



THE RHODE ISLAND WILD PLANT SOCIETY

P.O. Box 414 | Exeter, RI 02822

www.riwps.org

PRESS RELEASE -- UPCOMING EVENTS for March-April 2010

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Upcoming March-April Programs and Events

UNSUNG NATIVE SHRUBS

Lecture and Field Trip

Date: Saturday, March 6, 2010

Location: Kingston

Time: 9:30am – noon

Leader: Dr. Susan Gordon

(weather date: Sun. March 7, same time)

Learn to identify and appreciate our less well-known native shrubs, such as Huckleberry, Swamp Silverbell, Fetterbush and other Blueberry impersonators. We will start indoors with a slide lecture and then move outdoors to both formal (the Botanic Garden) and natural areas (the North Woods) where we will study living specimens. Dr. Gordon is an experienced teacher who has grown up with Rhode Island's interesting woody plants.

For serious amateur botanists. Bring a hand lens if you have one.

Dress for the outdoor weather and wear footwear that can get wet and/or muddy.

Medium

Pre-registration required at least 48 hours prior.

Email: office@riwps.org | Voicemail: 401-789-7497

Fee: Members \$8., Non-members \$12.

Min. #5, Max. #15

ANNUAL MEETING

Date: Saturday, March 13, 2010

Location: North Kingstown Senior Center

44 Beach St., North Kingstown 02852

For Directions go to www.northkingstown.org

Time 1pm- Business meeting & induction of new officers

and Board of Directors
2pm -Refreshments & fellowship
2:30 pm - Guest Speaker

Forests in Transition: Conservation Challenges for the Future

Speaker: Thomas J. Rawinski



Rhode Island supports a rich variety of plant life, including trees of many kinds. But forests are under threat as never before from insect pests, tree diseases, invasive plants, and overabundant white-tailed deer. Tom Rawinski, a U.S. Forest Service botanist, will discuss forest health and biodiversity conservation issues in Rhode Island. Concerned citizens can play an important role in mitigating these threats, and conserving Rhode Island's wondrous natural heritage.

Tom is a US Forest Service botanist based in Durham, NH. His work focuses on invasive plant issues in the New England-New York region. He began his professional career in 1982 with The Nature Conservancy, classifying New England's natural communities and conducting field studies throughout the Northeast. In recent years Tom has worked for the Massachusetts Audubon Society as their director of ecological management. In 2001 Tom received the New England Wild Flower Society's Conservation Award.

RIWPS Annual Meeting is
Free and Open to the Public

*** 300dpi color picture attached

NEEDLES AND CONES

Lecture, with photos and cut specimens

Date: Sunday, March 21, 2010

Location: Portsmouth Free Public Library, 2658 East Main Road

Time 1:30-3:30 pm

Leader: Garry Plunkett



Northeastern woodlands are enlivened in winter by an array of evergreen trees and this program will freshen your knowledge of our native conifers. Join us to rediscover the delight of flat, friendly firs and square, sticky spruces. You'll go home knowing the difference between larches and tamaracks, why some hemlock needles are upside down, and wondering why gymnosperm seeds are naked.

Easy. Rain or shine.

Pre-registration required at least 48 hours prior

Email: office@riwps.org | Voicemail: 401-789-7497

Fee: none

Max. 30

*** 300dpi color picture attached

TREE ID IN SPRING

Field Trip

Date: Saturday, April 10, 2010

Location: Scituate

Time 10:00 am – 12 noon
Leader: Paul Dolan
(Weather date and time: Sun. April 11, 1:00 - 3:00pm)

February may make you shiver, but April sunshine will warm your hearts. As spring starts emerging, our trees and shrubs will be awakened. This field trip will inform you about what buds and leaves are emerging. You will learn how to identify our natives, invasives and cultivars, by their leaves, buds, and flowers. Come for a stroll in the northwest corner of our state in the Scituate reservoir watershed. Our leader is an enthusiastic forester and teacher. This will be the second trip in Paul's seasonal Tree ID series.

Easy
Pre-registration required at least 48 hours prior.
Email: office@riwps.org | Voicemail: 401-789-7497
Fee: Members \$5., non-members \$7.
Min. #5, Max. #15

“A SENSE OF WONDER”

A film about the compelling story of Rachel Carson's appreciation of the natural world and her fight to protect it. Courtesy of The Nature Conservancy of Rhode Island and co-sponsored by the North Kingstown Free Library

Movie followed by discussion

Date: Saturday, April 17, 2010
Location: North Kingstown Free Library, 100 Boone Street
Time 2 pm

This film begins in Miss Carson's summer home as she was preparing to leave. Fighting cancer, she fears this may be her last visit to her beloved Maine coast. The story continues two months later in the furor over her book *Silent Spring*. Carson is simultaneously battling the chemical industry, the government, and the press to get her message to Congress and the American people.

It is an inspiring story of her courageousness, and the impact her tenacity and voice have had on the environment.

Easy
No registration necessary. Open to the public - invite your friends!
Fee: Free
Max. 50

Pre-registration required at least 48 hours in advance, except where noted. Our programs fill up fast so be sure to secure your spot. Please e-mail office@riwps.org to register and for more information or call (401) 789-7497 and leave a message.

Registered participants will receive directions to the site and more details by e-mail or telephone.

300 dpi picture attached.
Additional pictures upon request.

The Rhode Island Wild Plant Society, Inc., is a nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation and protection of Rhode Island's native plants and their habitats.