

COASTAL MOUNTAINS NATURE PROGRAM 2022

Sponsored by **Coastal Mountains Land Trust**

The Coastal Mountains Nature Program hosts walks and talks exploring the natural history of **Mid-Coast** Maine. Each walk has a particular area of focus, led by a knowledgeable leader, and participants are encouraged to share their knowledge of things we discover.

Saturday, April 23, 10 a.m. to noon. *Pruning Plants for Wildlife and An Arborist's Approach to the Browntail Moth* – McLellan-Poor Preserve, Little River Trail, Rt. 1, Northport. On the first part of this walk, arborist Doug Johnson will demonstrate pruning methods that enhance trees and shrubs for wildlife. In the second hour he will show examples of Browntail Moth winter webs and discuss options that homeowners have for managing this pest on their property. Meet in the Belfast Water District parking lot just North of the Little River bridge on Route 1.

Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m. to noon. *Vernal Pools in Mid-Coast Maine* – Tanglewood. Starting with an introductory talk about the importance and natural history of vernal pools, Wildlife Biologist Phillip Demaynadier will lead participants on an exploration of a large vernal pool complex at the Tanglewood 4-H Camp in Lincolnville. Dr. DeMaynadier is the leader for the Reptile, Amphibian, and Invertebrate Group at the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Meet at the parking circle on Tanglewood Road about 0.9 miles from Ducktrap Road.

Saturday, June 4 10 a.m. to noon. *Forests of Lilliput - the Diminutive World of Mosses & Lichens.* Round-the-Mountain trail, Thorndike Brook Trailhead, Hope Street, Hope. Jeff Pengel, Maine Master Naturalist and master educator, will introduce us to the subtle and often amazing world of mosses and lichens. Mostly avoiding hardcore identification, we'll look at their many adaptations for thriving in a world full of microhabitats in order to understand their role in the larger ecosystem. Bring a hand lens if you have one; otherwise, we will have a few loaners. Attendance is limited, and sign-up is necessary at Info@coastalmountains.org.

Saturday, July 9, 10 a.m. to noon. *Insect Bonanza.* This is a joint field trip with the Maine Entomological Society (MES) to explore and learn about the insects of the Head of Tide Preserve. This preserve has exceptional insect diversity, combining fields, woods and a riparian (river) environment. Dr. Kathy Murray, retired pest management specialist with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry will lead the field trip, assisted by other MES members including Roger Rittmaster, CMLT Board Member. Meet at the Head of Tide Preserve on Doak

Saturday, August 6, 10 a.m. to noon. *Botany Bonanza.* Dr. Eric Doucette, Assistant Professor of Biology at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Past-President of Maine's Josselyn Botanical Society, and one of our favorite walk leaders will lead us on an exploration of the plants found in the fields and woods on Beech Hill. Meet at Beech Nut, the hut on top of Beech Hill, and bring a picnic lunch to enjoy the view after the walk.

Saturday, September 17, 10 a.m. to noon. *Mushrooms and Other Fungi.* St. Clair Preserve (Knight's Pond), Northport. Dr. David Porter, emeritus professor of mycology at the University of Georgia, will share his broad and in-depth knowledge of mushrooms. During the first hour, after a brief demonstration of how to describe a mushroom and make spore prints, we will spread out to collect mushrooms along the trails in and around the St. Clair Preserve. During the second hour, we will meet in the parking lot to identify the mushrooms and talk about their biology and ecology. To get to the Preserve take Route 1 to Northport, turn west on Beech Road for 2.3 miles, turn left on Knights Pond Road and drive 1.8 miles to the end.

Saturday, October 8, 2 – 5 PM, *Geology of Sears Island.* Dr. Steve Norton, Professor Emeritus of Earth and Climate Sciences at the University of Maine, will lead us on an exploration of the past 350 million years of Mid-Coast geological history by exploring the rocks and sediment of Sears Island. This walk is timed to take advantage of low tide, exposing the shoreline of the island. Meet at the entrance to Sears Island at the end of the causeway in Searsport.



For more information contact Coastal Mountains Land Trust at 207-236-7091 or info@coastalmountains.org

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