



South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT 06511-5966 PRSRT STD US Postage PAID Permit No. 411 New Haven CT



# RWA Recreation Newsletter

SUMMER 2023



Claire C. Bennitt Recreation Program Regional Water Authority

# Tap Into Nature 🖄 **EVENTS**

# Trails Day Hike – Big Gulph

#### Saturday, June 3, 9:00 am

A vigorous 5.5-mile hike over steep terrain. The hike crosses some wet spots, so have appropriate footwear. The loop will include steep areas going up Totoket Mt. Meet at the Northford Playground parking lot on Rt. 17.



## Bass Tournament #1 at Lake Saltonstall

#### Sunday, June 4, 6:00 am – 1:00 pm

Register and pay at Lake Saltonstall on the day of the tournament. There is a \$25 entry fee (boat and motor/battery are additional). First, second

and third prizes will be awarded. Monetary prizes will depend on the number of participants. Boat rentals are on a first-come, firstserved basis. CASH only; no checks or credit cards.

#### Upland and Lowland Shrub/Tree Identification at Lake Saltonstall

#### Saturday, June 17, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Join Nicole Smith, the RWA's natural resources analyst and arborist, on a walk at Lake Saltonstall to identify our area's local trees and shrubs by their proximity to water. Learn to identify which woody plant species will most likely grow in moist and dry areas.



Be prepared to walk off-trail and up some moderate hills, so have suitable footwear. Inclement weather cancels; check the RWA's Facebook page for updates. Meet at the fish dock parking lot, 100 Hosley Avenue, Branford.

### CT Butterfly Association – Butterfly Walk – Lake Gaillard, North Branford

#### Saturday, June 24, 10:00 am -12:00 pm

Join members of the Connecticut Butterfly Association for a midsummer walk to look for butterflies on Regional Water Authority property in North Branford. This area usually has



good numbers of Great Spangled Fritillaries and hosts common milkweed and butterfly weed. Starting at the dam, the walk will follow the shoreline and include a Christmas tree plantation. Meet at the North St. gate (105 North St., North Branford).

# Botany Walk at Mt. Sanford, **Bethany**

Sunday, July 2, 8:00 am – 11:00 am

Join members of the Connecticut Botanical Society as they search for plants in the woods by Mt. Sanford



and Sanford Brook in Bethany. The hike crosses some rough and wet spots, so have appropriate footwear. Meet at the gate on the southern side of Rt. 42, about 1/2 mile east of the intersection with Rt. 69.

# Bass Tournament #2 at Lake Saltonstall

#### Sunday, July 9, 6:00 am – 1:00 pm

Register and pay at Lake Saltonstall on the day of the tournament. There is a \$25 entry fee (boat and motor/ battery are additional). First, second



and third prizes will be awarded. Monetary prizes will depend on the number of participants. Boat rentals are on a first-come, firstserved basis. CASH only; no checks or credit cards.

# **Eagle Update**

Brian Hess, the DEEP wildlife biologist who handles eagle data, was sent photos of an eagle with federal and colored bands from Wethersfield. J. Boulet, the photographer, sent in information about the bands to see if he could get



additional data about this individual. As it turns out, this bird was one of two males banded as nestlings at Lake Gaillard on May 20, 2008!

In February 2008, John Triana (RWA) saw what he thought was an eagle's nest in a tree on the island of Lake Gaillard. He asked Scott Williams of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station to have a look when he drove through the area. They both saw an adult hunkered down in the nest, which meant it was sitting on eggs. John contacted DEEP staff, who monitored the eagle's nest.

At the time, there were only a handful of nests in the state. We arranged for the DEEP crew to come to Lake Gaillard and band the nestlings. They found two male nestlings, brought down from the nest, and banded them. The nestling in the bag is the adult, which was spotted in Wethersfield this winter.

Photo Credits Cover: J. Boulet; Above: Scott Williams







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