

BKAA 2021 Calendar of Events

All events free and open to the public!

Masks and social distancing are mandatory

Spring Waterfowl Walk with John Haas

Saturday, March 20, 8 am

Meet walk leader John Haas at the Haven Road Parking Lot (on left coming from Route 209). Bring binoculars and a scope if you have one. We should see an array of early ducks, geese and mergansers. We will go to the Main Boat Launch when finished at Haven Road to walk the Birch Trail to see additional species. Boots may be of help in this area. The event lasts about 2 hours. Visit to Mamakating's Environmental Education Center included. To register and/or for more information, contact John at 845-807-2437.

Walk the O & W / D & H Canal Trail Loop with Kerron Barnes

Sunday, April 18, 1 pm

Co-sponsored with Mamakating Library

20 Maximum Participants

Stroll a 3 mile loop on level terrain with Kerron, D&H Canal aficionado, as you observe wetlands, headwaters of the Basher Kill, and Gumaer Brook. This 1.4 mile portion of the O & W Rail Trail was gifted to Mamakating by Open Space Institute. When reaching McDonald Road, participants will return to Wurtsboro via the D & H Canal towpath. Bring binoculars, insect repellent, and wear good walking shoes. Meet at the trailhead adjacent to O'Toole's Harley-Davidson on Sullivan Street in Wurtsboro. To register and/or for more information, contact Mamakating Library at 845-888-8004 or email: mamcirc@rcls.org

39th Annual Basha Kill Clean-up

Saturday, April 24

9:30-10am Registration and site assignments

Celebrate Earth Day! Enjoy a walk and fresh spring air while ridding the wetlands of debris. Garbage bags are provided. Wear boots, work gloves, and insect repellent. Bring chairs as lunch, supplied by the BKAA, will be eaten al fresco in the Haven Road DEC parking lot (on left coming from Route 209) which is also the event's registration site. BKAA merchandise will be on sale and door prizes awarded. Call Paula Medley at 845-754-0743 for further information or email info@thebashakill.org

Birding for Beginners with Scott Graber

Sunday, April 25, 8 am

20 Maximum Participants

Experience the variety of birdlife that inhabits the Bashakill with naturalist Scott Graber. This walk will focus on basic identification of birds by sight and sound. If you're new to birding or have always wondered what birds exist beyond your backyard, this is the field trip for you! Binoculars are required and wear sturdy walking shoes. Meet at the Haven Road DEC parking lot (on left coming from Rt. 209). Visit to Mamakating's Environmental Education Center included. Call Scott to register and/or for additional information at 914-799-1313.

Spring Migration Warbler Walk with John Haas

Saturday, May 1, 8 am

Meet at the Stop Sign Parking Area off Haven Road (from Route 209, cross Haven Road bridge and take first left just before Haven Road ends at South Road). Bring binoculars. We should see an array of spring migrants including warblers, orioles, and grosbeaks. We will move to the Nature Trail from there and finish up at the Main Boat Launch. Visit to Mamakating's

Environmental Ed. Center included. To register and for more information, contact John at 845-807-2437. The walk lasts at least 2 hours.

Walk the O & W / D & H Canal Trail Loop with Kerron Barnes

Sunday, May 16, 1 pm

Co-sponsored with Mamakating Library

20 Maximum Participants

Stroll a 3 mile loop on level terrain with Kerron, D&H Canal aficionado, as you observe wetlands, headwaters of the Basher Kill, and Gumaer Brook. This 1.4 mile portion of the O & W Rail Trail was gifted to Mamakating by Open Space Institute. When reaching McDonald Road, event participants will return to Wurtsboro via the D & H Canal towpath. Bring binoculars, insect repellent, and wear good walking shoes. Meet at the trailhead adjacent to O'Toole's Harley-Davidson on Sullivan Street in Wurtsboro. To register and/or for more information, contact Mamakating Library at 845-888-8004 or email: mamcirc@rcls.org

Hike to Gobbler's Knob with NY-NJ Trail Conference Representative

Saturday, May 22, 10 am

Enjoy views of a beautiful 650 acre Shawangunk Ridge property that was also the site of the proposed Basherkill Subdivision. The hike gains 450 vertical feet from the parking area to the Knob which is almost 1,000 feet high. Wear comfortable, sturdy shoes; bring water and binoculars. Trip takes two hours. Meet at the South Road fishing platform (Westbrookville end). To register or for more information, contact Paula at 845-754-0743.

Walk the O & W / D & H Canal Trail Loop with Kerron Barnes

Saturday, June 5, 10 am

Co-sponsored with Mamakating Library

20 Maximum Participants

Stroll a 3 mile loop on level terrain with Kerron, D&H Canal aficionado, as you observe wetlands, headwaters of the Basher Kill, and Gumaer Brook. This 1.4 mile portion of the O & W Rail Trail was gifted to Mamakating by Open Space Institute. When reaching McDonald Road, event participants will return to Wurtsboro via the D & H Canal towpath. Bring binoculars, insect repellent, and wear good walking shoes. Meet at the trailhead adjacent to O'Toole's Harley-Davidson on Sullivan Street in Wurtsboro. To register and/or for more information, contact Mamakating Library at 845-888-8004 or email: mamcirc@rcls.org

Happy for Herps with Bill Cutler

Sunday, June 6, 10 am

Join herpetologist Bill Cutler on a search for amphibians and reptiles. Kids as well as adults love learning about them. Bring binoculars and insect repellent. Meet at the Haven Road DEC parking lot (on left coming from Route 209). Visit to Mamakating's Environmental Education Center included. Call Bill to register and/or for additional information at 845-482-5209.

Natural History Walk with Jack Austin

Saturday, June 12, 9 am

Stroll 2-3 miles on level terrain with Basha Kill educator Jack Austin as you see and listen to what's nesting, growing, and maturing. Bring binoculars, insect repellent, and wear good walking shoes. Meet at the Haven Road DEC

parking lot (on left coming from Route 209). Visit to Mamakating's Environmental Education Center included. To register and/or for more information, contact Jack at cell # 845-649-8720.

NEW EVENT!

Shrews, Moles, Mice, AKA "What the Cat Brings In"

SUNY Orange Professor Emeritus Marty Borko

Sunday, June 27, 10 am

Bring binoculars and insect repellent. Meet at the Haven Road DEC parking lot (on left coming from Route 209). Visit to Mamakating's Environmental Education Center included. Call Paula Medley to register and/or for additional information at 845-754-0743 or email info@thebashakill.org

Moonlight Walk with Jack Austin

Friday, July 23, 9:00 pm

Amble along Haven Road and the railroad trail. Enjoy moonrise over the ridge as you discuss the area's natural history. Meet at the Haven Road DEC parking lot (on left coming from Route 209). Contact Jack at cell # 845-649-8720 for information.

NEW EVENT!

Amazing Moths with Pam Golben

Sunday, July 25, 8:30 - 10:00 pm

20 Maximum Participants

Celebrate National Moth Week with us! Moths are the "cousins" of butterflies and just as interesting and beautiful. Join naturalist extraordinaire Pam Golben for this evening program to learn fun facts about moths. Then head outside to view what was attracted to our lure light. We will search for moth

caterpillars too. Hosted by Mamakating Environmental Education Center, 762 South Road, Wurtsboro, 12790. Pre-registration is required. Call 845-644-5014 or email Jackie.Broder@mamakating.org

NEW EVENT!

"The Lost Ladybug Project" with Pam Golben

Saturday, July 31, 9:30 - 11:00 am

Raindate Sunday, August 1, 9:30 - 11:00 am

20 Maximum Participants

The Lost Ladybug Project - did you know the 9-Spotted Ladybug is New York's official state insect and was once very plentiful? Over the past 20 years native ladybugs that were once very common have become extremely rare. Join naturalist Pam Golben to learn all about ladybugs and how to participate in Cornell University's Lost Ladybug Project. We will begin with a short slide show, then head to the Pollinator Garden where you can help release live 9-Spotted ladybug larvae! Hosted by Mamakating Environmental Education Center, 762 South Road, Wurtsboro, 12790. Pre-registration is required. Call 845-644-5014 or email Jackie.Broder@mamakating.org

NEW EVENT!

Common Snakes of the Hudson Valley with Pam Golben

Sunday, August 8, 1:00 - 2:30 pm

20 Maximum Participants

Common Snakes of the Hudson Valley - Snakes, fascinating and sometimes misunderstood, play an important role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem. Join naturalist Pam Golben to learn natural history and interesting facts about snake species common to the Hudson Valley as well as how to identify them. Meet a live snake! Hosted by Mamakating Environmental Education Center, 762 South Road, Wurtsboro, 12790. Pre-registration is required. Call 845- 644-5014 or email Jackie.Broder@mamakating.org

NEW EVENT!

Hike the D&H Canal Towpath from Route 17 to Graham's Basin with Kerron Barnes

Saturday, August 21, 10 am

Co-Sponsored with Mamakating Library

20 Maximum Participants

Join D&H Canal aficionado Kerron Barnes on a 2-hour, 8/10 mile walk along the towpath from Route 17 south to Graham's Basin. Bring binoculars and insect repellent. Meet at commuter parking lot off Exit 113 of Route 17. To register, and for more information, contact Mamakating Library at 845-888-8004 or email mamcirc@rcls.org

Saturday, August 28, 10 am

Hike the D&H Canal Towpath from Route 17 to Graham's Basin with Kerron Barnes

Co-Sponsored with Mamakating Library

20 Maximum Participants

Join D&H Canal aficionado Kerron Barnes on a 2-hour, 8/10 mile walk along the towpath from Route 17 south to Graham's Basin. Bring binoculars and insect repellent. Meet at commuter parking lot off Exit 113 of Route 17. To register, and for more information, contact Mamakating Library at 845-888-8004 or email mamcirc@rcls.org

Sunday, September 12, 1 pm

Walk the O & W / D & H Canal Trail Loop with Kerron Barnes

Co-sponsored with Mamakating Library

20 Maximum Participants

Stroll a 3 mile loop on level terrain with Kerron, D&H Canal aficionado, as you observe wetlands, headwaters of the Basher Kill, and Gumaer Brook.

This 1.4 mile portion of the O & W rail trail was gifted to Mamakating by Open Space Institute. At McDonald Road, event participants will return to Wurtsboro via the D & H Canal towpath. Bring binoculars, insect repellent, and wear good walking shoes. Meet at the trailhead adjacent to O'Toole's Harley-Davidson on Sullivan Street in Wurtsboro. To register and/or for more information, contact Mamakating Library at 845-888-8004 or email: mamcirc@rcls.org

Canoe/Kayak the Basha Kill with Scott Graber and Mike Medley

Saturday, October 2, 10 am

Join naturalists Scott and Mike for a late season venture on this first day of autumn. Bring your own vessel and binoculars. Meet at the South Road Boat Launch. Call Mike at 845-754-0743 to register and for more details.

Free Public Star Watch by John Kocijanski of the Catskills Astronomy Club

Friday, October 8, 7-9 pm

Bring scopes and/or binoculars. Meet at the South Road Boat Launch, across from BashaKill Vineyards. To register, call John at 845-798-8087. For event updates, visit Catskills Astronomy Club's Facebook page. Rain date the following day.

Hike the Shawangunk Ridge with a NY-NJ Trail Conference Trail Maintainer

Sunday, October 17, 10 am

Event co-sponsored with Trail Conference. Moderately difficult hike, lasting 4-5 hours. Wear comfortable, sturdy shoes and bring water, lunch and binoculars. Meet at the D&H Canal Kiosk at the Pat Moore Memorial Picnic Grove on Sullivan Street in Wurtsboro. Must register by calling Paula at 845-754-0743.

Hike the Minisink Trail at Huckleberry State Forest

in the Town of Greenville with Mike Medley

Sunday, October 24, 9 am

Join Mike on a beautiful 5 mile loop hike on the Shawangunk Ridge. Wear comfortable sturdy shoes and bring water and lunch. Bring binoculars. Carpool or travel in a caravan led by Mike. Meet at South Road fishing platform (Westbrookville end) at 9:00 am. Absolutely must register for this trip by calling Mike at 845-754-0743.