

# Sanctuary Adventures for all School Breaks!

The fun doesn't end when summer ends! The Sanctuary is proud to host Sanctuary Adventure programs for all school breaks for children ages 4-12.

Full program brochures and registration information will be found at:

[http://ny.audubon.org/CentersEdu\\_TRoosevelt-Events.html](http://ny.audubon.org/CentersEdu_TRoosevelt-Events.html)

- Experienced Educators
- Small Group Sizes
- Water Explorations
- Nature Observations



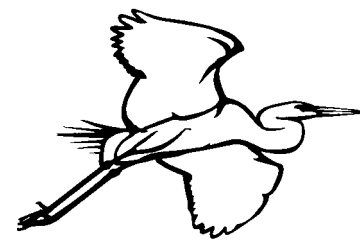
Directions to the Sanctuary:  
By L. I. E.:  
Take Exit 41 North, Route 106. Take 106 North to the village of Oyster Bay. Make a right onto East Main Street. Go 1 1/2 miles up East Main Street and you will see signs for the T. R. Sanctuary parking lot. The parking lot is on your right.

Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary & Audubon Center  
134 Cove Rd.  
Oyster Bay, NY 11771

By 25A:  
Take 25A to Cove Road. Go 2 miles north on Cove Road. You will see a sign on your right pointing to the T. R. Sanctuary parking lot on your left.



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Summer/ Fall  
2015

# trailside

The nation's first Audubon songbird sanctuary newsletter  
established 1923

## Feather Fest 2015— Connecting birds, people, and communities

-Genna Tudda, Teacher Naturalist/ Outreach Coordinator

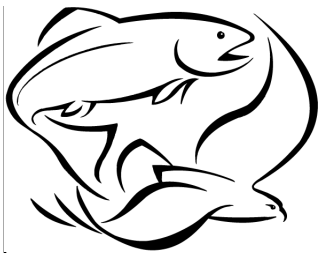


The skies cleared in the nick of time on Saturday, May 16th for the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary & Audubon Center to host its second annual **Feather Fest** celebrating our native migrating birds, but this year with a new theme: helping birds in a changing climate.

Recently, Audubon scientists published a comprehensive seven year study analyzing the future of 588 species of North American birds in the face of climate change. They looked at over thirty years of climate data in conjunction with thousands of historical bird count observations. The results are grave: nearly half of our beloved birds are threatened by climate change, including New York residents such as Wood Thrush,

Osprey, and Bald Eagles. But don't worry, there is hope! The mission of this event was to raise awareness on the issue and teach individual community members what they can do to help save these birds- all while having fun!

Like last year, the event featured guided bird walks with birding experts Emma Olsen and Steven Martin through our 12 acres of wooded trails, a Long Island native plant sale to help buyers turn their space into a bird-haven, a colorful window sticker activity to help prevent bird-strikes at home, and live animal presentations. Raffles were donated by local businesses, artists, and supporters to raise proceeds in support of the Center's education programs and conservation initiatives. This year, we even added a few new twists!



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THEODORE ROOSEVELT  
SANCTUARY &  
**Audubon**  
CENTER

Sanctuary Hours:  
Weekdays 9-4  
Saturday 12-4  
Closed Sunday

*The mission of the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary & Audubon Center is to connect people with nature while promoting a sense of environmental stewardship through natural science educational programs.*

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*FTB! Educator*  
Lauren Audi

*Teacher Naturalist*  
Genna Tudda

*Teacher Naturalist*  
Julie Nelsen

*Education Manager*  
Rebecca Oyer



*Feather Fest 2015 continued...*

Joy Cirigliano of Four Harbors Audubon led a “talk and walk” around the Sanctuary grounds on how using native plants in your garden can offer both beauty and bird habitat. Tom Auer, an Audubon scientist that worked on the climate report, presented a talk on how some of the potentially threatened species will be affected by climate change if we don’t take action now. In addition, Philip Blocklyn of the Oyster Bay Historical Society led a tour through the adjacent Young’s Memorial Cemetery to highlight the history of the Center’s namesake and his adoration of the natural world.

The event was an astounding success! Local organizations including North Shore Land Alliance, North Shore Audubon, and Four Harbors Audubon lined the path to the trails offering information to guests on how they are helping preserve Long Island habitat, and we encouraged visitors to “take the pledge” to become an ambassador for birds during this critical time.

As one visitor said, “we can’t wait until next year!”



For the most up to date information on upcoming programs and current events at the Sanctuary, please visit our website at:

**[www.ny.audubon.org/TRSanctuary](http://www.ny.audubon.org/TRSanctuary)**

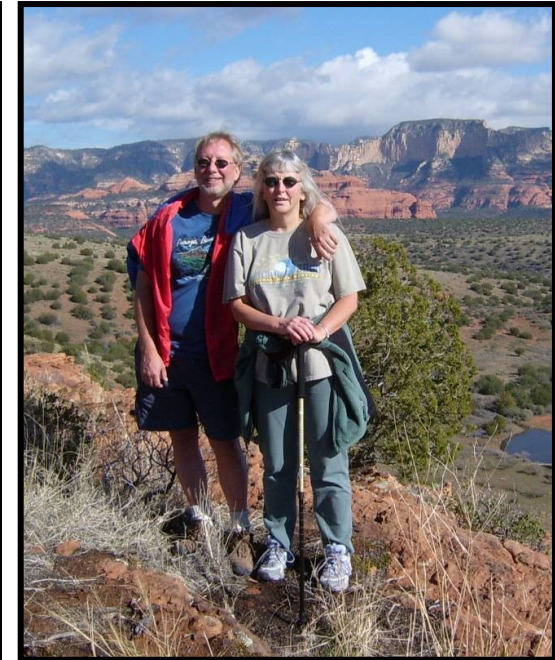
Find us on Facebook for the latest event updates, upcoming programs, and photos from the trails:

**Search and “like” Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center**



**A Tree for Mona**

Mona Tewanger-Scherff, nature enthusiast and wife of former Center Director Ted Scherff was one of the Sanctuary’s most dedicated supporters for several years. It is with great sorrow we report that she passed away last year. Mona was a “jack-of-all-trades,” jumping in wherever an extra hand was needed; whether it was gardening and trail maintenance, running our center store, greeting visitors, or helping with special events, she always gladly stepped up with vigor and enthusiasm. On June 5th, 2015 Sanctuary staff and volunteers planted a Cherokee Princess Dogwood tree in remembrance. One day, this beautiful tree will serve as a permanent reminder of the impact Mona had on the Center. She is deeply missed.



**Sanctuary Wishlist**

Donations are always welcome, but if you would like to make a non-monetary donation here are some items that would aide in our advancement of nature center operations:

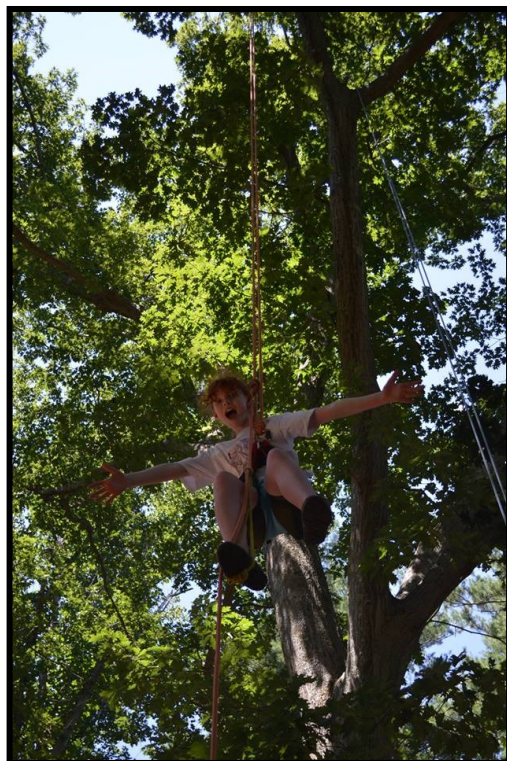
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| A New or Used Van                           | iPod touch with iBird Pro app            |
| Acorn Naturalist Gift Card                  | Portable speakers                        |
| Eco-Friendly Cleaning Supplies              | 14’x20’ Garden Shed (7-foot ceiling)     |
| 2 Coffee Urns (Commercial Type)             | 2 Spotting Scopes                        |
| Medium-sized (10”) Belt Sander              | Digital Camera                           |
| Carpet Cleaner Appliance                    | Portable LCD Projector                   |
| Kawasaki Mule                               | Personal Floatation Devices/Life Jackets |
| Picnic Tables                               | Microscope for Center Display            |
| Folding Canopy                              | Riker Mounts                             |
| Battery Powered Entrance Counter            | Kayaks                                   |
| Digital Blue QX5 Digital Microscope         |  |
| Landscaping Shrubs (Native Species)         |  |
| Generator                                   |  |
| Nature Calls (Interactive Computer display) |  |

*For more ideas visit our Wishlist on Amazon! Just search “Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary”*

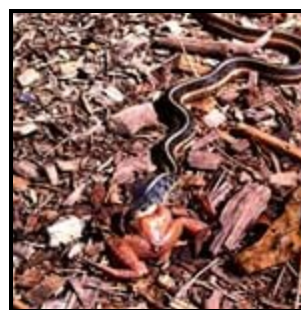


## Highlight: What's New This Year at Summer Sanctuary Adventures?

Some of our “adventurers” have been attending our summer program for years, and some even their parents before them! For this reason, we always try to come up with something fresh and new to keep things exciting, and this year’s addition was a “barking” success. **Wonderland Tree- Care** joined us on site twice this summer to give the kids an exciting tree-climbing experience our campers are sure to remember. Check out some of these photos of the kids taking in a “birds-eye-view” of the Sanctuary grounds!



## Naturalist's Notebook



Snake eats a frog at TRSAC

Late summer into fall on Long Island is an incredible time to get out on the trails and explore. As the days get shorter and the temperatures get cooler, wildlife all around us is busy preparing for the winter ahead. Burrows are dug, food is caught and hoarded while it's still abundant, and birds are fattening up while they still can preparing for either migration or the harsh months ahead.

Take a look at what's sprouting— and dropping- around the Sanctuary grounds this time of year:

**American Pokeweed:** Or simply known as pokeweed, *Phytolacca americana* is an herbaceous perennial native to the eastern United States. It has simple leaves on green to purplish stems and bears green to white flowers. After the flowers, it will produce beautiful purple to almost black berries, and although toxic to humans, it is a very important food source for songbirds such as gray catbird, northern cardinal, northern mockingbird, and brown thrasher (all birds that have been seen at the Sanctuary!). Although the berries are poisonous to humans, the stems and leaves of this plant are edible when cooked.



**Black Walnut:** *Juglans nigra*, or Eastern Black Walnut is a flowering tree in the walnut family native to eastern North America. We have several black walnut trees on our grounds, so look for trees with a deeply furrowed black bark, compound leaves, and of course- the walnuts themselves. Small, green walnut fruit appear in early summer before maturing into egg-sized spheres in late summer and early fall. Native Americans utilized this tree long before the European settlers arrived; the dark pigment in the husks was used to dye clothing and the nuts were eaten as well as ground into flour. Today, the walnuts are still an economically prosperous food source, while the hard black walnut shell is used commercially in abrasive cleaning, cosmetics, and oil well drilling and water filtration.



**Acorns:** Acorns are the nuts of oak species and soon you will be seeing our grounds littered with them! Acorns are an important food source for forest dwellers, big and small. Birds, such as jays, pigeons, some ducks, and some species of woodpeckers will feed on them, and are part of the diet of mammals including small rodents, deer, and even bears. Mammals that burrow underground for the winter, such as chipmunks, will begin hoarding dozens of acorns starting in late summer to keep stock for the freezing temperatures.





# Trailside Photo Contest!

We asked you to send us your best bird photos for a chance to be featured in the Summer/Fall 2015 issue of Trailside— and you delivered! We were overwhelmed by the amount of beautiful submissions to the contest, and it is inspiring to see so many people out exploring nature and enjoying our native birds. It was hard to select winners, but take a look at our contest winner and our runner up:



**Winner:**  
Deidre Elzer— Lento  
American Oystercatcher  
Long Beach, NY



**Runner Up:**  
Russell Abate  
Northern Cardinal  
Huntington, NY

Thank you for your submissions! Watch for the next opportunity for your photo to be featured in Trailside.

## Welcome Amanda, Long Island Bird Conservation Program Manager

**A**manda first became passionate about coastal conservation while working at Long Island's Fire Island National Seashore as an Interpretation Ranger where she assisted in the monitoring of breeding Piping Plovers and spoke to visitors, both adults and children, about shorebird conservation through environmental education programs. As a graduate student researching Rusty Blackbirds, she oversaw a field crew and worked with partners, including the New Hampshire Audubon Society, the forest industry and private landowners, to better understand this species of great conservation concern by studying their foraging habitat characteristics, aquatic invertebrate prey availability, and detectability to guide land and wildlife management. Amanda surveyed other passerines, waterfowl, and raptors as a volunteer and also completed the Braddock Bay Observatory's (south shore of Lake Ontario) summer banding course. She has a B.S. in Environmental Studies from SUNY Binghamton and will be receiving her M.S. in Fish and Wildlife Biology and Management from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry later this summer.

Amanda is a Long Island native and is excited to begin her career with Audubon. Amanda spends her free time reading, practicing yoga, cooking local veggies, stand up paddle boarding, and hiking with her fiancé, Joe, and their crazy plott hound mix, Hercules.



## VOLUNTEERS:

### Making the Sanctuary a Better Place

With a vibrant volunteer program in place, the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center staff are expanding volunteer opportunities. In addition to five volunteer job descriptions:

- Volunteer Educator
- Volunteer Hospitality/Office Administration
- Volunteer Groundskeeper
- Volunteer Special Events Attendant

If you are passionate about nature, conservation, birds, or all of the above, consider a volunteer position. The TRSAC volunteer program now hosts educational field trips, seasonal natural resource stewardship activities, social gatherings, and more. Without the diverse and unique talents of volunteers, the Sanctuary would not be the same.

To learn more about the TRSAC volunteer program call 516-922-3200 or email [gtudda@audubon.org](mailto:gtudda@audubon.org).

