



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE

Vol. 40 No. 6 Rochester, MN

May/ August 2015

## Zumbro Valley Audubon Summer Programs 2015

*All programs are free of charge unless otherwise noted.*

**May 13<sup>th</sup> Wed** - Kutzky Park Field Trip. Meet at west parking lot of Kutzky Park at 9 am, Kutzky Park is one of the birding hot spots in Rochester. Trip will last approximately 1 hour depending on the number of birds. Trip leaders are Terry & Joyce Grier

**May 16<sup>th</sup> Sat** - Kutzky Park Field Trip. Meet at west parking lot of Kutzky Park at 8 AM. Kutzky is one of the birding hot spots in Rochester. Trip will last approximately 1 hour depending on the number of birds. Trip leaders are Terry & Joyce Grier.

**May 20<sup>th</sup> Wed**— Quarry Hill Nature Center bird hike 9 AM – Meet at the Nature Center Look for warblers and other interesting spring migrants. Meet at Nature Center -Binoculars are available to use at the Nature Center - Trip leaders are Joyce & Terry Grier.

**May 26, Tues - Double Feature!** 6:30 PM to 8 PM Cascade Meadow Science Center  
Cascade Meadows Science Center is located between Lourdes HS and the RAC on 19th St NW.

### **Water & Wetlands** 6:30 PM

Our lakes, rivers, and wetlands help make Rochester one of the nations' most livable communities. It is in our best interest to keep these water resources clean and useable. Megan Duffey Moeller, Stormwater Educator for the City of Rochester, will let us know how we can "Keep it Clean" for not only ourselves, but also wildlife like damselflies and dragonflies.

### **Damsels & Dragons!** 7 pm

Dan Jackson is an amateur naturalist, avid birder, wildlife photographer and dragonfly enthusiast who has chased dragonflies and damselflies (Odonata) throughout WI and Southeastern MN. He has participated in many volunteer research activities and citizen science projects and led dozens of birding and dragonfly field trips. He has also done many presentations on birds, dragonflies, butterflies, as well as the art of digiscoping. His photos have been published in magazines, birding publications, newspapers, books, websites, and journals

Dan's presentation will be a fun, informative introduction to the insect order Odonata which includes Dragonflies and Damselflies.

### **June 7, Sat** – The Gold Finch Bird Walk Quarry Hill Nature Center 9 AM

Join members of Zumbro Valley Audubon on a casual walk thru Quarry Hill Park to view the birds. Bring binoculars if you have them, some are available to borrow from the nature center. Dress for the weather. Families and children are welcome. Come and stay for any length of time. The walks usually last about one hour. Free and open to the public with no registration required. Led by Terry & Joyce Grier

### **June 21 Sun** 3 PM – Chester Woods Park, Hwy 14 E

Dragonflies and damselflies are amazing creatures – ferocious predators, fantastic flyers, with incredible body shapes and a distinctive life cycle. Join us at 3 pm at the kiosk near the boat landing to search for and catch specimens to examine and learn more about. Families with kids are welcome to this fun activity. Leader is Joel Dunnette.

### **July 4<sup>th</sup>, Sat** – The Bluebird Bird Walk Quarry Hill Nature Center 9 AM

Join members of Zumbro Valley Audubon on a casual walk thru Quarry Hill Park to view the birds. Bring binoculars if you have them, some are available to borrow from the nature center. Dress for the weather. Families and children are welcome. Come and stay for any length of time. The walks usually last about one hour. Free and open to the public with no registration required. Led by Terry & Joyce Grier

**July 18<sup>th</sup>, Sat**– All day – 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Butterfly Count Teams will survey several locations in a 7.5 mile radius circle centered near Quarry Hill looking for as many species of butterflies as we can find. We'll be walking on and off trails in any kind of weather. If you are interested in participating in this event, please email Joel at [jdunnette@gmail.com](mailto:jdunnette@gmail.com).

# ZVAS SUMMER PROGRAMS 2015

**July 26, Sun** Chester Woods – Bug Out at Chester Woods Park 3 - 5 pm

**Note:** a County Park sticker or a daily pass is required for entry to the park.

Summer is a time of abundance, and particularly for the huge variety of insects and other small creatures. Many are easy to catch and handle. Join us to search the fields, woods, and waters of Chester Woods for as many kinds as we can find. Bring your kids, as this will be an active, fun, competitive search; their eyes and enthusiasm will be especially welcome. Leader is Joel Dunnette

**August 1, Sat** – The Blue Jay Bird Walk Quarry Hill Nature Center, 9 AM

Join members of Zumbro Valley Audubon on a casual walk thru Quarry Hill Park to view the birds. Bring binoculars if you have them, some are available to borrow from the nature center. Dress for the weather. Families and children are welcome. Come and stay for any length of time. The walks usually last about one hour. Free and open to the public with no registration required. Led by Terry & Joyce Grier

**Aug 8, Sat.** Restored Rushford Prairie sites field trip - 8 AM

Scott Leddy will provide a guided tour of two sites that Meadowlark Restorations has worked on in the Rushford area, a (probably steep) bluff prairie and a rolling sand prairie. We will stop in Rushford for an early lunch or something to drink between site visits. Return mid afternoon. Meet 8 a.m. at the east parking lot of the Heintz Center.

**August 25, Tues** - Quarry Hill Nature Center 6:30 PM

**Tagging Monarch Butterflies led by Pam Meyer**

Join us and learn about the fascinating Monarch Butterfly as it prepares for its long journey back to Mexico. We will have a hands-on experience of tagging these butterflies and learn a lot more about this incredible creature and their perilous journey.

## We Will Be Moving to Email Only Delivery soon!

Due to the increasing cost of printing and mailing the Newsletter, ZVAS will become an electronic only newsletter soon. You will be able to receive the newsletter directly by email, or access it later on our website. This will allow ZVAS to put more local articles of interest in the newsletter and send program reminders if you request them.

Another benefit is that more of your donations will go toward our high quality programs. *And* you will receive the newsletter in full-color.

This will be the last mailed newsletter you will receive unless we hear from you. If you do not use email but wish to continue to receive the newsletter by US mail, let us know by calling Bill Bruins at 281-1607.

**If you wish to sign up for the email newsletter, please send your name and email address to: [wmb Bruins@gmail.com](mailto:wmb Bruins@gmail.com), with the subject line: ZVAS.**

We promise not to share your e-mail address without your consent, and to send you only rare, but important notes relevant to our chapter activities.

*Thank you!*

Visit us at:

[www.zumbrovalleyaudubon.org](http://www.zumbrovalleyaudubon.org)

You can always donate to ZVAS at:



**Our Mission**  
To bring environmental awareness, appreciation and advocacy to the community by:  
• supporting environmental education of our youth.  
• developing an appreciation and awareness by the public of the natural world.  
• advocating efforts of individuals and community leaders to pursue environmentally positive activities and policies.  
• encouraging members to participate in decision-making processes concerning environmental issues.

ZUMBRO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY  
PO Box 6244  
ROCHESTER, MN 55903-6244

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