

**MASSACHUSETTS BUTTERFLY CLUB CHAPTER OF THE NORTH AMERICAN BUTTERFLY ASSOCIATION
2018 SCHEDULE OF FIELD TRIPS, EVENTS, AND MEETINGS**

Please call ahead to confirm date, get directions to meeting place and rain date plans, and to let the coordinator know to expect you. In case of inclement weather, check "MassLep" Google Group the night before for postponement or rain date. All levels welcome

Saturday April 14th 10:30 a.m.

Mt. Tom State Reservation in the heart of the Connecticut River Valley.

We will search for Mourning Cloaks, Eastern Comma and Compton Tortoiseshell's. Meet at the Bray Lake parking lot. Use the Route 5 entrance NORTH of Holyoke, opposite the old SKI OUTLET STORE. No rain date. Leader: Tom Gagnon Contact Tom at (413)584-6353 or Tombwhawk@aol.com

Sunday April 22th, 11:00 a.m.

Arlington's Great Meadows Field Trip.

This 183-acre wet meadow is the largest piece of undeveloped land in the Arlington/Lexington area. Target species: Henry's and Brown Elfins. We'll continue to Horn Pond Mountain in Woburn for more Brown Elfins and other butterflies. Meet in parking lot at Golden Living Center, 840 Emerson Gardens Road, East Lexington (off Maple St) Please park at far end of lot. Contact Tom Whelan at tom@whelanphoto.com or 781-915-9988

Sunday May 13th 10:00 a.m.

Myles Standish State Forest.

We will walk the gas pipeline cut through pine and scrub oak woods. The walking is fairly easy, but expect some minor inclines. Target species: Eastern Pine, Hoary, Frosted and Brown Elfins and Dreamy, Sleepy and Juvenal's Duskywings. Meet at Forest Headquarters, 194 Cranberry Road, Carver, MA. Contact Barbara Volkle at barb620@theworld.com or 508-393-9251

Friday May 18th 10:30 a.m.

DINOSAUR FOOTPRINTS and Little Mt. Tom, Holyoke

Join Julie Richburg of Trustees of Reservations in exploring The Trustees Dinosaur Foot prints property in Holyoke. From the Dinosaur Footprints property we will drive about 2 miles to explore Little Mt. Tom, looking for Juniper Hairstreaks. We will meet on Route 5 North of Holyoke at the Dinosaur Footprints parking lot. We will check out the footprints (some of the best in the COUNTRY). Then we drive to a parking area for Little Mt. Tom. Walking distance should be about 1 to 1 1/2 miles. Leaders: Julie Richburg and Tom Gagnon Contact Tom at (413)584-6353 or Tombwhawk@aol.com

Wednesday May 23rd 11:00 a.m. (rescheduled from May 19th)

Weir Hill and the Charles W. Ward Reservation Field Trip.

Please join Russ Hopping and Howard Hoople for the rescheduled field trip to Weir Hill in North Andover. We'll be looking for Frosted Elfin and other early species. Russ is particularly interested in having some help surveying the area for Frosted Elfin, in support of recent efforts the Trustees have made in managing the habitat at Weir Hill. Some elfin-like individuals have been reported there in the past few days, but so far they have not definitely been identified as Frosted. Even just a few people helping in the search on Wednesday would be very helpful. Please contact Howard Hoople at howard@massbutterflies.org or 978-604-0454 if you can join us.

Meet at the parking area between the American Legion Beach and the electrical substation on Pleasant Street in North Andover (GPS to 535 Pleasant Street in North Andover will be just opposite the parking area!).

Tuesday May 29th 9:30 a.m. (rescheduled from May 27th)

Mt. Greylock (Lanesborough) in search of EARLY HAIRSTREAKS.

Meet at the Mt. Greylock Visitors Center parking lot at 9:30 A.M. Be prepared to walk 3 + miles ROUND TRIP--mostly level. Bring lunch and water. Afterwards, IF time permits, we will try for Arctic Skippers in the town of Windsor, Massachusetts.

Leader: Tom Gagnon (413)584-6353 or tombwhawk@aol.com

Saturday June 2nd 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

McDonald's Preserve in Wilbraham MA

Trip leader: Danielle Desmarais: Dldesmar@hotmail.com 413-433-2727

Historical site for Hessel's Hairstreak. Other butterflies might be seen, such as swallowtails, weather pending. You can stay after 2 p.m. after a lunch break in the area or you can bring your own. Very wet trail in areas with walkways, can be very buggy. Bring/wear sunscreen and bug spray. Mostly shade. Approx 1 mile flat hike. Please, no dogs. PARKING LOT DIRECTIONS: (Use Crazy Jake's Restaurant located at 2537 Boston Road/Route 20 as a landmark). Turn down Grove St. Turn right onto Manchonis Rd. Turn left onto McDonald Way. Take another left onto Washington Rd. (60 Washington Road is the closest house near the parking lot if you want to use GPS). There are no restrooms at the parking lot! There is a Dunkin' Donuts on Boston Road a few minutes away. Rain date will be Sunday June 3rd 11:00am-2:00pm.

Friday June 29th 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (rescheduled)

Wendemuth Meadow Preserve, Bates Street, North Brookfield

Leader: Wendy Howes curiousbooks@verizon.net 413 967-4737 Owned and managed by the East Quabbin Land Trust, Wendemuth Meadow. Preserve is a 30-acre property in the town of North Brookfield. It's a pastoral property featuring a diversity of habitats including hayfield, wet meadow, and stream surrounded by patchy woods and shrubland. The property is actively farmed and hay is harvested in July after Bobolinks and other birds have completed their nesting cycle. Baltimore Checkerspot put on a good show here. Parking is along the road. No restrooms on-site. Bring a lunch, and we'll take a lunch break in the barn.

Saturday June 30th 10:00 a.m. (CANCELLED)

Blue Hills Reservation Field Trip.

Blue Hills Reservation boasts over 7,000 acres and provides a green oasis in an urban environment. Great Blue Hill rises 365 feet, the highest hill in the chain. From the summit, you will have great views of the entire metropolitan area. Target species: Oak Hairstreak and other hairstreaks. Expect to walk 1 to 1 1/2 miles, and it will be quite steep at the beginning.

Meet at parking lot for Blue Hills Trailside Museum, 1904 Canton Avenue (Rte 138), Milton, MA.

Contact Barbara Volkle at barb620@theworld.com or 508-393-9251

Saturday June 30th 9:00 a.m. (rescheduled)

Horn Pond Mountain Field Trip.

Target species: Hairstreaks (6 different varieties are possible) Meet in the parking lot behind New England Rehabilitation Hospital (near employee parking lot "B") at 2 Rehabilitation Way, Woburn, MA. Contact Howard Hoople at howard@massbutterflies.org or 978-604-0454

Wednesday July 11th 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

QUABBIN GATE 44/43B AREA, off Greenwich Road, Hardwick

Leader: Wendy Howes curiousbooks@verizon.net 413 967-4737. On this trip we'll check portions of the Quabbin shoreline and field openings and patches surrounded by mixed forest. This is somewhat of a pot-luck trip to see which butterflies are using some of the roadsides and sunny forest patches. Last summer the Quabbin shoreline was the go-to spot for Variegated Fritillary and Common Buckeye. Let's see what else is out there! Plenty of parking. No restrooms. Bring snacks/lunch/beverage.

Saturday July 14th 10:00 a.m.

Westborough Wildlife Management Area Field Trip.

This property, managed by the Mass Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, offers a combination of open fields, wooded sections and wet swampy areas.

Target species: Northern Pearly-eye, Appalachian Brown, Eyed Brown, and Mulberry Wing. Insect repellent is recommended. Meet at Tatnuck

Booksellers parking lot, Route 9 & Lyman St, Westborough, MA Contact Barbara Volkle at barb620@theworld.com or 508-393-9251

Sunday July 15th 9:30 a.m.-12 Noon

Martin Burns WMA Newbury MA

In early July, there may be 4 kinds of Hairstreaks - on a good day one may see 18 species. Mid to Late July, one may see 18-22 different species including : Common Buckeye, Eastern Comma, Question Mark, several skippers, Red Spotted Purple, Red Admiral
Directions: From I-95: Take Exit 55 (Central St Byfield Exit) and head east on Central Street. At the first Y-intersection, take a left onto Orchard Street. Soon afterwards, take a left onto a dirt road that is the main access point for Martin H. Burns Wildlife Management Area. (Brown WMA sign) Drive to the 2nd parking lot. Do not park by Orchard Street. There are no facilities, so people will need to plan accordingly. Leader: Marj Watson 978-257-1446 Cell Phone 978-352-7564 Home

Sunday July 15th 9:00 a.m.

Leicester Field Trip. Birds & Butterflies with the Forbush Bird Club and the Mass Butterfly Club.

Join us on this joint walk. Past trips have yielded such species as Spicebush Swallowtail, Northern Pearly-Eye and Red-Spotted Purple. Please Note: Location is subject to change. check the Forbush facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ForbushBirdClub/>) as well as our MassLeps Google Group for any updates Meet in Leicester on the north side of Route 56 overlooking the back side of Worcester Municipal Airport. Contact Dolores Price at 508-839-2299 or dolores.price@becker.edu

Saturday July 21st 10:30a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Mass Audubon's ELM HILL SANCTUARY, East Main Street, Brookfield

Leader: Wendy Howes curiousbooks@verizon.net 413 967-4737 Mass Audubon purchased this farm property in 1996 and is assessing it for management purposes. Much of the property is made up of large hayfields. Little has been done so far with regard to Lepidoptera surveys, formal or informal. Let's explore and see what we can find. Bring a lunch and beverage. No restrooms. Roadside parking only; we may have to carpool. Directions: Drive north from the center of Brookfield on Route 148/Main Street. In .4 mile bear right on East Main Street. After another .6 mile, the road turns to dirt and passes through the property. A few cars can park roadside, being careful not to block any farm property access roads. Saturday, August 18 th 10:30a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Mass Audubon's ELM HILL SANCTUARY, East Main Street, Brookfield Leader: Wendy Howes

Wednesday July 25th 10-30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Mass Audubon's LAKE WAMPANOAG SANCTUARY, Raymond Street, Gardner

Leader: Wendy Howes curiousbooks@verizon.net 413 967-4737. Featuring a large expanse of open wildflower fields with mowed pathways. The fields are mowed once in the fall. The property also holds a small pond and a forest holding red spruce and balsam fir. We can usually find a good assortment of butterflies here. Bring a lunch and beverage. Directions may be found at <http://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/lakewampanoag/about>. Plenty of parking. No restrooms. Bring snacks/lunch/beverage.

Saturday July 28th at 11:00 a.m.

Bartholomew's Cobble in Sheffield

Meet at The Trustees of Reservations sanctuary, Bartholomew's Cobble 105 Weatogue Road Sheffield, MA Target species are Giant Swallowtails and Tawny Emperors. Leaders: Bill and Nancy Callahan wpc3nat@gmail.com (413) 734-8097

Sunday July 29th 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

QUABBIN GATE 45

Leader: Wendy Howes curiousbooks@verizon.net 413 967-4737 This area features open roadsides surrounded by mixed forest and three large open fields, one of them recently cleared. There are some sections of the woods that are sun-dappled, and the road eventually brings us down to the reservoir shoreline. We've found a good assortment of butterflies here in the past, but much of the area is an unknown as far as what might turn up. There is a small parking lot at the gate at the end of Lyman Road and no parking along the road. We can work out a carpooling plan if needed. Contact the leader if you plan to attend. No restrooms. Bring snacks/lunch/beverage.

Saturday August 4th 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

MUDDY BROOK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, Hardwick

Leader: Wendy Howes curiousbooks@verizon.net 413 967-4737. MassWildlife has been working extensively on the west side of Patrill Hollow Road to restore the old pitch pine/scrub oak habitat that once existed here. Past tree-clearing and prescribed burning is starting to bring back the sandplain community that hosts rare and declining animals and insects. A portion of the brook and some more mature woods are also in the vicinity. No rest rooms. Bring snacks/lunch/beverage. Directions From Route 32A in Hardwick Center, turn west on Greenwich Road for a quarter mile, then turn left on Patrill Hollow Road. Continue on Patrill Hollow Road for a quarter mile, then bear right to stay on Patrill Hollow Road. Continue on Patrill Hollow Road for 1.2 miles, passing a MassWildlife parking area on your right, then crossing the bridge over Muddy Brook, then turn right up into the MassWildlife parking area on the west side of Muddy Brook.

Wednesday August 8th, 10:30 a.m. 2:30 p.m.

North Common Meadow, Petersham

Leader: Wendy Howes curiousbooks@verizon.net 413 967-4737. We can expect a variety of butterflies at this Trustees of Reservations Property, although it can be hit-or-miss depending upon weather patterns earlier in the season. Refreshments, lunch, and restroom at The Petersham Country Store on Main Street. Parking is not available on-site; meet in front of the Petersham Library, 23 Common St. to arrange car-pooling or walk down to the Meadow.

Saturday August 11th 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

11th Annual Barbara J. Walker Butterfly Festival.

Volunteer at the Butterfly Club table, introducing kids and their families to local butterflies! The day's activities include naturalist-led walks, live caterpillars, butterfly art, face painting, children's activities, butterfly garden tours and observation stations, butterfly plant sales, vendors, food and much more. Broad Meadow Brook Massachusetts Audubon Sanctuary, 414 Massasoit Road, Worcester, MA Contact Martha Gach at mgach@massaudubon.org or 508-753-6087

Sunday August 12th 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (CANCELLED)

DCR KRISTOFF FARM

PROPERTY, Merrill Road, off Redemption Rock Trail (Route 140), Sterling Leader: Wendy Howes curiousbooks@verizon.net 413 967-4737. This large property has extensive open areas with plenty of habitat diversity, so we can expect a good variety of butterflies here. There are also shrubby sections and woodland edges to explore. The parking area is where Merrill Road comes to a dead-end before the road becomes overgrown and closed to unauthorized vehicles. Bring a lunch and beverage. There are shady spots but no restrooms. Bring snacks/lunch/beverage.

Saturday August 18th 10:30 a.m.

Fannie Stebbins Refuge in Longmeadow and Forest Park in Springfield

Searching for Hackberry and Tawny Emperors and Zabulon Skippers. Meet at Fannie Stebbins at the end of [Bark Haul Road, off Route 5](#) in Longmeadow at 10:30 A.M. Later, we will go for ICE CREAM and then on to Forest Park. Rain date will be Sunday August 20th. Leaders: Karen Parker and Tom Gagnon Contact Tom at (413)584-6353 or tombwhawk@aol.com

Sunday August 19th 10:30a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Mass Audubon's ELM HILL SANCTUARY, East Main Street, Brookfield

Leader: Wendy Howes curiousbooks@verizon.net 413 967-4737 Mass Audubon purchased this farm property in 1996 and is assessing it for management purposes. Much of the property is made up of large hayfields. Little has been done so far with regard to Lepidoptera surveys, formal or informal. Let's explore and see what we can find. Bring a lunch and beverage. No restrooms. Roadside parking only; we may have to carpool. Directions: Drive north from the center of Brookfield on Route 148/Main Street. In .4 mile bear right on East Main Street. After another .6 mile, the road turns to dirt and passes through the property. A few cars can park roadside, being careful not to block any farm property access roads.

Sunday August 26th 10:30 a.m.– 2:30 p.m. (LOCATION CHANGED!)

DCR KRISTOFF FARM

PROPERTY, Merrill Road, off Redemption Rock Trail (Route 140), Sterling Leader: Wendy Howes curiousbooks@verizon.net 413 967-4737. This large property has extensive open areas with plenty of habitat diversity, so we can expect a good variety of butterflies here. There are also shrubby sections and woodland edges to explore. The parking area is where Merrill Road comes to a dead-end before the road becomes overgrown and closed to unauthorized vehicles. Bring a lunch and beverage. There are shady spots but no restrooms. Bring snacks/lunch/beverage.

Saturday September 1st 10:30 a.m.

Northampton Community Gardens

Meet at the Northampton Community Gardens in Northampton in search of late and rare migrants. After visiting these gardens, we will then drive over to the NEW COMMUNITY GARDENS in Florence, about 2 miles away. Leader: Tom Gagnon at (413)584-6353 or tombwhawk@aol.com

Saturday September 1st 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary

Leader Lauren Miller-Donnelly.

Savor the last remnants of summer, enjoy some time outdoors and learn about butterflies at the annual Allens Pond Butterfly Census!

please provide full contact information in case of inclement weather

This free annual event welcomes butterfly watchers of all ages and skill levels to help census as many areas of Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary as possible. Members of the Massachusetts Butterfly Club will lead teams into different areas of the Sanctuary and provide expertise in identifying butterflies. **Rain date will be Sunday** September 2.

Meet at the Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary field station parking lot, located at 1280 Horseneck Rd., Westport, MA at 10am to divide into census teams. Participants should wear long pants, sunscreen and bring water and a snack or lunch. If you have any questions, please call the Sanctuary at (508) 636-2437 or email laurenmillermassaudubon.org

Saturday September 8th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary

Leader Lauren Miller-Donnelly.

Savor the last remnants of summer, enjoy some time outdoors and learn about butterflies at the annual Allens Pond Butterfly Census!

please provide full contact information in case of inclement weather

This free annual event welcomes butterfly watchers of all ages and skill levels to help census as many areas of Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary as possible. Members of the Massachusetts Butterfly Club will lead teams into different areas of the Sanctuary and provide expertise in identifying butterflies. **Rain date will be Sunday** September 9.

Meet at the Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary field station parking lot, located at 1280 Horseneck Rd., Westport, MA at 10am to divide into census teams. Participants should wear long pants, sunscreen and bring water and a snack or lunch. If you have any questions, please call the Sanctuary at (508) 636-2437 or email laurenmillermassaudubon.org

Saturday September 15th 10:00 a.m.

Frances A. Crane Wildlife Management Area Field Trip - Falmouth.

Target species: Leonard's Skipper and possible Variegated Fritillary Stay on Rte 495 south to Rte. 25 and straight over the Bourne Bridge onto Rte. 28 toward Falmouth. Take the exit for Rte. 151 east. Approx. 1 1/2 miles on the left at the ball field is the main entrance to Crane. Parking is approximately 1/4 mile from the main entrance. Contact Joe Dwelly at joedwelly@yahoo.com 508-364-6852

Saturday September 29th 10:00 a.m.

Appleton Farms, Ipswich MA

Russ Hopping and Howard Hoople, co-leaders. Looking for Silver-Bordered Fritillaries, Bronze Coppers and other late season butterflies. Meet at the farm store parking lot. The Trustees of Reservations, Appleton Farms 219 County Road, Ipswich Contact Howard Hoople at howard@massbutterflies.org or 978-604-0454

Tips: Bring binoculars, hand lens, field guide(s), sunscreen, water, hat, insect repellent, allergy medicines, snacks and/or lunch, pen/pencil & small pad for recording, camera. Wear comfortable clothing and sturdy walking shoes. Be prepared to have a really good time!

Guidelines:

- Netting is not allowed.
- Do not trample the habitat, particularly the host and nectar plants.
- Photographers should allow everyone to see the butterfly before moving in to take pictures.
- Make every effort to see that others see the butterflies that you find.
- Dogs (except for service dogs) are not allowed.
- Alcohol and illicit drugs are not allowed.
- No loud music is allowed.