



FCWC *Federated Conservationists of Westchester County*

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Following us on social media is the best way to keep up with day-to-day announcements



Westchester County Parks App



Take a look at Westchester County Park's all-inclusive, [free app](#), that will be any Westchester explorer's best friend.

Advanced GPS and GIS mapping technology

December 2014

Our Mission and Vision

Our mission is to provide leadership that educates people about environmental issues, problems, and solutions; advocates sound decision making; and works with groups and individuals to protect Westchester's natural resources.

FCWC envisions a county in which an environmental ethic defines and shapes all public and private decisions affecting natural resources.



Roundtable Discussion/workshop

Parks, Sanctuaries, and Nature Centers

When: Friday, January 23rd, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Where: Greenburgh Public Library



This roundtable is designed for staff and volunteers at county parks, private parks and reserves, and nature centers and for anyone else concerned about preserving natural habitat and wildlife in Westchester.

There will be a general and open-ended discussion about the major resources at the various parks and preserves, and the problems in preserving habitat

allows users to track trails, mark waypoints, locate landmarks, and stay update with park advisories and weather announcements.

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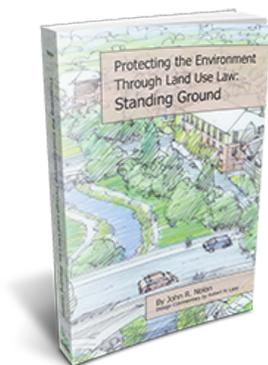
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and biodiversity. In particular, the discussion will include the resilience needed for the challenges of climate change.

Actions and solutions that are being or will be implemented will be shared among the participants. The initial goals are to identify the common problems, compile a list of actions that do or don't work, and compile a list of resources and references that will be disseminated through the FCWC website, E-news and through the participants' networks. Future goals will be to organize a conference on natural areas and invite experts to address the issues raised by this roundtable.

Book Release from Professor John Nolon, Pace Law School

Protecting the Environment Through Land Use Law: Standing Ground by Professor John Nolon



Professor John Nolon's new book, *Protecting the Environment Through Land Use Law: Standing Ground*, describes in detail how a greener planet and appropriate development can be achieved through zoning and other land use laws. It explains countless practical strategies that local governments are using as they continue their historical struggle to balance land development with natural resource conservation. Professor Nolon is the founder of, and Counsel to, the Law School's Land Use Law Center and a professor at Pace. He has taught land use planning and policy at Yale for

over 12 years.

Standing Ground is published by the American Planning Association and Environmental Law Institute and is his latest in a series of publications that define and describe a framework for sustainable development. Read more about the new publication [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

For a full list of our member organization's events and happenings, check out our Federation Calendar at www.fcwc.org/events. Remember to always confirm events before attending. Check back regularly as we are always updating.

Free Public Lecture! Bird Medicine: The Sacred Power of Bird Shamanism

Sponsored by: Bedford Audubon Society

When: Wednesday, December 10, 7:30 PM

Where: Meeting Room at the Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Road, Katonah, NY

In Native North America spirituality, birds are powerful allies in the natural world. Join us to hear Dr. Evan Pritchard, of Mi'kmaq and Celtic descent, speak about the gatekeepers of the four directions - eagle, hawk, crow, and owl - their role in legends and the use of feathers in Native American rituals. Dr. Pritchard will give examples of interpretations that can be applied in

encounters with birds, along with ways we can encourage them to communicate with us.

This is a free event. For more information on this event please visit bedfordaudubon.org.

Annual Holiday Potluck

Sponsored by: Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center

When: Friday, December 12, 5:00 PM-7:00 PM

Where: 1271 Hanover Street, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Join Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center for the annual Holiday Potluck, with music from [Hudson Crossing](#). Spend time with staff, board members, volunteers, members and friends of the farm. Bring a dish to share - entree, appetizer or dessert, and we will provide beverages.

This is a free event. [Click here](#) to register, so to know how many to expect.

Tapped: A film screening examining the bottled water industry

Sponsored by: Riverkeeper

When: Sunday, December 14, 3:00 PM-6:00 PM

Where: 323 Wall St, Kingston, New York 12401

Riverkeeper is proud to cosponsor with the host KingstonCitizens.org and the support of the Woodstock Land Conservancy and Esopus Creek Conservancy free screenings of the film "Tapped" throughout the Mid-Hudson Valley region. To learn more visit [Riverkeeper's Events page](#).

Winter Ecology Walk

Sponsored by: The Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary

When: Saturday, December 22, 1:00 PM

Where: 1 Playland Parkway adjacent to Playland Park, Rye, NY 10580

What do plants and trees do to survive the freezing winter months? Where are the insects, mammals, and birds? Join us for a leisurely stroll as we discuss the ecology of nature in winter. Dress for the weather. Refreshments provided by FRWS. For more information please visit the [Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary Events Page](#).

Bird Walk: Winter Solstice at Marshlands Conservancy & Read Sanctuary with Bedford Audubon Naturalist Tait Johansson

Sponsored by: Bedford Audubon Society

When: Monday, December 22, 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Where: Parking lot by the boathouse at Playland

OK, so the Winter Solstice is really December 21, but join us anyway to look for Great Horned Owls and Fox Sparrows in the forest and for wintering ducks, loons, and grebes along the coast.

Depart Bylane at 7:45am or meet in the parking lot by the boathouse at Playland at 8:30. Level of difficulty: Moderate. Dress warm. Please register with Jeanne Pollock at jpollock@bedfordaudubon.org or (914) 519-7801.

Christmas Bird Count

Sponsored by: Bronx River Sound Shore Audubon Society

When: Sunday, December 28

Where: Scarsdale Village Hall unless otherwise specified

Upcoming Bronx River Sound Shore field trip! Volunteer for this important bird survey. Volunteer for a few hours or all day.

Contact Doug Bloom at (914) 834-5203 for more information or to sign up for a trip. To read more visit Bronx River Sound Shore Audubon Society's [Field Trip page](#).

We hope you find the information contained within this E-News relevant and useful. As always, please keep in touch and let us know your thoughts and ideas regarding environmental issues throughout the County.

Sincerely,

Federated Conservationists of Westchester County

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