

Come and Explore GSWA's Conservation Management Area

You're invited to explore our Conservation Management Area (CMA), a wooded 50-acre natural area in Harding Township that's open to the public for walking and casual hiking. Though GSWA holds a number of scheduled events throughout the year — family hikes, group tours, and moonlight walks to name a few — you can enjoy the CMA on your own at your convenience.

This land was purchased and has been managed by GSWA since 1996 to protect the natural beauty of our environment and preserve its habitats. Much work has been done over the years by GSWA staff, our dedicated volunteers, and employees from Goldman Sachs, HSBC, Maersk, Ortho-McNeil, Wyeth and other corporate work groups to restore the property to a more natural state by removing invasive plants, planting native shrubs, maintaining natural vernal pools and attracting native wildlife. Over 1,800 feet of boardwalk has also been erected through the generous and tireless efforts of our volunteers to enrich your experience as you explore the CMA's 1.5 miles of trails.

So we invite you to enjoy the natural beauty of the CMA on Tiger Lily Lane at your leisure. And if you'd like to plan a group hike and guided tour, please contact Hazel England, GSWA's land steward, at hazele@greatswamp.org.

(For directions to the CMA, see page 7)



A Multitude of Riches!

*Idea to build 6 woodduck boxes by hand for a bar mitzvah project using three generations of the Rich family for labor: **Free.***

*Cost of red cedar and other materials for the boxes: **More than \$200.***

*Cost of labor for hand construction to exacting standards of six woodduck boxes at the going rate: **At least \$1000.***

*Value of three generations of the Rich family working together to build habitat for GSWA's CMA: **Priceless!***

We are profoundly grateful to three generations of Riches — David, (pictured with Blaine Rothausen), Tom, and Aaron — for all their hard work to construct the beautiful high-end residences now in place at the Conservation Management Area. Check them out next time you visit!

Great Brook Water Quality Study Underway

by Kelley Curran, GSWA Director of Water Quality Programs

After completing a three-year water quality study on Loantaka Brook under our Adopt-A-Stream program, GSWA is now focusing efforts on the Great Brook stream, or subwatershed. The successful quarterly stream sampling program conducted on Loantaka Brook is serving as a model to conduct similar studies of Great Brook, and eventually all of the five streams in the watershed. The program consists of collecting stream samples every three months in an effort to obtain water quality data on a seasonal basis. Samples are collected at six locations throughout the subwatershed (see the map on the next page) and are analyzed by an NJDEP-certified laboratory for several pollutants, including nitrogen, phosphorus, and total dissolved solids.

Stormwater runoff is the number one concern affecting water quality in the Great Swamp Watershed. The runoff associated with wet weather events becomes contaminated by anything it comes in contact with. Fertilizer, pet waste, trash, and construction site materials are some of the major culprits. The data collected as part of these focused subwatershed studies is used to establish current conditions and identify potential areas in which to target stream restoration/education efforts. In fact, GSWA is currently working to secure funding for stream restoration activities on Silver Brook, which runs through our Conservation Management Area property and is part of the larger Great Brook stream system.

(Great Brook continued on next page)

GSWA Welcomes New Development Director

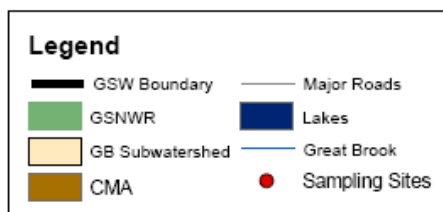
Marysue DePaola is thrilled to join the Great Swamp Watershed Association as Director of Development. She brings with her an extensive background in fundraising, and has worked for some of the state's most prestigious institutions, including Assistant Director of Development at The Newark Museum, Associate Vice President of Alumni Relations and Annual Fund at Centenary College and, most recently, Director of Development at The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. Marysue graduated from Seton Hall University with a B. A. in English. She is a member of the New Jersey Chapter of the Association for Fundraising Professionals.

Marysue can be reached at mdepaola@greatswamp.org or 973-538-3500 ext 18. 🌱

Great Brook *(continued from previous page)*

It will be interesting to compare the data collected from Great Brook to the study results from Loantaka Brook, which was known from previous studies to have the most degraded water quality of all the five streams in the watershed.

If you are interested in supporting or learning more about the Adopt-Great-Brook program, please contact Kelley Curran, GSWA director of water quality programs, at 973-538-3500 ext. 16 or kcurran@greatswamp.org. 🌱



Prepared By: K. Curran, GSWA, February 2008

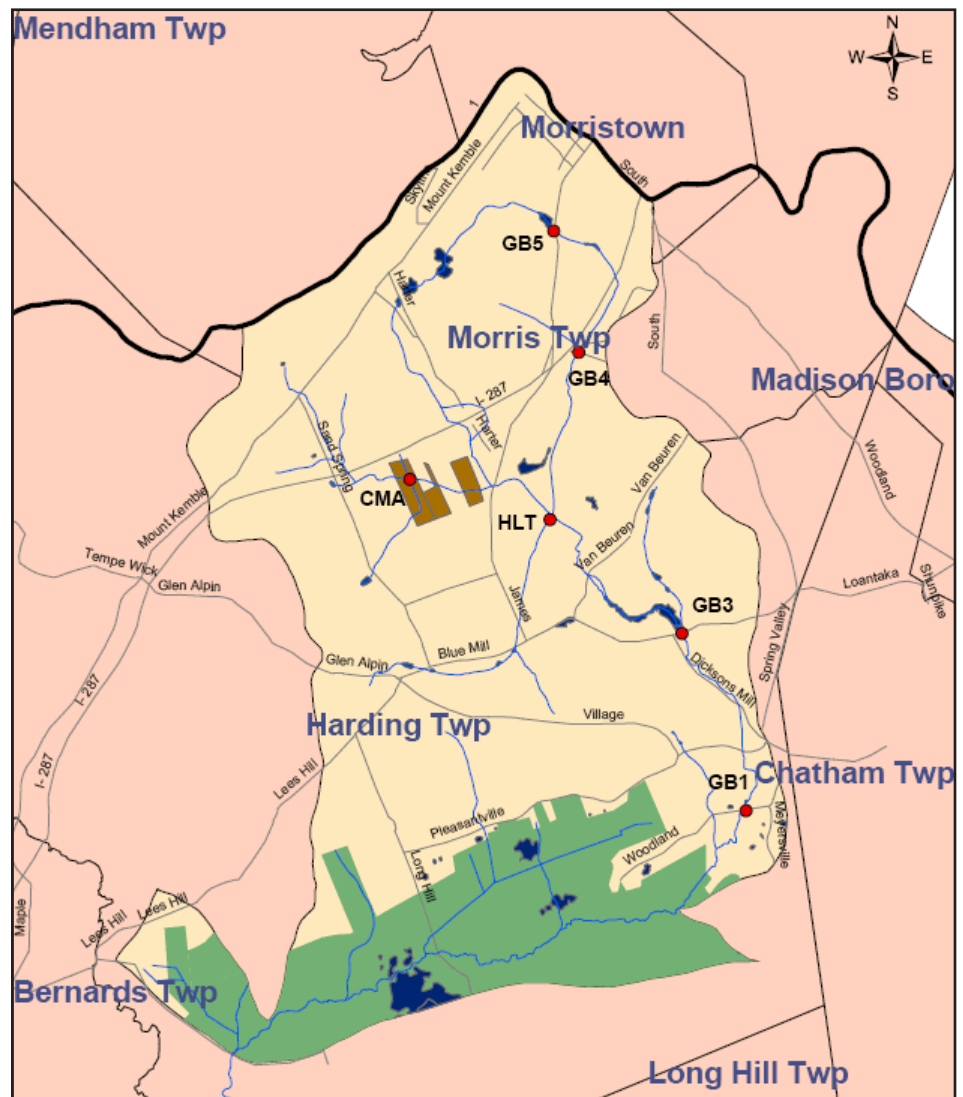
Interns to Summer with GSWA

Great Swamp Watershed Association is pleased to announce that we will be hosting four interns this summer. Jack Ackerman and Jane Zhao, students at Princeton University, come to us via the Princeton Internships in Civic Service, Class of '69 program. Kristin Vanderbilt is a student at Marist College, and Lily Downing is a local area student.

Our summer internship program is designed to actively involve students in

work across the entire organization so they can develop and enhance practical knowledge, skills and experience in community relations and environmental studies through their involvement with Great Swamp Watershed Association.

We are very excited to have the opportunity to work with Jack, Jane, Kristin and Lily, and are looking forward to the time we'll share with them all! 🌱



ACROSS THE WATERSHED

is a publication of the Great Swamp Watershed Association. GSWA is a membership supported non-profit organization that protects the water you drink and the places you love. We preserve the natural beauty and promote the health of the local environment now and for the future.

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From the Desk of the Executive Director

by Sally Rubin



Water quality has been grabbing national headlines lately. Every day it seems that new pollutants and dangerous micro-organisms are being detected at unacceptable levels in our nation's drinking water and our world's oceans. While environmentalism is enjoying heightened awareness, due in part to some sensationalized news reporting, it seems that too many people still believe that "the government will take care of it."

Think about it. At a time when the State of New Jersey is actually cutting back on most services, how realistic is it that our state officials will take action to improve the environment at the local level—in our own backyard? Not very. That's why community based organizations like GSWA are more important than ever.

Consider this example. In the coming months, we expect to see the NJ DEP dramatically reduce the state's acceptable levels of phosphorus, which are released as effluent from wastewater and treatment plants into our local streams. The reduction—by about 60 percent—will come as a direct result of reports submitted over the last three years by GSWA's stream monitoring program, in which teams of volunteers routinely monitored the water quality of Loantaka Brook in Morris Township. With this effort concluded, we've now begun focusing on Great Brook in Harding Township. We'll keep you posted on our findings there.

You may have read recently about the rare Wood Turtle sightings at our Conservation Management Area (CMA) in Harding Township. This is just one clear indication that our efforts to monitor, protect and improve the natural habitat of this 50-acre area are working. We continue to lead teams of corporate, community and individual volunteers in the CMA who work to remove invasive species and promote natural growth. More proof of the positive impact of these efforts was evident this spring during a GSWA-led exploration of a vernal pond, which was teeming with species, such as spring peepers, that breed nowhere else but in these vital, and increasingly threatened, transient pools of water.

In addition to protecting our land and water, our mission includes raising awareness through education and outreach to increase stewardship of the natural resources within the watershed. I am pleased to report that two new initiatives, our Breakfast Briefings series and our Citizen Advocacy Program have been hugely successful.

Our Breakfast Briefings is a series of Tuesday morning discussions led by a different environmental specialist or other guest speaker once a month. The series kicked off in March when Julia Somers, a former GSWA Executive Director and now the Executive Director of the NJ Highlands Coalition, led a roomful of participants in a discussion about the implications of the Highlands Act. Be sure to check our web site so you can register in advance for the speakers and topics that interest you.

Two trustees, Dot Stillinger and David Budd, were instrumental in organizing our new Citizen Advocacy Program (CAP). Two 90-minute workshops, underwritten in part by The Watershed Institute, were held this spring at municipal offices in Chatham Township and Harding Township. Both sessions drew a crowd of residents who came to learn how to take action for the environment by working effectively with their town government.

Looking at the year ahead, we are hoping to continue our existing programs, expand these new programs, which proved so popular, and introduce a special school initiative: One River, One Community. This unique program, headed by GSWA's Director of Education and Outreach, Hazel England, will engage students at the top and bottom of

(Executive Director continued on next page)

Watershed Watch – Environmental Hot Spots

As part of our mission to protect the water you drink and the places you love, GSWA advocates for responsible development practices and promotes intelligent land use. We work to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and legislation at all levels of the government. Here are some areas we are currently focusing on:

Bernardsville

Great Swamp Watershed Association is pleased to have resolved its concerns with the Somerset Hills Board of Education regarding installation of a turf field at Bernards High School. In the event the Zoning Board of Adjustment approves the application, the Board of Education will be complying with the requests of GSWA's engineer to increase the depth of the stormwater retention capacity of the field as well as verifying that there is no perched water table at the site. The district has agreed to avoid compaction of soils as much as possible. Additionally, the district has agreed to fund an existing conditions survey to be performed by the Borough's engineer. This study will form the basis for future improvements of Penns Brook.

Harding Township

GSWA continues to work collaboratively with both Morris Township and Harding Township with regard to stormwater runoff and environmental improvements at the 15-acre property known as Mt. Kemble Fields. As you know, Morris Township is looking for Harding to either rezone this property from residential to public use, or to annex the property directly into Morris Township for development of a recreation complex with two artificial turf fields. GSWA is not opposed to the development itself. Our concern is with water quality and quantity, and the biodiversity it supports. GSWA has been attending town meetings, working with residents, and corresponding with municipal officials about this matter,

GSWA Experts Available to Speak to Area Groups

Do you wonder, "What is in my water?" or "What Can I Do to Ensure Clean Water for My Children?" These questions and dozens more about water quality, land preservation and local efforts to protect the environment can be answered by GSWA's Speakers' Bureau. Experts from the Great Swamp Watershed Association will present interesting, hands-on presentations that will educate and inspire members of your local club or group. Call today for more details: (973) 538-3500.

and will continue to monitor it as it progresses.

On May 20 at 7 p.m. the Harding Township Committee (HTC) will host a discussion of Morris Township's proposal at Harding elementary school gymnasium on Lee's Hill Road. Representatives of Morris Township will attend. 🌿

Executive Director *(continued from page 3)*

the Passaic River waterways—one school system in Madison and one in Newark—in a joint, multidisciplinary curriculum to learn about the impact each has on the other's environment.

As always, our good works are dependent on the kind contributions and the active participation of you, our members and friends. Please remind your neighbors that it is dangerous to become complacent, and that our state government is not yet adequately protecting our local environment. We're in this together, and GSWA needs everyone's help. 🌿

Volunteer Steve Gruber replacing the roof of a bird box at the Conservation Management Area.



Summer Educational Programs

Join friends and members of GSWA for one or more of these educational programs to learn more about what's going on in and around the swamp! We ask that you pre-register for these programs to learn meeting locations and other information. Wear sturdy footwear and bring a snack for the walks. Bring binoculars or wildlife guides if you have them.

These programs are free for members. For non-members, the fee is \$10 per adult, \$5 for each child five and under, and \$30 per family. Pre-registration is required. Visit www.greatswamp.org and click on our secure Event Registration page, or contact Hazel England, hazele@greatswamp.org.

Creatures of the Swamp – Pond Dip for Families

Sunday, June 29, 10:00 a.m. - noon.

Friends of Great Swamp Gift Store, Pleasant Plains Road, Long Hill Township.

If you don't know a pollywog from a hellgrammite, a crayfish from a pond strider, we have the solution! Come and find out who the creatures of the swamp are, and what lives in the ponds and streams of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, with a "pond dip" especially for families. We will use dip nets to catch creatures, examine them and let them go. This program is particularly suitable for families with children. Make sure they wear clothes and footwear that can get wet!

Secret Places of the Watershed Hike – Conservation Management Area **Tuesday, July 1, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

GSWA Conservation Management Area, Tiger Lily Lane, Harding Township.

The Great Swamp Watershed Association owns 50 acres in Harding Township that we maintain as the Conservation Management Area. This forested wetland contains vernal pools, streams and woodland with wildflowers and wildlife aplenty. We will take an early evening stroll along the boardwalk trails, listening for birds and watching out for native plants in bloom. Cool and shady, we will escape the heat of summer in this important restoration area.

Moonlight Nature Hike **Friday, July 18, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

Cross Estate, Morristown National Historical Park

While we don't guarantee the moonlight, there will be plenty of nature to learn about on this night hike around the watershed. We may hear many watershed animal inhabitants including owls, frogs, night insects or other night noises, perhaps even coyotes calling! We'll play some games to learn more about night senses, and revel in being out after dark without a flashlight! 🦋

Breakfast Briefings Continue

Rise and shine! As we continue our Breakfast Briefings series, this is your opportunity to learn more from guest speakers and environmental specialists. Each of these events is from 8:00-9:30 a.m. at GSWA Headquarters, 568 Tempe Wick Road, Harding Township (next to Jockey Hollow).

Tuesday, May 13 **"Where Does Your Water Come From?"**

Guest Speaker: Edmund M. DeVeaux, Vice President – Business Development, United Water

Tuesday, June 10 **"What's In Your Water?"**

Presented by: Hazel England, Director of Education & Outreach, GSWA

A complimentary hot breakfast buffet is included. Seating is open to the public and limited to 50 people, so advance reservations are recommended. Donations gratefully accepted.

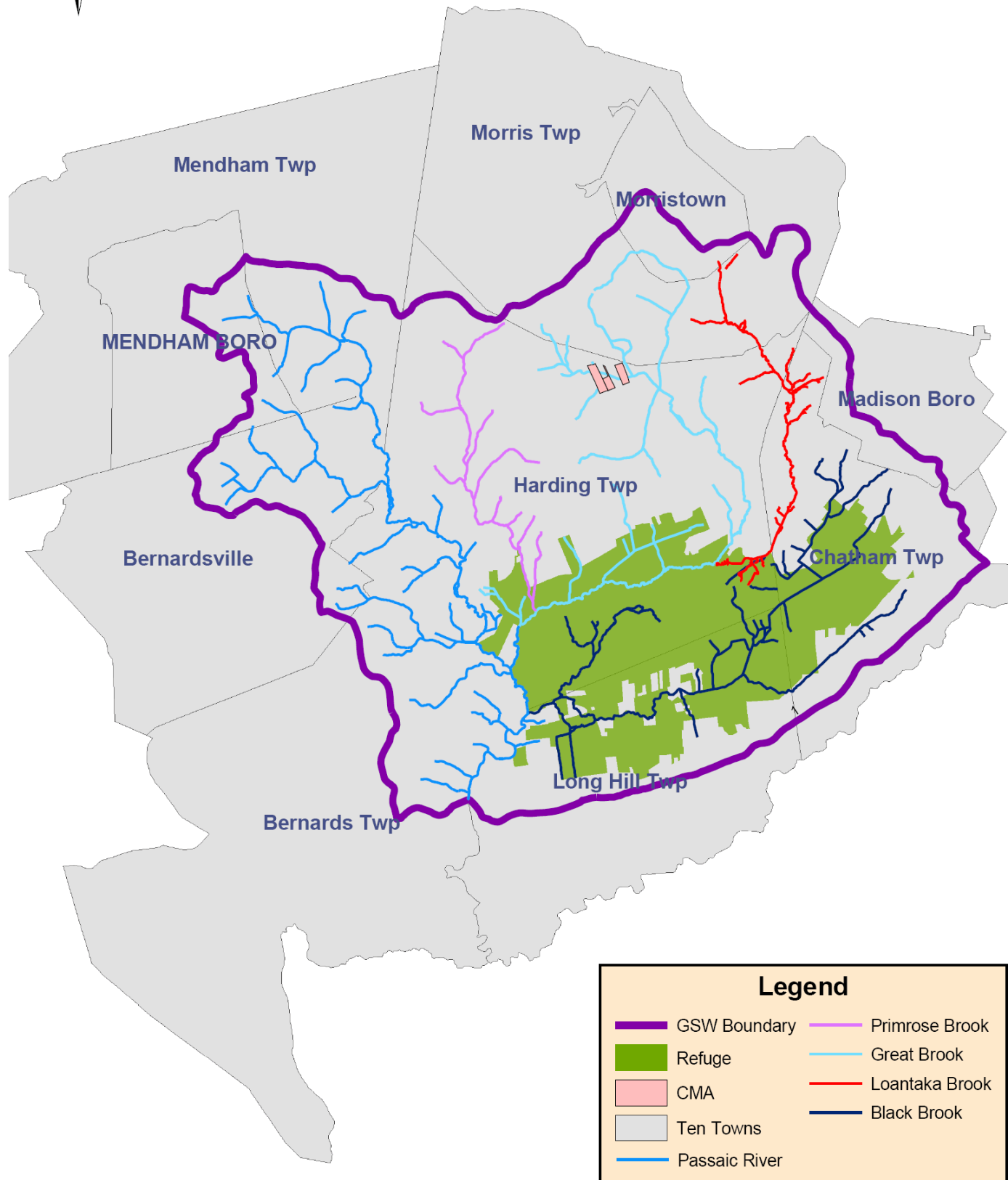
Please visit www.greatswamp.org or call (973) 538-3500 x22 to register. 🌱

Hazel England, director of education and outreach, training parents of Southern Boulevard School third graders on how to use the watershed model.





The Great Swamp Watershed



Raptor Alley

by Neil Nappe and Blaine Rothauser

As you've traveled along the highways and byways in the Great Swamp watershed over the past two decades, you may have noticed the steady increase in our red-tailed hawk populations. As they stand like proud sentries on trees, lampposts, and bridges, they are a testimony to one species' successful adaptation to the changing environment of their ancestral home.

At first glance, you might think that these serene, confident creatures have little regard or fear of us, considering their almost reckless proximity to automobile traffic as we each – bird and man – go about our respective business. But as anyone who has pulled over to have a closer look could tell you, these very wild creatures typically have a healthy fear of man, often taking flight at the smallest movement. However, things are different this year in the Great Swamp. We have routinely walked up to red-tailed hawks to photograph them...and they barely flinch. One might think these normally wary creatures were captive birds released from the nearby Raptor Trust into the Great Swamp — often the temporary home for rehabilitated birds. But Len Soucy, who runs the Trust, assures us he did not release these unbanded birds.

The hawk's indifference to our presence is all the more special a treat

for those who've been spending time along Pleasant Plains Road in the Great Swamp this winter. Many believe this to be an "irruption year" for a number of raptor species, meaning a surge or spike in the normal concentrations of these birds in a specific area. The causes are often complex, but almost always a testimony to the critical interplay



Red-tailed hawk with vole, photo by Blaine Rothauser

between predators, prey, and climate. One thing for certain is that the meadow vole population — a food source for raptors — has mushroomed, most likely in response to a relatively mild winter and past cycles which have bolstered their numbers. Whatever the cause, it is a magnificent sight to behold a female Northern Harrier gliding effortlessly over the fields surrounding the Friends

of the Great Swamp bookstore, the sun illuminating the rich browns and golds of her spectacular plumage, ever vigilant for prey.

The wonders of our swamp are ever present for those who seek them out and the "marsh hawk" is another treasure – a species representing what we believe to be an intermediary evolutionary stage between a hawk and an owl. If you're lucky enough to get close, you can easily see the "disks" on its face, formed by feathers in nature's perfection of the parabolic dish (think satellite) that amplify and focus the sounds of its prey on the harrier's ear opening. If that is not amazing enough, these asymmetrical disks, offset from each other, allow the bird to "triangulate" the location of its prey (think GPS).

We are fortunate to have in our watershed a number of individual birds that appear to be much tamer than would normally be expected of their species. They have been observed hunting and perching at incredibly close range to those of us who are able to approach them in a respectful and non-threatening manner. This is especially so for the Rough-Legged Hawk photographed this winter in our beloved swamp. This raptor is rarely seen up close & personal, but this particular

(Raptor Alley continued on next page)

Explore the CMA *(continued from page 1)*

Coming via I-287 North: get off at exit for Harter Road. At end of exit ramp, turn right on Tiger Lily Lane. Go to end of cul-de-sac.

Coming via I-287 South: get off at exit for Harter Road. At end of exit ramp, turn right over highway, turn right at Lutheran church on Tiger Lily Lane. Go to end of cul-de-sac.

From Morristown: take South Street to light at James Street. Proceed west

on James Street 3.5 miles to traffic light at Harter Road. Turn right, then left at Lutheran church onto Tiger Lily Lane. Go to end of cul-de-sac.

Please park on bulb of cul-de-sac at the end of the street. Proceed through to the trail and look for maps/guides in the mail box at the far end of the bridge. Wear appropriate clothing and watch your step! Please stay on the trails for your safety. 🚶



Raptor Alley *(continued from previous page)*

individual seemed to almost delight in hamming it up for the camera, or was perhaps simply oblivious to humans well within its turf. This is likely a bird that spent the summer in a habitat devoid of humans — most probably somewhere deep in northern Canada's boreal forests — which might explain its tolerance of people.



Rough-legged hawk, photo by Neil Nappe

Management initiatives in refuge systems along the migratory paths of raptors may be contributing to the increased raptor population. By crafting habitats conducive to small mammal production (e.g., cutting fields to bring them back to an early successional growth stage), wildlife biologists help spawn a stable winter food source for raptors.

Along Pleasant Plains Road, merlin, American kestrel, and the occasional

peregrine have shown up to represent the falcon association quite nicely this winter. Cooper's, sharp-shinned, rough-legged, red-shouldered, red-tailed, and northern harriers have rounded out the hawk family equally well. It is the wet meadows of our refuge, rife with voles, mice, shrews and even an occasional frog that have "rung the dinner gong" triggering the raptorial feeding frenzy witnessed by so many of us.

This natural event has stirred camaraderie among birding enthusiasts who regularly flock to "Raptor Alley" to view, photograph and frolic with our taloned compatriots. It has truly been a pleasure meeting up with the same people pondering the behavior of the raptor du jour – like the conduct of the kestrel caching its prey beneath the tussocks or why the "grey-ghost" (male harrier) seems to only show up at dusk. This winter along Raptor Alley has been a true bonding experience for a diverse group of people brought together by the common thread of nature's messengers.

If you'd like to spend some quality time with these magnificent denizens of the sky, join us along "Raptor Alley" in the Great Swamp. The show may not be in town much longer. 🌲



Stream sampling during an Educator Workshop.

So Earth Doesn't Get Sick

*A poem by Kelly Endres, age 10,
Murray Hill*

Recycle, recycle
It's the best thing to do
So separate your plastics
Your friends can do it too
Cans, cans
Everywhere
Pick up one
And do your share
We'll all do a part
If we work together
So pick up some branches
That have blown in from the weather
Don't use so much paper
It's made out of trees
We don't want one of those
To crash down on its knees
Help the environment
By giving an old dump a pardon
And turn that space
Into a new garden
With all sorts of colors
And a big hill of grass
Then take a walk there
And save your gas
Be nice to nature
And enjoy its flowers
Some are only going to last
A couple hours
Cats have nine lives
But nature does not
Do what is best
Come on – give it a shot
Teamwork is the key
Not a single trick
And that's all it takes
So Earth doesn't get sick
Do not pollute
It's the wrong thing to do
You'll poison the whales
And that hurts too
So remember that
When you're going to throw something out
Can you recycle it?
I have no doubt!
Please respect nature's beauty
It's one of the few things that's free
So it can be a better world
For you and for me. 🌲

Driveway Sealants: What You Need to Know

by the GSWA Stream Team

A notable characteristic of modern life is the heavy reliance on abbreviations and acronyms. Environmentalists and their organizations certainly contribute to that trend, usually for good reasons. One example that summarizes a legitimate environmental concern is “PAHs,” a merciful contraction of the chemical jargon “Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons.” This term covers a family of over 100 substances that appear with increasing concentrations in our air and water. They arise from many familiar sources including cigarette smoke, meat grilling, incomplete combustion of waste materials, and forest fires. They are also notably present in petroleum products and coal tar. Not surprisingly, PAHs have been detected in the Rolling Knolls Superfund site that is adjacent to the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge.

Within the Great Swamp watershed there are legitimate concerns about the harmful effects of PAHs on small aquatic wildlife. Furthermore, those same substances eventually emerge from the watershed via the Passaic River, and because water treatment facilities located downstream that use the Passaic River as a source for drinking water are not engineered to remove PAHs – some of which are suspected carcinogens and initiators of birth defects – they degrade the quality of water supplied to many households in northern New Jersey.

Asphalt paving sealants often used in the developed portions of our Great Swamp watershed constitute a surprisingly potent source of PAHs. These sealants are primarily manufactured either from

coal tar or from asphalt itself. After they are applied to parking lots or driveways, the sealants slowly degrade, flaking off the surfaces to which they have been applied. Dry airborne sealant particles can infect children and pets playing on or near treated asphalt surfaces, and storm water eventually carries a substantial proportion of the sealant particles away from their points of origin. Inevitably, this storm water runoff transports PAHs into our watershed streams that lead into the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, and ultimately into the Passaic River. The PAHs tend to accumulate in the sediments on the bottom of streams and ponds, rather than dissolve in the water. This creates a hazard for aquatic life, starting with bottom-dwelling species like macroinvertebrates, which are important as food for fish and other small animals. In 2005, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) quantitatively analyzed sediment samples in Loantaka Brook that show disturbingly high PAH levels. Fortunately, these levels have not yet exceeded the recommended guidelines for PAHs in streambed sediments.

In comparing the two varieties of sealants, those based on coal tar and those based on asphalt from crude oil, the former is by far the more concentrated source of PAHs. So, if you are considering applying a sealant to driveway surfaces at your home, check the ingredient labels to make sure it is the asphalt-based variety you’ll be using. Better yet, you might consider using water-permeable gravel surfaces as an alternative. And if you can influence local businesses to use the asphalt-based sealant, and to use it sparingly, our watershed – and ultimately the more than one million people who obtain their drinking water from the Passaic River – will benefit.

The internet offers a wide range of information on PAHs. Here are a few relevant websites you might want to visit:

- (1) http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/asphalt_sealers.html.
- (2) Wikipedia subject: “Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon.”
- (3) <http://www.npi.gov.au/database/substance-info/profiles/74.html>. 🌱



Three Maersk employees removing invasive plants at the CMA during a corporate workday.

Coming Soon: GSWA's Very Own Watershed Model

The Garden Club of Somerset Hills, a long time supporter of our programs, has recently awarded GSWA a \$1,000 community grant toward the purchase of a portable Great Swamp Watershed model. Though nonspecific watershed models have been used for many years by GSWA in schools and teacher workshops to educate about non-point-source pollution, a watershed-specific model will be most beneficial in helping everyone who lives, works or plays in the Great Swamp Watershed understand what our very own watershed looks like and how their location fits into it. We are grateful for the continued support from Garden Club of Somerset Hills. 🌳

Goldman Sachs Employee Volunteers are Back!

Once again — for the fourth year — Goldman Sachs is allowing us to host 65 employee volunteers in three separate workdays this year as part of their Community TeamWorks initiative. Goldman Sachs' philosophy of giving back to the community will enable us this year to continue our conservation work at the CMA, under our "Return of the Natives" project, and to bring to life our new "Blooms for Birds and Butterflies" project — a native plant garden scheduled to be built this summer at GSWA headquarters for enjoyment by our visitors and as a model for residents of the watershed interested in creating their own native plant gardens. Thank you Goldman Sachs for your continued support! 🌳

If the company you work for would be interested in partnering with GSWA on a community "give-back" project, please contact Hazel England, director of outreach and education, at hazele@greatswamp.org.

Did You Know...

If you wash your car in the driveway, you might as well wash it in the stream.*

Did you know more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from things like motor oil, fertilizers, pet waste and detergents? Rain washes pollution from streets, parking lots, and lawns into storm drains, then directly to our streams, rivers, lakes and the ocean. Pollution from this "stormwater runoff" is one of the greatest threats to New Jersey's clean water supply.

Washing your car on a paved surface can allow the soapy wash water and other pollutants, like oil and grease, to run off into a storm drain. Most soap contains phosphates and other chemicals that, in large amounts can contaminate your drinking water, as well as kill fish, wildlife and plants. The soap, together with the dirt and oil washed from your car, flows into nearby storm drains that flow directly into our streams. The phosphates

from the soap can cause excess algae to grow, which can be harmful to the water quality.

How can you help keep harmful detergents out of our streams? By taking your car to a car washing facility rather than washing it in your driveway; commercial car washes treat and recycle the water. If you can't get to a car washing facility, wash your car on an unpaved surface and use biodegradable soap.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can all improve water quality by keeping common pollutants out of our streams. 🌳

*Source: NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). For more information on this excerpt and additional tips on what you can do in your own backyard to keep our water clean, visit www.cleanwaterNJ.org.

Did You Know...

You can help raise funds for GSWA without leaving your home or office.

Did you know that you can help raise funds for Great Swamp Watershed Association simply by searching the internet or shopping online?

GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

And, that's not all. A new online shopping mall, GoodShop.com, will donate up to 37 percent of each purchase to your designated charity. Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and enter the word "Swamp" under "Who do you good search for?", then select "Great Swamp Watershed Association" from the resulting list and click on the "Verify" button to set GSWA as the charity you want to support. Then just search and shop away. It's that easy.

Give it a try...and please spread the word! 🌳

Welcome New Members

Special thanks to the following people who became members of GSWA between January 1 and April 18, 2008:

Ms. Kristin Ace, Morristown
Mr. James Allan, Chatham
Mr. Stefan Armington, Morristown
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bailey, Morristown
Ms. Gail Biggs, Morristown
Ms. Ellen Blazoski, Chatham
Mrs. Adele Bodkin, Chatham
Mr. William P. Borkowski, Chatham
Mr. Brian Boutrier, Chatham
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Briody, Chatham
Ms. Dora Burke, Chatham
Ms. Peggy Burke, Morristown
Mr. Klaus Busam, Chatham
The Byrnes Family, Chatham
Ms. Maria Cannizzaro, Morristown
Ms. Mary R. Carroll, Chatham
Mr. Stephen Carroll, Chatham
Mr. Robert Crocco, Morristown
Ms. Maria Dandrea, Morristown
Ms. Dena DeMarco, Chatham
Mr. George DeMarco, Morristown
Ms. Kristen DeMarco, Morristown
Ms. Tilly-Jo Emerson, Morristown
Ms. Rebecca Feldman, Morristown
Mr. Bob Foster, Chatham
Gail and Jon Frey, Chatham
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Fritts, New Vernon

Mr. Robert Garbowitz, Chatham
Mr. & Mrs. Seif Ghasemi, New Vernon
Mr. & Mrs. John J. Goggins III, Chatham
Mr. & Mrs. John Griffin, Chatham
Mrs. Elizabeth S. Hackett, East Hanover
Ms. Barbara Hauck-Mah, Chatham
Mr. Stephen Hawryluk, Madison
Ms. Nina Hohman, Morristown
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Foundations and Organizations Contribute to GSWA Water and Land Protection Efforts

These foundations and organizations have contributed generously to our mission thus far in 2008. Thank you all for your support!

The Basking Ridge Garden Club
Earth Share New Jersey
The Garden Club of Madison
The Garden Club of Morristown
The Garden Club of Somerset Hills
George T. & Francele Boyer Fund

Hidden Pond Foundation
Morris County Park Commission
Mt. Kemble Lake Homeowners Association
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**Working together with GSWA
to protect water and the
places you love.**

For information on joining GSWA's
Corporate Council, please call
Marysue DePaola,
development director, at
(973) 538-3500, ext. 18.

Residents Turn Out for New GSWA Adult Education Programs

GSWA's first two Breakfast Briefings, held in March and April, were a rousing success! Some thirty people came to each event to enjoy the complimentary breakfast buffet and hear from guest speakers on the Highlands Act and deer management.

Discussions were lively, and feedback from attendees was that these sessions were very informative. The March 11 event featured guest speaker Julia Somers, former executive director of GSWA and now Executive Director of the NJ Highlands Coalition who addressed impacts of the Highlands Act, especially as it relates to the Great Swamp Watershed region. Dr. Emile DeVito, Manager of Science & Stewardship at the



Sally Rubin, GSWA's executive director, introducing New Jersey Conservation Foundation naturalist Dr. Emile DeVito at the second Breakfast Briefing on April 8.

NJ Conservation Foundation spoke at the April 8 breakfast on understanding how the deer overpopulation is affecting the balance of our ecosystem.

A special thank you to all who attended for your participation and your contributions. Thanks, too, to Julia and


Emile for sharing their knowledge and expertise.

See our Summer Programs and Events on page 5 for details on more Breakfast Briefings coming up.

GSWA also introduced this year a new program designed to help residents become more effective when dealing with their local government. The Citizen Advocacy Program (CAP) was launched in Chatham Township and Harding

Township this Spring. About 20 residents attended each of these two kick-off workshops that included a presentation by a representative from GSWA followed by a Q&A session.

More CAP workshops in other local municipalities will be coming soon! 🌲



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