

A P R I L 2 0 2 6

# Notable Notes

Notable Works Publication and Distribution Co., Inc.

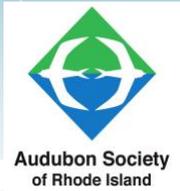


Photo by Mary Ann Cofrin

## Audubon Field Naturalist Series Spring 2026

Let the experts be your guide to the ecosystems, plants, and animals found in Southern New England in this six-program series. Explore Audubon wildlife refuges with scientists and skilled naturalists who will facilitate indoor presentations and outdoor investigations. Each session provides a new layer of insight, culminating in a solid base of knowledge for beginner naturalists.

**Six-session Series: April 18, 25, May 9, 16, June 20, 27, 2026.** For more information and to register, visit [asri.org/calendar](http://asri.org/calendar).



## 2026 Earth Day Clean Day & Celebration

**Saturday, April 25 | 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

Off the bike path at 15 Goldsmith St, Johnston, RI

Rain date: Sunday, April 26 11AM – 3:PM.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Join us for a community Earth Day Clean Day and celebration along the Woonasquatucket River Greenway! Volunteers of all ages are invited to spend the day caring for the watershed while enjoying music, games, food, and time outdoors with neighbors and friends.

**From 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**, participants can take part in hands-on service activities such as trash cleanup, weeding and mulching, and community planting along the greenway.

We'll also host a **rain barrel painting workshop** where participants can decorate a rain barrel to take home and learn how to install a rainwater collection system (15 barrels available total: 10 by pre-registration and 5 for walk-ins).

## A Voice for the Future. A Celebration of Poetry and Art

*Voices of the Earth: The Future of Our Planet IV- Building Innovative Bridges for Tomorrow* is a powerful collection of original poetry, art and a listing of nearly 100 environmental agencies in Rhode Island and the surrounding region celebrating connection, community, and care for our Earth. This fourth edition serves as an interdisciplinary journey, where the written word and visual artistry meet to explore our vital relationship with the environment. Published by **Notable Works Publication and Distribution Co., Inc.** and edited by **Noreen M. Inglesi**, this book showcases the splendor of nature and emphasizes the importance of its conservation.

### The impact of this work is best described by some of those leading the charge for conservation:

“The voices in this collection echo a truth at the heart of environmental education...” — **Jeanine Silversmith**, Executive Director, Rhode Island Environmental Education Association

“The newest edition of *Voices of the Earth* was a sensory experience. I could feel the damp soil on my hands in the spring, smell the leaves decaying and returning to the earth in the fall, and feel the fog on my skin on a chill morning by Narragansett Bay....” — **Kate Sayles**, Executive Director, Rhode Island Land Trust Council

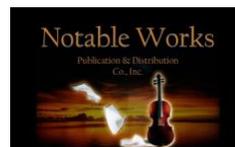
“... a diverse cohort of voices across the country, capture both the urgency of the environmental crisis and the profound peace found in nature's presence, while the visual art deepens and illuminates...” — **Sam Shepherd**, Grants & Communications Manager, Southside Community Land Trust.

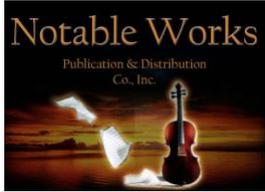
The vivid poetic imagery of this collection is anchored by the innovative visual images of the artwork. The book features creative **Book Design** by **Mary Ann Rossoni** of **Second Story Graphics**, and the evocative **Cover Art** by **Ann Rozhon**. The painting on the cover sets the tone for the entire volume, offering a bridge into the landscapes and themes contained within its pages.

**Release Event:** Join the Notable Works' Team to celebrate the release on **June 27th from 11AM to 1PM** in the **William Hall Library Auditorium**, 1825 Broad Street, Cranston, RI. This book will be available in both paperback and eBook formats.

**Reserve a copy:** The cost is **\$16.00** (sales tax included). You can pick up your book directly at the launch and payments can be made at the event via cash, check, or credit card. **To Reserve:** Email Noreen at [info@notableworks.org](mailto:info@notableworks.org) by **May 15th** with your name and the number of copies you'd like.

After the launch, the book will be available in paperback and eBook at [www.notableworks.org](http://www.notableworks.org).





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

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**Thank You to:**

Audubon Society of Rhode Island,  
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Newport Playhouse, Shaw's,  
Spain Restaurant, Stop and Shops  
of Cranston and Warwick



2026 marks Rhode Island's 5th year participating in the **City Nature Challenge**, and we need community members like you to help us record as many species as we can! The **City Nature Challenge** is a global, community-powered event where people of all ages work together to document local wildlife using the [iNaturalist](#) app, a free smartphone app that allows anyone to photograph and identify plants and animals while contributing to real scientific research.

From **April 24–27**, join us in observing the plants, animals, fungi and more, whether you're in your backyard, a local park, or out on the trails. Every observation contributes to real scientific data, helping researchers better understand and protect biodiversity right here in our region. No experience needed, just curiosity and a willingness to look a little closer. Explore the [CNC RI Website](#) to learn more and to sign up for upcoming trainings and events across RI!



**Bill Tracker for  
Upcoming  
Legislation**

Check out our [2026 Bill Tracker](#) to see the 43 bills we're tracking. There still haven't been many hearings and, since my last update, and we've only submitted comments in support of H-7230 (Native Plant Month). Testimony is in column K of the bill tracker.

Some of the bills that we are paying particular attention to are:  
S-2794 (no House bill yet) - Beverage Containers Recycling Act  
S-2656 / H-7910 - Extended Producer Responsibility For Packaging and Paper Act  
S-2441 / H-7675 - Composting and Organic Waste Diversion  
S-2142 / H-7351 - Foot Paths for Public Access

**CREATURE CLASH  
2026**

Pick your favorite #RIWalksChallenge Creature and help decide RILTC's 2026 mascot!

Voting is unlimited! Scan the QR code and determine which creature will be crowned the champion!

RHODE ISLAND LAND TRUST COUNCIL | 401 GIVES MARCH 31, 2026 | powered by the Alliance for Nonprofit Impact at United Way of Rhode Island



**Land Trust is Holding History Walks for Country's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

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**Wednesday, April 22, 1 pm – Earth Day History Walk and Cleanup at Osamequin Nature Preserve.** Osamequin Nature Preserve is a 42-acre conservation area along the western shore of Hundred Acre Cove in Barrington. The Preserve offers insight into the ancestral homelands of the Pokanoket people, the original inhabitants of this area, and is one of the most highly used network of public walking trails in Barrington.

**Thursday, May 14, 4 pm – Evening History Walk at Sowams Woods.** Sowams Woods, a 12-acre wooded area, is considered a sacred place by the Pokanoket people, once reserved for women and childbirth. It was also inhabited by some of the earliest settlers in the region and is now a model of community conservation efforts.

**Other Upcoming Walks:**

**Sunday, June 7, 1 pm – Summer History Walk at Johannis Farm Wildlife Preserve.**

Each History Walk will present elements of Barrington's history in connection with the location you are visiting. They are held in collaboration with [Barrington 250](http://Barrington250.org).

All events are free and open to the public, regardless of where you live. All ages are welcome. To register for any of the Land Trust's History Walks, go to [www.blct.org/events](http://www.blct.org/events).



*Earth Day History Walk and Cleanup at Osamequin Nature Preserve.*

**PEACE AND PLENTY BIOBLITZ**

The RI Natural History Survey hosted the Eighth Annual Nature Video Festival was hosted LIVE at Rhode Island College (RIC) on Saturday, February 21.

The 2025 BioBlitzes at Peace and Plenty Community Garden located at 73 Peace Street in Providence was one of the videos featured.

**Watch the entire 12 videos here:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZ4ECA5fsYk> Cue to 5 minutes, if you wish to watch this 6 minute video that highlights the importance of nature's diversity in our urban green spaces.

**A BioBlitz at Peace and Plenty Community Garden in Providence on Saturday, April 18 9:00 am - 12:00 noon.** All are invited to help identify all things living in this 1/4 acre garden.



**EARTH MONTH AT A GLANCE APRIL**

Native Seedling Sale | Rain Barrel Workshops | Plogging

**ANNUAL NATIVE SEEDLING SALE**

**25** ON SALE NOW TO APRIL 18TH  
Pick up: April 25<sup>th</sup> | Greenvale Vineyards

**MAKE & TAKE RAIN BARREL WORKSHOPS**

30 Barrels available. \$65.87 each. Purchase on Eventbrite

**11** BRISTOL  
Rain date April 12<sup>th</sup>

**18** BARRINGTON  
Rain date April 19<sup>th</sup>

**2** MIDDLETOWN (MAY 2ND)  
Rain date May 3rd

**PLOG THE NEWPORT MARATHON**

Plogging is a blast and the goody bag is epic! Free plogging shirt and more.

**18** NEWPORT OR MIDDLETOWN  
Pick a time slot, plog the course at your own pace. Volunteers needed

FOR EVENT DETAILS AND REGISTRATION  
SCAN ME

Visit Our Website  
[www.easternriconservation.org/earthmonth](http://www.easternriconservation.org/earthmonth)

Southside Community Land Trust's **34<sup>th</sup> Annual Plant Sale 2026**

**May 16th & 17th Saturday & Sunday 10am-2pm**

City Farm Providence 168 West Clifford

thousands of rare & unusual plants!

members get in early & 10% discount! rain or shine!

Live music!  
Circle of the Drum  
Raffini Phil Edmonds  
Chris Monti the mericans  
Shira and Tabatha Rose  
Community Music Works  
Jake Haller 18 Wheeler  
& other musical surprises!

EBT & SNAP benefits accepted

Become a member today! [southsideclt.org](http://southsideclt.org)

## The Forest Stands Tall and Steady

By Jed Lee

The forest stands tall and steady  
Light pouring through the canopy  
Through the leaves and branches  
The forest is illuminated in warmth  
Plants sprout, saplings prosper  
Redwood red as the sun sets  
Vibrant life in the ecosystem  
Fostering diversity and biological prowess  
All is well in the scene  
All is well among the trees  
The forest glows a little dimmer  
Tall broad sturdy trees block out the sun  
The underbrush is thick and overgrown  
Spirals of vine come down  
Encroaching ivy scale the sides of the towers  
Snapped of moisture, the scene is dry  
Dark is the forest floor  
When the fog rolls in, the forest is tense  
We are lost trying to be found  
It is suffocating  
The forest crackles into a blaze  
Fiery flames lick the trees under stress  
It is alive and tearing into the world  
Heat unbearable as it closes in  
The animals have long since fled  
What is caught is burned away  
Pillowing smoke creates bleak haze  
Destruction it consumes there is no room  
No room to hide strip it all away  
Our world is burning today  
The forest stands and mourns in silence  
Smells of charred wood  
Smoke wisps into the air  
It is still hot  
Dead branches mangled over fallen trees  
Is it still a forest?  
Quiet  
All the tension is gone  
Everything is still  
Everything is at rest  
The forest waits patiently  
Left alone to itself for the first time  
What will it do next  
What wonders are to come  
Sprouts stem from the soil  
Insects big and small resume their activity  
A squirrel curiously digs around in the dirt  
Water begins to trickle into a stream  
Yes, life is resilient it finds a way  
It always finds a way  
The forest stands tall and steady

Published in Notable Works'  
*Voices of the Earth:*  
*The Future of Our Planet II*

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The People's Port Authority has created a [People's Public Copy of the DRAFT Provport Master Plan](#).

The settings allow people to comment directly in the document and make suggested changes.

### Global Environmental Initiative



Revolutionizing  
forestry using  
drones to plant  
trees

Click the Link to View on You Tube

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/pUHziYNjTZw>



Greetings, Creatives and Supporters! The next Words on Fire Open Mic takes place from 6:00-7:30 PM on Wednesday, April 1 in the William Hall Library Auditorium. If you haven't yet signed up to read and/or watch, there's still space available! [More information and registration are available on our website](#). We hope to see you there!



Upcoming  
Events

Join the RIWP for our upcoming spring events. [Registration](#) is free and open to teachers of all grades and content areas. Preservice and retired teachers are welcome too! These are all place-based learning events where the location inspires the reading and writing that we'll do together. See our [website](#) or email us at [riwritingproject@gmail.com](mailto:riwritingproject@gmail.com) for more information.

• **Saturday, April 11th at 9:15AM - 3:15PM** at the Twain/Stowe Nook Farm Neighborhood in Hartford, CT. "After the Clouds, the Sun: Hartford's Writing Legacy of Resistance and Revival" Be prepared to pay an admission fee and either bring your lunch or money for lunch.

• **Saturday, May 9th from 9:00AM - 12:00PM** location TBD Annual Writing Marathon