



Wings, Waves & Woods Festival

Deer Isle & Stonington, ME



Greater Yellowlegs. Photo: Melissa James/Audubon Photography Awards

Join us for our 18th year of Island Heritage Trust's Wings, Waves & Woods Festival! A fun and educational event for bird and nature lovers of all ages and levels of experience.

1. EXPLORE THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Choose which events you would like to be a part of! Don't miss the "Other Local Happenings" section at the end of the schedule.

All events are subject to change. Keep up to date on the Wings, Waves and Woods page on our website: islandheritagetrust.org/wings-waves-woods

For questions, please email lgivhan@islandheritagetrust.org or call 207-348-2455.

2. SIGN-UP & MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION

This is a volunteer-run, non-profit event. Please donate a minimum of \$5 per Walk & Talk that you attend. Donate at any in-person event or online at islandheritagetrust.org/wings-waves-woods

- Make a minimum donation of \$45 and receive a Wings, Waves & Woods Cap or a Reusable Tote Bag!

Certain events, such as the guided boat trips, **require sign-up**. Sign-up instructions, links and any additional costs for these events are provided in the event descriptions.

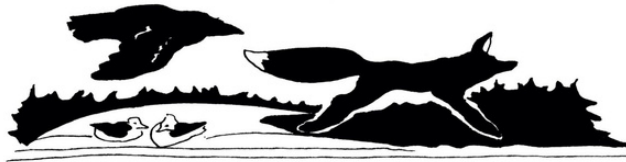


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THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSERS!

Is your local business or organization interested in sponsoring the festival? Please email lgivhan@islandheritagetrust.org.



Downeast Audubon

The mission of the Downeast Chapter of Maine Audubon is to educate and engage the people of Hancock County, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats, for the benefit of local communities and their natural environment.



Boyce's Motel is located in the heart of the scenic fishing village of Stonington. Established in the early sixties, Boyce's Motel has welcomed over six decades of new and repeat guests to the warmth and comfort of our family run business. Overlooking beautiful Stonington Harbor, we are within walking distance of restaurants, gift shops, the Isle au Haut mail boat, and the Stonington Opera House.



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2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All events are subject to change. Keep up to date on our website:
islandheritagetrust.org/wings-waves-woods

Tag us on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) @islandheritagetrust and use #WingsWavesWoods2026 to share the WWW Festival from your perspective and connect with other participants!

TUESDAY, MAY 12

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM "Where the Bird Sings" Webinar
Online via Zoom

Join Blue Hill Heritage Trust and IHT as we welcome University of Maine PhD student James Longo to learn about birdsong, one of nature's most miraculous phenomena.

Virtually everyone has noticed and enjoyed birds singing, and the curious have wondered why and how it exists. Although we still don't fully understand animal communication, studying bird song has taught us about how they, and we, communicate and experience the world. **Please sign up at [bit.ly/Why the Bird Sings](https://bit.ly/Why_the_Bird_Sings)**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Festival Grand Opening
Deer Isle Granite Museum, 51 Maine Street, Stonington

Join us at the [Deer Isle Granite Museum](#) to connect with the heart and soul of the island. Have the chance to hear from others who will share the rich history of granite in the region. This is your opportunity to get your questions about the area answered, connect, and pick up a festival hat or tote bag! More details TBD.



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THURSDAY, MAY 14

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM **Scott's Landing Bird Walk with Leslie Clapp**

IHT Heritage House, 420 Sunset Rd, Deer Isle

Join Leslie Clapp, President of the Downeast Chapter of Maine Audubon, on the first walk of the festival exploring the 22-acre Scott's Landing Preserve, a birding favorite: brushy habitat, hardwood stands, and a tidal shore offer diverse species. Meet at 420 Sunset Rd to carpool. **\$5 per person. Limited spots, please sign up at islandheritagetrust.org/wings-waves-woods**

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM **eBird Training at IHT Heritage House followed by Fox Hollow Bird Walk**

IHT Heritage House, 420 Sunset Rd, Deer Isle

New to eBird or need a refresher? Join Island Heritage Trust Conservation Director Alex for a training on how to use the eBird mobile application to record and document bird observations. The training will run from 7:00 - 7:30 AM at the IHT Heritage House, and will be followed by a short bird walk at Fox Hollow with birders Molly DellaRoman and Tim Skillin of 5 Star Nursery and Orchard to let attendees get hands-on experience using eBird.

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM **Birds & Beans at 44 North Coffee**

7 Main Street, Deer Isle

Join barista/birder Nathaniel Sharp for coffee and conversation followed by a bird walk at the nearby Mill Pond. Nathaniel will provide an array of bird books and field guides to peruse in the cafe as we discuss the relationships between migratory birds and coffee farms, such as how an American Redstart singing cheerily from Deer Isle spruces may have spent the winter among Guatemalan coffee plants! After finishing our coffees or teas, we'll head across the street to the Mill Pond for a birding walk with a special focus on the songs, calls, and behaviors of our migratory and resident species. Attendees are encouraged to bring sturdy footwear and a water bottle. Feel free to bring binoculars, cameras, and field guides/bird books as well as a reusable mug.



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THURSDAY, MAY 14

4:30 PM Shell Painting Workshop

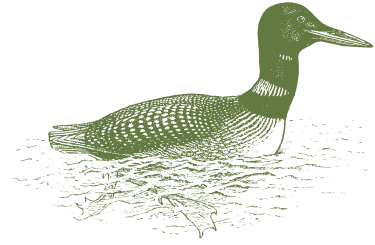
Island Community Center, 10 Memorial Lane, Stonington

Join in on a creative and relaxing Shell Painting Workshop lead by Deer Isle artist David Taylor. Inspired by the natural beauty of the Maine coast, this hands-on class invites participants to transform locally sourced scallop shells into unique works of art.

\$30 per person. Please sign up at bit.ly/Shell_Painting. For more information or questions, please call the Island Community Center at 207-367-2735.



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FRIDAY MAY 15

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM Fox Hollow Bird Walk

IHT Heritage House, 420 Sunset Rd, Deer Isle

Enjoy a walk with University of Maine PhD student and Bicknell Thrush conservation researcher James Longo, exploring new local trails at Fox Hollow to see and hear a variety of forest and water birds. Meet at Island Heritage Trust Office. Don't be late - we will carpool to the location together!

9:00 AM - 10:45 AM Stitched Cyanotype Print Nature Journals

IHT Heritage House, 420 Sunset Rd, Deer Isle

Join Katama Murray, art educator and owner of Teach Peace Prints, for a hands-on workshop to learn the photographic print process of Cyanotype! Dive into the realm of using light and shadow to capture moments of time, place, history, and imagination. Participants will learn the basics of cyanotype printing on paper using found objects and natural materials and will make their own pamphlet stitch journal to enjoy and use for future creating. All are welcome and no prior experience is necessary to join! **\$55 per person. Limited spots, please sign up at teachpeaceprints.com/2026-workshops/stitched-cyanotype-print-nature-journals**

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Natural History Walk at Settlement Quarry Preserve

Settlement Quarry Preserve, 191 Oceanville Rd, Stonington

Join Environmental Educator Martha Bell for an inspiring walk at a protected, abandoned quarry to learn about geologic, human, cultural and natural history. Bring binoculars, a bag lunch, and enjoy the scenic views!



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FRIDAY MAY 15

11:30 - 1:30 PM **Sketching the Maine Coast**

IHT Heritage House, 420 Sunset Road, Deer Isle

Join sketch biologist Abby McBride for a workshop on field sketching. We'll start indoors with some sketching exercises focused on the puffins and other seabirds of Maine's offshore islands, then venture outside to put our skills into practice, sketching what we see around us. The kind of sketching we'll be doing is much more about the process of observing than about artistic talent—but you might be surprised by what you can capture. **\$5 per person. Limited spots, please sign up at islandheritagetrust.org/wings-waves-woods**

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM **Found Object Sculpture**

598 Sunshine Rd, Deer Isle

Peter Beerits demonstrates how he makes bird sculptures from "junk" at his Nervous Nellie's Jams & Jellies studio. Using scrap wood and metal, Beerits captures the essence of birdness in unexpected ways.

1:30 - 3:30 PM **Plant ID & Natural History Walk at Scott's Landing**

Scott's Landing Preserve, 823 North Deer Isle Road, Deer Isle

Join Roland "Boot" Boutwell for some basic plant identification as well as fun and interesting natural history of some of our common trees, shrubs and wildflowers at Scott's Landing. The walk will include some fun tips and mnemonics to help you remember what you have learned!



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FRIDAY MAY 15

Open House & Bird Presentations

Island Heritage Trust Barn

420 Sunset Road

4:00 - 6:00 PM

4:00 - 4:30 PM Island Heritage Trust Happy Hour

Join IHT Staff and Volunteers for snacks and refreshments in the IHT barn. Bird-themed artwork created by local students will be on view for you to enjoy, and WWW hats and reusable bags will be available. Stick around for more presentations below!

4:30 - 5:00 PM Rodenticides Poison More Than Just Rodents Info Table and Conversation

Rodenticide usage is becoming rampant and is having devastating effects on non-targeted avian and mammalian predators as well as pets. Heléna Melone and Jacquie Gage of the Rodenticide-Free Maine Coalition will present the three classes of rodenticides, their usage, and symptoms to look for in both wildlife and pets poisonings. They will also discuss effective methods of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) — without the use of dangerous rodenticides.

5:00 - 6:00 PM Seabirds in Hot Water: How Ocean Heatwaves can Disrupt Seabird Breeding in Maine

Join Richard Harris Podolsky, PhD for a presentation on global challenges and local actions for protecting Maine Seabirds. Dr. Podolsky has contributed to the restoration of numerous seabird populations, including 15 years as senior field scientist for the National Audubon Society Project Puffin.



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FRIDAY MAY 15

7:00 PM "The Big Year" film screening at the Stonington Opera House

Stonington Opera House, 1 School Street, Stonington

Join us for a film screening of the birding comedy "The Big Year," starring Jack Black, Steve Martin and Owen Wilson. The film follows three men on a quest for a Big Year – a competition among birders to see who can spot and identify the greatest number of bird species in North America in a calendar year.

\$5 per ticket. Ticket purchase required at box office or online at operahousearts.org. Questions? Contact info@operahousearts.org or call 207-367-2788.

7:45 PM - 9:00 PM Timberdoodles and Night Flights

Mariners Memorial Park, Fire Road 506A, Deer Isle *

Join Gordon Russell and Jane Rosinski for an evening seeking the elusive and secretive American Woodcock as they vocally "peent" and perform their unique spiraling flights to attract a mate. Also enjoy listening for thrushes, sparrows, and other night migrants. This walk will take place at Mariners Memorial Park, owned by the Evergreen Garden Club; bring flashlights and listening ears.

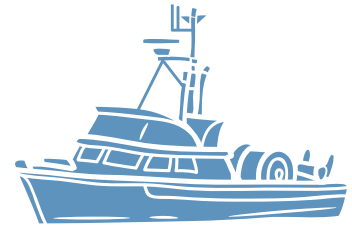
***This location has been hard for people to find in the past. Please check with an IHT Staff Member if you are unclear on where to go.**

Directions: *Heading south down ME-15 on the east side of Deer Isle, go past the Deer Isle village. From the intersection with Main Street in the village, go 0.5 miles and take a left on the Sunshine Road (across from a gas station). Go 0.1 miles and turn right onto Morey Farm Road, there is a sign for the park. Go 0.2 miles to the park entrance, where there is a sign and a gate.*

Coordinates: 4.214873709308556, -68.67016451828647



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SATURDAY MAY 16

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM **Pressey Village Bird Walk**

94 Pressey Village Road, Deer Isle

Bonnie Bochan leads a walk in this mixed habitat neighborhood that has proven to be a hot spot for migrants: Orioles, Scarlet Tanager, and many warblers.

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM **Settlement Quarry Bird Walk**

Settlement Quarry Preserve, 191 Oceanville Rd, Stonington

Join Bob and Sandi Duchesne for this walk to help beginning birders improve their birding-by-ear skills, including tips for recognizing and remembering what you hear.

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM **Scott's Landing Bird Walk**

Scott's Landing Preserve, 823 North Deer Isle Rd, Deer Isle

Join naturalist and educator Nathaniel Sharp in exploring the 22-acre Scott's Landing Preserve, a birding favorite: brushy habitat, hardwood stands, and a tidal shore offer diverse species.

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM **Bluebird House & Model Duck Workshops**

Stonington Ball Field, 40 School Street, Stonington

All ages are invited to build your own Bluebird House with Ron Schwarz and Alex Drenga or craft a model duck out of cattails with Eric Beachy from Deer Isle Adult Education! Enjoy both activities, or pick your favorite. **Limited spots, please sign up at bit.ly/birdcrafts. For questions or more information, email Deer Isle Adult Education at gupham@su76.org or call 207-656-6262.**



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SATURDAY MAY 16

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Stonington Public Library Story Time at the IAH Boat Company

Dock 27 Seabreeze Ave, Stonington

Step aboard the Otter, one of the Isle au Haut Boat Services vessels, for a short spin in Stonington Harbor, a story read by Captain Garrett Aldrich, and a whale of an adventure. Boat departs at 11 AM from from Isle au Haut Boat Services. **Limited spots, please sign up by emailing Stonington Public Library at stonington.public.library@gmail.com.**

11:30 AM - 2:00 PM Archipelago Cruise

27 Seabreeze Ave Stonington

Bob & Sandi Duchesne will be aboard to draw attention to bird sightings, and Captain Garrett Aldrich will share history and anecdotes as we tour the Stonington Archipelago. Boat departs at 12 PM from Isle au Haut Boat Services. **\$60 per person. Limited spots, please sign up at islandheritagetrust.org/wings-waves-woods**

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Insect Safari

Mariners Memorial Park - Fire Road 506A, Deer Isle

Explore the wide world of winged wonders of the non-avian variety, from moths and beetles to bees, butterflies, and flies. Naturalist and self-proclaimed bug-enthusiast Nathaniel Sharp will guide you through the process of searching for, safely handling, and identifying the diverse and fascinating insects all around us.

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM Faster Bird Identification

420 Sunset Rd, Deer Isle

Join Bob Duchesne for a presentation in the IHT Barn to learn how to use visual clues that anyone can master to quickly identify birds. Learn what to look for in just a few minutes!



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SATURDAY MAY 16

Birder's Dinner & Keynote Presentation

St. Brendan's Church

627 North Deer Isle Rd, Deer Isle

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Birder's Dinner

Enjoy appetizers, a dinner option of meat or vegetarian, dessert and refreshments catered at beautiful St. Brendan's Church. **\$55 per person.**

Limited spots, please sign up at islandheritagetrust.org/wings-waves-woods

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Birdsong: A Case Study in Ancestral Wabanaki Relationships to Birds Using Two-Eyed Seeing

Join us for a presentation given by Olivia Olson M.S., an interdisciplinary researcher and science communicator working at the intersection of archaeology, ecology, and climate studies. Olivia will discuss her recent research which examines ancestral Wabanaki relationships to birds in Acadia National Park through archaeological remains found in shell heaps. Her work in zooarchaeology emphasizes "Two-Eyed Seeing" which braids Indigenous knowledge and Western science.



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SUNDAY MAY 17

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM West Side Bird Walk

Gilmore Lane, Deer Isle

Join Bob and Sandi Duchesne to explore a private property that includes a meadow, woods, fresh water, and shore. Such diverse habitats promise some great birding! From Route 15 in N. Deer Isle, turn onto Gilmore Lane (about 0.3 miles north of The Galley and high school). Follow signs to bird walk parking.

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Landscaping for Wildlife

94 Pressey Village Rd Deer Isle

Professional landscapers Bonnie Bochan and Guillermo Diaz, who specialize in bird and butterfly gardens, invite you to this workshop! Discuss creating gardens, share resources, and look at native species that are important for wildlife on the property. Bring binoculars; carpooling encouraged.

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Wild Medicinal & Pollinator Plants of Deer Isle

823 N Deer Isle Rd, Deer Isle

Come for a walk with community herbalist Brigid Doherty at Scott's Landing Preserve in Deer Isle. Brigid is the founder of The Solidago School of Herbalism, located on Deer Isle. On this walk, you will learn how to identify, ethically harvest, and prepare medicinal plants.



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SUNDAY MAY 17

10:00 AM - 2:30 PM Pelagics and Puffins Cruise

27 Seabreeze Ave, Stonington

Take a trip with birders Bob and Sandi Duchesne and Richard Podolsky through the archipelago to remote Seal Island National Wildlife Refuge, a nesting site for thousands of pelagics, puffins, arctic and common terns, great cormorants, razorbills, and murre. We may also spot gannets, Wilson's storm petrels, shearwaters, seals, dolphins, and possibly whales en route. While landing is not permitted, there will be many opportunities for viewing and photographing. Dress warmly for an open boat on the ocean. Depart from Isle au Haut Boat Services. **\$75 per person. Limited spots, please sign up at islandheritagetrust.org/wings-waves-woods**

2:00 PM "Happy Feet" Film Screening at the Stonington Opera House

1 School Street, Stonington

A screening of the musical family-friendly film "Happy Feet" at the Stonington Opera House. The film follows a tap-dancing emperor penguin and a quest across Antarctica. **Ticket purchase required at box office or online at operahousearts.org. Questions? Contact info@operahousearts.org or call 207-367-2788.**



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OTHER LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Have a local event happening during WWW?
Please email lgivhan@islandheritagetrust.org.

Wings, Waves, & Woods Paddle with Osprey's Echo

Osprey's Echo Sea Kayaking is hosting a unique opportunity to appreciate the birds and other wildlife in Webb Cove and the surrounding area. Seeing the wildlife from the quiet and relaxing bow of a kayak can be a dreamlike opportunity to see bald eagles, osprey, guillemot, cormorant, and a number of other interesting natives, including local nesting habitats.

Limited spots. Registration required. Book at ospreysecho.com. Questions? Contact: kayak@ospreysecho.com

Penobscot Bay Press Office

Open Monday - Thursday, 8 AM - 4 PM

Pete Dunne has written a special piece for his weekly Island Ad-vantages column, Beak to Tale. His piece brings forth a celebratory vibe speaking to the bounty of Spring coinciding with Northbound songbird migrants. We invite you to stop by our office at 69 Main Street in Stonington and grab a Copy for yourself and a fellow Bird lover! Please call 207-367-2200 for more information.

Dandelion Festival

Sunday May 17, 12 PM

The Garden Project, Transfer Station Rd, Stonington

Come celebrate spring with us! Pollinator Parade, May Pole, Storyteller, Growing Conversations, Dry Farming, Seeds, Dandelion Tea and much more. Learn more at thegardenprojectme.org.



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