BIRD TOWN *FLYER*

Audubon PENNSYLVANIA

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Stream Clean Up in York

By Kimberly Schubert

Great Egret by Karen Lippy, York Audubon

On Saturday September 24, Audubon Pennsylvania will be hosting a stream clean-up in and along Willis Run in York. The group will meet at 9am – 12pm along the nature trail in Noonan Park (near the corner of Maryland Avenue and Wood Street). Audubon will provide all of the necessary supplies, but feel free to bring your own gloves and boots. This event is one of many happening during the Watershed Alliance of York's 14th annual Watershed Weekend.

Willis Run is a tributary of Codorus Creek and the Susquehanna River. It also feeds into Kiwanis Lake, which is an Important Bird Area and the home of three state endangered birds including the great egret. Cleaning up Willis Run is essential for the protection of the habitat for these birds. We hope to see you there!

Contact Information: Kim Schubert, Project Coordinator, 717-612-2179 or kschubert@audubon.org

A New Way to Connect

A year ago, Audubon PA launched a **Meet-up Group** for the Lehigh Valley Bird Town Coalition. To date, we have **300** members who receive notification of events and opportunities taking place in Bird Towns and other parts of the Lehigh Valley.

We have expanded with two new Meet-up Groups: **Montgomery County Bird Towns** and **Bucks County Bird Towns**. Sign up at Meetup.com (it's free) to hear about bird, plant, and landscape happenings. You can RSVP online and even make comments.

Stay tuned for additional Meet-up Groups coming next year!

UPCOMING EVENTS

BIRD TOWN BIRD WALKS !! **(BEGINNERS WELCOME!) ALL ARE 8:00AM—10:00 AM**

SEPT 22, THURS—PINE RUN PARK, UPPER DUBLIN
OCT 20, THURS—ROSE VALLEY PARK, UPPER DUBLIN
NOV 17, THURS—WISSAHICKON VALLEY WATERFOWL PRESERVE (AMBLER)
JAN 22, THURS—ROBBINS PARK , UPPER DUBLIN
FEB 16, THURS—WISSAHICKON VALLEY WATERFOWL PRESERVE
MARCH 16, THURS—ROBBINS PARK
APRIL 20, THURS—PINE RUN PARK
MAY 18, THURS—ROSE VALLEY PARK

THESE WALKS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. SIGN UP AT MEETUP.COM FOR LAST MINUTE UPDATES (LINK BELOW)

OTHER

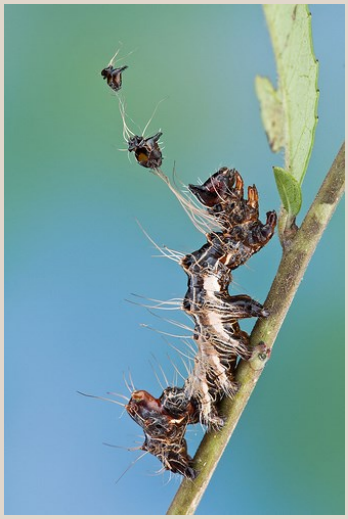
AUG 26, 8AM– 4PM NATIVE PLANTS AND STORMWATER BMPS, MECHANICBURG (SEE LINK BELOW NEWSLTR)

SEPTEMBER 24, 11AM—3PM ***THE SIXTH ANNUAL BIRD AND WILDLIFE FESTIVAL AT GREEN LANE PARK***

OCTOBER 8, 10AM—1PM NATIVE PLANT EXCHANGE (TENTATIVE—SAVE THE DATE!) LOWER GWYNEDD

ONGOING AUG-OCTOBER—GARDENING WITH NATURE SERIES, CAMP HILL (SEE LINK BELOW)

One Cool Garden Critter



Recently I found a rather ragged looking caterpillar on some cranberry viburnum (*Viburnum trilobum*). Frankly, it looked half dead and desiccated. With some help from Facebook, it was identified as that of the Harris' three spot moth (Harismemna trisignata), a striking mottled black, white and brown moth. The caterpillar, I would learn, has some amazing adaptions. From the back, its coloration and features mimic a jumping spider, poised with fangs exposed. It's messy coat of hair resembles the filaments of an airborne seed, some tangled spider webs or a bird dropping.

But the real magic is in this critter's keeping of its discarded head capsules (upon molting) which it retains in a strand of towering "maces." When threatened, the caterpillar swings this chained mace wildly in an attempt to strike a potential intruder or evade capture. Check out the video linked below for the action! Ah...nature! ~Steve (photo C. Hutton)

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