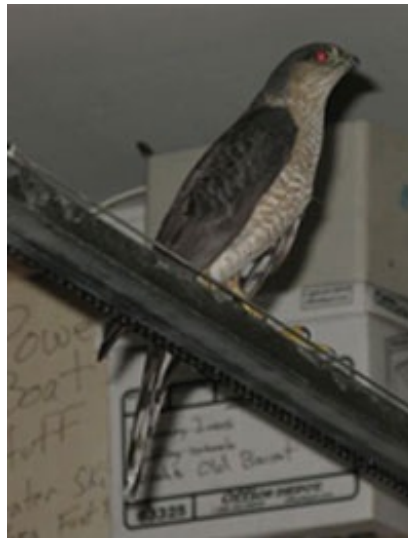




Upcoming Events

- March 20: Bird School
(“Preparing for Flight: Great Horned Owlets”)
- March 21: Narrows fundraiser
- April 4 and 5: Creepy Crawler’s Program (“Snails, Slugs, and Grubs”)
- April 7: Volunteer Training for Education Programs (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.)
- April 10: Bird School
(“Dressed for Success”)
- May 7: Yappy Tails and Trails (10-3pm)
- May 19: The Jetty Gives a Hoot about CBEC (Happy Hour to close)
- June 6 and 7: Creepy Crawler’s Program (“Itsy, Bitsy, Spider”)
- June 20-24: CBEC Camp
(*Theme: Life around the Bay*)
- June 27-July 1: CBEC Camp
(*Theme: Bay through the Ages*)
- July 18: Birdies for the Bay Golf Benefit
- July 18-22: CBEC Camp
(*Theme: Survival Camp*)
- July 25-29: CBEC Camp

Mystery Bird Identified



We received a request to identify a bird that flew into a garage (doors open). Fortunately for us the person who inquired took an excellent photo for identification. The bird turned out to be a Cooper’s Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), an adult identified by the

reddish/orange eye. Look closely at the rounded tail. This was an easy one with the long, rounded tail, barred brown and white and with the terminal band white.

Cooper’s Hawks are in the Accipiter group of hawks that are known as “bird hawks.” They feed on smaller birds (passerines) and some mammals. They have two adaptations that make them very effective in maneuverability, thus, ‘bird hunting’ is how they survive. They have a long tail and short broad wings. Often the Cooper’s Hawk will hang out around bird feeders waiting for a small bird to become careless, the small bird is careless only once.

What is interesting is that these hawks often get into buildings in pursuit of smaller birds that fly into garages, barns, carports, etc. In most cases, they fly out the same way they fly in unless they are chased around the building in an attempt to get them out. They are opportunists and

(Theme: Wonders of Water)

- August 1-12: Young Naturalist Camp at CBEC (Art and Nature Camp)

Naturalist Camp

CBEC is proud to host a specialty camp for all of the young artists out there. During this two-week day camp (weeks of August 1 and 8), campers ages 8-12 will explore the connection between art and nature. The Young Naturalist Camp aims to foster creativity, careful observation, and respect for nature by introducing a wide array of artistic and natural science activities. Participants will keep sketching and photographic journals, build flower presses and looms, and make paper and natural dyes, all while exploring, investigating, and enjoying the rich environment of the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center. Registration is limited to 15 campers, so sign up quickly! Cost is \$300 for the two-week camp.

Earth Day

Do something good for the earth this Earth Day! Our Earth Day Clean-up and Geocaching Event is being sponsored by the Military Association of Geocachers (MAGC). On Saturday April 16th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. come help clean-up CBEC grounds and restore parts of our Bay shoreline. Afterwards

we will attempt to get them back they are opportunistic and will go where it is necessary to seek prey. This happening ended with the Cooper's leaving the garage...no worse for the wear.

Call for Volunteers

CBEC is in need of volunteer help. With such a small staff and wide-reaching programs offered, CBEC depends on a dedicated body of



volunteers. We are always looking for new volunteers to help with such things as our education programs, restoration projects, and land and building maintenance. Several training sessions are offered throughout the year for individuals interested in volunteering with specific programs.

Interested in volunteering with our education programs which reach over 15,000 students every year? On April 7th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. we will have a training day to introduce and review our education program with volunteers. Volunteers are needed to assist and/or lead programs for our busiest school season to date. Contact Katey Nelson at knelson@bayrestoration.org or call 410.827.6694, if you are interested!

CBEC is also looking for volunteers to assist with our summer camps. Anyone over the age of 18 interested in volunteering as a camp counselor or program aide should contact Katey Nelson at knelson@bayrestoration.org or call 410.827.6694.

Come Experience the Wild Life

Every day that the temperature rises above freezing, we here at CBEC start daydreaming about summer camps! If your child is looking for an exciting, action-packed, and

everyone is invited to participate in geocaching! Please register on geocaching.com under the CITO events called *Back In Touch with Nature by Mother Wolfe*. You are encouraged to bring a covered dish to join in the pot luck lunch by MAGC, or brown bag it or bring cash as *It's the Pits BBQ* will be on site.

Jetty Gives a Hoot

Get ready for a wild night on May 19th, it's a Thirsty Thursday to benefit CBEC at The Jetty Restaurant & Dock Bar in Grasonville! The band "Hot Tub Limo" will be performing to help get your tail feathers shaking for CBEC. There will be specialty drinks such as the "Turtle Tini" and the "Hawk S#!% Shooter", along with raffles and games all night long. A \$5 cover charge gets you in the door and the Jetty Bus will be available to transport you back to your nest, should you lose your eggs! Doors open at 5 p.m.

Creepy Crawlers

Creepy Crawler classes for one- to five-year-olds include communication, story time, hiking, role-playing, crafts, live animals, scavenger hunt, and snack. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Classes are held rain or shine. Pre-registration is required.*

• Apr. 4 & 5—Snails, Slugs and

educational experience this summer, consider signing up for a week (or several!) of CBEC camps. Many campers are already signed up, so act quickly to get your child registered.

We have four sessions of camp scheduled for the weeks of June 20th and 27th and July 18th and 25th. Camp will be held Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily for campers ages 5-12. Cost per session is \$200 for members and \$225 for non-members. Each week has a different theme (see below), so campers are encouraged to sign up for more than one week. There is even a \$25 discount for attending more than 2 weeks!

Camp themes:

June 20-24, Life around the Bay

Explore the marshlands and the Bay while catching critters, hiking, geocaching, and kayaking. Then create recycled boats, make ice cream, and Bay-gull pizzas in a solar oven!

June 27-July 1, Bay through the Ages

Experience the Bay through the eyes of Native Americans, early colonists, and watermen. Hear traditional Native American stories, create leather bracelets and dream catchers, learn to cook over a fire to make foods the colonists enjoyed, and participate in projects to protect the Bay for future generations.

July 18-22, Survival Camp

See how well you can "rough it" out in the woods. Campers will learn navigation, basic first aid, shelter building, and back country cooking skills.

July 25-29, Wonders of Water

Play in the Bay, enjoy exploring the marshlands and catching Bay critters, kayak (for campers in 3-6 grade, younger campers will go on creek hikes), learn the importance of the Bay and help with projects to protect it for future generations, and spend the rest of the time staying cool with water games!

Grubs

- May 2 & 3—Tadpoles to Frogs
- June 6 & 7—Itsy Bitsy Spider
- July 11 & 12—Terrapin Trot
- Aug. 1 & 2—Jellies, Jellies...

Everywhere

- Sept. 5 & 6—Critters In The Bay
- Oct. 3 & 4—The Stinky Stink Bug
- Nov. 7 & 8—Leaves, Know Your Colors
- Dec. 5 & 6—Birds at the Feeders

Cost: \$3 (CBEC members); \$5 (non-members); ask about our discount for pre-paid annual registration.

*We regret that we are not able to accommodate walk-ins. Please register in advance. To register, call 410.827.6694.

Wet 'n Wild Auction

Planning has begun for CBEC's Annual Wet 'n Wild Live and Silent Auction. This year, the auction will be held September 24th from 4-9 p.m. at CBEC. It will be an exciting fundraising event, so please mark your calendars and save the date!

We are also looking for donations of auction items. Suggestions include: vacation homes, tickets to special events and concerts, tours, art, and other collectibles, especially anything with an environmental theme!

Birdies for the Bay

If you are interested in reserving a space for your child, please email Katey Nelson at

knelson@bayrestoration.org or call CBEC at 410.827.6694. Have friends or neighbors with children? Consider recommending CBEC camps!

Bird School is Back



*March 20 1-2:30pm:
"Preparing for Flight:
Great Horned Owlets"*

We are nearing the end of the Great Horned Owl nesting cycle and the

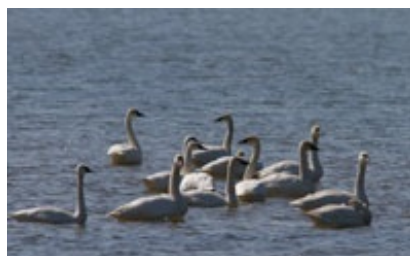
babies are getting ready to leave the nest and start out on their own. Come learn about the nesting habits of these owls and witness the owlets while still in the nest.

April 10 1-2:30pm: "Dressed for Success"

Many birds are sprucing up this time of the year to attract a mate. Come learn about breeding bird plumage and use your newly gained skills to identify birds from several of CBEC's blinds.

Half of the class time will be spent inside discussing characteristics and identification of the birds, while the other time will be spent outside gathering first-hand experience with our feathered neighbors. Come dressed for the weather.

Tundra Swans--Going, Going, (and except for ten stragglers) Gone!



The Tundra Swans sense springtime in the air and are leaving on their annual pilgrimage to their breeding grounds in the

Dig out your ugly golf pants...it's time to tee it up for the center's wildlife! We've got the best tourney on the Eastern Shore with great food, prizes and of course contests totaling over \$20K, plus an environmentally friendly course at Queenstown Harbor. This event fills quickly! Please register by May 18th for the early bird special rate of \$500/team and \$125/player, or by June 15 for the late bird special rate of \$600/team and \$150/player.

If you are interested in sponsoring any of these events or donating items or receiving registration materials, please contact Vicki Paulas at vpaulas@bayrestoration.org or leave a message at the center 410.827.6694. We hope you can join us for one or all of these events!

Remember our health and the health of the environment is intricately connected. Please help support the environmental education programs at CBEC. We help create the next generation of Chesapeake Bay Stewards.

Thank You

A Special CBEC Thank You Goes Out to...

Kevin Bard

Tim Reedy

Donna Wadsley

Walt Trella

sub-Arctic and Arctic tundra from Bristol Bay, Alaska, north along the coast of the Bering Sea to the Arctic Ocean east to Baffin Island.

CBEC has an excellent habitat for wintering birds. The Tundra Swans arrive between November 5th through November 15th and situate themselves in the Marshy Creek area. This year familial flocks totaled about 350 birds. They spend their time eating, roosting, and loafing on land and water. Then, like clockwork, the birds begin their migration to the breeding grounds between March 5th and March 21st. If this is a "life list" bird for you, hurry to CBEC, because time is running out for the last of the wintering population.

Thanks to Dave Kieffer for providing the photo of the Tundra Swans in Marshy Creek.

Annual Yappy Tails on Trails Day

On May 7th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. treat your dog to a day of fun exploring the center, sniffing wild animal poop and eating a few treats. The cost is \$20/dog and \$5 for each additional mutt, and includes a T-shirt for you, a bandana for your dog and a doggie bag of treats.

There will be a silent auction with something for everyone, including a fishing trip, Longaberger baskets, wine and booze baskets, dog-themed items, gift certificates and more. Dog demos throughout the day will include the Eastern Shore Search and Rescue Dogs, Trainer Kelly Armstrong's tips on dog obedience and mobile veterinarian Janet Van Horn answering questions on nutrition and toy selection. Vendors include food, art and jewelry, pet adoption agencies, kennels, groomers and a pet photo station.



Judy Bladen
Case Marine Shoreline
Restoration
Schuh Family Foundation
The Narrows

Wish List

- 1 month supply of mice for birds (\$400)
- Latex gloves for bird care (size Large)
- Children's storybooks, especially nature-related for any ages
- Chainsaw
- Green Cleaning Supplies
- Bird seed (sunflower)
- Gift Cards to Lowes, 84 Lumber or Nuttle Lumber for boardwalk and bird blind repairs or lumber/hardware donations (call for specifics)
- Volunteers!

For Sale

Aquariums/Reptile Tanks--Best offer accepted!

- Hexagonal Reptile Tank- 30" height by 28" diameter with 2' tall stand
- Rectangular Aquarium- 4' length x 13" width, 20" high
- Rectangular Aquarium with stand and light- 3' length x 1' width, 22" high



The event will be held on Saturday, May 7th at the CBEC pavilion area. All proceeds go towards purchasing educational equipment for the center's school field trip programs.

Don't have a dog? Well borrow one or just come by and bid on a few items at the silent auction and explore the property. Either way we would appreciate your support!

Barb Schmeckpeper, Volunteer of the Month

Any CBEC event is supported by its amazing volunteers. Whether it be a gala auction, a golf tournament, creating an outdoor classroom, or cleaning up a debris strewn beach, the CBEC volunteers are there in full force. This happening is not an accident. This happening is the magic, dedication and know how of Barb Schmeckpeper, CBEC's Volunteer Coordinator and our volunteer of the month.



Barb hails from Minnesota where she received her undergraduate degree from Macalester College. It's our good fortune that Barb came to Maryland to pursue her PhD in Molecular Biology from Johns Hopkins and then serve on the faculty of the medical school.

After a 30-year career, she retired, but she never took a break.

If you want something done, ask a busy person. The retired grandmother of two nature-loving children, Barb resides in Columbia. In 2003 she became active in Legacy Leadership Maryland, which is instrumental in enlisting the time and talents of professional retirees in service to the community. Through networking with Eastern Shore residents, in 2004-05 she became active in the Legacy Leadership Institute for the Environment (LLIE) at CBEC, and quickly assumed an active role in all activities at CBEC.



Besides being the volunteer coordinator, Barb is on the steering committee of Leadership Institute for the Environment (LIFE) and is a consultant and active participant for all programs at CBEC.

When not occupied with her family or CBEC, Barb has contributed to her community in Howard County as a member of the homeowners association board of directors, a Habitat Steward with Howard Co. Dept. of Recreation and Parks, a Howard Co. Master Gardener presenting programs to the public, and through PTA activities for 20 years while her children were in county schools. In 2009 she developed and presented Howard County Legacy Leadership Institute for the Environment (HoLLIE) which has become a yearly program.

Thank you Barb for all you are and all you do.

Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center, P.O. Box 519, Grasonville, MD 21638

www.BayRestoration.org

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