

## MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

*All programs are for students in grades 5 - 12 unless otherwise noted*



### Jr Staff: Animal Caretakers

**Sundays: February 2, March 9, March 23,  
May 4, June 1, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM**

Love animals? Come learn the ins and outs of animal care. Focused on our resident mammals, reptiles, and amphibians, these hands-on programs will have Jr Staff helping with feedings, cleanings, health checks, enrichment, and more.

*Each program is free for members,  
\$10 for non-members*



### On the Farm, Grades 5 - 8

**With Bus Service from JRMS**

**3 Tuesdays per month, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**March 11, 18, 25: STEM**

**April 8, 22, 29: Naturalist Skills**

**May 13, 20, 27: Gardening & Cooking**

Enjoy everything New Pond Farm's 102-acres has to offer from science to nature to gardening! Each session will focus on a different theme, each including new opportunities to learn more about the world around us. Join us as we help support various research projects around the farm.

*Each Session is \$45 per member,  
\$60 per non-member*



### Succulent Landscaping

**Friday, February 7, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Personalize your own miniature landscape using live succulents and decorative elements. This fun craft will bring a touch of greenery and whimsy to any space.

*\$40 per member, \$50 per non-member*



### Shrinky Dinks!

**Friday, March 14, 7:00 PM - 8:15 PM**

Design and personalize either a pair of earrings or two unique pins. Watch as your creations magically shrink and transform into wearable art!

*\$20 per member, \$30 per non-member*

### Early Dismissal Programs - WITH BUS SERVICE FROM JRMS!

**March 21 - In the Kitchen & May 16 - Fun with Fire**

**2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

School's out early, why not spend the afternoon at New Pond Farm? Take the bus to New Pond Farm and enjoy an afternoon of hands-on fun with friends.

*\$30 per member child, \$40 per non-member child*



# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

All programs are for students in grades K-4 unless otherwise noted



## Nature Explorers, Grades K-2

Thursdays, 3 times per month,  
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

February 6, 13, 27; March 6, 13, 20; April 3, 10, 24; May 8, 15, 22

Join us for this monthly 3-part series full of outdoor nature adventures. Each week we will explore the property and make exciting discoveries in our woodlands, wetlands, gardens, and meadow. Each month may include hikes, games, animal encounters, campfires, and more. Our focus is on child-led, outdoor play.

Register monthly. \$45 per member,  
\$60 per non-member



## Women & Girls in Science

Tuesday, February 11, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Did you know that February 11th is the International Day of Women and Girls in Science? Join us as we learn about famous female scientists such as Marie Curie, Katherine Johnson, Roberta Bondar, and more! We will celebrate their accomplishments and impact by conducting experiments related to space, mathematics, biology, and chemistry.

\$22 per member, \$30 per non-member



## Cookies and Crafting, Grades 2 - 4

Friday, February 28, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Young crafters and cookie enthusiasts will enjoy a night full of creating masterpieces to take home, or maybe even to eat! We will make fun crafts using a variety of materials and be inspired by the nature around us. Enthusiastic crafters often work up an appetite, so we will decorate cookies to spark creativity.

\$30 per member, \$40 per non-member



## Afternoons at the Farm, Grades 2 - 4

with Bus Service From RES!

Mondays, 6 weeks, 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM,  
Winter Session: March 3 - April 7  
Spring Session: April 21 - June 2

An afterschool program filled with a variety of fun activities around the farm. Each 6-part series will include hikes, animal care, cooking, science, games, and more!

Each session is \$135 per member,  
\$180 per non-member



## In the Kitchen: Shared Meals, Grades K-4

Weeknights, 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM  
Wednesday, March 12: Personal Pizza Bakes  
Wednesday, April 23: Savory  
& Sweet Hand Pies  
Tuesday, May 6: A Tex-Mex Fiesta

Each month we will build our kitchen skills as we create delicious meals to share together using simple, kid-friendly recipes.

Each program is \$25 per member,  
\$30 per non-member

## Animal Care Club, Grades 2-4

Wednesdays, 6 weeks, 4:00 PM - 5:00PM  
Winter Session: March 5 - April 9  
Spring Session: April 23 - May 28

Did you know New Pond Farm has more than farm animals? Join the Animal Care Club and learn how to care for the many reptiles, amphibians, mammals, and invertebrates that live in the Learning Center. Club members will make salads for turtles, clean snake enclosures, exercise bunnies, wrangle crickets, and much more! This is an indoor program.

Each session is \$90 per member,  
\$120 per non-member



## STEM Club, Grades K - 4

Thursdays, 6 weeks, 4:00 PM - 5:00PM  
March 6 - April 10

Each week we will explore a different theme as we ask questions and search for answers through observation, investigation, and experimentation. We will build hot air balloons, launch rockets, bend light, create electricity, and more.

\$90 per member, \$120 per non-member

# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

All programs are for students in grades K-4 unless otherwise noted



## Early Dismissal Programs - WITH BUS SERVICE FROM RES!

April 9 - Animal Adventures  
April 10 - Nature Art & Science  
April 11 - The Wonders of Wetlands  
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

School's out early, why not spend the afternoon at New Pond Farm? Each afternoon will have a different theme and be a combination of indoor and outdoor activities.

Each program is \$30 per member, \$40 per non-member



## February Break Program

February 18 - 21, 4 days  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

This 4-part program focuses on Animal Adventures. Throughout the week participants will learn about adaptations, tracking, food webs, flight, and more, all while spending time with friends exploring the woodlands, wetlands, and pastures at New Pond Farm.

\$240 per member, \$320 per non-member

Have an idea for a new  
program? Please contact  
our Program Director  
Emily Ciffone at  
[emily@newpondfarm.org](mailto:emily@newpondfarm.org).

## April Break Program

April 15 - 18, 4 days  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

This 4-part program focuses on Outdoor Skills and Adventure. Throughout the week participants will learn how to create shelters, read maps, track animals, build and cook over fires, tie knots, and more!

\$240 per member, \$320 per non-member

# CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

2025 marks New Pond Farm Education Center's 40th anniversary as an independent, year-round environmental education center. From protecting the land and local wildlife through habitat preservation and restoration to engaging visitors of all ages, New Pond Farm has been an oasis of beauty and inspiration for decades and has made a significant and lasting impact in the local community. We cannot wait to see what the next 40 years bring!



Founder Carmen Matthews, longtime Executive Director Ann Taylor, and a happy group of summer campers in the late 1980s.



The Orion nebula. Image taken with our brand new smart telescope that enables us to capture fascinating images from deep space.



The newly restored wetland ecosystem with native plantings that will improve biodiversity and enhance freshwater ecology programming



# TODDLERS & PRESCHOOLERS



## Storytime for Children with Adults, Ages 1 - 5

**Tuesdays, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM**

Join us each month for nature stories and related activities as we explore the seasons at New Pond Farm. Activities may include live animal encounters, nature crafts, walks on the property, and more. Each session will include an outdoor component - please dress accordingly.

*\$10 per member, \$15 per non-member.  
Adults and siblings under 1 are free.*



## Little Chefs, Ages 3 - 5

**Tuesdays, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM  
February 4, 11, 25**

Winter fun in the kitchen! Little Chefs will learn to safely prepare and enjoy delicious sweet and savory snacks such as mini pizzas, empanadas, muffins, granola, and more.

*\$45 per member, \$60 per non-member*



## Nature Explorers, Ages 3 - 5

**Thursdays, 3 times per month,  
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM, February 6, 13, 27;  
March 6, 13, 20; April 3, 10, 24; May 8, 15, 22**

Get in on the fun during this monthly 3-part series full of outdoor nature adventures! Each week we will explore the property and make exciting discoveries in our woodlands, wetlands, gardens, and meadow. This child-led afternoon of outdoor play may include hikes, games, animal encounters, campfires, and more. Our focus is on child-led, outdoor play.

*Register monthly. \$45 per member,  
\$60 per non-member.*



## Little Scientists, Ages 3 - 5

**Tuesdays, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM  
March 4, 11, 18**

Designed to spark curiosity, this playful, hands-on program will encourage young learners to ask questions, make observations and engage in simple science experiments.

*\$45 per member, \$60 per non-member*



## Caregiver and Child Series, for children ages 18 - 35 months

**Wednesdays, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
Winter session, 6 weeks, March 5 - April 9  
Spring session, 8 weeks, April 23 - June 11**

A weekly caregiver and child program for our youngest members. Each week we will gather outdoors and spend 90-minutes connecting with nature, and one another, through free play, exploratory walks, live animal encounters, nature crafts, and seasonal stories. This program is held almost entirely outdoors, but we will use our heated Warming Shed and Learning Center when necessary.

*Winter session: \$135 per member child/adult pair,  
\$165 per non-member child/adult pair  
Spring session: \$180 per member child/adult pair,  
\$220 per non-member child/adult pair*

## Little Artists, Ages 3 - 5

**Tuesdays, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM  
April 1, 8, 22**

Drawing inspiration from the natural world, Little Artists will create beautiful and unique works of art using a variety of materials including wood, clay, paint, fabric, and yarn.

*\$45 per member, \$60 per non-member*



## Little Farmers, Ages 3 - 5

**Tuesdays, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM  
May 6, 13, 20**

Little Farmers will spend their afternoons in the coop, barnyard, and pastures helping with chores such as collecting eggs, feeding livestock, and sweeping the barn.

*\$45 per member, \$60 per non-member*





### Farm Chores

**Weekends, January 19, February 15, March 16, April 19, May 11, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM**

Dress for the outdoors and join farmers Mike or Rachel as they complete daily farm chores. Get a first-hand look at everything it takes to keep our chickens, sheep, and cows happy and healthy.

*Members Only! \$15 per family*



### Astronomy Nights - Viewing the Night Sky

**Saturdays, February 8, March 8, April 5, May 3, June 7**

**Please check website for times**

Join our knowledgeable team of volunteer astronomers on Astronomy Hill for views of constellations, star clusters, planets, and more! Gaze through telescopes, hear stories about the stars, watch a short slide presentation, ask deep questions, and connect with other night sky enthusiasts. *This is an outdoor program, please dress for the weather and be prepared for a short walk from the parking lot out to the Observatory.*

*\$10 per member, \$12 per non-member*



### Dairy Delights — A Hands-On Kitchen Series

Challenge your family's creativity in the kitchen with these fun, hands-on workshops! Join Registered Dietician Jessica Pelletier and learn the many benefits of dairy products while preparing, experimenting with, and tasting delicious yogurts, butters, and cheese made with milk from New Pond Farm's dairy herd.

*Each program is \$50 per member family, \$60 per non-member family*

### From Prep to Plate: Yogurt Dip Recipe Challenge

**Sunday, February 9, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM**

Test yourself in the kitchen with a yogurt-based dip challenge. Participants will work in teams to prepare, experiment with, and share their delicious sweet or savory yogurt dips which incorporate farm fresh foods. Includes a visit to the barn to learn how New Pond Farm's delicious yogurt is made.

### Crafting Creamy Delights: Homemade Butter

**Saturday, February 22, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

You butter believe it! Transform simple ingredients into creamy, golden butter from scratch...no churn required! Learn the step-by-step process of how it's made, craft your own batch to take home, and experiment with sweet or savory variations that will take your homemade butter to a new level.

### Creating Dairy Deliciousness: Homemade Cheese

**Saturday, March 15, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

Get ready to embark on a delightful culinary journey. This interactive cheese-making adventure will create lasting memories as you work together to learn each step, experiment with different flavors, and savor the delicious art of crafting homemade cheese.



### Pancake Breakfast

**Saturday, March 1  
Seating Times: 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00 AM**

Celebrate a delicious New England tradition! Start the morning with a homemade breakfast of bacon and pancakes topped with fresh berries and our very own maple syrup. Then bundle up and head down to our Sugar House to watch the farmers as they boil down the next batch of sap from our sugar maple trees.

*Members Only! \$10 per person, children 3 and under are free*



### Gardening Drop-Ins

**Sundays, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
March 16, May 18, June 8**

Stop by New Pond Farm's vegetable garden to learn some of the many ways you can grow food for you and your family. Come just to observe and ask questions, or get your hands dirty and help out.

*Free*



## Spring Equinox Campfire

**Thursday, March 20, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

Join us around the campfire as we celebrate the Spring Equinox with treats and stories. Learn what makes the day special as we consider the change of seasons.

*Members Only! Free. Registration required.*



## Egg Decorating Using Natural Dyes

**Saturday, April 5, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

Join instructor Kristina Scaviola as she leads your family through creating uniquely dyed eggs utilizing natural materials. Go on a farm tour featuring our chickens as the dye sets. Kristina will also share the origin of this style of egg dying through the lens of her Latvian culture; along the way she will share some Latvian language and lore. For all ages.

*\$15 per member family, \$20 per non-member family*



## Old Fashioned Easter Egg Hunt

**Saturday, April 12, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
**(Rain Date: Sunday, April 13, 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM)**

Bundle up for one of the most egg-citing events on the farm! Children from toddlers to teens will "hunt" our beautiful pastures and gardens for hand-dyed eggs. Different areas for each group and great prizes for all! Please bring a basket and dress for an early spring (aka muddy) farm.

*Members only! Space is limited. \$15 per child*



## Peeper Patrol

**Friday, April 25 OR Saturday, April 26, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

Put on your rubber boots and grab your flashlight, we are going out to look for amphibians!

This annual event is great fun for the whole family. We will search the edges of the marsh and surrounding wetlands for spring peepers, green frogs, pickerel frogs, and more!

*Members Only! \$15 per family*

## Mother's Day Nature Walk

**Saturday, May 10, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

Join us while we celebrate mom on a leisurely hike around the Farm. This walk is open to moms or grandmas who wish to spend some quality time with their children while enjoying the beauty of nature.

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



## Family Campout

**Saturday, May 24, 6:00 PM - Sunday, May 25, 11:00 AM**

Join us for a fun-filled evening that includes a night hike, treats around the campfire, night sky viewing, and a celebration of our nocturnal neighbors! Wake up with the sunrise, then join our farmers for morning chores, followed by a light breakfast.

*Members Only! \$80 per family, space is limited*



## World Turtle Day Celebration - Animal Meet and Greet

**Friday, May 23 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM**  
**OR 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

Join us in a celebration of the world's turtles. Come meet our resident turtles and tortoises, learn what makes each special, and make a simple turtle craft.

*Free. Registration required*

## Father's Day Nature Walk

**Saturday, June 14, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

Join us while we celebrate dad on a leisurely hike around the Farm. This walk is open to dads or grandpas who wish to spend some quality time with their children while enjoying the beauty of nature.

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



## Visit A Hive

**Schedule a tour this spring**

Take a personal tour of a honeybee hive! Put on bee suits and join our resident beekeeper, Ann Murray, as she inspects one of our working hives! Ann is an inspirational educator and longtime champion of honeybees. In this one-hour program you are guaranteed to be fascinated by these hardworking pollinators! This program is available for an adult and up to three family members. Timing will be arranged.

*Members Only! \$75 per member family.*

*If interested, please email us at [info@newpondfarm.org](mailto:info@newpondfarm.org) to book a session.*

# SUMMER CAMP



## SUMMER SPROUTS For Kids Ages 4 and 5

**MONDAYS – THURSDAYS, 9:30 AM – 1 PM**  
**JUNE 30 – JULY 3, JULY 21 – 24,**  
**AUGUST 11 – 14**

Summer Sprouts is a program designed especially for children ages 4 and 5, who have not yet been to kindergarten. Designed to meet the developmental needs of preschoolers, Summer Sprouts will spend their days exploring the wonders of nature in a relaxed, supportive environment. Each week campers will embark on magical outdoor adventures that build confidence, spark creativity, and nourish their connection with nature.

This small group of campers will be led by experienced staff who have a passion for sharing their love of the outdoors with young learners.

Summer Sprouts will have lunch at the farm but will not have use of the pool.

*\$217 per member, \$267 per non-member  
(includes camp shirt; campers bring a bagged lunch)*



## NATURE TREKKERS For Students Entering Grades 1 - 5

**MONDAY – FRIDAY, 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM**  
**JUNE 23 – 27, JUNE 30 – JULY 3**  
**(NO CAMP 7/4), JULY 7 – 11, JULY 14 – 18,**  
**JULY 21 – 25, JULY 28 – AUGUST 1**

Get ready for another summer filled with fun and adventure at New Pond Farm! Our 102-acre outdoor classroom, with its woodlands, wetlands, meadow, and barnyard, will be ours to explore! Each day will bring new hands-on, outdoor adventures. Favorite camp activities include exploring in the stream, critter hunting at the pond, visiting the cows in the barn, harvesting veggies in the garden, hiking the trails, creating nature art, and so much more! This program includes swims in our pool under the supervision of a certified lifeguard.

*\$465 per member, \$515 per non-member  
(\$279 per member, \$329 per non-member  
for the week of July 4)  
(includes camp shirt; campers bring a bagged lunch)*



## WAYFINDERS For Students Entering Grades 6 - 8

**MONDAY – THURSDAY, 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM**  
**OPTIONAL THURSDAY OVERNIGHT**  
**3:30 PM.– FRIDAY 9:00 AM**

**SESSION 1: JULY 7 – 11**

**OUT IN THE WILDERNESS**

**SESSION 2: JULY 14 – JULY 18**

**JUNIOR NATURALISTS**

**SESSION 3: JULY 28 – AUGUST 1**

**WILDLIFE WONDERS**

Wayfinders is a program specifically designed for young teens looking to continue to experience the fun and magic of summer camp at New Pond Farm.

Designed to meet the needs and interests of middle school students, Wayfinders will dive deeply into a weekly theme with projects, experiments, and activities that will challenge their minds, provoke their curiosity, and inspire their creativity.

Weekly activities will include timeless camp favorites such as live animal encounters, games, outdoor exploration, art, and swims in the pool, along with exciting, new experiences including an overnight campout!

Another unique component of the Wayfinders experience is the opportunity to work with younger campers as “counselors-in-training” throughout the week culminating in a Camp Jamboree.

See website for additional session details!

*\$465 per member, \$515 per non-member  
(includes camp shirt; campers bring a bagged lunch)*

**SUMMER CAMP**  
**REGISTRATIONS OPENS ONLINE**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>**  
**AT 9:30 AM**



# MEMBERSHIP



Membership is one of our most important sources of support. Membership funds allow us to protect and maintain the New Pond Farm property and keep the Education Center thriving. We offer year-round programming for people of all ages including adult lectures, nights out at the observatory, hands-on field trips for area students, summer, weekend and afterschool programs for students in preschool through high school, educational encounters in the barnyard, and more. All of our programs are designed to foster a connection with nature and a love of the outdoors in the young and old alike.

## All of our Members Receive

- Seasonal Program Calendars and reduced rates on programs
- Access to special members-only experiences like family campouts, pancake breakfasts, farm chores, Easter egg hunts and fun and educational birthday parties.
- Email updates on programs, the property, wildlife, and the barnyard
- Trail maps and access to our 102-acre property for hiking, picnicking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and artistic inspiration.

## Your Support Allows Us To

- Bring our mission statement to life: On every acre, in all we do, we plant seeds for a lifetime of active engagement with the natural world
- Encourage new memberships and expand our outreach to the community at large
- Share hands-on programs with over 5,000 students each year from area schools through our field trip programs, bringing their in-school lessons to life
- Maintain an award winning dairy farm, one of the last in Fairfield County
- Maintain our glorious 102-acre property with its wetlands, woodlands, gardens, pastures, and meadow for both programming and the passive enjoyment of our visitors

*Curious to learn more? Reach out to Membership Coordinator Gina Marcus at 203-938-2117 or via email [gina@newpondfarm.org](mailto:gina@newpondfarm.org).*

## MEMBERS-ONLY



### Birthday Parties

Celebrate your birthday at New Pond Farm! With 102 acres of diverse habitats and unique resources including a 19th century barn, maple syruping shed, authentically recreated Native American encampment, busy barnyard with a variety of livestock, and an animal room full of critters, New Pond Farm is an exciting place to be. Tailored to the age and interest of the birthday child, New Pond Farm birthday parties are fun, hands-on, educational, and unforgettable, thanks to our experienced and enthusiastic program staff.

*To learn more or check availability, please email Gwen Denny at [gwen@newpondfarm.org](mailto:gwen@newpondfarm.org)*

### Snow Shoeing

We have adult and children's size snowshoes for our members to borrow while on the property. If you would like to be on our "Call List" for impromptu guided snowshoe walks, please email Emily Ciffone at [emily@newpondfarm.org](mailto:emily@newpondfarm.org)



## OPEN DAYS



### Interested in becoming a member?

**Sunday, March 16, Saturday, April 26, Sunday, May 18, Saturday, June 7**

**10:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

Come to one of our scheduled Open Days to learn more about New Pond Farm Education Center and all it has to offer - the stunning landscape, the fascinating history, the diverse habitats, the varied wildlife, the multitude of educational opportunities, and the warm and welcoming staff. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore the property, visit with the animals, sample delicious dairy products, and connect with members of our staff and Board.



# New Pond Farm Education Center

101 Marchant Road  
West Redding, CT 06896

## WE'RE OPEN TO MEMBERS

The property is open to members from dawn until dusk (winter hours: 10AM - 4PM)

Members are invited to hike the trails, cross-country ski/snowshoe around the pastures, or sled down Astronomy Hill. No skating allowed.

No dogs, please.

Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

## NOT A MEMBER YET?

Please come for a visit! Join us on one of our scheduled open days (March 16, April 26, May 18, June 7) or any other day to learn what we are all about. We hope our property, our programs, and our wonderful staff will inspire you to join our family of supporters!

Up-to-date membership information may be found at [newpondfarm.org](http://newpondfarm.org)



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

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Registration & Prepayment required for ALL programs
- To register please visit [www.newpondfarm.org](http://www.newpondfarm.org) or call the office at (203) 938-2117
- One-week cancellation required for refund
- Please park at the Learning Center and dress for the outdoors

### DON'T MISS ANYTHING!

Visit us on Facebook or Instagram.

[@newpondfarm](https://www.instagram.com/newpondfarm)



[info@newpondfarm.org](mailto:info@newpondfarm.org)

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.