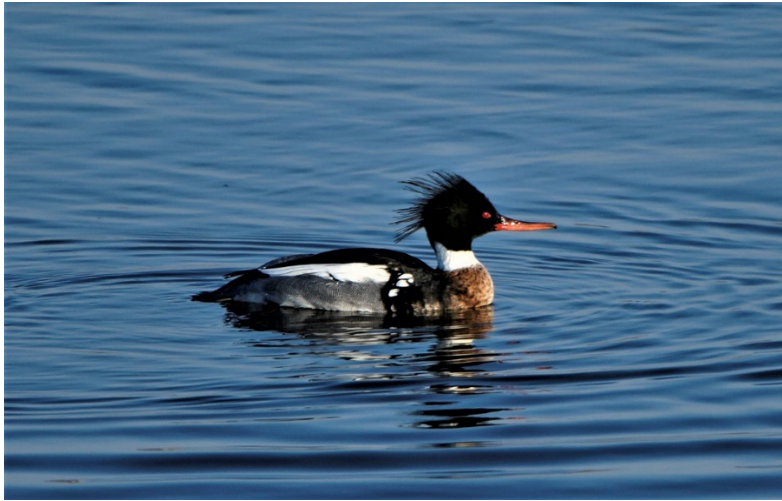


Winter Waterfowl Watching with CAWS*

Friday, November 8th

2024



Red-breasted Merganser ©Anthony Zemba

Attention CAWS members!

The next CAWS event will be a coastal birding field trip to look for winter waterfowl. Join waterfowl experts and CAWS leaders Anthony Zemba and Brian “Woody” Wood on a coastal excursion to look for both migratory and resident waterfowl along the Connecticut shoreline. Learn the identification basics of Connecticut resident and migratory waterfowl, which species are of conservation concern, their behavior, and which wetland habitats that they depend on.

The proposed Itinerary is as follows:

- 0900 – Meet in front of the Meigs Point Nature Center at the East Beach of Hammonasset State Park in Madison, CT
- 0900 – 0930: Sign-in and registration, donuts and coffee courtesy of CAWS
- 0935 – 1045: Search Saltmarsh, Sandy Beach, Rocky Headland, and Offshore environs for waterfowl.
- 1050 – 1115: Travel to Guilford Boat Ramp
- 1115 – 1145: Search East River, East River Marsh Wildlife Area, Grass Island, and Guilford Harbor for waterfowl.
- 1145 – 1210: Travel to Owenego Inn, 40 Linden Avenue in Branford, CT

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- 1210 – 1230: Search the open waters and abundant rocky islets off of the historic Owenego Inn property
- 1235: depart for Stony Creek Brewery on the shore of the Branford River at 5 Indian Neck Avenue in Branford.
- 1240: Arrive at Stony Creek for a CAWS social gathering and a view of the Branford River

Potential sightings include: Canada Goose, Atlantic Brant, Black Duck, Mallard, Surf Scoter, White-winged Scoter, Common Goldeneye, Long-tailed Duck, Common Loon, Red-throated Loon, Red-breasted Merganser, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Horned Grebe, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, American Wigeon, Gadwall and more. Past rarities at these locations have included Common Eider, King Eider, and Harlequin Duck.

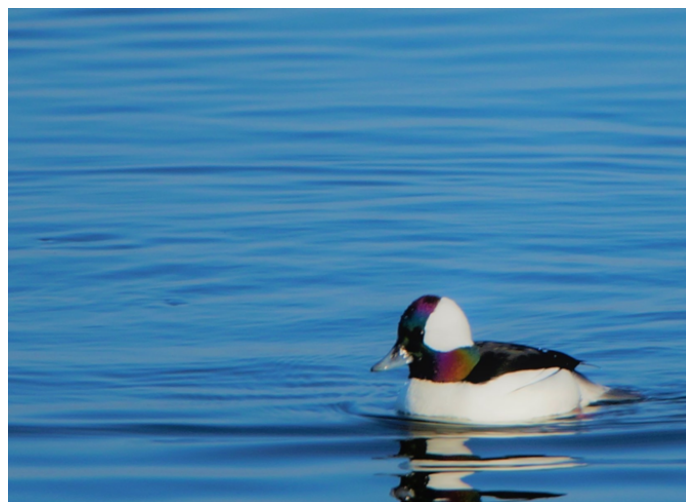
Cost: A fee of \$25 is required. This fee helps to support CAWS events and services, and includes a handout pocket guide to Waterfowl of North America. Register online at <https://caws.wufoo.com/forms/winter-waterfowl-watching-with-caws>

What to Expect: Light, easy walking, excellent companionship/leadership, and a wealth of shared expertise from your CAWS expert leaders!

What to Bring: Aside from your cheery attitude, please bring a pair of binoculars (and an extra pair to share if you have one) and your spotting scopes, your favorite field guide(s), camera, field clothes, and notebooks.

Other considerations:

Although we expect ample parking at the places we will visit, please try to carpool if possible. Dress for cold weather or be prepared for whatever New England weather might throw at us in November.



Bufflehead ©Anthony Zemba

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