



Please join your colleagues from nature centers across New England for
The Association of Nature Center Administrators New England Regional Meeting

Friday, April 12, 2019

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Sharon Audubon Center

325 Cornwall Bridge Road, Sharon, CT 06069

Agenda

Thursday, April 11

2-4 pm: Visit Sharon Audubon Center on your own, <http://sharon.audubon.org/>

7 pm: Dutch treat dinner location to be determined

Friday, April 12

9:00 – 9:30 am: Registration: \$25 pp to cover snacks, lunch

9:30 – 10:00 am: Welcome:

- Eileen Fielding, Director, Sharon Audubon Center
- Iain MacLeod, ANCA Welcome
- Group Introductions

10:00 – 10:45 am: Sanctuary Walk:

Take a short, guided hike on Sharon Audubon's trails

11:00 – 12:30: Presentation/Workshop

Building Community Engagement through Nature Centers, Erin Kelly, Boston Nature Center

Mass Audubon's Boston Nature Center (BNC) is a unique wildlife sanctuary located in the heart of the city. In the twenty years since its inception, the BNC has grown into a bustling community-centered green space for both people and wildlife. In this workshop, we will discuss the four areas of BNC's community engagement: Supportive Environment, Hospitality, Diversity/Inclusion/Equity, and Leadership. In small group work, we will share the successes and the challenges faced by all of our organizations and take a closer look at resources that can help build partnerships, evaluate the impact of engagement efforts and support organizational change. Deepening community engagement is a complex goal that requires thoughtful and individual solutions for each nature center, this important work is needed for environmental organizations to be sustainable and resilient in an ever-changing landscape.

Erin Kelly is the Education Manager at Mass Audubon's Boston Nature Center with 18 years of leadership in outdoor environmental education and camp programming. She has designed programs to meet the needs of urban audiences in such diverse communities as Boston, New York City, and Los Angeles. Erin earned her B.S. in Environmental Science from Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and a M.S. in Environmental Education from Antioch University New England. At the Boston Nature Center, she directs popular nature camp programs that reach hundreds of families from all over Boston, coordinates year-round educational programs connected to Boston Public Schools, and supervises the center's Youth Leader program.

12:30 -1:30 pm: Lunch & Networking

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm: Open Space Session

Open Space discussion groups evolve from the interest of attendees. For those of you unfamiliar with Open Space, it is an opportunity for *you* to guide the agenda and seek guidance or share knowledge about a topic that is important to you . . . and most likely to others.

3:30 pm: Closing & Questions

4:00 pm: Adjourn

Please RSVP to Eileen Fielding at efielding@audubon.org. Please put ANCA Regional Meeting in the subject line. Include your name, organization, email address, phone # and any dietary preferences or needs.

Please share this email with those you think might be interested. We are looking forward to a great day of networking, sharing and learning.



Meeting Organizers:

Eileen Fielding, Director, Sharon Audubon, efielding@audubon.org

Iain MacLeod, Executive Director, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, iain.macleod@nhnature.org; 603.968.7194 ext. 23

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