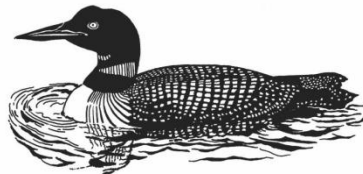




# Experience Our **ADIRONDACKS**

Hamilton County - NY

[www.experienceouradirondacks.com](http://www.experienceouradirondacks.com)



## *Boreal* **ADIRONDACK** **BIRDING** FESTIVAL



**20<sup>th</sup> Annual Hamilton County  
Adirondack Boreal Birding Festival**  
June 4 - June 7, 2026

### Schedule of Events

Speculator, Lake Pleasant, Arietta,  
Blue Mountain Lake, Indian Lake,  
Long Lake, Raquette Lake, and Inlet

The Hamilton County Department of Tourism and Audubon NY welcomes you this June for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Adirondack Boreal Birding Festival.

The Adirondack Park in upstate New York is a bird-watching haven! In June, the Adirondack Boreal Birding Festival in Hamilton County celebrates the height of the breeding season with 4 days of birding hikes, walks, safaris, outings, and presentations throughout the county.

### **About Hamilton County:**

Located entirely within the Adirondack State Park, Hamilton County is the third largest, yet least populated, county in New York State. Over 60% of our land area is Wilderness or Wild Forest. The county's million acres of forest, 1,500 miles of rivers and streams, and over 56,000 acres of lakes and ponds provide unequalled birding and wildlife-watching opportunities.

Nesting birds, rising trout, rushing water, wildflowers, and the newborn of many species make the woods and waters of Hamilton County a desirable location to explore. While birding in the park is enjoyable throughout the entire year, in springtime, it is a place of excitement and discovery. By June, all the birds that migrate to the Adirondack region for the summer have arrived and are in the height of breeding season.

Our towns and hamlets are located 1,200-1,600 feet above sea level, and our mountains approach 4,000 feet. Normally in June, we enjoy warm to hot days and cool evenings, on rare occasions even dropping below the freezing point. As you plan your birding adventure, make sure to check the forecast and come prepared. Dressing in layers is highly recommended, as the springtime temperatures fluctuate throughout the day.

After a day's activities, you will find an array of comfortable lodges and excellent restaurants staffed with hospitable folks. Here in the heart of the Adirondacks, it is our pleasure to share the experience of this State Park with you. You will find an ongoing celebration of our unique heritage and extraordinary, unspoiled natural beauty.

### **Please Note:**

Each of the outdoor trips will require different equipment necessary for a pleasant birding adventure. Suggested hiking equipment includes binoculars, camera, sunscreen, bug repellent (netting or bug shirt suggested), water, snacks and/or lunch, flashlight (headlamp), and comfortable, waterproof footwear. This time of year, is referred to as "Black Fly Season," so be prepared with insect repellent and/or bug shirts for each event!

- **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR EACH BIRDING TRIP!**
- A registration fee of **\$20 per trip per person** is paid upon registration.
- Registration/Reservations for special evening events are to be made directly with the venue.

**Online Registration will open on March 20th. More details to come.**

**Looking for accommodation? Check out these "Tweet Deals"- [Lodging Specials!](#)**

## Meet Our Guides!

**Joan Collins**, owner of Adirondack Avian Expeditions & Workshops, LLC, leads birding tours year-round, is a New York State licensed guide, an Adirondack 46er, and has climbed all the Adirondack fire tower peaks. She writes the Birdwatch column for Adirondack Explorer magazine, and has published several journal, magazine, and newspaper articles on wildlife and conservation topics in various publications including Audubon, Conservationist, Adirondack Life Magazine, Adirondack Explorer, New York Birders, LOCALadk Magazine, and The Kingbird. Joan authored several warbler species accounts, in addition to serving as a peer reviewer for The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State. She is a past President of the New York State Ornithological Association and Editor of New York Birders. She served for many years as a Board of Directors member of the Audubon Council of New York State and Northern New York Audubon Society, and as a past President. Joan is a frequent keynote speaker and presenter on ornithology topics.

Follow Joan on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/AdirondackAvian>

Her website can be found at: <http://www.adirondackavianexpeditions.com/>

**Mike & Wanda Moccio** have visited the Adirondacks since their college days. While working in their careers in Connecticut, Mike's newfound interest in bird watching inspired him to help establish the Cove Island Wildlife Sanctuary in Stamford, Connecticut, dedicated to conserving habitat for birds and other wildlife. This sanctuary is now an Important Bird Area (IBA). Mike and Wanda became NYS-licensed hiking guides to lead and engage bird-watching participants. They also participate in breeding and waterfowl surveys for various state and federal organizations. They retired in 2016 and currently reside in Indian Lake, NY.

**Pat Bixler** is an experienced hiker, birder, and licensed guide who has spent countless hours in the Adirondack wilderness. He is an official 46er, Northville-Placid Trail finisher, and can also be found on his kayak and mountain bike. During the summer months, Pat serves as a steward on the summit of Whiteface Mountain, protecting the sensitive alpine habitat and interpreting the flora and fauna for visitors. Through all of this, he has found a personal connection to our feathered friends and hopes to share that experience with you. Pat lives in Saranac Lake, NY, just outside the High Peaks of the Adirondacks.

**Laurie Freeman** is a retired professor of biology and environmental science. She has been leading trips for this festival since its inception! Laurie coordinates the Audubon Christmas Bird Count for the Johnstown/Gloversville circle and has participated in both the NYDEC Waterfowl count and the NFWS Midwinter Bald Eagle Count for over 20 years. When she's not birding, she is an avid hiker, having completed the 46 high peaks of NY in both winter and non-winter conditions, the Appalachian Trail, the Northville-Placid Trail, the Camino de Santiago (Spain), Mt Kilimanjaro (Tanzania), and many other hiking adventures. She lives with her husband on an off-the-grid sustainable homestead that they built from scratch together.

**Claire Guyer** is a NYSDEC Licensed Hiking/Camping Guide and owner of [Grizzly Adventures](http://www.grizzlyadventuresny.com).

Follow Claire on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/grizzlyadventuresny>

## Thursday, June 4, 2026

### Driving Safari/Short Hike: Massawepie Road – 6:00 AM

Massawepie Road is a terrific birding location! New this year, birding the road is a separate field trip so we can spend more time covering it. This trip allows participants an option to bird the road without doing the long hike through the Mire. We will cover nearly 7 miles by car on this dirt road with the following stops: a very short walk to a long boardwalk with spectacular views of a huge section of the bog where we will likely see Palm Warblers and Lincoln's Sparrows; Deer Pond where we usually spot a Common Loon nest and Belted Kingfishers; another very short walk to a bridge over the South Branch of the Grass River in an alder wetland (flycatcher and warbler species); stops for specific birds that inhabit areas growing up after logging, such as the Mourning and Chestnut-sided Warblers, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Indigo Bunting; and stops including woodland habitats, wetlands, and open field areas. Black-billed Cuckoos are often found in areas along the road, including a pair we observed mating in 2025!

**GUIDE:** Joan Collins

**EVENT LENGTH:** 3-4 Hours

**LIMIT:** 15 Participants

**BRING:** Food (and lunch if you plan the Mire hike), water, appropriate attire/hiking shoes, binoculars, hat, sunscreen, and insect spray.

**MEET:** At the Massawepie Boy Scout sign on Route 3 at 6 a.m.

**DIRECTIONS:** The Massawepie Boy Scout sign is located approximately 10 miles west of Tupper Lake along Route 3 (on the left side of the road if heading west). After a bit of birding at our meeting location, we will drive a mile on Massawepie Rd. to a dirt parking lot. We can carpool from this location.

### DRIVING SAFARI/ WALK: Perkins Clearing, Speculator – 7:00 AM

**Laurie Freeman** will lead a driving safari into the Perkins Clearing area to see **Mourning, Chestnut-sided, Blackburnian, and other warblers**. There will be many stops along the way to observe wildlife along the road. Also possible to see **Olive-sided** and **Alder Flycatchers**, and many other mixed woodland species, including **Indigo Bunting** and **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks**.

**GUIDES:** Laurie Freeman

**EVENT LENGTH:** 3-4 hours

**LIMIT:** 15 Participants

**BRING:** Bug Repellent, (netting or bug shirt suggested), water, snacks, binoculars.

**MEET:** Mason Lake parking area on the west (left) side of Route 30, north of Speculator.

**GPS WAYPOINT:** 43.5991366°N, 74.4163017°W

**DIRECTIONS: From South:** Take Route 30, 8 miles north of Speculator. **From North:** 16 miles S. on Route 30 from Indian Lake. The parking area is on the west side of Route 30, and overlooks Mason Lake. You'll see several picnic tables at the rest stop.

## **PADDLE: Round Lake – 7:00 AM**

**\*\*\*Bring your own kayak/canoe\*\*\***

Enjoy a 5–6-mile paddle beginning and ending at the roadside parking area for Round Lake on Sabattis Road, off of NY-30. We will follow the inlet from the parking area upstream into the large open waters of Round Lake. Then we will follow the shoreline in a counterclockwise direction to meet the inlet again and continue back to the parking area. Expect to observe a wide variety of birds which include, but not limited to, **raptors and birds of prey, Bald Eagle, Broad-winged Hawk, Osprey, Great Blue and Green Herons**, a wide variety of **warblers – Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Magnolia**, and various **Woodpecker** species. Birding by boat will give you a unique vantage point to observe birds and their habitat.

**GUIDES:** Pat Bixler

**CONTACT:** Phone: 518-637-4443, email: patbixlerguides@outlook.com

**EVENT LENGTH:** 6-8 hours

**LIMIT:** 10

**BRING:** Kayak/Canoe, life jacket, bug protection (spray/headnet), water, lunch, snacks, hat, sun protection (hat, sunscreen), binoculars.

**MEET:** Roadside parking area on CR-10 (Sabattis Road)

**GPS Waypoint:** 44.05469° N, 74.56302° W

**DIRECTIONS:** From Route 30 between the villages of Tupper Lake and Long Lake, turn to CR-10A, also known as “Sabattis Circle Road”. After almost 3 miles, you will reach a three-way intersection; continue onto “Sabattis Road” or CR-10. From the intersection, it is one-tenth of a mile (.1 mi) to the dirt parking area on the right.

## **Hike: Massawepie Mire, Colton – 10:30 AM**

Take a 5.25-mile round-trip hike into the lovely, remote Massawepie Mire, the largest bog in New York State. Massawepie is also a designated “Important Bird Area” (IBA) in New York. The trail through the mire is an old railroad bed, now a perfectly level dirt road. There are several different habitats encountered along the trail including mixed forest, boreal forest, bog, and marsh. The South Branch of the Grass River is crossed on a bridge at about 1.4 miles down the trail and Silver Brook adds an additional 1.23 miles. This is our turnaround location. Participants will watch for many bird species, including **Black-backed Woodpecker, Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, Canada Jay, Palm Warbler, Canada Warbler (18 warbler species nest in the area), and Lincoln’s Sparrow**. Rare possibilities include **Spruce Grouse and Boreal Chickadee**. Bog plants such as the insectivorous Sundew and Pitcher Plant are also found along the trail. Moose tracks are often observed at the mire. The sought-after Jutta Arctic butterfly is a good possibility on this date!

**GUIDE:** Joan Collins

**EVENT LENGTH:** 4-5 hours

**LIMIT:** 15 Participants

**BRING:** Lunch, water, appropriate attire/hiking shoes, binoculars, hat, sunscreen, and insect spray.

**MEET:** From the Massawepie Boy Scout sign on Rt. 3 take Massawepie Road one mile to a dirt parking area on the left. Meet at 10:30 a.m. at this parking area and we will carpool 4 miles to the Mire trailhead together.

**DIRECTIONS:** The Massawepie Boy Scout sign is located approximately 10 miles west of Tupper Lake along Route 3 (on the left side of the road if heading west). This sign is at the beginning of Massawepie Road. Turn left onto Massawepie Road (a dirt road) and drive for 1 mile to a dirt parking lot on the left. This location is directly across from a 100-foot dirt road leading to a canoe put-in for Massawepie Lake.

### **DRIVING SAFARI/WALK: Elm Lake Road, Speculator – 1:00 PM**

Join **Laurie Freeman** on this land formerly owned and operated as a working Timberland & Forest tree farm by International Paper Company, now owned by Lyme Timber. This will be an exploratory trip to discover the birding population of the eastern side of Speculator's woodlands. The walk will be easy and flat.

We'll meet and carpool into the interior lands, where we'll walk along the former lumber road used by the timber company. There will be a mixture of woodlands including large pine forests and hardwood areas. The trip will also take us to the infamous and mysterious "Kunjamuk Cave" across the Kunjamuk River.

We'll see a variety of **warblers, woodpeckers, and raptors** along the way.

**GUIDES:** Laurie Freeman

**LIMIT:** 15 participants

**EVENT LENGTH:** 2-3 hours

**BRING:** Bug Repellent, (netting or bug shirt suggested), water, snacks, binoculars, and waterproof hiking attire.

**MEET:** End of Elm Lake Road, where the hard pavement turns to dirt road.

**GPS WAYPOINT:** 43.519541, -74.348376

**DIRECTIONS:** From the "4 corners" at the intersection of Route 8 & 30 (Charlie Johns Store), drive east on Elm Lake Road for 1.5 miles to where the road turns to dirt. Please line up along the side of the road.

## **Friday, June 5, 2026**

### **Hike: Blue Mountain - 6:00 AM**

**\*\* Hiking Experience Encouraged \*\***

Join us for a hike up Blue Mountain in search of the **Bicknell's Thrush**. From the large parking area at 2200 feet, we will follow the well-defined, red-marked trail all the way up through the hardwood forest to the **spruce-fir forest** of the Adirondack Mountains; starting at around 3000

feet in elevation, this is the breeding territory of the rare and elusive **Bicknell's Thrush**. We will hike slowly and bird along the trail, taking breaks to rest and listen. Once we enter the spruce-fir zone, we will take even more time to stop and listen for this beautiful bird. Along the way, expect to hear many others, including but not limited to, **woodpeckers, various warblers (Black-throated Blue and Black-throated Green, Northern Parula, Nashville, Blackpoll, Yellow-rumped), Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Winter Wren, and Boreal Chickadee** at elevation. Depending on group consensus, we can continue to the summit of Blue Mountain, at 3750 feet in elevation, to enjoy the fire tower and views extending in all directions!

**Distance:** 2 miles to summit (4 miles round trip)

**Elevation Change:** 1550 feet (difficult; steepest areas in the middle section of the trail. Some predisposed hiking experience is encouraged).

**GUIDES:** Pat Bixler

**CONTACT:** Phone: 518-637-4443, email: patbixlerguides@outlook.com

**EVENT LENGTH:** 8 hours

**LIMIT:** 10

**BRING:** Sturdy hiking boots, hiking/trekking poles, rain jacket, waterproof hiking attire, backpack to carry food, water, snacks, extra layers and other items you may wish to bring, binoculars, bug protection (spray, head net).

**MEET:** Blue Mountain trailhead, east side of NY30/28N

**GPS Waypoint:** 43°52'28" N, 74°25'51" W

**DIRECTIONS:** From the village of Long Lake, travel south on NY28N/30 for about 9.5 miles, and you will come to the trailhead on the left. The trailhead is .1 miles north of the Adirondack Experience Museum in the village of Blue Mountain Lake and on the right of NY28N/30.

## Hike: Roosevelt Truck Trail, Newcomb – 6:30 AM

Lovely, mature boreal habitat spans the 2.5-mile-long, enchanting Roosevelt Truck Trail! This wide, road-sized trail runs between Route 28N trailhead. The trail has hilly and level terrain with an overall loss of 100 feet in elevation by the end of our hike. The habitat along the route provides a year-round home to many boreal bird species, including **Black-backed Woodpecker, Canada Jay, and Boreal Chickadee**. There are many birds along the trail, including **grouse, thrushes, flycatchers, warblers, and nesting raptors**. Participants will also be looking for animal tracks – Black Bear and Moose tracks are frequently found on this old road. Wildflowers are found all along the trail.

Thanks to the Town of Long Lake, we will be able to travel from Overlook Park in their “little bus” to the trailhead on the Blue Ridge Road. The bus will pick us up at the trailhead on Route 28N after our hike. This allows us to cover the entire trail with a 2.5 mile through-hike (instead of a round trip of 5 miles!).

There are two accessible camping areas along the trail with large outhouses and picnic tables. We will plan a mid-trail break for snacks during our hike at one of the campsites.

**GUIDE:** Joan Collins

**EVENT LENGTH:** 4-5 hours

**LIMIT:** 13 Participants (Bus seats 14, including the guide!)

**BRING:** Food, water, appropriate attire/hiking shoes, binoculars, hat, sunscreen, and insect spray.

**MEET:** Overlook Park in Newcomb at 6:30 a.m.

**DIRECTIONS:** Overlook Park in Newcomb is located at the start of Santanoni Dr. at the intersection of Rt. 28N and Santanoni Dr. The Newcomb Medical Center is located across Santanoni Dr. from the parking area for Overlook Park. There are restrooms at Overlook Park, picnic tables, and a gazebo where you could enjoy lunch. There is also a directory showing all the names of the beautiful High Peaks you can view from this spot!

### **DRIVING SAFARI: Powley Road, Piseco – 7:00 AM**

Join **Laurie Freeman** for another one of our popular Birding Festival trips! Drive on a lightly traveled dirt road (approximately 8 miles) which affords a look at some unusual species in the area, such as **various Birds of Prey, Olive Sided Flycatchers, Thrushes, Cedar Waxwing, Sparrows**, and other woodland habitat bird species. Other birds seen along the road in past years included **Indigo Bunting, Northern Parula, Carolina Wren, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Nashville Warbler, and Chipping Sparrow**. Stops along the way will give this leisurely trip many birding opportunities.

**GUIDES:** Laurie Freeman

**EVENT LENGTH:** 3 – 4 hours

**LIMIT:** 15 participants

**BRING:** Binoculars, camera, bug repellent (for those who want to get out of their vehicles), and comfortable clothes.

**MEET:** Intersection of Route 10 and Powley Road, 1.2 miles south of the Route 8 & Route 10 intersection. Drive onto and park on Powley Road with the other cars.

**GPS WAYPOINT:** 43.3790382° N, 074.5456680° W

**DIRECTIONS:** From Speculator: Take Route 8 west for 12 miles to Route 10. Make a left turn (south) onto Route 10 and travel 1.2 miles to Powley Road, which will be on the right side of Route 10 as you drive south from Route 8. Pull onto Powley Road on the right side of the road.

### **WALK: Dillon Road, Raquette Lake – 1:00 PM**

Take a walk down an old railroad bed with **Mike & Wanda Moccio**. This 4-mile round-trip walk enters woodland, riverine, marsh, and boggy habitat. Here you will have the opportunity to see a variety of **warblers, thrushes**, and possibly **Yellow-bellied** and **Olive-sided flycatchers, Palm Warblers, and Black-backed Woodpecker**.

**GUIDE:** Mike and Wanda Moccio

**EVENT LENGTH:** 4 Hours

**LIMIT:** 10 Participants

**BRING:** Bug repellent, sunscreen, water, and snacks.

**MEET:** Raquette Lake Library then we will drive to road.

**GPS WAYPOINT:** 43.813262, -74.658255

**DIRECTIONS:** From Inlet: drive 11 miles east towards Raquette Lake, turn left down County Road 2 and then left onto Dillon Road. The library is on the left. From Blue Mountain Lake: Drive 13 miles west on Route 28 towards Raquette Lake. Turn right down County Road 2 and left onto Dillon Road. The library is on the left.

### **WALK: Railbed Wetlands, Minerva – 1:00 PM**

Join **Joan Collins** for a short walk on a railbed through wonderful wetlands and some forests! The old railbed travels along Vanderwhacker Brook with fascinating marshes and ponds. There are also sections of boreal forest surrounding the wetlands. We will hike 2 miles round trip on an old, level railbed. Some of the species we may find include: **Wood Duck; American Black Duck; Hooded and Common Mergansers; Black-billed Cuckoo; Ruby-throated Hummingbird; Virginia Rail; American Bittern; Great Blue Heron; Broad-winged Hawk; Belted Kingfisher; Black-backed Woodpecker; Eastern Kingbird; Olive-sided Flycatcher; Eastern Wood-Pewee; Yellow-bellied Flycatcher; Alder Flycatcher; Least Flycatcher; Eastern Phoebe; Boreal Chickadee; Winter Wren; Swainson's Thrush; Hermit Thrush; White-throated Sparrow; Swamp Sparrow; Rusty Blackbird; and many Warblers including Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Black-and-white Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Parula, Magnolia Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, and Canada Warbler.** We will finish in time for participants to make it to the social dinner at 6 p.m. at the Adirondack Hotel in Long Lake!

**GUIDE:** Joan Collins

**EVENT LENGTH:** 3-3.5 hours

**LIMIT:** 15 Participants

**BRING:** Insect repellent, hat, sunscreen, water, food, binoculars, and appropriate clothing/jacket and footwear.

**MEET:** Overlook Park in Newcomb at 1 p.m.

**DIRECTIONS:** Overlook Park in Newcomb is located at the start of Santanoni Dr. at the intersection of Rt. 28N and Santanoni Dr. The Newcomb Medical Center is located across Santanoni Dr. from the parking area for Overlook Park. There are restrooms at Overlook Park, picnic tables, and a gazebo where you could enjoy lunch. There is also a directory showing all the names of the beautiful High Peaks you can view from this parking lot! We will caravan to a large dirt parking area by the Minerva railbed.

## DINNER: ADIRONDACK HOTEL on Long Lake – 6:00 PM

After a long day of birding, join us for dinner at the Adirondack Hotel on Long Lake. The Adirondack Hotel is nestled in the charming oasis of Long Lake, NY. Originally built in the 1850's, they are the only remaining hotel of its kind within the Adirondack Park! We are situated perfectly across from the town beach, [Helm's Seaplane Rides](#), and a variety of [local shops](#).

### MENU:

- Rolls & Butter
- Bird Nest shaped veggies on a bed of greens with a raspberry vinaigrette.
- Choose **ONE** of the selected **Entree Choices**:
  - 1) Lemon Chicken, mashed potato, seasonal vegetable.
  - 2) Sliced Roast Beef, mushroom demi glaze, mashed potato, seasonal vegetable.
  - 3) Jumbo Shrimp Scampi on a bed of rice.
  - 4) Tuscan Pappardelle Pasta, sundried tomato cream sauce, spinach, cherry tomatoes, marinated artichoke hearts & kalamata olives.
- Surprise House-made Birding theme Dessert.
- Coffee & Tea
- Cash Bar will be available. \*

**COST:** \$47 per person, including tax and tip. **Reservations and payment must be made with the venue by May 23rd.** For reservations call: 518-624-4700 between 12 – 8 pm. Please indicate which menu option you are choosing and make any dietary restrictions known upon reservation.

**DIRECTIONS: From Inlet/Raquette Lake:** Head North on NY 28N E/ NY 30 N, turn left onto Main Street, destination will be on the left. **From Speculator/Indian Lake:** Head northwest on NY-30N, turn left on NY 28 S/NY 30 N, turn right onto NY 28 NE/ NY 30 N, turn left onto Main Street, the destination will be on the left. [Adirondack Hotel on Long Lake | Experience Our Adirondacks](#), 1245 Main St, Long Lake, NY 12847.



## Saturday, June 6, 2026

### Driving Safari/Short Walk: Route 30 and Sabattis Circle Road – 6:00 AM

Venture into the William C. Whitney Wilderness Area, a designated “Important Birding Area” (IBA) by Audubon New York, for birding in a wide variety of interesting habitats. The trip will begin with several stops along Route 30 at marshes and boreal forest, with possible **Black-backed Woodpecker, Canada Jay, and Boreal Chickadee**. Next, we’ll drive Sabattis Circle Road (~6 miles) and car-bird, stopping at several locations, including the Buck Mountain Trailhead, the scenic inlet of Little Tupper Lake (with a large marsh where **American Bitterns** nest), Round Lake Trailhead, and Sabattis Bog where we will take a short walk. **Eighteen warbler species** breed along this road, including **Northern Waterthrush, Mourning, Palm, and Canada Warblers**. Many boreal species can be found along Sabattis Circle Road including, **Black-backed Woodpecker, Olive-sided, Yellow-bellied, and Alder Flycatchers, Canada Jay, and Lincoln’s Sparrow**. Stewart’s Shops open at 5 a.m. for breakfast sandwiches, coffee, and other lunch items. There is an outhouse located at the Buck Mountain Trailhead parking area along Sabattis Circle Road, where we can stop along our route (and restrooms at our meeting location). After the trip, lunch can be ordered ahead at the Adirondack Trading Post or Waypoint Café in Long Lake and picked up before the next field trip. Your guide will have menus!

**GUIDE:** Joan Collins

**EVENT LENGTH:** 4 hours

**LIMIT:** 15 Participants

**BRING:** Insect repellent, hat, sunscreen, water, food, binoculars, and appropriate clothing/jacket and footwear.

**MEET:** At the Long Lake Town Beach by the bridge over Long Lake at 6 a.m. We will carpool from this location. There are restrooms at the beach.

**DIRECTIONS:** The Long Lake Town Beach is located by the bridge over Long Lake. Park parallel to the road. Route 30 is referred to as “Main St.” at this location! The Adirondack Hotel is across from the beach.

### Walk/Hike/Still Birding: Ferd’s Bog – 6:00 AM

Enjoy a short walk and morning outing at the magnificent Ferd’s Bog. Along the .3 short mile-long trail, we will pass through different forest types encompassing a wide variety of birds! The trail ends at the short boardwalk overlooking the bog itself; this will be our destination to listen for songs of different **warblers, sparrows, and flycatchers**. Expect to encounter **Nashville, Palm, Yellow-rumped Warblers among others. Yellow-bellied and Olive-sided Flycatchers, Lincoln’s, Swamp, and White-throated Sparrows** and potentially **Black-backed Woodpeckers and Canada Jays**. After birding in place for some time, we will return through the forest layers and see what other birds call these woods home.

**Distance:** .3 miles one way to the boardwalk and bog. (.6 miles round trip).

**GUIDES:** Pat Bixler

**CONTACT:** Phone: 518-637-4443, email: patbixlerguides@outlook.com

**EVENT LENGTH:** 6 hours

**LIMIT:** 10

**BRING:** Optional camp chair, bug protection (spray & head net), water, snacks, sun protection, binoculars.

**MEET:** Ferd's Bog Trailhead

**GPS Waypoint:** 43°47'07"N, 74°44'58" W

**DIRECTIONS:** From Hoss's Country Corner in the town of Long Lake, drive 23.7 miles south on Route 28 to the town of Raquette Lake. Turn right on County Road 2. After 0.4 miles, turn left onto Antlers Road. After 0.3 miles, turn left onto Uncas Road. Follow Uncas Road for 5.5 miles. The parking area for Ferd's Bog will be on your right.

### **WALK: Fiddlers Pond, Piseco – 7:00 AM**

Join **Laurie Freeman and Claire Guyer** on this easy hike that follows along the Northville-Placid Trail. We will cross a footbridge over a stream that leads to Fiddler's Pond, after which we will need to bushwack off the trail. We will follow the stream for .4 miles northeast to the lake, continuing along the southern and eastern shores of the lake for outstanding birding opportunities. There is potential to see nesting **Great Blue Herons, Common Loons, Woodland Warblers, Golden-crowned Kinglets** and more!

**GUIDES:** Laurie Freeman & Claire Guyer

**EVENT LENGTH:** 3-4 hours

**LIMIT:** 15 participants

**BRING:** Bug Repellent, (netting or bug shirt suggested), water, snacks, binoculars, waterproof hiking attire.

**MEET:** Arietta Town Barn (Big Brown Barn)

**GPS WAYPOINT:** 43.4591183° N 74.5222633° W

**DIRECTIONS:** Coming east on Route 8 in Piseco, the town barn is located on the right side of the road just past Piseco Common School. Coming west on Route 8, the town barn is approximately half a mile past the Oxbow Inn on the left. Look for the Northville- Lake Placid Trailhead Sign. Park to the right of the building.

### **DRIVING SAFARI/ WALK: Perkins Clearing, Speculator – 7:00 AM**

**Mike & Wanda Moccio**, will lead the driving safari into the Perkins Clearing area to see **Mourning, Chestnut-sided, Blackburnian, and other warblers**. There will be many stops along the way to observe wildlife along the road. Also possible to see **Olive-sided** and **Alder Flycatchers**, and many other mixed woodland species, including **Indigo Bunting** and **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks**.

**GUIDES:** Mike & Wanda Moccio

**EVENT LENGTH:** 5 hours

**LIMIT:** 15 Participants

**BRING:** Bug Repellant, (netting or bug shirt suggested), water, snacks, binoculars.

**MEET:** Mason Lake parking area on the west (left) side of Route 30, north of Speculator.

**GPS WAYPOINT:** 43.5991366°N, 74.4163017°W

**DIRECTIONS: From South:** Take Route 30, 8 miles north of Speculator. **From North:** 16 miles S. on Route 30 from Indian Lake. The parking area is on the west side of Route 30, and overlooks Mason Lake. You'll see several picnic tables at the rest stop.

## Hike: Northville-Placid Trail, Long Lake – 11:00 AM

Take a 2-mile round trip hike on a northern section of the 135-mile famous Northville-Placid Trail! The first half-mile travels through lovely boreal forest and marsh. The second half-mile transitions into mixed forest. There will be a variety of **warblers**, and many other woodland inhabitants including **Scarlet Tanager**. **Black-backed Woodpeckers** often nest along the trail and **Canada Jay** and **Boreal Chickadee** are possibilities. We will finish in time for people to attend the presentation at 4 p.m., with a reception afterwards, at Adirondack Experience in Blue Mountain Lake.

**GUIDE:** Joan Collins

**EVENT LENGTH:** 3-3.5 Hours

**LIMIT:** 10 Participants

**BRING:** Insect repellent, hat, sunscreen, water, food, binoculars, and appropriate clothing/jacket and footwear.

**MEET:** At the Northville-Placid Trailhead in Long Lake along Route 28N at 11 a.m.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the intersection of RT28-30 and RT30 in the town of Long Lake (at Stewart's), travel 1.5 miles east along RT28N. The Northville-Placid Trailhead Parking will be on your right (across the street from Tarbell Hill Lane).

## PRESENTATION: 4:00 PM

## RECEPTION: Lake View Café 5:00 PM



Join us at the Adirondack Experience on **Saturday, June 6, 2026!**

**Special Guest Speaker TBD**

Enjoy a cocktail reception featuring delicious appetizers and a stunning view of Blue Mountain Lake- a perfect way to toast the evening!

**Pre-registration is required!**

**COST:** Lecture – Free

Appetizer & Cocktail Reception – **\$10 per person** (alcoholic beverages sold separately)

Don't miss this chance to learn, sip, and soak in the beauty of the Adirondacks!

**REGISTRATION: More details to come!**

#### **ADKX TICKETS:**

- **Free** admission to ADKX will be available for those who register for the presentation from June 5 – 8. After you register for the presentation, you will receive an email confirmation.
- To redeem your free entry to the museum you must check in at the Visitor Center and provide your name.
- The free admission is valid for one visit only and applies only to the registered attendee(s), not additional guests.
- Again, registration must be completed by June 4— no exceptions.

**MEET:** Adirondack Experience Museum Auditorium

**EVENT LENGTH:** 1 Hour Presentation, 1.5 Hour Reception

**GPS WAYPOINT:** 43.8693404°N, 74.4319656°W

**DIRECTIONS:** From Blue Mt. Lake: ½ mile north on Route 30 from the center of Blue Mountain Lake, the intersection of Route 30 and Route 28. The Museum is on the left side of the road. From Long Lake: Drive south on Route 30 for approximately 10 miles. Just after you pass the Blue Mountain trailhead on the left side of the road, look for the museum a bit further on the righthand side of the road. [Adirondack Experience - Museum on Blue Mountain Lake - Official Site](#)

## **Sunday, June 7, 2026**

### **Short Hike: Ferd's Bog, Raquette Lake – 6:00 AM**

Hike to Ferd's Bog on a short trail (only 3 tenths of a mile!). Mixed forest habitat is found near the trailhead on Uncas Rd. We will hike downhill into boreal forest before walking out into the open bog on a long boardwalk with a large deck at the end. Wildflowers line the trail and interesting bog plants line the boardwalk. We will find a wide variety of **warblers** along the hike. **Palm Warblers and Lincoln's Sparrows** are found at the bog in addition to **Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** nearby. **Black-backed Woodpeckers** are possible, as are many other species.

**GUIDE:** Joan Collins

**EVENT LENGTH:** 3-3.5 hours

**LIMIT:** 12 Participants

**BRING:** Insect repellent, hat, sunscreen, water, food, binoculars, and appropriate clothing/jacket and footwear.

**MEET:** At the old school parking lot at the intersection of RT28 and Antlers Rd. (County Highway 2) at 6 a.m. If you are traveling south, it is on the right. We will carpool to the Ferd's Bog parking area together.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the intersection of RT28/30 and RT30 in Blue Mountain Lake, proceed 13.2 miles on RT28 heading south toward Raquette Lake. Just a few feet before Antlers Rd., turn right into the old school parking lot. (This location is also across from Sagamore Rd.)

### **WALK: Lake Durant Marsh – 7:00 AM**

Join **Mike and Wanda** for a beautiful walk between Lake Durant proper and a large marsh. We will look and listen for **American Bittern** and **Virginia Rail** in the marsh, **Common Loons** in the lake, other **warblers, vireos, flycatchers, and thrushes** will be found; also, a round beaver dam is an oddity. If time permits, a walk into a nearby woodland can top off the morning.

**GUIDES:** Mike and Wanda Moccio

**LIMIT:** 15 Participants

**EVENT LENGTH:** 3 hours

**BRING:** Bug Repellent, (netting or bug shirt suggested), water, snacks, binoculars, and waterproof hiking attire.

**MEET:** Lake Durant parking area on Route 28 west of Indian Lake (NOT the campground)

**GPS WAYPOINT:** 43.85°, -74.41°.

**DIRECTIONS:** Traveling east from Blue Mountain Lake, the picnic and parking area is on the left side of the road, 2 miles from the intersection of Route 28N and Route 30. Approximately 9 miles west of Indian Lake.

### **WALK: Sacandaga Pathway, Speculator – 7:00 AM**

Join **Laurie Freeman and Claire Guyer** on the beautiful Sacandaga Pathway in Speculator. This 1 ½ mile long boardwalk and path is an easily accessible trail leading you to a variety of habitats and three types of wetlands along a flat-water section of the Sacandaga River. Look for **American Bitterns** and **Blue Herons** along the eastern side of the path following the river as well as **Black Ducks** and **Mallards**. Along the path, you may also find a variety of **Woodland Warblers, Woodpeckers, Red-tailed Hawks, and American Kestrels**.

**GUIDE:** Laurie Freeman & Claire Guyer

**EVENT LENGTH:** 3-4 hours

**LIMIT:** 15 Participants

**BRING:** Insect repellent, hat, sunscreen, water, lunch, binoculars, and appropriate clothing/jacket and footwear.

**MEET:** Speculator Pavilion

**GPS WAYPOINT:** 43.495843, -74.359633

**DIRECTIONS:** The Speculator Pavilion is located on Route 30 South, in the Village of Speculator. It is directly across the street from the public beach and is neighbored by the Speculator Fire Hall. There is ample parking here to meet and then continue onto the Pathway.

## Hike: Trail along Brown's Tract Inlet, Raquette Lake – 10:00 AM

The trail along Brown's Tract Inlet is an old railbed, so perfectly level. The habitats include mixed and boreal forests, and wetlands. We'll add a short, fun side trip to the canoe trail that runs from Eighth Lake to a raised boardwalk put-in on Brown's Tract Inlet. The hike will be a 4-mile round trip. A wide variety of **warblers** will be found, including many **Canada Warblers** and **Northern Waterthrushes**, just before the raised boardwalk. **Flycatchers and woodpeckers** are found along the boardwalk. The raised boardwalk can offer views into nests and up-close observations of wetland plants! **Black-backed Woodpeckers and Olive-sided Flycatchers** are good possibilities. There is an outhouse just before the boardwalk.

**GUIDE:** Joan Collins

**EVENT LENGTH:** 4 hours

**LIMIT:** 12 Participants

**BRING:** Insect repellent, hat, sunscreen, water, food, binoculars, and appropriate clothing/jacket and footwear.

**MEET:** At the old school parking lot at the intersection of RT28 and Antlers Rd. (County Highway 2) at 10 a.m. If you are traveling south, it is on the right. We will carpool to the trailhead together, located on Uncas Rd.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the intersection of RT28/30 and RT30 in Blue Mountain Lake, proceed 13.2 miles on RT28 heading south toward Raquette Lake. Just a few feet before Antlers Rd., turn right into the old school parking lot. (This location is also across from Sagamore Rd.)

**Hope to see you at the Festival!**

