



SUMMER 2026 PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Details, speaker bios and tickets are available on the Calendar of Events at nhnature.org.

2026 ON THE TRAIL

HOURS

Live Animal Exhibit Trail open daily May 1 - Nov. 1 from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, last admission at 3:30 pm.

Parking lot gates close at 5:30 pm.

RIVER OTTER FEEDING

11:30 am Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in June, July, and August at River Otter Exhibit

Sponsored by:



TURTLE TALKS

10:00 am Every Tuesday in July and August on the Webster Building Terrace

UP CLOSE TO ANIMALS

11:00 am, 1:00 pm & 3:00 pm,
Daily in July and August at the Amphitheater

Sponsored by:

Squam Boat Livery

JUNE 4

NH BATS COUNTS TRAINING

Ages 12 and up, 7:00pm to 9:00 pm

Got bats? Help us count them! Join wildlife biologists **Sandi Houghton** of NH Fish & Game and **Haley Andreozzi** of UNH Cooperative Extension for a presentation and demonstration to learn more about the bat species found in New Hampshire, the threats leading to population declines, and how you can help. The training will start with an **indoor presentation on bats** in New Hampshire. Then, we'll head outdoors for a **bat counting demonstration at dusk**. All are welcome, but landowners and homeowners with bats on their property are especially encouraged to attend.

Cost: Free, Advance registration required.

SAVE THE DATES! JUNE 10-19

CHARITABLE GAMING AT
REVO CASINO IN CONWAY

Revo raised and donated \$22,127 in 2025!

This year, a portion of earnings raised between June 10 - 19 will benefit the Science Center.

2026 LAKE CRUISE SCHEDULES

CRUISE TYPE	DATE	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	3:00 PM
Bald Eagle Adventure	5/19-6/9			Tuesdays
Discover Squam Cruise	5/16-6/30		Daily	
	7/1-7/14	Daily	Daily	Sun, Tue, Wed, Thu, Sat
	7/15-8/18	Daily	Daily	Sun, Tue, Sat
	8/22-9/15	Daily	Daily	Sun, Mon, Tue, Fri, Sat
	9/18-10/12	Daily	Daily	Daily
Cruise With a Naturalist	7/15-9/17			Wed, Thu
Loon Cruise	6/22-8/21			Mon, Fri



Cruise descriptions and registration at nhnature.org

All cruises require reservations.

Schedule subject to change.



JUNE 11

BUTTERFLY COUNT FIELD TRAINING

Ages 12 and up, 2:00 to 3:30 pm

Join **Heidi Holman**, NH Fish and Game Wildlife Diversity Biologist, for a hands-on field day as we search fields and forests for crescents, blues, sulphurs, and other butterflies, learning to identify them by their field marks, flight patterns, and behavior. This is a great opportunity to **sharpen your butterfly identification skills** before the Squam Lakes Region Butterfly Count on July 8.

Cost: Free, Advance registration required.

JULY 13

LOON DAY



All Ages, 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

All Squam Lakes Cruises will be **Loon Cruises**, offering guests the chance to learn about Loon behavior, habitat, and conservation while exploring the beauty of Squam Lake. At the Science Center, visit an information table hosted by the **Loon Preservation Committee** to connect with experts and discover how you can help protect these remarkable birds. The **Howling Coyote Gift Shop** will offer a discount on Loon products!

Cost: Cruise tickets must be purchased in advance.

JUNE 29 - AUG 31

MONARCH MONITORING MONDAYS

All Ages, 9:00 am to 10:30 pm

Join the caterpillar count!

As part of the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project, this national citizen science initiative, will meet **every Monday morning** through the end of August to count all the monarch caterpillars and eggs we can find in our established plot featuring abundant milkweed. Our data will help scientists learn about the status of monarchs across the country. Join every week or when you can! Youth must be accompanied by an adult.



Cost: Free, Advance registration required.

JULY 22



MOVIE NIGHT: THE INVISIBLE MAMMAL

Ages 12 and up, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

A 90-minute documentary follows an all-woman team of biologists as they set out to save bats from the ravages of white-nose syndrome, directed by Bay Area filmmaker Kristin Tieche. Following the film, **Haley Andreozzi** and **Sandi Houghton** of **NH Bat Counts** will be on hand for questions, and to share what you can do to protect bats here in the Granite State. Participants are invited to bring comfortable camp chairs and snacks or dinner. **Popcorn and beverages will be provided.**

Cost: Free, Advance registration required.

AUGUST 12

ANIMAL BIRTHDAY BASH

All Ages, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

A favorite day for visitors to discover how our animal care team keeps our animals healthy and engaged with creative enrichment activities. **Watch the animals open their birthday presents** at **Up Close to Animals** presentations throughout the day. Docents available with touchable artifacts, eager to answer your questions. Kids enjoy **hands-on activity stations**, creating enrichment items for the animals. When it's time for a break, **Straws+ Food Truck** will be available for coffee, smoothies and waffles in the picnic area.

Cost: Included with trail admission. Lunch available for purchase. Last admission at 3:30 pm

Sponsored by:



JULY 8

SQUAM LAKES BUTTERFLY COUNT

Ages 12 and up, 8:45 am to 3:45 pm

Help us kick off this new tradition! Spend a day in the field surveying for monarchs, swallowtails, skippers, and more! Seasoned naturalists, novices and in-between are welcome. You will be supported throughout the day, to learn, connect, and explore. Results will be shared with the New Hampshire Butterfly Monitoring Network, a community science effort that contributes data to ongoing conservation efforts. Youth must be accompanied by an adult all day.

Cost: Free, Advance registration required. Rain Date July 9

SUMMER LECTURE SERIES ROOTED IN RESEARCH: DECADES OF FOREST DISCOVERY

Adults, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

As part of our 60th Anniversary, we've partnered with the Hubbard Brook Research Foundation to present a summer lecture series highlighting decades of environmental research and education. Scientists working at the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest in North Woodstock, NH will share insights on topics ranging from invasive forest pests to bat acoustic monitoring and scientific illustration.

Cost: Free, Advance registration required.

- 7/1 **The Disappearing Ash Tree: What Happens When a Forest Loses a Species?** by Matt Ayers, Professor of Biological Sciences and graduate program in Ecology, Evolution, Environment and Society, Dartmouth College.
- 7/2 **Bryophytes: The Hidden Engineers of Mountain Streams** by Heili Lowman, Watershed Ecologist and Aquatic Biogeochemist, Duke University Postdoctoral Scientist
- 7/21 **Lights, Camera, Acoustics: Studying New Hampshire's Most Misunderstood Mammals** by Jessica Jones, PhD Student, Dartmouth College, Ecology, Evolution, Environment and Society
- 7/23 **The Consequences of New Hampshire's Changing Winters** by Caitlin Hicks Pries, Associate Professor, Dept of Biological Sciences, Dartmouth College
- 8/5 **Two Centuries of Change in New Hampshire Forests** by Matt Vadeboncoeur, Research Assistant Professor, Earth Systems Research Center, University of NH
- 8/11 **After the Ice: How Forests Survive – and Recover From – Devastating Ice Storms** by Lindsey Rustad, Research Ecologist, USDA Forest Service (recently retired), and Faculty Associate, University of Maine
- 8/20 **Scientific Illustration and the Common Loon** by Raisa Kochmaruk, Scientific Illustrator, Hubbard Brook Research Foundation

JUNE 26

STORYWALK™ KICK OFF RECEPTION

All Ages, 10:00 to 11:30 am, Curry Place, Holderness

Stroll along the channel as you read *Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt* by Kate Messner (Art by Christopher Silas Neal) posted one page at a time along the trail. Follow along to **discover the wonder** and activity that lie hidden between the stalks, under the shade of leaves, and down in the dirt! **Craft and snack** during the Kick-Off Reception. StoryWalk™ surrounds the Holderness Town Gazebo behind the Post Office at Curry Place. **Presented in partnership with Curry Place, Holderness Library, Squam Lakes Association, and Holderness Recreation Department.**

Open daily June 26-September 7

Cost: Free. No registration required.

Sponsored by:



60 YEARS OF DISCOVERY: BIOBLITZ

Join us in August for a month-long BioBlitz — a collaborative effort to document the biodiversity across our conserved campus. With two hundred acres of forests, fields, and wetlands to explore, the Science Center's property depends on many eyes, ears, and curious minds to help uncover and record the plants, animals, fungi, and insects that call this place home. Using the iNaturalist platform, visitors of all ages can help catalog the living organisms that make this landscape thrive.

New to iNaturalist? We are offering short introductory sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays at 11:30 am

Cost: Included with Trail Admission.



BIOBLITZ: WALKS WITH AN EXPERT

Join us to learn directly from scientists and naturalists while contributing meaningful community science data as part of our month-long BioBlitz to support biodiversity research and conservation. **Pick your favorite topic to attend or dive in and join us for the series!**

Ages 12 and up

Tuesday, August 4, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Flowers and Shrubs with Emma Erler

Lead Horticulturist, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center

Thursday, August 6, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Trees with Gabe Horton, Forester, Excel Forestry LLC

Tuesday, August 11, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Aquatic Macroinvertebrates with Audrey Eisenhauer

Education Director, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center

Thursday, August 13, 7:30 to 9:30 am

Birds with Iain MacLeod

Executive Director, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center

Tuesday, August 18 (rain date August 19), 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Butterflies with Heidi Holman, NH Fish & Game Wildlife

Biologist, & **George DeWolf**, Baker Ponds Butterfly Count Coordinator

Wednesday, August 19, 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Moths with Rick Van de Poll, PhD

founder of Ecosystem Management Consultants

Thursday, August 20, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Fungi with Rick Van de Poll, PhD

Tuesday, August 25, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Amphibians with Barry Draper

Thursday, August 27, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Invasive Plant Species with Liz Stevens, Master Gardener

Cost per Session: \$15/members; \$18/non-member. Space is limited. Advance registration is required.

BIOBLITZ WRAP-UP

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

September 4, All Ages 12, 5:00 to 6:30 pm

Join as we share our collective results, award standout contributions (such as most species observed), highlight any unexpected finds, and **honor 60 years of discovery, conservation, and connection** to the natural world.

Cost: Free, Advance registration required.

JUNE 24

MEMBERS SUMMER SOLSTICE

All Ages, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Celebrate the Summer Solstice at this exclusive, members only evening at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center. Members will enjoy after-hours access to the trails and animal exhibits.

Light refreshments will be provided. Members receive 20% off in the Howling Coyote Gift Shop.

Cost: Free with a current membership.

JULY 16

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS SQUAM LAKES NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER



Nature for Everyone Barn Bash

Join us for dinner, dancing and celebrating at the Willoughby Ridge Barn. Limited Seats. RSVP at nhnature.org

Sponsored by:



**Amoskeag
Beverages**

AUGUST 6

ANNUAL MEETING & SUMMER SOCIAL

Adults, 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm, Meeting

5:30 to 7:30 pm, Summer Social

Join us for an engaging evening that brings our community together in **celebration and support** of the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center. The Annual Meeting invites members to take part in important updates, including approving minutes, electing officers and trustees, and **recognizing both retiring trustees and dedicated staff** for their service.

Cost: Donation-based event, Advanced registration required.

Sponsored by:

**WHITTEN
ARCHITECTS**



SAVE THE DATES

- June 24 Member Summer Solstice
- July 13 Loon Day
- July 16 Nature for Everyone Barn Bash
- July 22 Movie Night: The Invisible Mammal
- August NEW! BioBlitz & Walks with an Expert
- Sept. 4 BioBlitz Wrap-up
- Aug. 6 Annual Meeting & Summer Social
- Aug. 12 Animal Birthday Bash
- Sept. 1 Parsons Volunteer Recognition Dinner
- Sept. 19 Raptor Migration Celebration
- Sept. 26 Donor & Member Recognition
- Oct. 3 Grandparents Day
- Oct. 24 Howl-O-Ween
- Nov. 1 New Hampshire Day

THE HOWLING COYOTE GIFT SHOP

Newly stocked Science Center merchandise, sustainably sourced gifts, carefully crafted New England-made products, and unique creations from local artisans. Open daily 9:30 am to 5:00 pm



NATURE TOURS WITH IAIN

NEW MEXICO – LAND OF ENCHANTMENT

November 4-14, 2026

SCOTLAND'S EAST COAST - ABERDEENSHIRE, ANGUS,
PERTH & KINROSS, FIFE AND STIRLING

May 16-29, 2027

NORTHERN ISLES – SHETLAND AND ORKNEY

May 28-June 10, 2027

JUST ADDED! HIGHLANDS AND HEBRIDES

May 13-25, 2028



Photo credit: Iain MacLeod



Photo credit: Iain MacLeod

Space is available in these sought-after excursions led by Executive Director, Iain MacLeod. Iain creates and leads these small-group tours to Scotland and New Mexico that explore the ecology and natural and cultural history of the regions. The group size (maximum of 11 guests in Scotland and 8 in New Mexico), and unhurried pace fosters new friendships, a relaxed atmosphere, and flexibility in the schedule. Learn more and download the detailed itineraries at nhnature.org.

SUMMER 2026 • 23 SCIENCE CENTER RD, HOLDERNESS, NH, 603-968-7194

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