

May 2019 continued

may 2019

Available online at:
cambridgema.gov/water/freshpondreservation/publicprogramming

@ Fresh Pond Reservation
 all events are free & open to the public!

Live Music! Activities! Tours! More!

FRESH POND DAY 2019, Sat. Jun. 15th 11 to 3



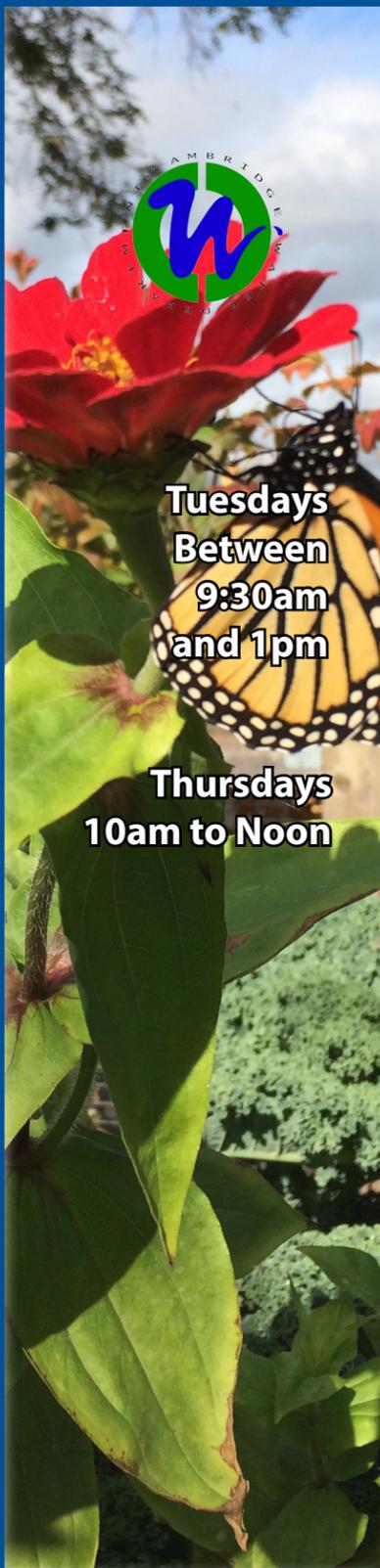
Takes place at 250 Fresh Pond Parkway
 Parking at 197 Vassal Lane, Cambridge MA (Tobin School)

Fresh Pond Reservation is truly Cambridge's green gem - an urban wild that protects Fresh Pond, Cambridge's in-city drinking water reservoir. Fresh Pond Day is the Cambridge Water Department's annual tribute to this unique Reservation that is a vital natural resource, an invaluable sanctuary for wildlife, and a beloved recreational escape in the City. So, let's give Fresh Pond the celebration, jubilation and love it deserves; join in the festivities!



Attendees will enjoy live wildlife presentations, live music and dancers, facepainting, truck climb-boards, tours, and more.

Free and open to all, activities will take place around the Water Treatment Facility located at 250 Fresh Pond Parkway, Cambridge - at Kingsley Park, and the two parking lots. For those arriving by car, please plan on parking at the Tobin School (197 Vassal Lane). There are plenty of green transit options: the bikeway, bus routes 72, 74, 75 & 78; and Alewife T Station is 1 mile away. On-leash dogs are welcome. Please note that rain cancels this event.



Tuesdays
 Between
 9:30am
 and 1pm

Thursdays
 10am to Noon

PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

Fresh Pond Reservation: Protecting the Cambridge Water Supply Since 1889

Did you know that all of the water is treated on-site? Tours available! Please read and respect all posted rules; this is a public shared-use area, open green space, and active drinking water reservoir.

Volunteer Opportunities

Woodland Restoration Area Gardening

Meets at the Woodland Habitat (Northeast Sector)

Join other stewardship-minded volunteers in caretaking the native plant restoration area next to Lusitania Meadow, and learn about the diversity of native plant life! We seek dedicated participants who enjoy camaraderie and hard work that includes weeding, pruning, planting, watering new plantings, hauling wood chips and moving logs. Please email friendsoffreshpond@yahoo.com if you would like to come, and for more information.

Fresh Pond Stewards

Meets at the volunteer trailer near the front of the Water Treatment Facility, 250 Fresh Pond Parkway.

Join our weed-warrior crew! We are Fresh Pond citizens dedicated to keeping invasive plants at bay for the benefit of wildlife, water and humans alike. No experience or long-term commitment necessary! All tools are provided; sturdy shoes, pants, long-sleeves and a water bottle are strongly recommended. Meets at the volunteer trailer in the lower parking lot. Contact tpuopolo@cambridgeMA.gov for more information. (Monday evenings soon to be included! Stay tuned next month!)

Interested in Volunteering?

Now seeking groups of 10-25 people!

Corporate groups, school groups, and neighborhood groups unite! If you can get a group (minimum 10) together, you can reach out to us and find out what opportunities are available. Fresh Pond Reservation is visited weekly by thousands of local visitors and much of the natural upkeep is managed with the help of volunteers like you. Seasonal projects may include: working with the public, clean-ups, plantings, habitat management and more! Contact Ranger Jean at jrogers@cambridgeMA.gov with any inquiries and to find out more.

more inside...

Nature Notes: May is for Migration

Saturday, May 11th is World Migratory Bird Day, a time to celebrate our little world travellers! Here at Fresh Pond we have over 15 Tree Swallow boxes installed and monitored. Tree Swallows (pictured right) not only give us wonderful views of aerial acrobatics and a flash of bright blue wings...

... each adult Tree Swallow can consume 850 mosquitoes per day!

Be sure to thank a Swallow this month for their continuous pest control



Fresh Pond Reservation:
 Protecting the Cambridge
 water supply since 1889



Cambridge Water Department
www.cambridgema.gov/water
 (617) 349-6489



**Friends of Fresh Pond
 Reservation**
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Fresh Pond Reservation

Protecting Cambridge's Public Water Supply Since 1889

Public Programming

Tuesdays
Noon to
1:30pm

Fresh Air Walks

Meets at the Ranger Station (under the clock tower), 250 Fresh Pond Parkway

These casual walks, led by Ranger Tim, will encompass Fresh Pond and take an informal look at each week in nature, life, and the city. Come alone or bring your co-workers! Parking passes available. Rain or shine. Questions? Contact: tpuopolo@cambridgeMA.gov

Friday
May 3rd
2pm to 4pm

Nature Journaling

Register for meeting location (different sketch target each month)

This is a fun series! We share together how to create, illustrate and maintain a Naturalist & Field journal. This includes practicing sketching, nature illustration skills, recording field observations, and simply writing about what we see, including how we feel. The series runs the first Friday of the month. Over the year, we explore a few sites of the reservoir and cover ecology, phenology, birds, insects, mammals and the many critters that make the different habitats of Fresh Pond. Please bring your own (portable) art supplies, and RSVP on Eventbrite (<https://bit.ly/2HNcR6r>) because space is limited.

Monday
May 6th
6pm to
7:30pm

Walter J Sullivan Water Purification Facility Tour

Meets at the front door, 250 Fresh Pond Parkway

Come learn how the Cambridge Water Department purifies drinking water for your tap after it's conveyed from nearby Fresh Pond into our facility. You'll have the chance to speak with water treatment staff, see the equipment in action and check out our water quality lab! For more information, contact Ranger Tim at (617) 349-6489 or tpuopolo@cambridgeMA.gov. Please email ahead if coming with a group.

Friday
May 10th
10am to 11am

Seasonal Walkabout @ Lusitania Wet Meadow

Meets at the "Meeting Rocks" [where the meadow meets the main trail]

Come out for a seasonal walkabout with Ranger Jean at the Lusitania Wet Meadow. We will monitor wildlife by sign, track or presence, and make note of weather, state of plants, condition of water and other abiotic resources. You can help chart the seasonal changes of some of our most active wildlife spots, or simply come to enjoy the walk. Come dressed to be outdoors for the hour. All knowledge levels welcome. We will be walking off-path. Service dogs only, please. To RSVP, please contact Ranger Jean at (508) 562-7605 or email jrogers@cambridgeMA.gov. Heavy rain postpones to the following Friday.

Sunday
May 12th
7:30am to
9:30m

Birding by Ear

Register for parking and meeting information and for notice of cancellation due to inclement weather

Walk leader Herb Pearce will help us learn to identify and locate birds by their songs. The birds will be singing up a storm, courting or defending territories, while some will be hard at work building nests. We will use guides with pictures of the birds to help you get to know them. Birders of all experience levels are welcome. We have binoculars to lend and will show you how to use them.

Register with Catherine Pedemonti at friendsoffreshpond@yahoo.com

A Tour of Fresh Pond Reservation's Woodland Habitat Area

*Meets at the gate to the Woodland Habitat
(1/3 mile counter-clockwise from the Water Department)*

Take a walk with three of the Reservation's volunteer stewards, who have helped transform a degraded, weed-infested patch of woods into a botanically diverse woodland full of native plant species. The Woodland Habitat is a fenced area next to the Perimeter Road between Lusitania Meadow and the bike path. We will describe the history and challenges of this project and identify the plants, many of which will be in flower. Limit 20 people. When you register, please request directions if you need them. Email Catherine Pedemonti at friendsoffreshpond@yahoo.com.

Two dates!

Pollinator Survey at Fresh Pond

Meets at the Lusitania Meadow entrance across from Wheeler St. on Concord Ave.

This is an opportunity to be a citizen scientist and connect with nature. In partnership with Earthwise Aware, help us observe and collect information about what pollinators visit our meadows, we then feed our findings into global databases that help track species richness, population abundance, and phenophases. This will also help us develop a virtual guide to the insects of Fresh Pond, and you can be a part of it! We'll be meeting on-site at the entrance to Lusitania from Concord Ave. and please RSVP to citizenscience@earthwiseaware.org for communication about what to wear, bring, and if there is any change in plan due to weather.

Spring Bird Walk

Register for parking and meeting information and for notice of cancellation due to inclement weather

By mid-May our avian summer residents have returned and many will have babies in the nest. We may see tree swallows, catbirds, grackles, red-winged blackbirds, phoebes, vireos, warblers and orioles. We also may hear baby birds crying for breakfast, and see their parents bringing them food. Led by Nancy Guppy. Beginners are welcome. We have binoculars to lend and will show you how to use them. To register and for important meeting and parking information, email Catherine Pedemonti at friendsoffreshpond@yahoo.com.

Two dates!

Make Your Own Nature Storybook Walk

Meets at the Ranger Station (under the clock tower), 250 Fresh Pond Parkway

Join Ranger Tim for this fun Sunday family program, enjoy a nature discovery walk and even adventure a little off-trail! Participants will be encouraged to explore to find ideas to create a nature story. Following the walk, we'll gather in the building to draw or write down discoveries to create your own book. Child/adult teams are encouraged to assist in writing the narrative. All supplies will be provided. Walk is roughly 1/2 mile. For ages 3 and up, siblings welcome, service dogs only, please.

For questions, parking, or more information contact Ranger Tim at tpuopolo@cambridgeMA.gov.

more on the back...

Sunday
May 12th
1pm to 2:30pm

Tuesday
May 14th
1pm to 3pm

Tuesday
May 28th
1pm to 3pm

Saturday
May 18th
8am to 10am

Sunday
May 19th
10:30am to Noon

Sunday
May 26th
1pm to 2:30pm



Fresh Pond Reservation is managed by the Cambridge Water Department
all events are free & open to the public!



/FreshPondReservation

Like us on Facebook for events, updates and more!

Questions? Volunteers?

Contact Ranger Tim:
(617) 349-6489 or
tpuopolo@cambridgeMA.gov