



RI WILD PLANT SOCIETY

**March-April 2010
Walks & Programs**
visit our website at
www.riwps.org

Pre-registration required at least 48 hours in advance, except where noted. Our programs fill up fast so be sure to send in your payment to secure your spot.

To register and for more information please contact the RIWPS Office:

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

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

RIWPS. PO Box 414, Exeter, RI 02822 (401) 789-7497

UNSUNG NATIVE SHRUBS

Kingston

Saturday, March 6, 2010; 9:30-12noon

Lecture and Field Trip

Leader: Dr. Susan Gordon

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 the 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 48 hours prior.

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

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

Min. #5, Max. #15 Weather date: Sunday, March 7, same time.

ANNUAL MEETING

North Kingstown

Saturday, March 13, 2010

1pm- Business meeting & Induction of new officers and Board of Directors

2pm -Refreshments & fellowship

2:30 pm - Guest Speaker

North Kingstown Senior Center

44 Beach St., North Kingstown 02852

For Directions go to www.northkingstown.org

Members: If your last name begins with the letters A-M please bring refreshments to share.

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

NEEDLES AND CONES

Portsmouth Library

Sunday, Mar. 21, 2010, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Lecture, with photos and cut specimens

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

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

Fee: none

Max. 30

TREE ID IN SPRING

Scituate

Sat., April 10, 10 am - 12 noon

Field Trip

Leader: Paul Dolan

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 on 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 48 hours prior.

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

Fee: Members \$5., non-members \$7.

Min. #5, Max. #15

Weather date and time: Sun. April 11, 1:00 - 3:00pm

"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

Movie followed by discussion.

North Kingstown Library, 100 Boone St.

Sat., April 17, 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

WE WELCOME people of all botanical abilities at our events. Beginners or experts, amateurs or professionals ... we all come to enjoy and learn about wild plants.

WALK NOTES & GUIDELINES

Most of our programs can accommodate only a limited number of participants, so we ask that you do the following to secure your spot:

ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED for all events with fees (and sometimes for those without fees). Register by contacting the RIWPS office at 401-789-7497 (be sure to leave a message - we'll get back to you within 24 hours) or office@riwps.org, or on occasion, the person listed as a contact. Registration closes 48 hours before the walk, and may fill up even sooner, so please register early.

STANDARD FEE for members is \$5, for non-members, \$7. Payment must be made 48 hours prior to the walk. If you have a program credit, be sure to let us know. Send check to RIWPS, PO Box 414, Exeter, RI 02822.

CONFIRMATION: Registered participants will receive directions to the site and more details by e-mail or telephone. Email is the most efficient and timely way to receive a quick response. Remember we often have a waiting list for the walks and programs, so it is to your benefit to complete your registration as soon as possible.

DIFFICULTY: For your guidance, our walks are rated *easy*, *moderate*, or *strenuous* for healthy people of average physical ability. Our leaders are volunteers with no special training in first aid; therefore, participants assume full responsibility for their own well being.

CANCELLATION: If you must cancel, please notify the office as soon as possible so that we may notify those on the waiting list. Please call and leave a voice mail message. If you cancel within 24 hours of an event, or on a weekend, call the RIWPS office at 401-789-7497 and leave a message.

DRESS AND EQUIPMENT FOR OUTDOOR EVENTS: Dress appropriately, usually in long pants, socks (for protection from poison ivy, briars and ticks) and sturdy shoes. Equipment options might include insect repellent, hat, rubber boots, field guides, hand lens, small notebook, and/or hiking stick.



Illustration
Frances Topping

RI Wild Plant Society Plant Sale

Best Native Plant Sale in
Rhode Island!

Saturday, June 5, 2010

9 am - noon, rain or shine

Featuring wildflowers, ferns, perennials, native shrubs, pond plants, and much more!

Silent Auction

of rare and collectible plants till 10:30

New Location!

URI's East Farm on Route 108

South Kingstown, RI

Walk Pass Policy Change!

If your **Free Walk Pass** does not have an expiration date ... it expired 12/31/2009.

Only **new** members receive the **Free Walk Pass**. All current passes will have an expiration date on them.



One Free Walk Pass

This certificate may be redeemed for any future RIWPS walk or lecture by writing your choice of program and its date on the lines provided below and using it as payment when you register.

RIWPS Member: _____

Program: _____

Date: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Pass No. _____