

Hello LLC Winter Waterfowl course members!

Our first Winter Waterfowl class will be at Temple Beth-El on Monday, November 2 from 10-12. You may already be aware of the added security at Temple Beth-El. Rather than assume that, I'll share it here.

As you approach the double doors from the parking lot, there is a buzzer on the wall on the left. Once buzzed, someone will ask your name and the class you are attending before buzzing you in. We are asked to enter singly unless you know the folks who also want to enter as you do. In that case, they can walk in with you. Otherwise, the people you don't know are asked to buzz the Temple Beth-El staff themselves and go through the identification procedure outlined above. At the first class, I will give you entry passes which you should carry with you and show when entering the building for our final class in December.

The classroom designation should be on the sign on the left as you enter the door from the parking lot. I believe Theatre Conversations will be held at the same time as our class.

We have a lot to cover in 2 hours on November 2, so we'll begin promptly at 10 with brief introductions followed by a PowerPoint. Here is a special shout out to class member Elizabeth, Hendrich who is new to LLC!

The PowerPoint presentation will spotlight some of the wonderful duck species we can expect to encounter during our three field study outings. After a brief break around 11 a.m. we'll return for a film that highlights some of the birds Bill and I have encountered at various spots in RI. Once again, Nancy Maddocks has agreed to help us with the technology component which removes an added layer of stress.

For our field study, we suggest you wear hiking shoes/boots and warm, weather-appropriate clothing including hats and gloves. Some of these spots can be very windy. Please bring your binoculars, a guidebook, if you have one, and if you so choose, a camera.

As I've already mentioned, we encourage car-pooling as possible. Under separate cover, I've already send a list of class participants who care to carpool and the towns where they reside.

Locations by date:

November 9

Trustom Pond National Wildlife Refuge 1040 Matunuck School House Road, South Kingstown, RI 02879

Latitude: 41.376649 | Longitude: -71.587575

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Trustom_Pond/visit/directions.html

There is a composting toilet for visitors' use at the edge of the parking lot. We will meet at the edge of the parking lot near the headquarters building and head out at 10 a.m.

November 16 – North Kingstown and Jamestown

North Kingstown Free Library, 100 Boone St, North Kingstown, RI 02852

Latitude: 41.568598 | Longitude: -71.457782

<https://www.nklibrary.org/about/directions>

Please park as far away from the library entrance as you are able. The restrooms are located to the left as you enter the front door and the library opens at 9 a.m. We will meet you at 10 a.m. on the sidewalk in front of the

library at the right, as you face the building and will head out from there. We will be locating waterfowl at the tidal pond behind the library and in the marshes and inlets across Rt 102 from Boone Street.

For the second hour, we will drive to Beavertail Lighthouse, Beavertail Rd, Jamestown, RI 02835

Latitude: 41.449687 | Longitude: -71.399316

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/North+Kingstown+Free+Library,+100+Boone+St,+North+Kingstown,+RI+02852/Beavertail+Lighthouse+Museum,+Beavertail+Rd,+Jamestown,+RI+02835/@41.5098741,-71.4918001,12z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1s0x89e5b15cebde41c7:0xbd496306a88385af!2m2!1d-71.4558891!2d41.570134!1m5!1m1!1s0x89e5bb272602da6d:0x17993ea6d97ff7f4!2m2!1d-71.3993159!2d41.4496873!3e0>

Please park in the parking lot on the right before the lighthouse. We'll meet there. There are a good number of porta johns on site.

November 30th

Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge, 769 Sachuest Point Road, Middletown, RI 02842

Latitude: 41.477087 | Longitude: -71.244359

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Sachuest_Point/visit/directions.html

The visitors' center opens at 10 a.m. (often a bit before) so let's meet outside the entry doors facing Second Beach. We'll give folks a chance to use the restroom before heading off on the trail promptly at 10:10. We have quite a bit of ground to cover. This session could easily exceed two hours but there is an option to head back once we reach a certain point on the trail.

For the 5th and final week of class, we will return to our classroom at the Temple on December 7th (if we've had a rain date, then 12/14. Please be sure to bring the entry pass I'll have given you.

For the first hour, Don Heitzman, an avid birder and board member of Audubon Society of RI will be our guest speaker – talking with us about eBird. After a short break, Bill and I will wrap up the class for the second hour.

One final note - if you enjoy photography, don't hesitate to bring a camera, too. As time permits, it might be fun to share some of the photos at the final class.

Bill's cellphone is 401-440-6977. Mine is 401-678-0236. Please let us know if you aren't coming or are running late. We'll set out on the trails as close to 10 a.m. as possible.

It's hard to believe this is our 7th year of offering this course. The field study weather is all important for a pleasant experience. We've been pretty lucky to date and hope our luck continues. We'll worry about those details when it's time. With any luck, we won't need the rain date of December 14th that's been set aside.

Wishing you all a happy day.

Emily