

Enjoy Nature... with Webinars from Newton Conservators

Join us for our Spring Webinar Series online from March through May.

Each online program will begin at 7 pm and last approximately one hour. You may register for the programs using the links below or by going to the event listing at newtonconservators.org. You will receive an email confirmation after you have registered.



Thursday, March 27 ... The Bluebird Effect: Uncommon Bonds with Common Birds

When you raise a wild bird when it's orphaned or help it when it's hurt, you are taken into its confidence. Julie Zickefoose will talk about those experiences and about the unexpected mental and emotional capacities of birds, especially songbirds, which we tend to underestimate and overlook. Everyone knows that crows, ravens, and parrots are intelligent, but have you thought about hummingbirds? Julie has a unique perspective, having been a mother to six hummingbirds. And chimney swifts, cedar waxwings, mourning doves, cardinals, and rose-breasted grosbeaks, to name a few. Join her for an intimate, eye-opening look at the rich mental and emotional landscape of birds.

Julie lives and works quietly on an 80-acre wildlife sanctuary in the back country of Whipple, Ohio. She is a prolific writer and painter who was an *All Things Considered* commentator for five years. Her illustrated work, *The Bluebird Effect*, was an Oprah's Book Club pick in 2012. After 37 years of contributing art and writing to *Bird Watcher's Digest*, Julie recently became Advising Editor to the new and improved BWD Magazine. Her heavily illustrated books include *Natural Gardening for Birds*, *Letters from Eden*, *The Bluebird Effect*, and *Baby Birds: An Artist Looks Into the Nest*. Her newest book is *Saving Jemima: Life and Love With a Hard-Luck Jay*, the intimate story of how an orphaned bird can save a soul. She is now writing about Carolina Wrens.

Sign up: <https://shorturl.at/yWwwM>



Thursday, April 3 ... Getting Real About Dealing with Mosquitoes

Learn from experts Jennifer Forman-Orth and Doug Bidlack about mosquito biology, hear the real science about what you can do to avoid getting mosquito bites, and explore how state mosquito control helps prevent exposure to mosquitoes and mosquito-borne illness. They also will talk specifically about the mosquitoes and diseases within our immediate region.

Jennifer Forman Orth is an environmental biologist for the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, where her work covers entomological and botanical issues. Jennifer completed her Ph.D. at UMass Boston. She also has a master's degree from Boston University's Center for Energy and Environmental Studies. Doug Bidlack is the entomologist at East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project based in Waltham. He received his Ph.D. from Clemson University while studying black flies.

Sign up: <https://shorturl.at/JLhmX>



Thursday, May 22 ... Rediscovering and Revitalizing Cheesecake Brook

Cheesecake Brook exemplifies the challenges facing urban streams. Today, the brook drains a watershed that is over 40% impervious. Stormwater runs off roofs, sidewalks, and roads and enters the brook leading to pollution, flooding, and degraded habitat. By investing in green stormwater infrastructure and bank restoration, we can reduce aquatic pollution, promote healthier flow patterns, and create an attractive shaded wetland corridor for the benefit of residents and wildlife. How do we get there? Join Max Rome for a discussion of the brook's history, condition, and current and future opportunities for restoration.

Max Rome is the Stormwater Program Manager at the Charles River Watershed Association. In this role, he works to advance projects and policies that reduce runoff, decrease nutrient pollution, and help green watershed communities. Max completed his Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Northeastern University in 2022. His dissertation "From Water Quality to River Health" focused on understanding the connection between ecological restoration and improving water quality.

Sign up: <https://shorturl.at/u0ebs>