



# Audubon Community Nature Center

*The connection begins with you.*

May – June, 2019  
Volume 63, Issue 3

The bi-monthly newsletter of ACNC,  
featuring upcoming programs and events.





Audubon Community Nature Center builds and nurtures connections between people and nature by providing positive outdoor experiences, opportunities to learn about and understand the natural world, and knowledge to act in environmentally responsible ways.



## Nature Center Newsletter

The free, bi-monthly publication of Audubon Community Nature Center, Inc.

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Hosting a chapter of National Audubon Society  
Serving Chautauqua and Warren Counties

Kim Turner, Editor  
Jeff Tome, eNewsletter Editor

Cover: *Red Eft*. Photo by Nicholas A. Tonelli

## Nature Center Hours

10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Saturday  
1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Sunday

Trails are open from dawn to dusk.

Visit [auduboncnc.org](http://auduboncnc.org)  
by scanning this code.



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## Executive Director's Desk

Leigh Rovegno

Dear Members and Friends,

We at the Nature Center are excited to welcome so many new members into the ACNC community thanks to our “More the Merrier” membership drive that wraps up on April 30. My favorite “new” member story involves one of our dedicated OWLS volunteers. He has been a volunteer for many years at ACNC, and recently passed his 7,000 volunteer hours milestone but has never been a “member,” until now. It was great to be able to shake his hand and make it “official” on the day that he filled out his membership.

'Tis the season for spring giving! There are many ways to give back to the community in the coming months, and we know that many of you are active participants and contributors to more than one of the incredible local organizations, including ACNC.

We hope that you will join us to spread the word about the two online giving programs that are coming up soon: Big Give Chautauqua (June 13) and Warren Gives (May 22). Audubon is participating in both, and we hope to raise \$9,000 through the two events combined.

Audubon funds raised through the Warren Gives program go towards providing fieldtrips to all of the Warren County School District. These fieldtrips are in addition to the two classroom visits that the students receive from Audubon's Nature Educators. The fieldtrips take what students have learned inside the classroom outside to their school yards where they explore the natural wonders that exist right in front of their noses!

Audubon funds raised through the Big Give Chautauqua go towards replacing trail markers which are old and, quite frankly, easily misinterpreted. It is our goal to continue to make the trails accessible and comprehensible to our visitors so that people of all ability levels feel comfortable navigating their way through the ACNC site.

We hope that you are able to take advantage of these opportunities to support ACNC, in addition to participating in some of the great programs that we have coming up.

Enjoy the sunshine, and I look forward to seeing you at the Nature Center.

*Leigh J. Rovegno*



## This Time in Audubon's History

Share in this reflection on the past.

The following excerpts are from previous May – June newsletters:

### June 1959

“The first summer field trip will be next Sunday afternoon at the Hallquist cabin... Field trips will start at 2 and follow with a tureen picnic supper at 5:30.”

### June 1969

“IS THE USE OF DDT FINALLY ON THE WAY OUT? It would really seem so... At long last, people are becoming aroused to the grave danger of having their environment polluted by the residues of long lasting pesticides.”

### May 1979

“Between January 1 and Easter, about 160 lessons were presented in our area schools, representing about 4,000 student contacts.”

### May 1989

“Anyone interested in developing a Butterfly Garden? We would like to have a committee develop this interesting and challenging idea. Ribbon cutting for new nature trail and Spatterdock boardwalk.”

### June 1999

“One hundred and fifty friends and family came to the Jamestown Audubon Center... to wish Jim Yaich well as he retired after twenty four years of service to the Audubon Society and the community.”

### June 2009

“Audubon's buildings used almost 50% less electricity this March than they did in 2007 before we started watching our electricity waste.”

## Board Officers

Board Chairman.....	John Beard
Vice Chair — Strategic Planning .....	Rose Stark
Vice Chair — Development .....	Wendy Bale
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Secretary .....	Penny Lester

## Board of Directors

Willow Fodor, Amber Grekalski, Andrew Harrington, Greg Lyle, Timothy Piotrowski, Joe Rollman, Tim Smeal, Nathan Welker

## Nature Center Staff

President .....	Leigh Rovegno
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Summer Education Interns.....	Hannah Gilmore Jennifer Seip Karlee Szympruch

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Bird Seed Sales .....	Mel Feather
Eagle Keeper .....	Thom Armella
Enchanted Forest .....	Bill Colter Bob Ungerer Amanda Meleen
Garden Chair .....	Janet Forbes
Mailing .....	Leah Bullock Sue Lawton
Membership .....	Linda Anderson Sandy Fletcher
Allegheny Nature Pilgrimage .....	Jim Backlas Barb Conklin Judy Long
Photo Club .....	John Brustrom Karen Christy
Publicity .....	Pat Brininger
Roadside Cleanup .....	Denny Anderson
Wild 5K .....	Jeff Rupp
Thanksgiving with the Birds .....	Janet Forbes Alan Brown

Thank you, Board of Directors and Volunteer Chairs, for being part of the Audubon community. Your continuous contribution of time and talent helps Audubon Community Nature Center run smoothly and effectively. It couldn't be done without you.



## Annual Fund Donors

Recorded between September 19, 2018 and March 17, 2019

### \$1000+

Ruth Lundin  
Robert VanEvery and Judith Claire

### \$250-400

Lakewood Apothecary  
Nadia Geleil, M.D.  
Kathleen M. Klee  
Linda Lombardi  
Linda McMaster  
Lillian Ney  
Rose and Pete Stark  
Jeanne E Wiebenga

### \$100-249

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Dan Anderson  
Dennis J. Anderson  
Larrie and Norma Anderson  
C. Rose Anderson  
Reginald and Louise Boutwell  
Angela Caley  
Mike and Donna Eisenstat  
Here and There Fund  
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Kathleen and Peter George  
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Lyndon and Melanie Gritters  
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Olivia Sechriest  
Betsy and David Shepherd  
Richard and Patricia Slater  
Dave and Cate Stimson  
Lois F. Strickler  
John Willisie  
Stephanie Zwyghuizen

### \$10-99

Abers Acres  
Jill and Berk Adams  
Sam Alessi  
Ann P. Anderson  
Dave and Marie Anderson  
Todd and Linda Anderson  
David and Lu Ann Backus  
Jean C. Badger  
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Elizabeth McIntyre  
Lori Messina and Family  
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Jack and Diane Voelker  
Barbara Vogan  
Martha Paulson and Lamont Wager  
Jerald and Carole Weber  
Barclay and Diane Wellman  
Dawn Werner

## Memorials and Honoraria

Recorded between September 19, 2018 and March 17, 2019

### In Honor of Ruth Lundin

Dan and Brigetta Overcash

### In honor of Rick Rupprecht

Daniel F. Courtine

### In honor of Dr. Dixon Stevens

Judith M. Stevens

### In honor of Ms. Pat White and Mr. Michael Flaxman

David and Juanita Walter

### In honor of John Willisie

Bob and Jennifer Schlick

### In memory of Nancy A. Aldrich

Affinity One Federal Credit Union  
Mila S. Bailey  
Shirley and W. Robert Manning  
Starbrick Volunteer Fire  
Department Members

### In memory of Gloria P. Nelson

The Constantino Family - Jim,  
Barb, Amy, Lauren, Michael,  
and Alexandra  
Rosella, Laura, Nancy, and Ida  
Employees of Truck-Light Co.,  
LLC

### In memory of Uncle Herb Smith and Cousin David Smith

Loretta and Gene Smith

### In Memory of Lawrence R. "Lawrie" Taylor

Scott and Pat Carlson, Marti  
and Randi Graves  
Richard M. Forsberg  
Martin and Patricia Idzik  
Bridget and Dick Johnson  
Mary C. Lausterer  
Lynne H. Reading  
Kay R. Stahlman  
Mary and Kevin Wall

### In memory of Becky L. Weber

Lou Ann Dobmeier  
Keith and Judy Foster  
Karen Frick  
Frederick Giddy  
Sherry and Lacey  
Greg and Christy Mackie  
Dick and Debbie Cable Family  
Cheryl Dove  
Suanne Gray and Kelly Moon

## Grants

Recorded between September 19, 2018 and March 17, 2019

Chautauqua Region Community Foundation  
Community Foundation of Warren County

Lakewood Rod and Gun Club  
Lenna Foundation

Northern Allegheny Conservation Association  
Joseph R. Takats Foundation Trust

# Programs and Events

## May – June 2019



### Friday 3

#### First Friday (Adult)

Healthy Forests

11:00 a.m. – noon

\$8 Adults

\$6 Nature Center members

Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.

Learn what makes a healthy forest and how to work to keep forests healthy with Andrea Hille, a Silviculturalist with the Allegheny National Forest.

**Special Information:** Bring a brown bag lunch to share afterward and enjoy the company of the speaker and fellow participants.

### Saturday 4

#### Birdathon (Birders and Donors)

Supporting the Ryan Exline Memorial Scholarship

Begins at 6:00 a.m., all day event

Free to bird.

You can donate to the scholarship at [auduboncnc.org/donate](http://auduboncnc.org/donate).

Call by May 2 to be part of the birding team.

Join the birding team of educators and volunteers — either in person or by pledging — to support the Ryan Exline Memorial Scholarship. This year's recipient is Diego Rey of Fredonia, NY.

**Special Information:** Rain or shine. Pledges can be taken anytime online, by phone, or at the Nature Center.

### Saturday 4 (continued)

#### Bird Banding Demonstration (All)

Audubon's Pavilion at West Entrance

Also Saturdays, May 11, and 18

7:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Free; donations encouraged

No reservations required.

Join ornithologists on the west side of ACNC on Saturday mornings through May 18, weather permitting. Watch how they capture migrating and resident birds, fit them with identification bands, measure, weigh, and then release them.

**Special Information:** This program is open-house style. If the weather is inclement, the nets are not opened. No pets allowed.

#### Member Brunch (Nature Center Members)

10:00 a.m. – noon

Reservations appreciated by May 2, walk-ins welcome.

All Nature Center members are invited to a special brunch to celebrate the end of the March – April *More the Merrier New Member Drive*. Come and share some food and beverages, and meet the Audubon Community.

**Special Information:** Reservations are appreciated for planning purposes.

### Saturday 11

#### Little Explorers (Children 3 – 8 with an adult)

Into the Nest

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$8 Adults; \$6 Nature Center members

\$6 Children 3 – 8

Paid reservations required by Thursday, May 9.

Learn all about bird nests and what they are made out of, why birds put them where they do, and how they help protect the eggs and baby birds. This program includes a lesson followed by outdoor exploration, and a snack. If time and weather allow, a craft is included.

**Special Information:** This program takes place rain or shine, please dress for the weather.

#### Orchard Pest Management (Adult)

Apples and Orchards

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

\$16 Adults

\$12 Nature Center members

Paid reservations required by Thursday, May 9.

Whether weeds, insects, or fungi, there are bound to be pests affecting your apple trees. Learn about the common pests that frequently bother apple and other trees and ways to control them.



Tufted Titmouse. Photo by Terry LeBaron





Trillium. Photo by Jeff Tome

## Sunday 12

### Mother's Day Wildflower Walk (Adult+)

Bentley Preserve of the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

\$8 Adults

\$6 Nature Center members

\$6 Children 9 – 15

Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.

Join ACNC and the annual wildflower walk starting at the entrance to Bentley Preserve. Meander through the woods in search of spring wildflowers and other spring treasures. Jack Gulvin leads this hike that features all the spring flowers blooming, from Black Cohosh to Stinking Benjamin.

**Special Information:** Wear mud-proof footwear. Dress for the weather. Directions: North on Bentley Avenue off of Fluvanna Ave. (State Route 430) in Greenhurst.

## Saturday 18

### Nature Play Day

(Children 2 – 8 with an adult)

10:00 a.m. – noon

Free\*

Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.

Children explore unstructured outdoor play in a safe environment while you learn how to continue the nature play experience at home.

\*Supported by Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation Legacy Funds from the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo.

**Special Information:** Rain, or shine. If weather is severe, program will be cancelled.

## Saturday 18 (continued)

### Plant Exchange and Sale (Adult+)

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Free to attend. Bring plants to trade or money to purchase plants.

Registration not required, but you can register what plants you are bringing.

Bring plants from your yard to trade for new plants, or bring cash to purchase plants. There will be a wide variety of plants, including natives, from Audubon's gardens as well as some from local nurseries.

**Special Information:** Plants must be in pots or containers, not plastic bags. Please label plants.

## Wednesday 22

### Warren Gives (Adults)

Online at [warregives.org](http://warregives.org)

6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Your donation through Warren Gives supports Audubon's efforts to take Warren County elementary students outside to discover more about the nature of their home. Warren Gives is a day of online giving, where the Community Foundation of Warren County and local sponsors match a part of every online donation. Donations can only be made on May 22 at [warregives.org](http://warregives.org). Thank you for supporting Audubon Community Nature Center and the work that connects kids to nature.



Children exploring a stream. Photo by Jeremy Martin

## Friday 31 – Sunday 2

### Allegheny Nature Pilgrimage (All)

Allegheny State Park

\$45 Adults

\$20 Students

\$5 Children 5 – 18

Free under 5

Early-bird discounts for registrations by April 24. No reservations required.

The Allegheny Nature Pilgrimage is an annual outdoor learning experience. It combines fun with a variety of nature-oriented activities. This traditional weekend of natural history and outdoor education welcomes both the experienced naturalist as well as the inquisitive beginner.

**Special Information:** For more info, visit [alleghenynaturepilgrimage.com/registration](http://alleghenynaturepilgrimage.com/registration)



Students engaging in hands on learning as they explore their schoolyard with a Nature Educator.





## Opossums

Sarah Hatfield, *Education Coordinator*

Opossums get a bad reputation. Many people are afraid of them, think they are dirty, dangerous, and carry diseases. The reality is much different.

Opossums are marsupials and they are the only representative of the group in North America. Marsupials give birth to underdeveloped young, which then crawl through the mother's fur into a pouch where they finish developing.

When their eyes open at about eight weeks old, they begin to explore outside the pouch and try eating other foods. At this age, they are often seen riding on their mother's back. At four to five months old they are independent and on their own.

Famed for "playing dead" when scared, opossums have a multistage defense. Due to their poor eyesight, opossums often don't react to predators (or humans) until they are quite close. At this point they may hiss, growl, and gape, showing off all 52 of their sharp teeth. If intimidation does not work and the opossum cannot retreat, it will faint. Many predators ignore dead animals and so the defense seems to work well. Opossums can stay in this fainted state for up to four hours.

These mammals are omnivores and opportunistic, eating just about anything and everything. This is a great trait as they often serve as "vacuums" and help clean up the habitats in which they live. Most interesting, especially for outdoor oriented humans, is that opossums can consume up to 5,000 ticks per season. It turns out that they are fastidious groomers and they eat many of the ticks that are on their fur before they attach.

Finally, opossums are resistant to rabies, possibly because of their low body temperature, making it difficult for the virus to survive in their body. Thus, the disease-carrying, mean, ugly, and useless reputation they have couldn't be more wrong. Opossums are truly remarkable animals that help both humans and wildlife and we are lucky to have them in our community.



When threatened or harmed, opossums "play possum." This defense is completely involuntary and may last up to four hours. The animal goes into a state that mimics the appearance and even the smell of a sick or dead animal. They might foam at the mouth and secrete a foul-smelling fluid from their anal glands. Photo by Tony Alter.



Textured front paws, a digit similar to a thumb on their feet, and a furless, prehensile tail make the opossum a wonderful climber. Photo by Ronald Wittek/Arco Images/Solent.



# Opossum Coloring Sheet



Coloring sheet illustrated by Diane Gaspas from Forest Animals, Dover Coloring Book.

**Audubon Community Nature Center**

1600 Riverside Road, Jamestown, NY 14701

Ph: (716) 569-2345 • Fx: (716) 569-2765

[auduboncnc.org](http://auduboncnc.org) • [info@auduboncnc.org](mailto:info@auduboncnc.org)



## Saturday 1

### Water Chestnut Pull (Adult Volunteers)

9:00 a.m. – noon

*Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.*

Join Audubon in the yearly battle to clear Big Pond of the invasive Water Chestnut. This plant took over the pond ten years ago, but with the help of staff and crews of dedicated volunteers, the pond is much clearer of the invasive. Work with the crew to clear the initial growth of this year's Water Chestnut. Be prepared to get muddy. Bring waders or a kayak if you have one.

**Special Information:** *Plan to get wet and muddy. Audubon has a limited number of waders and kayaks that people can use. Lunch is provided.*

### Bonsai for Beginners (Adult)

10:00 a.m. – noon

\$65 Adults

\$60 Nature Center members

*Paid reservations required by May 24.*

*Limited enrollment.*

This class will instruct the beginning bonsai enthusiast in techniques needed to turn a standard nursery plant into a bonsai tree. During the class the instructor will discuss the history of bonsai, common styles of bonsai, specialized tools, and bonsai care.

**Special Information:** *Bonsai is a hands-on technique, you will most likely get dirty. Please dress appropriately, or bring an apron. Plants and clippers provided.*

## Friday 7

### First Friday (Adult)

*Baby Birds and Bird Houses*

11:00 a.m. – noon

\$8 Adults; \$6 Nature Center members

*Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.*

Putting up a nesting box for birds can be rewarding for both you and wildlife. Join John Ruska for conversation, photography and more as you discover the amazing birds that use nest boxes.

**Special Information:** *Bring a brown bag lunch to share afterward and enjoy the company of the speaker and fellow participants.*

## Saturday 8

### Little Explorers (Children 3 – 8 with an adult)

*Pollinator Superheroes*

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$8 Adults; \$6 Nature Center members

\$6 Children 3 – 8

*Paid reservations required by June 6.*

One out of every three bites of food was made possible by pollinators like bats, bees, and other insects. Learn all about what pollinators are, how they move pollen, and why they are important. This program includes a lesson followed by outdoor exploration, and a snack. If time and weather allow, a craft is included.

**Special Information:** *This program takes place rain or shine, please dress for the weather.*

## Thursday 13

### Give Big CHQ (Adult)

*Online at [biggivechq.org](http://biggivechq.org)*

12:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.

ACNC works hard to maintain a trail system that is easy to navigate, but there are still people who call and report that they are lost on the trails. Your donation through Give Big CHQ will go directly towards the installation of improved directional signs at trail intersections. These signs will improve visitors' experience by making it easier to locate the numerous points of interest on the trails.

Donate online at [biggivechq.org](http://biggivechq.org).

## Saturday 15

### Nature Play Day

*(Children 2 – 8 with an adult)*

10:00 a.m. – noon

Free\*

*Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.*

Children explore unstructured outdoor play in a safe environment while you learn how to continue the nature play experience at home.

\*Supported by Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation Legacy Funds from the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo.

**Special Information:** *Rain, or shine. If weather is severe, program will be cancelled.*

## Friday 21

### Summer Solstice Bonfire (All)

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

\$4 Adults; \$3 Nature Center members

\$3 Children 3 – 15; Free 2 and under

*Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.*

You're invited to celebrate the longest day with Audubon. Give thanks for the light and life in this part of the year with a bonfire, snacks, and a reflective hike.

**Special Information:** *This program is outdoors. Please plan to walk a quarter mile to the bonfire site and dress for the weather.*



Learn about the art of Bonsai with Trenton Lutes

## Saturday 22

### Dragons, Fairies, and Elves Oh My! (All)

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

\$8 Adults; \$6 Nature Center members

\$2 Children 3 – 15; Free for children

members and 2 and under

*No reservations required.*

See page 7 for more details.

### Intended Audience Key

**Adult** = designed for adults

**Adult +** = designed for adults, mature, and interested children 9 and up when accompanied by an adult.

**All** = Something for everyone, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Children** = designed for kids — drop them off and pick them up later.





Visitors in costume listen to a fantastical story. Photo by Baltimore Woods

## Dragons, Fairies, and Elves, Oh My!

Saturday, June 22, 2019  
11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

\$8 Adults

\$6 Nature Center members

\$2 Children 3 – 15; free 2 and under

*No reservations required.*

**Special Information:** ACNC would love to see your best costume – fairy, elf, dragon, goblin or other magical woodland creature.

Dragons, fairies, and elves are just a few of the magical creatures that live in Audubon's Nature Wonderland. During this event you can visit with some of them, dress up in costume, make an enchanted doorway, search for dragon eggs, and enjoy a festive afternoon.

There are free activities, such as a kids' archery range, dragon egg hunt, and costume booth. Other activities have an additional fee, such as purchasing fairy crowns, building an elf long bow, or face painting.

A Fairy House Contest is open to ages five and up. A nominal entry fee includes two tickets to the event and the winners are eligible for prizes.

More details and registration forms for contests are available at [auduboncnc.org/dragonfairyfest](http://auduboncnc.org/dragonfairyfest)

### Program Registration

- Online at [auduboncnc.org](http://auduboncnc.org) • Phone: (716) 569-2345
- By mail with credit card information or a check payable to Jamestown Audubon Society Inc.  
**Audubon Community Nature Center**  
1600 Riverside Road,  
Jamestown, NY, 14701

*Keep in mind, a program may be cancelled if there are not enough people registered. Register early to ensure the class runs. Some programs have limited enrollment.*

### Refund Policy

- If Audubon Community Nature Center cancels the program, students receive full refunds.
- If a student cancels **before** the deadline, a refund, with \$5 withheld as a processing fee, will be made.
- If a student cancels **after** the deadline, no refund will be made, but we still need to know of your cancellation.





A splash of vegetables. Photo by Christopher Paquette.

## Toboggan Hill Farm Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Produce Pick Up at ACNC

Community is created many ways, one of which is through food.

This summer Audubon Community Nature Center is partnering with Toboggan Hill Farm as a pick up site for their locally grown meat and produce items. Mike and Donna Eisenstat are long-time members of ACNC, and Audubon is happy to work with them to offer this opportunity.

**The produce pick up at Audubon will take place weekly:**

**Late May through October  
Noon — 4:30 p.m.**

*For more information and to purchase your produce share, please contact Mike and Donna at [tobogganhillfarm@gmail.com](mailto:tobogganhillfarm@gmail.com) or (716) 326-2060.*

## Turtle Naming Contest

In the fall of 2018, a larger-than-life turtle was donated by Mike Whitmire of Whitmire Block in Starbrick. Audubon needs your help to give the turtle a name.

### Timeline:

#### May 1 – 30

Submit names online at:

**[auduboncnc.org/nametheturtle](http://auduboncnc.org/nametheturtle)**

or at the Nature Center. If your name is chosen, you win a meet and greet with some of Audubon’s live turtles and a Nature Center Family Membership.

#### June 7 – 30

Audubon staff pick the top 5 finalists. Visit the Nature Center and vote for your favorite turtle name. Have a “penny war,” using coins as your vote for which name you want to win.

#### July 4

Turtle name revealed and winner announced!



*Suggest a name for the giant turtle for a chance to win a membership and private program.*





## Allegheny Reservoir Cleanup

**Saturday, May 11**  
**8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Audubon is happy to promote this community based conservation effort. 2019 marks the 15th anniversary for the Reservoir Cleanup. Since its inception, more than 1,000 volunteers have contributed close to 9,000 hours of time removing close to 15,000 tires plus 300 cubic yards of garbage from the Allegheny Reservoir. This event is open to everyone to attend. Learn more and register for the event at: [alleghenyrivercleanup.com](http://alleghenyrivercleanup.com)

*This is an annual event, so if you can't make it this year, mark your calendar for next. There is also an Allegheny River cleanup in the fall.*



## Summer Fun at Ellicottville Brewing Company

**Wednesday, June 5**  
**4:00 – 10:00 p.m.**

Celebrate the arrival of summer with Audubon Community Nature Center at the Ellicottville Brewing Company in Bemus Point. Be sure to come thirsty! Ellicottville Brewing Company will donate \$1 per beer to ACNC between 4:00 and 10:00 p.m. Come and see your favorite Audubon staff, volunteers, and board members slinging beers and serving food and be sure to tip generously. All tips collected that evening will directly support ACNC's vision of ensuring that every child has a real and healthy connection to nature. Proceeds from this FUNdraiser support the Day Camp program.

*This is an Audubon Exclusive. Audubon Exclusives are events and services offered by staff, board, volunteers, and friends in exchange for a donation to ACNC.*

Visit [auduboncnc.org/exclusives](http://auduboncnc.org/exclusives) to learn more.

Do you have a talent or service you would like to offer as a fundraiser for Audubon? Please contact Jennifer Schlick at (716) 569-2345 or by email at [jschlick@auduboncnc.org](mailto:jschlick@auduboncnc.org).

## Reminder: Check Yourself and Your Children for Ticks

If you haven't been thinking about looking yourself over for Deer Ticks, it might be time to think about it. Deer Ticks are small, sometimes as small as the period at the end of this sentence. They attach themselves to people and pets to suck blood, which would only be annoying if they did not also sometimes carry diseases.

A common tick borne illness is Lyme Disease. According to the Centers for Disease Control, Lyme Disease can cause fevers, aches, joint pain, and partial facial paralysis. Many cases have a distinct red bullseye shaped rash. It is easily treated with antibiotics early, but is much harder to treat later.

Use a mirror to conduct tick checks, especially checking joints, behind the ears, and other crevices.

Ticks can be active in any weather above freezing and, unfortunately, ticks seem to be more and more common in the region. Wear insect repellent and conduct tick checks to avoid problems, but don't let them keep you from being active outside. An ounce of prevention and paying attention goes a long way to avoiding (or treating) Lyme Disease.

**More information is available at [cdc.gov/lyme](http://cdc.gov/lyme).**



## Coming Up: Day Camp

Day Camp is right around the corner. If you have a child in your life between the ages of four and 18, think about sending them to Audubon for a week. Camp themes range from fort building to survival skills, from adaptations to all things gross! Some camps are already full, but there are plenty of openings left.

Don't have a child? You can still support getting kids outside. ACNC has a campership fund that provides financial support to families that otherwise can't afford camp. There is also a scholarship fund for older students that volunteer their time to help offset their fees and provide scholarships as a benefit for their service. Some of the specialized camps, like Backpacking Adventure, have additional fees and you can sponsor those camps to bring the cost down for all the campers.

Day Camp is one of the best programs Audubon offers, immersing kids in nature and making them feel at home in the outdoors. Pass the word to other families and learn more at [auduboncnc.org/daycamp](http://auduboncnc.org/daycamp).



## Bird Seed

Conewango Blend, a mix of birdseed especially formulated to attract a wide array of birds to your feeders, is always available at ACNC in the Blue Heron Gift Shop.



You can also find Conewango Blend year round at the following locations:

- Ashville General Store, *Ashville, NY*
- Hamlet Farms, *Sheridan, NY*
- Howe's True Value, *Warren, PA*
- Lakewood Apothecary, *Lakewood, NY*
- Lighthouse Point Grocery, *Mayville, NY*
- Oneida Lumber, Ace Hardware, *Warren, PA*
- Russell Veterinary Hospital, *Russell, PA*
- Wegmans, *Jamestown, NY*

## Community Partners

Thank you ACNC Community Partners for your dedicated support this year. Community Partners make a significant annual contribution that directly supports Audubon's facilities, staff, and programs.

### Bob and Kathy Frucella

**Carnahan-Jackson Foundation  
Chautauqua Region Community  
Foundation**

**Jessie Smith Darrah Fund  
Hultquist Foundation**

**The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation**

**Community Foundation of Warren County  
FSC Security Systems, LLC  
Hal and Mary Conarro  
Kinetic by Windstream**

To become a Community Partner, please contact  
Leigh Rovegno [atrovegno@auduboncnc.org](mailto:atrovegno@auduboncnc.org) or (716) 569-2345.





# Audubon Community Nature Center

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Jamestown, NY  
14701  
Permit No. 687

Audubon Community Nature Center, Inc.  
1600 Riverside Road  
Jamestown, NY 14701

Electronic service requested

## May/June ACNC Newsletter

### Inside This Issue:

- Allegheny Reservoir Cleanup
- Audubon Exclusives
- Day Camp
- Donor Recognition
- Give Big CHQ
- Nature Notes: Opossums
- Protecting Yourself from Ticks
- These Months in ACNC's History
- Toboggan Hill Farm CSA
- Turtle Naming Contest — Penny Wars
- Warren Gives



*Bird Nest in the Strawberries. Photo by Jennifer Schlick*