



Autumn 2019

SWIMNEWS

Volume 8 Issue 1

All About Butterflies >>>SEE ENCLOSED FLYER



Tuesday, April 14, 2020, SWIM will host a program in the Nahant Public Library focused on butterflies! Our expert will be Scott Santino, a Naturalist at the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary in Topsfield, MA, who has been leading programs for Mass Audubon since 1999. He has led natural history tours locally, around New England and the East Coast, as well as to other national and international destinations for Mass Audubon. Topics about which he especially enjoys teaching include birds, butterflies, vernal pools, mammal tracking and the ecology of Ipswich River. 2019 was a GREAT year for butterflies in Nahant, so let's learn all about them!

Nahant Rocks! Fair at the Johnson School



SWIM will sponsor and help celebrate the second annual **Nahant Rocks! Fair** on **Tuesday, December 10th** in the Johnson School Cafetorium. Twelve hands-on science and history centers focused on geology will be available for students in grades kindergarten through sixth. The origin of this event was the publication in 2017 by SWIM of *A Guide to Exploring The Rocks of Nahant: and How to Become a Rock Detective*. We are so pleased that our little book is generating interest in our local geology, especially among children. If you would like to buy a copy at our cost of \$10.00, just stop by the Nahant Library or contact us at nahantswiminc@gmail.com

Learn about trees from an arborist



This winter, SWIM will sponsor a presentation by a certified arborist at Town Hall for the benefit of the public. We all can learn more about trees: how to select, purchase, plant, care for and prune them. We will provide educational materials for everyone to take home and we will publicize the event as soon as we have a date set.

COMPOSTING

WHAT IS COMPOSTING? It is the biodegradation of organic matter into fertilizer. Why is composting important? The EPA reports that our nation generates over ¼ million tons of trash each year. Almost half of that trash is disposable as compost. Making compost keeps these materials out of costly landfills where they take up space and release methane, a potent greenhouse gas. You can compost all food, paper/cardboard and some yard trimmings. You might consider subscribing to the Black Earth Compost service, the only company that currently serves Nahant: blackearthcompost.com

SWIM Keeps Nahant's Beaches Clean

Many thanks go to our wonderful Beachkeepers who clean our beaches year round. On April 28th, SWIM led our **seventh** annual spring cleanup to clean our three largest beaches. On September 21st, joining the COASTSWEEP worldwide cleanup, we cleaned those beaches again. Our thanks go to our Nahant DPW who gather up all the bags of trash we collect. We are happy to announce that across the years we are seeing a steady decline in trash on our beaches. We believe that we have gathered up old trash and are now collecting mostly new stuff. This is very encouraging.

EARTH DAY SYMPOSIUM April 22, 2019

SWIM and the Nahant Preservation Trust collaborated on the presentation of an Earth Day Symposium, "**Beautiful, Yet Fragile, Nahant**" in an informative five-person panel discussion on the diverse challenges confronting coastal habitats today.

SWIM Gives Scholarships to Three Nahant Students

SWIM continued its annual program this year by providing scholarship funds for two high school students and one middle school student to attend the Northeastern University Marine Science Center’s Coastal Ocean Science Academy (COSA) summer program. We are grateful that your generous donations allow us to make this opportunity available to our young townspeople interested in ocean science.

Raingardens Presentation on March 6, 2019



SWIM sponsored a program presented by Barbara Warren, executive director of Salem Sound Coastwatch, about natural ways to slow the flow of rainwater. “Rain gardens” can be tiny areas in your yard, or large enough to serve hillsides or parking lots, formed by a selection of plants growing in a shallow depression on an existing slope to temporarily hold and soak up rainwater. In these times of unusually high rates of rainfall we need new techniques to reduce flooding of our basements, land, driveways and streets. You could build your own or sponsor one at a community building. For lots of info, contact nahantswiminc@gmail.com

SWIM’s ongoing initiatives include: education of the public, participation in regional environmental seminars, standing up for the environment (e.g. at the State House July 16), acting as a first responder to threats to our beautiful environment here in Nahant, and as a resource for the public about environmental concerns. For more information, check out our beautiful website: www.nahantswim.org

Because of your support, SWIM is able to continue its important work protecting our beautiful beaches, wild lands and clear waters. We are proud of our growth as an effective local environmental organization and very much appreciate your commitment to our efforts.

Please consider making a gift to SWIM by using the form below and the enclosed envelope, or by donating online. Nahant S.W.I.M. Inc. is a **nonprofit, tax-exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.** Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Thank you very much.

Vi Patek, President

Nahant SWIM Inc., PO Box 57, Nahant, MA 01908
nahantswiminc@gmail.com
781-598-1060 www.nahantswim.org

***** ✂ *****

Please make checks payable to **Nahant S.W.I.M. Inc.** and mail to **PO Box 57, Nahant, Ma 01908.**

(To donate by credit card, go to our website www.nahantswim.org and click on the golden rectangle: “DONATE NOW”)

Name _____

Address _____

Email (please write **CLEARLY!**) _____

Please indicate your donation amount: ___Supporter \$25 ___Benefactor \$50 ___Steward \$100 or more

Join our efforts! **Volunteer!** **Tell us your concerns!** SPSH SCA DEP TY NEW NewE
