



# PROGRAM & EVENT GUIDE

## Executive Director's Greeting

It is my pleasure to announce that Nature Center Preschool has expanded to open a second classroom due to the program's resounding success! It is an even greater pleasure to announce that the room will be named for NCP's founder Elsa Ryberg. Elsa's dedication to early childhood education, based on a belief that children best learn, grow and thrive in connection to experiences in nature, was novel at the founding of preschool in 1996. In that year, Elsa had a single classroom of 16 students. When NCP opens this fall, it will serve 125 happy and inquisitive preschoolers, age 2.9 to 5+. Please stop in for a tour of NCP. We look forward to showing you how we have grown while still honoring the roots that Elsa planted and nurtured.

*Tracey Merrill, SSNSC Executive Director*



### Fall Programs at a Glance

#### September

- 1 Norwell Farmers' Market
- 2 SSNSC closed
- 5 Little Green Thumbs
- 7 Junior Naturalist Program
- 7 Saturday Senior Stroll
- 8 Norwell Farmers' Market
- 10 Homeschool Scientists
- 14 Veggie Gardening
- 14 Saturday Senior Stroll
- 15 Norwell Farmers' Market
- 16 Junior Gardeners Series begins
- 17 Science Challenge Series begins
- 18 Bird Walk
- 18 Owls of Massachusetts
- 19 Little Green Thumbs
- 19 Harvest Moon Dinner
- 21 Corn Festival

- 22 Corn Festival
- 23 YESC
- 24 Homeschool Scientists
- 24 Through Nemo's Eyes
- 24 Spooky Science Training
- 25 Owls of Massachusetts
- 28 Saturday Senior Stroll
- 29 Norwell Farmers' Market
- 30 Animal Tails Series begins

#### October

- 1 Through Nemo's Eyes
- 2 Owls of Massachusetts
- 3 Little Green Thumbs
- 5 Junior Naturalist Program
- 6 Norwell Farmers' Market
- 7 YESC
- 8 Homeschool Scientists

- 8 Through Nemo's Eyes
- 9 Owls of Massachusetts
- 10 Docent Training
- 12 Docent Training
- 12 Spooky Animal Encounters
- 13 Norwell Farmers' Market
- 14 Family Archaeology Day
- 15 Through Nemo's Eyes
- 16 Bird Walk
- 16 Owls of Massachusetts
- 17 Little Green Thumbs
- 21 YESC
- 22 Homeschool Scientists
- 22 Through Nemo's Eyes
- 23 Owls of Massachusetts
- 24 Elephant Sanctuary Lecture
- 30 Owls of Massachusetts
- 31 Little Green Thumbs

#### November

- 2 Junior Naturalist Program
- 4 YESC
- 5 Homeschool Scientists
- 6 Owls of Massachusetts
- 11 Cranberry Day
- 13 JFK Lecture
- 18 YESC
- 20 Bird Walk
- 20 NCP Bookfair
- 21 NCP Bookfair
- 23 Fall Discovery Day
- 28 SSNSC closed
- 30 Southwick's Zoo Visit

For ongoing, drop-in programs, turn the page or visit our website at [southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org](http://southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org)

## SSNSC Staff & Board of Directors

### Administration Staff

Tracey Merrill, *Executive Director*

Tracey Cooke, *Business Operations Manager*

Susan Bailey, *Financial Assistant*

Wendy Blomberg, *Functions & Store Manager*

Chris Jacobs, *Membership Director, Event & Volunteer Coordinator*

Joan Reid, *Administrative Support*

### Education Staff

John Galluzzo, *Director of Education and Camping*

Jessica Baldeck, *Naturalist*

Louise Beaudry, *Naturalist*

Jo Frazier, *Naturalist*

Chris Jacobs, *Naturalist*

Melissa Kurkoski, *Naturalist*

Dorothy MacFarlane, *Naturalist and Botanist*

### Preschool Staff

Diane Thureson, *Preschool Director*

*Teachers:*

Theresa Delahunt

Susan Gallagher

Melissa Kurkoski

Sheila McCarthy

Cory Noordzij

Christine Richards

Kerry Swift

### SSNSC Board of Directors

Andrew Sullivan, *Chairman of the Board*

Penelope Allen Baltera

Jennifer Askjaer Kornicks

Patty Bean

Jon Belber

Jon Bond

Patricia DiGiulio

Richard Johnson

Tony Jones

John Lunn

Cindy Miller

Mark Nellemann

Kelley Rugg

Paul Sheedy

Jason Stout

Celebrating over 50 years in Environmental Education, the South Shore Natural Science Center, a South Shore YMCA Organization, is sited on 30 acres surrounded by 200 acres of town conservation/recreation land consisting of meadows, woodlands and a pond.

Featuring:

- Nature Center Preschool (ages 2.9–5+ years.)
- Nature Adventures Summer Day Camp
- Vacation Week Programs
- EcoZone – Interactive Museum
- Raptor Exhibit
- Vine Hall Art Gallery
- José Carreiro Children's Garden
- Photosynthesis & Water Exploration Lab
- Interpretive Trails
- Mobile Science Classroom
- Scout Programs, Birthday Parties, School Programs
- Home of Norwell Farmers' Market, Sundays 12:00-4:00pm



*“Our mission is to provide natural science experiences that educate, excite, and commit every generation to conserve the environment and to encourage responsible use, stewardship and enjoyment of our natural resources.”*



### General Info

South Shore Natural Science Center

48 Jacobs Lane, P.O. Box 429,  
Norwell, MA 02061  
781-659-2559

[southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org](http://southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org)

Hours:

Monday-Saturday 9:00am–5:00pm  
& Sunday 11:00am–4:00pm

Admission:

Free for SSNSC Members  
\$7.00/Adult • \$5.00/Senior (60+)  
\$3.00/Children (3-15)

Trails open daily from dawn until dusk  
free for your enjoyment

### Looking good!

The SSNSC Program & Event Guide has a new look!

Still chock full of great information to make your visit and experience an unforgettable one, this will replace the newsletter you usually receive in your mailbox.

Visit us at  
[southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org](http://southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org)  
for a complete calendar,  
registration details and  
more information!

Please send feedback to:  
[ssnsc@ssymca.org](mailto:ssnsc@ssymca.org)

# YOUTH PROGRAMS

Pre-registration required for all youth programs.  
Contact SSNSC 781-659-2559.

## Homeschool Scientists

Ages 3–12 (Must be accompanied by an adult),  
September 10, 24, October 8, 22, November 5, 19  
Tuesdays, 10:00–11:00am

Join other homeschool families and explore our world through hands-on activities that encourage your child to be the scientist. Each class features a different theme to discover natural or physical science.  
Fees \$13

## Junior Gardeners

Grades 2–5  
September 16–October 28 (6 weeks—no class Oct 14)  
Mondays, 4:00–5:30pm

Wonder what it's like to have a pet chicken? Ever made your own fresh salsa or pickles? Junior Gardeners are hands-on in the José Carreiro Children's Garden while they tend to chickens, plant, care for and harvest seasonal crops, and become inspired by the garden for art or cooking. Students' interests help shape the 6-week class as they develop skills, learn where food comes from and explore sustainable living practices first hand.  
Fee: \$78 for series

## Little Green Thumbs

Ages 3–6 years (accompanied by an adult)  
September 5, 19, October 3, 17, 31  
Thursdays, 10:00–11:30am

Each class we'll discover what the garden has to share with us as we investigate, care for the chickens, plant, harvest, taste, create art and more through the changing fall season in the José Carreiro Children's Garden.  
Fee: (per child/adult pair) \$13 per class

## Animal Tails

Ages 3.5–5  
September 30–December 2  
(No Class on November 11)  
Mondays, 1:00–2:30pm

Join us in the afternoon for outstanding nature stories and activities:

September 30: *If Dinosaurs Came Back*  
October 7: *The Big Wide-Mouthed Frog*  
October 21: *Moles Can Dance*  
October 28: *Bat Magic*  
November 4: *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*  
November 18: *Chipmunk's Song*  
November 25: *Squishy Squash and Pumpkin Pie*  
December 2: *Snip, Snip, Snow*  
Fee: \$105 for series

## Science Challenge

Grades 3–6  
September 17–October 22  
Tuesdays, 4:00–5:30pm  
Students will participate in three science challenges over this six week program. All topics utilize STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) curriculum to study the natural world.  
Fee: \$100 for series



## Seeing the World's Oceans Through Nemo's Eyes

3.5-7yrs  
September 24, October 1, 8, 15, 22  
Tuesdays, 9:30–11:00am

Join us in some ocean fun with Nemo and his friends through curriculum developed by Disney's Animal Kingdom. Discover amazing animals and places under the sea. Investigate secrets of the underwater world and learn why oceans are so important. Most of all, discover easy ways to help care for our Big Blue Ocean.

Week 1: *Who Lives in Nemo's Neighborhood?*  
Week 2: *How are Animals Adapted to The Big Blue?*  
Week 3: *What do Living Things Eat in the Ocean?*  
Week 4: *How do Sea Turtles Grow?*  
Week 5: *How Can You Help Ocean Plants and Animals?*

Fee: \$13 per child per class

## Spotlight on Scout Programs

SSNSC's hands-on, fun, and informative programs are an excellent field trip for scout groups to explore science and nature with a Naturalist and earn a badge.

Scout programs are offered seven days a week at SSNSC. The cost of programs is based on the number of children in attendance. SSNSC naturalist staff teach a variety of badge-related programs. Scout groups are eligible to receive discounts by selecting a series of badge programs for a single group of children. Leaders may schedule two programs on the same or different days. Scout programs can be completed throughout the year; however the dates must be scheduled at the same time.

Programs are 1–2 hours long; all programs are customized to the appropriate grade level K–12.

Come discover the Science Center at night while working towards a scout badge. Sleep in our carpeted function hall, or outdoors in tents (not provided). Overnight programs are tailored to fit your group's needs. Each child who attends an overnight will receive an SSNSC overnight patch. Overnights are available year-round and can be scheduled for Friday or Saturday nights. Overnight programs include an evening hike, visiting live animals in the Ecozone, badge-related activities, evening snack and breakfast. For more information about our Scout Programs please email John Galluzzo at [jgalluzzo@ssymca.org](mailto:jgalluzzo@ssymca.org).

# FAMILY PROGRAMS

## Parents and Tots

Ages 5 & under with a caregiver  
September 4–November 20  
Wednesdays, 9:45–10:45am Drop-In

We will explore the outdoors and investigate the changes during the fall season. Take a leisurely guided walk with your tot to discover autumn in the woods, field, or at the pond. Dress for the weather.  
Fee: \$7; caregivers and infants under 1 free



## Family Archeology Day

Monday, October 14  
11:00am–2:00pm Drop-In

Join us for a fun, hands-on mock archeological dig. Visitors will use special tools to excavate fragments of the past. Come and see what you will find!

All ages welcome.  
Fee: Free with admission

## Cranberry Day

Monday, November 11  
10:00am–4:00pm Drop-In

Fall is the season for cranberries—join us to discover how and why they bounce, float, and grow in bogs right here in Southeastern MA! Drop in to explore the wonders of this little round fruit that packs a nutritious punch and learn how the Native Americans and Colonists relied upon the cranberry for food and medicine. Cranberry activities abound to help unlock the amazing history and scrumptious flavor of the cranberry! All ages welcome.  
Fee: Free with admission

## Fall Discovery Day

Saturday, November 23  
10:00am–3:00pm Drop-In

Drop by for an outdoor discovery day at the Science Center! Colorful leaves twist in the breeze as birds overhead are flying south. Join us for a day of hands-on exploration to see what the season will bring us as we explore the science and fun of the fall season! We'll be ready for fun, rain or shine, so come dressed for the weather.  
Fee: Free with admission

## Spooky Animal Encounter

Saturday, October 12  
2 shows: 3:00 and 5:00pm\*  
\* includes a spooky woods walk at SSNSC

Meet SSNSC creatures scary, slithery and slimy! Special spooky guest appearances from New England Wildlife Center's spooky animals.

Fee: \$7 Pre-registration required

## On-going Family Drop-in Programs (free with admission)

### Nature Club

Sundays, 1:00–3:00pm

Join SSNSC staff and volunteers for outdoor and nature-based activities, such as guided nature walks, conservation activities and exploring.

### Feed the Animals

Wednesday, 3:00pm, Saturday, 10:00am

Come watch the Naturalist on Duty feed the animals!

### Tales from the Wild

Ages 3–5 yrs with a caregiver  
Fridays, 10:30am

Join us for a half-hour of nature themed storytelling that will delight young listeners. Extend your stay to explore the EcoZone, and observe the sights and sounds of fall in the woods and trails.

### Meet an Animal

Saturdays 2:00pm

Have an up close visit with one of SSNSC's animals.



## Southwick's Zoo Visit

Ages 3 & up  
Saturday, November 30  
2 shows: 11:00am & 1:00pm

Join us for a live animal show presented by Southwick's Zoo. Learn about animal adaptations and the physical differences between mammals, birds, and reptiles. We'll see an exciting variety of animals with scales, fur, and feathers. No Strollers please.  
Fees: \$7 M, \$10 NM.

Call 781.659.2559 to purchase tickets.  
(Ticket includes entrance into EcoZone)

# ADULT PROGRAMS

## Second Saturday Veggie Gardening for Beginners

Saturday, September 14  
9:00–10:30am

"Season Extenders – Get more out of Your Garden Year" presented by John Belber of Holly Hill Farm, Cohasset. Whether you've been gardening in the ground, in raised beds or containers, you'll discover how to extend your growing season into the fall using simple materials and techniques. This hands-on class will present basic information, tips, and resources for enjoying a longer harvest season from your vegetable garden.  
Fee: \$13 *Pre-registration required*

## Spooky Science and Fall Fun for Preschoolers

*Professional Development-teachers and parents*  
Tuesday, September 24  
6:30–8:30pm

Fall is a great time to explore sensory science indoors and out with young children ages 3-7. Dive into nature and science activities that will excite, educate, and provide multi-sensory experiences while learning about fall changes, animals preparing for winter and chemistry that celebrates the spooky season. Participants will leave the workshop prepared to try these activities at school or home. Handouts will be provided. Professional Development credit 2 hours, certificate will be provided.  
Fee: \$15 *Pre-registration required*

## Saturday Senior Stroll

*Dot MacFarlane, Naturalist*  
Saturdays, September 7, 14, 28  
10:00–11:00am

Are you looking for a less strenuous nature walk? Join us for a slower time with nature. Walks will take place on the Science Center's grounds and nearby conservation land. We will pause for photos and sketches as desired, enjoying the plant and birdlife as we go.  
Free *Pre-registration required*

## Wednesday Morning Bird Walks

*John Galluzzo, Director of Education and Camping*  
Wednesdays, 8:00am

September 18–Wompatuck State Park  
October 16–Willow Brook Farm Preserve  
November 20–Jacobs Pond

Fall migration season has begun, and we'll follow the trails of the birds. We'll start with moving songbirds through the woods, and end up at Jacobs Pond to view the waterfowl that plans to spend the winter there. Each walk lasts at least an hour, and is led by John Galluzzo, coauthor of the forthcoming Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas 2 and author of Half an Hour a Day on Foot: An Obsessive Exploration of the Nature of the South Shore of Massachusetts.  
Fee: \$8 *Pre-registration required*

## Owls of Massachusetts

*John Galluzzo, Director of Education and Camping*  
Wednesdays, September 18–November 6  
1:00–2:30pm

Over the course of seven weeks, John will bring us through the lives of Massachusetts' most common owls: screech, great horned, barred, saw-whet, long-eared, short-eared, and snowy, in this Lifelong Learning-style course. Each program will focus on habitat needs, food choices, interspecific interactions and more, anything and everything you ever wanted to know about owls. Participants will be invited to a private "owl prow!" in early winter on the grounds of the South Shore Natural Science Center.  
Fee: \$30  
*Pre-registration required*



## Free Lecture Series

### The Elephant Sanctuary

*Liisa Budge-Johnson*  
Thursday, October 24  
7:00pm Drop-in

There are elephants among us, here in the United States. Tennessee's Elephant Sanctuary is home to both African and Asian elephants retired from the entertainment industry living out their lives in as natural a way as possible on 2700 acres set aside just for them. Take a tour of the nation's largest natural habitat refuge developed specifically for endangered elephants through the eyes of the South Shore's own Liisa Budge-Johnson, a volunteer for the Elephant Sanctuary.

### Water Watch Second Wave: JFK and Environmentalism

*Maura Porter, Archivist, JFK Presidential Library*  
Wednesday, November 13  
7:00pm Drop-in

When she last appeared, we had a blizzard, so we're bringing Maura Porter back in this most important month. Fifty years ago this November, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, and the nation and the world will pause to consider his legacy. One question that may get lost in the shuffle is "What did JFK do for the environment?" Join Maura, an archivist for the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, as she shows us rarely-viewed footage of speeches by the president and discusses his South Shore roots, which ran right through Hull and Cohasset.

# VOLUNTEERISM

The Science Center relies on volunteers on a daily basis. Do you have a few hours to give each week to volunteer for the Front Reception desk, fundraising, administrative tasks, EcoZone docent, or groundskeeping? Don't have the time to commit every week? Then why not volunteer at one of our special events. Please contact [cjacobs@ssymca.org](mailto:cjacobs@ssymca.org) for more information.

## Corn Festival Volunteers Needed

Saturday & Sunday, September 21 & 22  
10:00am – 5:00pm

Please download a CF Volunteer Application by visiting our website at:  
[southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org/cornfestival](http://southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org/cornfestival)

## Junior Naturalist Volunteer Program

Ages 6–13

September 7, October 5, November 2, December 7  
Saturday, 9:30–11:30am

Engage in a fun and rewarding volunteer program. Each month we will focus on a different aspect of the Science Center including Animal Care, Trail Work, and tending the Children's Garden. Must be accompanied by an adult. Volunteer credit for community service available.

To apply, please email Chris Jacobs, SSNSC Volunteer Coordinator, at [cjacobs@ssymca.org](mailto:cjacobs@ssymca.org).

Free. *Must apply, pre-registration required*

## YESC ("Y" Earth Service Corps)

Grades 9–12.

September 23–December 16

Every other Monday, 4:00–6:00pm

Student-led, environmentally oriented volunteering on-site at SSNSC and the Emilson YMCA. Projects may include trail maintenance, animal care, species counts, and water quality studies. In some cases, school credit may be awarded. Students groups are welcome to attend.

Free. *Pre-registration required*

## Docent Training

Thursday, October 10, 1:30–5:00pm

or Saturday, October 12, 9:30am–1:00pm

Volunteers are vital to the everyday workings of the Science Center. We are looking for dedicated volunteers to lead programs, interpret EcoZone and assist with animal care. Docents must be able to commit to 12 hours per month. Docents will receive hands-on training from SSNSC naturalists and staff. Please apply to [cjacobs@ssymca.org](mailto:cjacobs@ssymca.org). All volunteers will receive a CORI/SORI background check. Individuals with an education or environmental background preferred.

# HERE COMES FLORA II!

South Shore Natural Science Center is pleased to announce the launch of Flora II—a mobile science classroom. Flora II will deliver STEM, environmental education and natural science programming for grades K–12.

Programs topics include:

Habitats, Woodlands, Mammals, Reptiles and Amphibians, New England Owls, Native Americans, Wetlands Safari, What Makes a Happy Herring?, Go Botany and more!

Specialized STEM programs include: Microscopy 101, Build an Unsinkable Titanic, Arctic Mammals Migration Challenge, Seaperch Underwater ROV, Shipwreck.

## 100 Schools in 100 Days Contest!

To celebrate the launch of Flora II, SSNSC will provide FREE programs to 100 schools, September – December 2013! If you would like Flora II to visit your school for a free program in her first 100 days, please complete the essay question below and return by September 15, 2013 to [jgalluzzo@ssymca.org](mailto:jgalluzzo@ssymca.org)

- 1) Your name, phone number & email address
- 2) Your school name & address
- 3) Essay Question: Flora II should visit my school and provide free STEM, environmental education and natural science programming because:

★  
**SSNSC members: Flora II will come to your birthday party!**  
Visit [www.southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org](http://www.southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org)  
for details!



# NATURE CENTER PRESCHOOL

The fall is always a special time for Nature Center Preschool. This fall is twice as exciting as we open with two new classrooms to provide more South Shore families the opportunity for their children to learn from nature. Young children learn best through

hands on experiences and play, making the science and nature curriculum a perfect fit for them to ask questions, experiment, make discoveries and find the answers. To learn more about how we address all developmental areas for young children through our unique nature curriculum, please contact Diane Thureson, Preschool Director, at [dthureson@ssymca.org](mailto:dthureson@ssymca.org) or 781-659-2559 ext 208.



## Barefoot Books

step inside a story

### Book Fair

November 20 & 21 9am-4pm

A fundraiser for Nature Center Preschool

Open to the public

For more information about barefoot books

Please visit [www.barefootcaravan.com](http://www.barefootcaravan.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Harvest Moon Dinner

Thursday, September 19

6:30 pm

SSNSC celebrates the Harvest Moon with a farm to table five course gourmet dinner. Local chefs share their specialties featuring locavore cuisine accompanied by wine pairings. Proceeds benefit the Science Center's environmental outreach programs. Space is limited, reserve today. \$100.00 per person. Includes food & drink. Call 781-659-2559 to purchase tickets or visit [www.southshorenaturalscience-center.org/harvestmoondinner](http://www.southshorenaturalscience-center.org/harvestmoondinner)



### 37th Annual Corn Festival

Saturday & Sunday September 21 & 22

10:00am – 5:00pm

This festival celebrates the natural and cultural heritage of New England...its foods, crafts and traditions centered on the fall harvest. Old-fashioned highlights include traditional and colonial craft demonstrations, musical performers, craft activities, games and the Kernel's Kitchen featuring our famous corn chowder! Plus nature walks, animal demonstrations, hayrides and more.

Fees: M \$6 Child, \$8 adults  
NM \$8 child \$10 adults



### Norwell Farmers' Market at SSNSC

Sundays thru October 13, 12-4:00pm (no market on September 22)

Join us each Sunday for fresh, local seasonal produce, meats, seafood, cheeses and prepared foods that are locally sourced for the greater South Shore community. The Norwell Farmers' Market promotes food literacy, educates the public on the seasonal availability of fruits and vegetables, and helps consumers to prepare healthy meals by providing fresh, local ingredients. Music and kids activities are part of the market line up.

save the date

Saturday, May 17 2014

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT  
SOUTH SHORE NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER



**THE SOUTH SHORE  
NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER**

An organization of the South Shore YMCA

48 Jacobs Lane, P.O. Box 429  
Norwell, MA 02061  
www.ssnsc.org

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Permit No. 6



Please deliver to addressee or current resident

Produced in cooperation with Plymouth County Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Plymouth County Commissioners

## 37th Annual Corn Festival

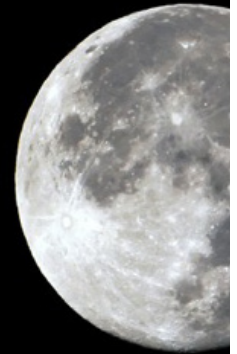
Saturday & Sunday September 21 & 22  
10:00am – 5:00pm



Bring the whole family!  
Details inside...

## Harvest Moon Dinner

Thursday, September 19  
6:30 pm



Tickets still available!

## Southwick's Zoo Visit

Saturday, November 30  
2 shows: 11:00am & 1:00pm

See inside for details



**THE SOUTH SHORE NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER**  
www.southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org



A South Shore YMCA Organization  
www.ssymca.org