



## Energy and Environmental Affairs

EEA Home > Agencies > Department of Fish & Game > Fisheries & Wildlife > Education & Events > MassWildlife News May 2012 Edition

### MassWildlife News May 2012 Edition

#### MassWildlife News Release

All Media Inquiries: Contact (617) 626-1052

MassWildlife News is published 1-2 times/month. If you are interested in receiving the MW News electronically, send an e-mail to the following address: [Join-MassWildlife.news@listserv.state.ma.us](mailto:Join-MassWildlife.news@listserv.state.ma.us)

#### May 2012

- [GO FISH! \(FOR FREE\)](#)
- [CITIZEN SCIENTISTS NEEDED TO IDENTIFY TURTLE CROSSINGS](#)
- [RECORD BREAKING CARP CAUGHT IN SHREWSBURY](#)
- [KEEP WILDLIFE WILD, LEAVE YOUNG WILDLIFE ALONE](#)
- [PEREGRINE CAM GOES LIVE AT UMASS AMHERST](#)
- [TISA HONORED BY BERKSHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE OF SPORTSMEN](#)
- [UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS](#)
- [CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)

Released May 1, 2012

#### [GO FISH! \(FOR FREE\)](#)

Fishing is a great way to spend some quality time with family or friends in the great outdoors. If you are a novice, bring family or friends to one of the free fishing festivals near you! MassWildlife's Angler Education Program has teamed up with groups to provide free fishing opportunities and loaner equipment for beginning anglers of all ages. Fishing events for the month of May are below. No license is needed by participants at these events. Don't forget that the statewide Free Fishing Weekend will be June 2-3, 2012! Anyone can fish recreationally for free on both fresh and salt water during these two days.

- May 5 -- Snows Pond Family Fishing Festival, Charlton -- This new event will be held at Snows Pond, located at Fay Mountain Farm off Cemetery Road from 10:00am - 2:00pm, cast a line, learn about fish in our waters, safety, ethics, and fishing equipment. If you have fishing equipment, bring it along. A limited quantity of fishing equipment and bait will be available. MassWildlife is participating in this festival in cooperation with the Charlton Conservation Commission. Contact: Charlton Conservation Commission, Todd P. Girard (508) 248-2247 or email: [todd.girard@townofcharlton.net](mailto:todd.girard@townofcharlton.net)
- May 5 -- Westborough Spring Fishing Challenge, Westborough -- On Sandra Pond at the Minuteman Park in Westborough from 9:00am - 1:00pm, cast a line, learn about fish in our waters, safety, ethics, and fishing equipment. If you have fishing equipment, bring it along. MassWildlife's Angler Education Program is providing a limited quantity of fishing equipment at this event. Contact Jim Lagacy at (508) 389-6309 or email [jim.lagacy@state.ma.us](mailto:jim.lagacy@state.ma.us).
- May 6 -- Brookline Reservoir Family Fishing Festival, Brookline -- From 9:00am - 12:00pm at the Brookline Reservoir, cast a line, learn about fish in our waters, safety, ethics, and fishing equipment. If you have fishing equipment, bring it along. A limited quantity of fishing equipment and bait will be available. MassWildlife is participating in this festival in cooperation with the Brookline Recreation Department. Contact Jim Lagacy at (508) 389-6309 or email [jim.lagacy@state.ma.us](mailto:jim.lagacy@state.ma.us).
- May 12 -- US Fish & Wildlife Service Kids Fishing Event, Sunderland -- Bring your kids to the US Fish and Wildlife Service regional office at the Cronin National Salmon Station on East Plumtree Road, Sunderland. MassWildlife's Angler Education Program is providing a limited quantity of fishing equipment for this event. For more information, contact Bryan Sojkowski at [Bryan\\_Sojkowski@fws.gov](mailto:Bryan_Sojkowski@fws.gov).
- May 12 -- Coes Pond Fishing Derby, Worcester -- On the shores of Coes Pond, from 8:00am - 11:00am, cast a line, learn about fish in our waters, safety, ethics, and fishing equipment. If you have fishing equipment, bring it along. A

#### Quick Links

- Get MassWildlife News
- MassWildlife News 2016
- MassWildlife News 2015
- MassWildlife News 2014
- MassWildlife News 2013
- MassWildlife News 2012



Buy Licenses / Permits  
**MassFishHunt**  
Check Your Game

Division of Fisheries & Wildlife  
1 Rabbit Hill Road  
Westborough, MA 01581  
(508) 389-6300  
[Mass.Wildlife@state.ma.us](mailto:Mass.Wildlife@state.ma.us)

[Other MassWildlife offices](#)

[Subscribe to e-newsletter](#)



limited quantity of fishing equipment and bait will be available. MassWildlife's is participating in this festival in cooperation with the Worcester Fish & Game Association. Contact Jim Lagacy at (508) 389-6309 or email [jim.lagacy@state.ma.us](mailto:jim.lagacy@state.ma.us).

- May 19 -- Disabled American Veterans Fishing Festival, Marlborough --This special festival is open to disabled veterans only at the Marlboro Fish and Game Club, 10:00 - 2:00pm. The Angler Education Program is partnering with the Marlboro Fish and Game Club. Contact Jim Lagacy at (508) 389-6309 or [jim.lagacy@state.ma.us](mailto:jim.lagacy@state.ma.us).
- May 20 -- Whitmans Pond Family Fishing Festival, Weymouth -- On the shores of WhitmanPpond, from 10 AM - 2 PM, cast a line, learn about fish in our waters, safety, ethics, and fishing equipment. If you have fishing equipment, bring it along. A limited quantity of fishing equipment and bait will be available. MassWildlife's is participating in this festival in cooperation with the Whitman's Pond Association and Weymouth Youth and Family Services. Contact Marie Feely at (781) 340-6976 for more details.

[Return to top](#)

---

Released May 1, 2012

### **CITIZEN SCIENTISTS NEEDED TO MONITOR TURTLE CROSSINGS**

Turtles have existed for millions of years, but roadways are threatening the survival of local populations. Turtles in Massachusetts often cross roadways from late spring to early fall and are vulnerable to car collisions. Citizen scientists, turtle enthusiasts, and conservation organizations are encouraged to join state wildlife and transportation personnel in collecting data for the Turtle Roadway Mortality Monitoring Program. Over the past few years, Linking Landscapes for Massachusetts Wildlife, a partnership between the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW), Department of Transportation (DOT) Highway Division and UMass-Amherst, has been training volunteers to collect turtle crossing data. The information gathered through this volunteer effort is used to coordinate local turtle conservation efforts.

An information and training session designed to train new volunteers will be offered on May 16, 2012 at the United Methodist Church, 6 Holmes Road in Lenox beginning at 6:30 PM. The event will be co-sponsored with the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT) and Project Native. The session is free, but pre-registration is required. Interested volunteers can register with DFW's Dave Paulson [David.Paulson@state.ma.us](mailto:David.Paulson@state.ma.us) or call him at (508) 389-6366.

Linking Landscapes for Massachusetts Wildlife is a long-term and multifaceted effort to minimize the impact of the existing road network on wildlife, while improving highway safety. Linking Landscapes offers three Massachusetts citizen science research efforts that allows online reporting of site specific wildlife roadway mortality through a Google Maps interface. More information on [Linking Landscapes for Massachusetts Wildlife](#).

[Return to top](#)

---

Released May 1, 2012

### **RECORD BREAKING CARP CAUGHT IN SHREWSBURY**

MassWildlife fisheries biologists certified a new state record for a carp caught on April 18, 2012. Shane Felch of Shrewsbury took a 46-pound 5-ounce carp from Lake Quinsigamond in Shrewsbury. Boating late at night on Lake Quinsigamond, Shane took his fish with a cross bow (requires a special permit for hunting and fishing). Carp are one of the few freshwater fish in Massachusetts which can be taken either by a hook and line, or by using bow and arrow. He brought the fish to MassWildlife's Field Headquarters in Westborough to have it weighed and certified by fisheries biologists. Shane's fish breaks the record set in 1993 by Roger Pyzocha of a carp weighing 44 pounds, 2 ounces caught in the Connecticut River. Look for an image and more details on this fish story to be posted this week on the Great Outdoors Blog at <http://environment.blog.state.ma.us/>. Congratulations Shane!

[Return to top](#)

---

Released May 1, 2012

### **KEEP WILDLIFE WILD, LEAVE YOUNG WILDLIFE ALONE**

The arrival of spring means the arrival of newborn and just-hatched wildlife. These youngsters soon venture into the world on shaky legs or fragile wings and are discovered by people living, playing or working nearby. Every year, the lives of many young wild creatures are disturbed by people who take young wildlife from the wild in a well-intentioned attempt to "save" them.

These well-meant acts of kindness tend to have the opposite result. Instead of being left to learn their place in the world, young wildlife removed from the wild are denied important natural learning experiences which help them survive on their own. Most people quickly find that they can't really care for young wildlife, and many of the animals soon die in the hands of well-meaning people. Young wildlife that does survive human "assistance" miss experiences that teach them to fend for themselves. If these animals are released back into the wild, their chances of survival are reduced. Often, the care given to young wildlife results in some attachment to humans and the animals may return to places where people live, only to be attacked by domestic animals or hit by cars. Some animals become nuisances and people have even been injured by once-tamed wildlife.

Avoid these problems by following one simple rule when coming upon young wildlife: If You Care, Leave Them There! It may be difficult to do, but this is a real act of compassion. Generally young mammals are visited only a few times a day to avoid leaving traces that attract predators. For instance, a nest of bunnies will only be visited by the adult female twice per day. The young wildlife are quite safe when left alone because their color patterns and lack of scent help them remain undetected. Avoid nest and den areas of young wildlife and restrain all pets. What if you find a young bird that has fallen from a nest? Adult wildlife are not disturbed by human scent. Baby birds found on the ground may be safely picked up and placed in a nearby bush or tree.

Leave fawns (young deer) where they are found. Fawns are safest when left alone because their camouflaging color helps them remain undetected until the doe returns. If sympathetic people repeatedly visit a fawn, it can prolong the separation from the doe and delay important feeding. Unlike deer, newborn moose calves remain in close proximity to their mothers who, in contrast to a white-tailed doe, will actively defend calves against danger. An adult cow moose weighing over 600 pounds will chase, kick, stomp potential predators, people included.

Only when young wildlife are found injured or with their dead mother may the young be assisted, but must then be delivered immediately to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator. Due to the difficulty in properly caring for them there are no rehabilitators licensed to care of fawns. It is illegal to possess most wildlife in Massachusetts. Information on young wildlife and a list of wildlife rehabilitators has been posted on line.


[Return to top](#)

---

Released May 1, 2012

### **PEREGRINE CAM GOES LIVE AT UMASS AMHERST**

A pair of Peregrine Falcons nesting on the roof of the W.E.B. Du Bois Library at UMass Amherst for the past 10 years, can now be viewed on a live webcam thanks to the UMass Amherst Facilities Planning Division, the Office of Information Technology (OIT), and the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife). Live images of the falcons brooding their eggs and caring for their hatchlings can be viewed at [www.library.umass.edu/falcons](http://www.library.umass.edu/falcons). "We are very happy that this project is coming to fruition after lots of hard work and goodwill," said Richard Nathhorst, capital project manager, Facilities Planning, at UMass Amherst. Each spring, staff from MassWildlife and UMass Facilities Planning Division band the chicks after they hatch. Since the first nest box was installed at the library in 2003, 27 falcon chicks have hatched and fledged (flown) from this site.

The Bay State's resident Peregrine falcons will be the focus of a banding effort by MassWildlife biologists during the month of May. "In 2011, there were a total of 25 nesting pairs of falcons in the Bay State," said Dr. Tom French, Assistant Director of MassWildlife's Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. Peregrine Falcons are now nesting at sites across the state including locations in Boston, Cambridge, Saugus, Swampscott, Peabody, Woburn, West Roxbury, Winthrop, Fall River, New Bedford, Quincy, Lawrence, Lowell, Worcester, Deerfield, Springfield, Erving, and Holyoke. The banning of DDT in 1972 and subsequent restoration efforts brought the peregrine back from the brink of extinction in Massachusetts and across the country. Banding of the young has proven to be an important scientific tool in measuring the success of restoration programs, learning about raptor survival rates, dispersal distances, habitat preferences and causes of death. The peregrine falcon was removed from the federal Endangered Species list in 1999, but is listed as Endangered under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act. [Fact sheet on peregrine falcons](#) .

Released May 1, 2012

### **TISA HONORED BY BERKSHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE OF SPORTSMEN**

Dr. Mark Tisa, Assistant Director of Fisheries for the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, was recently named "Sportsman of the Year" by the Berkshire County League of Sportsmen (BCLS) at their annual banquet. The BCLS lauded Tisa for his recent efforts in developing the state's remediation plan for the Housatonic River watershed and his role on the Zebra

Mussel Task Force. The BCLS also recognized Tisa for his role in developing the Youth Pheasant Hunt Program and his assistance with the Youth Turkey Hunt Program.

[Return to top](#)

---

Released May 1, 2012

#### UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

**May 10 – Natural Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting, Westborough** -- The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Advisory Committee will meet Thursday, May 10, 2012 at the DFW Field Headquarters, 1 Rabbit Hill Rd (off North Drive) from 1:30 - 4:30pm. For directions, call the Field Headquarters at (508) 389-6300 or [check this link](#) . The building is handicapped accessible.

**May 22-- Fisheries and Wildlife Board Meeting, Worcester County**--The Fisheries & Wildlife Board will meet on Tuesday, May 22, 2012, at 1pm at the MassWildlife Field Headquarters, 1 Rabbit Hill Rd (off North Drive) in Westborough. For directions, call the Field Headquarters at (508) 389-6300 or [check this link](#) . The building is handicapped accessible.

---

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2 - Protecting Habitat For Endangered Species and Other Wildlife, Middleborough - Learn how to protect habitat for endangered wildlife in a creative and cost-effective manner. The program, sponsored by MassAudubon, MassWildlife, and Shaping the Future of Your Community will include Sarah Haggerty from MassWildlife's Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program will provide an overview of the revised MA Endangered Species Act regulations and the Eastern Box Turtle Conservation Plan. This free program will be held from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Middleborough Town Hall on 10 Nickerson Avenue in Middleborough.

May 4 - Southeastern Massachusetts BioReserve Celebration - The public is invited to a 10th Year celebration of the Bioreserve with announcements about recent land protection efforts. Join officials from the Departments of Fish and Game, Conservation and Recreation, the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, The Trustees of Reservations, and the City of Fall River at the Freetown State Forest on Slab Bridge Road in Freetown at 4pm. For more information, call (617) 626-4973.

May 19 - Growing Up WILD Workshop, New Bedford -- The [Buttonwood Zoo](#) and MassWildlife invites early childhood educators to a fun, hands-on 6-hour workshop that focuses on early childhood education. The activity guide builds on a children's sense of wonder about nature and invites them to explore wildlife and the world around them. Pre-registration is required, fee is \$25. Contact Gail Janeczek at [info@bpzoo.org](mailto:info@bpzoo.org) or (508) 991-6178 x22.

May 22 - Trout Stocking in Massachusetts, Pepperell - The [Squan-A-Tissit Chapter of Trout Unlimited](#) has invited Dr. Ken Simmons, Chief of Hatcheries, to give a talk about trout stocking in Massachusetts at their May meeting. The meeting will be held at the Pepperell VFW Hall located at the junction of Rte. 113 and Leighton Street at 7 PM.

May 25 - **Deadline** for Registering for the Becoming An Outdoorswoman Weekend held at Chimney Corners YMCA Camp in Becket. Bring a friend, family member or co-worker to this outdoors skills program designed for the adult women novice. Registration materials.

---

Did you find the information you were looking for on this page? \*

- Yes  
 No

[Send Feedback](#)

---