



# The Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society Newsletter

Serving from Fort Salonga in Suffolk County to Oyster Bay and Centre Island in Nassau County

Volume 10, Issue 3  
September - December 2022

## Letter from the Editor

By Alexandra Martinez

The mission of the Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society is to protect wildlife and preserve habitat through conservation action, advocacy, and education. This chapter territory serves both Huntington and Oyster Bay townships with its all-volunteer chapter 501c3 non-profit established in 1961.

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It's been quite the busy summer! I hope you are taking advantage of all of the lovely North Shore from Fort Salonga in Suffolk County to Centre Island in Nassau County, where HOBAS' territory spans. There is so much to do in this small subset of the island from worthwhile hiking trails to the many beaches that dot the shoreline. As a resident of Huntington personally, I am always in awe of the eight beaches we can spend time in with a Town of Huntington summer beach pass - from Northport to Centerport to Huntington Bay. We are so lucky to have various locales to spend time in nature, soak up vitamin d, and catch a glimpse of the air and sea life - from the eagles, egrets and herons to the jellyfish and turtles. The wildlife we have in our communities can be absolutely breathtaking to spot and mesmerizing to watch.

If you participated in the HOBAS/Rewild Plant Sale last year, organized by our very own conversation chair, Julie Sullivan, you are probably reaping the benefits of those plantings right now. I know I invested in a couple of species of native plants and my milk weed is in full bloom (my purple love grass didn't come back, my monarda didyma is just wild, and my aster doesn't have as many blooms as I'd like). The milkweed, like its sister butterfly weed, is meant to attract butterflies.

Did you know that just this season monarch butterflies were added to the endangered species list? An article in the Northforker from August 4th shares how we can help local populations of monarch butterflies. The number one tip? PLANT MILKWEED! The reason is because this is the only plant that butterflies will lay their eggs on and is absolutely crucial to butterfly posterity. Tip number two? Plant native plants and species like aster and zinnia as these flowers provide great nutrition for monarchs. And that's my Public Service Announcement for now. I hope you take this knowledge and consider helping the monarch butterfly populations of our area next season - if you aren't already.

Enjoy what's left of the summer season and I hope you are looking forward to less heat from the sun and more internal warmth as the Fall holiday season approaches.

And remember, like one of my favorite singers says: "Happiness is a butterfly." - Lana Del Ray

## UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

### **Sun. Sep. 4<sup>th</sup>, 8 AM, Cow Meadow Preserve, Freeport**

Recently acquired from Nassau County, this Village of Freeport 171 acre park and preserve, combines nature and sports. Located in Freeport on the South Shore of Long Island, Cow Meadow is a great place to look for water birds and migrating songbirds.

### **Sun. Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10AM, Dwarf Pine Plains, Westhampton**

Perhaps Long Island's most unique insect, the coastal barrens buck moth dwells only along the coast in pitch pine-scrub oak barrens, on deep dry sands. We will journey to the Dwarf Pine Plains in Westhampton Beach to find this autumn specialty. Take Exit 63 off the Sunrise Highway and go south 0.2 mile to a parking lot of the Suffolk County Water Authority building. The trail begins at the south side of the lot.

### **Sun. Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM, Heckscher St. Park, E. Islip**

The 1,600 acres of Heckscher State Park on the south shore of Long Island are used by park visitors for a number of outdoor activities; in addition to stunning views of the Great South Bay with Fire Island as the backdrop, visitors see whitetail deer, a variety of birds and other wildlife. We will meet in the Field 7 Parking Lot.

### **Sun. Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM, Jamaica Bay NWR, Queens**

Jamaica Bay is known for its world-class birding all year. In winter, the waterfowl diversity is unmatched, and the earliest breeding songbirds will be staking out territories. Take Cross Bay Boulevard south from the Belt Parkway. Meet at the Visitors' Center.

### **Sun. Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 11 AM, Pelham Bay Park, Bronx**

Finish the birding year observing seals and a wide assortment of waterfowl in this NYC park just a few minutes north of the Throgs Neck Bridge. Take Pelham Parkway east into the park and turn right onto Orchard Beach road. Meet in the NE corner of the giant Orchard Beach lot. Bring a scope if you have one.


**\*ALL FIELD TRIPS ARE HOSTED BY DR. COBY KLIEN.\***

**REGISTRATION IN ADVANCE IS REQUIRED : 585-880-0915.**

## UPCOMING CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

### **Thurs. September 29th, 5PM-6PM, CSH Library**

Come celebrate the change of season with us! We will read a nature story, play a game and go for a walk in the woods at the Cold Spring Harbor Library. . For children 5-10 and their caregivers. Must register in advance by calling Tess at 631-896-2872.

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, HOBAS will adhere to strict guidelines for the health and safety of all participants, including: pre-registration, with field-trip leader is required; group-size is limited to no more than 6 individuals; all participants must print and sign a waiver to be provided upon arrival (<https://bit.ly/HOBASwaiver>); social distancing and mask-wearing will be required; use of hand-sanitizer and hand-washing will be encouraged. *

Please visit our website & social media for updates & additions to field trips & programs!

## Autumn Project

### Connect with Nature - Uproot English Ivy

By Julie Sullivan  
GONativeLI.com

While most trees, shrubs, and perennials are at rest by the fall season, one plant that stands out is English ivy — up the trees, along the ground and even on some houses. This is not a good thing, since ivy robs our favorite trees of air, sunlight and water, eventually weakening them; and the extra canopy weight can topple a tree in high winds. Most importantly, birds need healthy trees with lots of leaves to support moth caterpillars for rearing their young. According to Prof. Doug Tallamy, “Carolina chickadees bring somewhere between 390 and 570 caterpillars to their nest each day, depending on how many chicks are in the nest.” \*

The trick to killing English ivy in the tree is to simply cut each vine close to the tree's base and again about a foot above it. To prevent rapid regrowth, grab what's left of the vines at the bottom and uproot them to about three feet away from the tree. (English ivy is evergreen but poison ivy is not, so stay away from bare vines.) Generally, gloves, pruners and repurposed 9-inch linesman pliers are the only tools needed. Be sure to cut and pull ivy vines that crisscross the roots of the tree. Hand-pulling just one vine along the ground can uproot ten or even fifteen feet with just one yank for good, light exercise and a sense of accomplishment.

Go to <https://gonative.com/vine-removal/english-ivy> for more tips on removing ivy. And for those who need a hand, interview and select a gardener or landscaper knowledgeable about pulling English ivy, since this is not a place for herbicides. On the cleared ground, replace the ivy with shade loving white wood asters, good for both pollinators and birds. Because we all need fresh air, exercise, and to garden on those sunny, late autumn days when the temperature is above freezing, I'm asking Huntington to designate Autumn “The Season to Pull Ivy.”

\**The Living Landscape* by Rick Darke & Doug Tallamy, 2014 pg. 96



# \$1000 College and Career Ready High School

## Student Scholarship Available

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society is seeking high school students who are college and career minded. We are interested in applicants in need of a \$1,000.00 scholarship for their studies in environmental sciences or conservation-related course work. Letters of interest should include the following information:

- ❖ Student's full name
- ❖ Student's email address
- ❖ Student's telephone number
- ❖ Parent or guardian's mailing address
- ❖ Include an essay:
  - an "about you" and your interests
  - a description of your environmental science and conservation college/career aspirations and goals.
  - an outline of why you feel this scholarship will benefit you in your studies

HOBAS is eager to hear from an array of applicants seeking educational scholarships to aid in the pursuit of a career in environmental sciences and conservation-related fields.

**Please mail a hard copy of your letter of interest to:**

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society, P.O. Box 735, Huntington, N.Y. 11743  
Attention: Scholarship Committee

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## Sanctuary and Shoreline Youth Summer Scholarships

HOBAS thanks the many donors who generously contributed toward the 2022 Summer Youth Scholarship Fund. Your generosity and kindness helped to award 8 summer scholarships to several families whose spectacular kids were able to attend summer camp sessions at the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center for summer Audubon Adventures and to participate in the Cornell Cooperative Sea Explorers Marine environmental summer learning program.

These youngsters had outdoor summer fun and adventures with experienced and knowledgeable staff and volunteers. It is our hope that by providing rich, hands-on experiences we may play at least a small role in inspiring our next generation of curious naturalists and conservation-minded individuals. Thank you again for supporting this valuable initiative. We look forward to continuing to provide summer scholarships in 2023!

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## WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society is not a wildlife rehabilitation organization, but we would urge you to keep a few handy resources at the ready should you encounter wildlife in need. Please know that wildlife rehabilitators are all volunteer individuals who are licensed by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

Please refer to the NYS DEC website and search for a wildlife rehabilitator near you by county. Additionally, Volunteers for Wildlife is a non-profit wildlife rehabilitation hospital located in Locust Valley at 516-674-0982. Thank you to all the wildlife rehabilitators who give so much to injured, orphaned, and displaced wildlife.

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon  
PO Box 735  
Huntington, NY 11743

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Huntington, NY  
Permit No. 546

For \$20 a year, you can be a member of the Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society. Your membership directly supports HOBAS' mission to advocate for wildlife and habitat through conservation efforts, educational opportunities, and youth programs. Please join or renew today; HOBAS appreciates your support!

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Including:**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 annual membership dues

\_\_\_\_\_ Additional Donation

Please fill out this form and mail with your check payable to:  
Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 735, Huntington, NY 11743-0735

## Amazon Smile

*By Michael Frank*

Thank you to all of our members who have started to use Amazon Smile as an easy way to support the Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society! Amazon Smile is a simple and cost-free way to show your support for your favorite charity and we appreciate all who have done so already. Instead of logging into amazon.com, please log into smile.amazon.com and choose the Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society as your supported charity. You will get the same exact low prices and great selection you normally would from Amazon, but with Amazon Smile for every dollar that you spend on eligible purchases Amazon will donate .5% to us. It is a great, easy way to support the good work at HOBAS!



# Annual BIRD SEED FUNDRAISER

## October 29th, 2022 10am-4pm

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon

Early Bird pick up: Wednesday Oct 26th- Friday Oct 28th 10am-6pm

Wild Birds Unlimited, 625 Jericho Turnpike, Syosset 11791 (516)-226-1780

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Qty	Description	Price Per Unit	Total Price
	20 lb No Mess Blend	59.00	
	20 lb Deluxe Blend	39.00	
	20 lb Black Oil Sunflower	39.00	
	40 lb Black Oil Sunflower	71.00	
	20 lb Whole Sunflower Kernels	60.00	
	20 lb Safflower Seed	49.00	
	20 lb Nyjer (thistle) seed	49.00	
	10 lb Nyjer (thistle) seed	29.00	
	20 lb Finch Blend	54.00	
	10 lb Finch Blend	32.00	
	20 lb Shelled Peanut Splits	56.00	
	10 lb Shelled Peanut Splits	29.00	
	Case (12) of 11.75oz Naturally Nuts Suet	36.00	
	Case (12) of 11.75oz Nuts/ Berries Suet Cakes	40.00	
	Subtotal		
	<i>Seniors 10% discount</i>		
	<i>Additional contribution</i>		
	<b>Grand Total</b>		



To download additional order forms and for more information about our events and programs, visit us at [www.hobaudubon.org](http://www.hobaudubon.org)

Thank you for supporting us!

Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon's conservation and education initiatives.

Please circle day you plan to pick up your order:

Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>

Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>

Orders must be received by **Saturday, Oct 15, 2022**

### RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS - PLEASE RECORD ORDER ON BACK OF THIS SLIP

Please pick up your birdseed order in Wild Birds Unlimited of Syosset. Your birdseed will be transferred to your vehicle by our staff and volunteers. **Seed not picked up by 4pm Oct 29th will be donated.** Extra seed, as well as gift items and bird feeding supplies can be found in store. **If using GPS, enter 625 Jericho Turnpike, Syosset for directions.** Please make check payment by Oct 15<sup>h</sup>, 2022 payable to Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society. Mail to:

**HOBAS Bird Seed Sale**

PO Box 735

Huntington, NY 11743

Please contact Michael Frank, HOBAS Treasurer, at (631) 252-1082 should you have any questions.

# Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon - Annual Bird Seed Fundraiser

## Seed Descriptions:

- **No Mess Blend**– A high-quality, no-waste mix without shells. Contains 65% medium sunflower chips, 15% diced/chopped/small peanut pieces, 10% hulled white millet. Will attract most winter feeder birds including nuthatches, woodpeckers, cardinals, juncos, white throat sparrows and titmice.
- **Deluxe Blend** – A combination of high-oil content seeds with shells. 63% black oil sunflower, 25% white millet, 10% safflower, 2% striped sunflower. attracts a large variety of birds.
- **Black Oil Sunflower** – A favorite of almost all seed-eating birds, your feathered friends will happily fill up on this high fat seed.
- **Shelled Sunflower** – Whole sunflower seed kernels. No shells, **no waste**. An excellent feed. Everyone loves this.
- **Safflower Seed** – The cardinal’s choice! Glossy white seeds are the **favorite food of cardinals**. Also eaten by chickadees, finches, and doves. Ignored by squirrels, starlings, and blackbirds. An excellent seed for year-round feeding.
- **Nyjer (Thistle) Seed** – Tiny black seeds for goldfinches and pine siskins. Nyjer must be placed in a special feeder with tiny holes. Nyjer is ignored by squirrels and starlings. Use your Nyjer feeder year-round.
- **Finch Blend:** A 50/50 mix of Nyjer and fine sunflower chips, which helps attract even more birds to your finch feeder such as chickadees and downy woodpeckers.
- **Shelled Peanut Splits** – Peanuts are the best single source of protein and fat for birds and a great addition to the choices you offer in your yard. Woodpeckers, nuthatches, blue jays, tufted titmice and chickadees love this!
- **Suet Cakes** – Each 11.75oz cake fits in a wire suet cage. High protein and fat content with no waste, no fillers and real fruit! Woodpeckers love suet and so do other birds!

***Reminder - All orders due by Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Thank you for your continued support!***

## It is always a good idea to keep feeders clean by following these steps:

1. Clean feeders and bird baths with soap and water at least once a week, then disinfect with a 10% bleach solution to prevent potential infectious disease spread between birds and other wildlife. 2. After cleaning, rinse well with water and allow to air-dry. 3. When handling bird feeders and baths be sure to wear disposable gloves and wash your hands when finished. 4. Keep pets away from sick or dead birds as a standard precaution. 5. To dispose of dead birds, place them in a sealable plastic bag and discard with household trash. This will prevent disease transmission to other birds and wildlife.

Source: NY Audubon

### For Customer Use: Record your order here.

Qty	Description	Total
	20 lb No Mess LM Blend	
	20 lb Deluxe Blend	
	20 lb Black Oil Sunflower	
	40 lb Black Oil Sunflower	
	20 lb Shelled Sunflower	
	20 lb Safflower Seed	
	20 lb Nyjer (thistle) Seed	
	10 lb Nyjer (thistle) Seed	
	20 lb Finch Blend	
	10 lb Finch Blend	
	20 lb Peanut Splits	

	10 lb Peanut Splits	
	Case (12) Naturally Nuts Suet	
	Case (12) Nuts & Berries Suet	

### Customer Reminder

Please circle the day you plan to pick up your order

Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>

Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>