

Tap Into Nature



EVENTS

Trails Day Hike - Lake Chamberlain

June 1, 10 am

Come out for a Trails Day hike around Lake Chamberlain. We will walk around the lake and continue through the trails south of the dam. Total distance is about 4 miles. Meet at the Lake Chamberlain recreation parking lot.



Butterfly Walk – Lake Saltonstall, Branford

June 1, 10 am-12 pm

Join members of the Connecticut Butterfly Association for a walk to look for butterflies at Lake Saltonstall. This walk includes walking over rocky ground and following a power line with elevation changes. It will also include part of the woods roads at the north end of the lake. Early species anticipated are mourning cloaks, spring azures, swallowtails, and maybe eastern pine elfins. Meet at the Lake Saltonstall hiking parking lot (400 Hosley Ave., Branford).



Bass Tournament #1 at Lake Saltonstall

June 2, 6 am-1 pm

Register and pay at Lake Saltonstall on the day of the tournament. There is a \$25 entry fee (boat and motor/battery are additional). First, second, and third-place prizes will be awarded. Monetary prizes will depend on the number of participants. Boat rentals are on a first-come, first-served basis. CASH only; no checks or credit cards.



New Haven Bird Club – Lake Watrous Bird Walk

June 12, 8-11 am

Spring Bird Walk to observe species nesting on Lake Watrous along the West River. Particular emphasis on the bluebird/tree swallows trail of birdhouses. It should be a great time for spring birds and beautiful plant life. Meet at the Lake Bethany parking lot on Hatfield Hill Rd. The group will carpool down to Lake Watrous.



Butterfly Walk – Lake Gaillard, North Branford

June 15, 10 am-12 pm

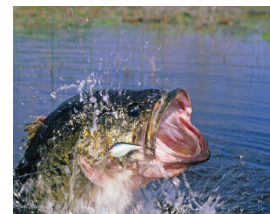
Join members of the Connecticut Butterfly Association for a walk to look for butterflies. This area usually has a good number of great spangled fritillaries and hosts common milkweed and butterflyweed. Starting at the dam, the walk will follow the shoreline and include a Christmas tree plantation. Meet at the North St. gate (105 North St., North Branford).



Bass Tournament #2 at Lake Saltonstall

July 7, 6 am-1 pm

Register and pay at Lake Saltonstall on the day of the tournament. There is a \$25 entry fee (boat and motor/battery are additional). First, second, and third-place prizes will be awarded. Monetary prizes will depend on the number of participants. Boat rentals are on a first-come, first-served basis. CASH only; no checks or credit cards.



Botany Walk – Summer Hill Rd., Madison

August 17, 8-11 am

Join members of the Connecticut Botanical Society as they search for plants in the woods off Summer Hill Rd. in Madison. The hike goes down a woods road past ledge outcroppings and small cedar swamps. Meet at the gate on the west side of the road, across from 970 Summer Hill Rd., Madison.



! Please note that all events are subject to cancellation due to inclement weather. Please follow “Regional Water Authority Recreation” on Facebook for updates.



Lock Gates Behind You



Please Leave Your Dogs at Home



Recreation Areas Close at Sunset



**Claire C. Bennitt
Recreation Program**
Regional Water Authority

Visit: rwater.com/recreation



Fireflies - Sentinels of Summer



Fireflies, nature's tiny lanterns, captivate with their ethereal glow. These bioluminescent beetles, scientifically known as Lampyridae, spend warm summer nights enchanting with their aerial dance. Emitting light through a

chemical reaction in their abdomen, fireflies create a mesmerizing spectacle, signaling potential mates or warning predators.

The common eastern firefly (*Photinus pyralis*) is the most common species in North America. It is easily recognized by its distinctive j-shaped light pattern.

Fireflies are found in diverse habitats worldwide, from forests to fields, and play crucial roles in ecosystems. As larvae, they feed on snails, slugs, and other insects, contributing to pest control. As adults, they serve as pollinators and prey for birds, bats, and spiders, thus playing integral roles in the food chain.

Unfortunately, habitat loss and light pollution threaten firefly populations, emphasizing the importance of conservation efforts. Maintaining natural areas, reducing artificial light, and eliminating pesticide use support firefly populations and ensure their beauty for future generations.



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RWA Recreation Newsletter

SUMMER 2024

