

SPRING AND FALL 2022 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

COVID PROTOCOL: If you've been vaccinated, you don't need to wear a mask. If you haven't been vaccinated, you may need to mask up, depending on the latest guidelines.

March 16, Wednesday, Black Dirt Trip II: Meet Bob Slechta (845-541-8210) in the parking lot of The Jolly Onion in Pine Island, New York, at 8:30 AM for longspurs, larks, and thousands of blackbirds.

March 26, Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge: Meet Kathleen Ashman (845-421-5478) at the platform on Oil City Road in Pine Island, New York, at 8:30 AM for large numbers of waterfowl—especially Northern Pintails and Green-winged Teal.

March 30, Wednesday, Eastern Orange County lakes: Meet Bruce Nott (845-542-0583) and Carlotta Shearson (845-234-8314) in the northwest corner of the Newburgh Walmart parking lot (on Route 300) at 8:30 AM for a good mix of waterfowl and maybe some swallows.

April 2, Saturday, Long Island Sound: Meet Bob Slechta (845-541-8210) in the Rye Playland parking lot (1 Playland Parkway, Rye, New York) at 8:30 AM for grebes, Osprey, egrets, Long-tailed Ducks, and much more.

April 9, Saturday, Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge: Meet Joyce Depew (845-978-9952) at the Oil City Road platform in Pine Island, New York, 8:30 AM for a good variety of waterfowl. Blue-winged Teal is our target bird.

April 23, Saturday, 6 1/2 Station Road Audubon Sanctuary: Meet Don Aitchison (845-281-3220) in Goshen, New York, where the Heritage Trail crosses 6 1/2 Station Road at 8:30 AM for “buckets” of Yellow-rumps plus Palm Warblers, gnatcatchers, gallinules, and more.

April 27, Wednesday, Stewart State Forest: Meet Bill Fiero (845-728-5208) in the Barron Road North parking area at 8 AM for a good mix of early migrants like kinglets in this more wooded habitat.

April 30, Saturday, Hudson Highlands Nature Museum Outdoor Discovery Center (formerly Kenridge Farm): Meet Amy Greher (845-774-9399) at the Cornwall Dog Park on Angola Road at 8 AM as spring migration starts to heat up. Yellow Warbler for sure.

May 4, Wednesday, Black Rock Forest: Meet Bob Slechta (845-541-8210) at 8 AM in the upper parking lot of the forest (entrance off southbound 9W) in Cornwall, New York. We haven't been here in a while. Let's see what we can find.

May 8, Sunday, Bashakill Wildlife Management Area: Meet Joyce Depew (845-978-9952) at the first parking lot on Haven Road, before you cross the kill, at 7:30 AM for what should be a great day of birding. Seventy species is likely!

May 13–14, Friday–Saturday: Break 100! See if your team can identify 100+ species in Orange County from 4 PM on Friday to 4 pm on Saturday. Contact Kathleen Ashman (845-421-5478) for info and watch the Mearns Groups.io site, as things may be in flux due to COVID.

May 15, Sunday, Hudson Highlands Nature Museum Outdoor Discovery Center (formerly Kenridge Farm): Meet Amy Greher (845-774-9399) at the Cornwall Dog Park on Angola Road at 8 AM and let's see if we can find a Mourning Warbler.

May 18, Wednesday, Baux Baum: Meet Ajit Antony (914-475-7819) at the Mobil station on the corner of Rte. 209 and Rte. 6 in Port Jervis (1 Kingston Ave, Port Jervis, New York) at 7:30 AM to explore one of western Orange County's birding hotspots.

May 21, Saturday, Winding Waters Trail, Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge: Meet Kathleen Ashman (845-421-5478) in the trail parking lot on Oil City Road in Pine Island, New York, at 7:30 AM. We usually come here in the fall. Let's see how it is in May.

May 25 (tentative date), Wednesday, Minnewaska State Park Preserve: Meet Gerhard Patsch (845-258-0620) at 9 am in the parking lot. Entrance to the park is free for seniors during the week. Keep an eye on the Groups.io list for any possible updates.

May 28, Saturday, Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge: Meet Jane and Tom (845-443-5440) in the refuge parking lot at 9:00 AM. Grassland birds are the specialty, especially Grasshopper and Savannah Sparrows.

June 4, Saturday (June 11 rain date), annual club picnic, Winding Hills County Park, Montgomery, New York: Meet at noon at the park, which is located on Route 17K just west of the Village of Montgomery. Follow arrows to the picnic area. The club will provide fried chicken, water, and some sodas. Bring a lawn chair and food to share. If you have any questions call Linda (845-496-3021) or Tracy (845-255-6840). Hope to see you there!

July 2, Saturday, Marshlands Conservancy, Rye, New York: Meet Bob Slechta (845-541-8210) at the conservancy at 8:30 AM for terns, egrets, oystercatchers, and shorebirds. Bring a lunch for after the trip if you like.

August 20, Saturday, Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge: Meet Joyce Depew (845-978-9952) at the platform on Oil City Road in Pine Island, New York, at 8 AM for coots, gallinules, rails, egrets, and shorebirds.

September 3, Saturday, Black Dirt Region: Meet Bob Slechta (845-541-8210) in the parking lot of The Jolly Onion in Pine Island, New York, at 8:30 AM for shorebirds, especially Buff-breasted Sandpiper (if we are lucky).

September 10, Saturday, Hudson Highlands Nature Museum Outdoor Discovery Center (formerly Kenridge Farm): Meet Amy Greher (845-774-9399) at the Cornwall Dog Park on Angola Road at 8:30 AM, and we'll see what we can find at this fabulous birding location as the fall migration heats up.

September 17, Saturday, Winding Waters Trail, Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge: Meet Kathleen Ashman (845-421-5478) in the trail parking lot on Oil City Road in Pine Island, New York, at 8 AM for our usual fall trip here as the birds push south. With luck, we'll find a Connecticut Warbler.

September 24, Saturday, 6 1/2 Station Road Audubon Sanctuary: Meet Dave Baker (845- 446-4030) in Goshen, New York, where the Heritage Trail crosses 6 1/2 Station Road at 8:30 AM for our first fall trip here.

September 28, Wednesday, Stony Kill Farm: Meet Bruce Nott (845-542-0583) at the farm in Fishkill, New York, at 8:30 AM. Last year's trip here was phenomenal; don't miss out!