

Project Puffin 2015 Summer Lectures

July 8: Annie Kessler, local bat enthusiast, will go beyond the myths with a presentation about our winged allies. Bats are super-heroes and Kessler's presentation will shine light on how bats world-wide are essential to our planet's ecology and global economies.

July 15: Don Reimer will be at the center to discuss the bird species found at Weskeag Marsh. Weskeag Marsh is one of only 22 Important Bird areas in Maine. Criteria for this designation is based primarily on large concentrations of birds, species of conservation concern, and species diversity. The talk will focus on the habitat zones within the greater marsh area and the birds and the wildlife that use the marsh.

July 22: Steve Kress, founder and director of Project Puffin, and Derrick Jackson, photographer and author, will be at the center to discuss their new book "The Improbable Quest to Bring a Beloved Seabird Back to Eastern Egg Rock". The opening of Derrick Jackson's photo exhibit will also be held on this date.

July 29: The Chinese Crested Tern is one of the rarest birds in the world. First described from eastern Indonesia in 1861, it vanished due to egg collecting and other human threats from 1937-2000. A few birds were rediscovered in 2001 and now Chinese biologists are working hard to save this nearly lost species using methods developed by Audubon's Seabird Restoration Program in Maine. Join Fan Zhongyong and Lu Yiwei from the Zhejiang Museum of Natural history to hear the heartening account of the return of the Chinese Bird of Legend.

AUGUST

Aug. 5: Don Reimer will be at the center to review the many birds that are seen in Maine primarily during the winter. Since about 75% birds exit the state during the colder months, the hardy winter birds that remain employ necessary survival skills and strategies in order to survive. Periodic irruptions of Snowy Owls will also be covered.

Aug. 12: Susie Meadows, Project Puffin center manager and educator, will be discussing how Project Puffin restored seabirds back to the area.

Aug. 19: Aubrey Alamshah, one of project puffin's education interns, will discuss her work with New Zealand falcons. Despite their popularity, their population is in decline due to a reduction of native forest. Alamshah spent the 20-13-2014 field season working on a project aimed to understand new falcon habitat use and population growth.

Aug. 26: TBA

- ◆ All presentations begin at 5pm, wine, cheese & light refreshments will be served.
Call to reserve a seat, 596-5566