

New Bedford's Buzzards Bay Coalition returns with new adventures for every age and interest

In-person programs resume with measures to promote social distancing.

The Buzzards Bay Coalition has resumed its Bay Adventure activity series with more than a half-dozen free programs scheduled through the end of October. The programs aim to connect people to the resources of Buzzards Bay and the watershed, inspiring a sense of ownership of the local environment and a desire to explore further.

The upcoming Bay Adventures offerings are designed to appeal to a broad range of people—children to adults—covering a range of outdoor activities from art and astronomy to fishing and trail running, set in locations from Westport and Fall River to Bourne. Each program also will incorporate social distancing measures recommended by public health officials and required by state regulations.

Registration for all scheduled Bay Adventures is free, but registration is required as space is limited. The upcoming programs include:

Women on the Water—Shove off from the Onset Pier for a women's fishing adventure on the Maureen Ann with Captain Kevin. Novice and experienced fisherwomen are welcome! We will provide life jackets if you need them. Thursday, Oct. 22 at 9 a.m.

Forage Foray—Mycologist Lawrence Millman will lead a mushroom walk in Myles Standish State Forest, focusing on ecology and

identifying specimens rather than on edibility and medicinality. Saturday, Oct. 24 at 3 p.m.

Plein Air Landscape Painting—A painting class for all levels, whether a beginner or a seasoned artist. All equipment, supplies, and tools needed for outdoor acrylic painting will be included. The class will be held at Buttonwood Park in New Bedford. Sunday, Oct. 25 at 1 p.m.

Mindfulness: Awake in Nature—Enjoy the peace and beauty of nature with yoga instructor Jessica Webb and the Buzzards Bay Coalition during this mindfulness walk at Little Buttermilk Bay Woods in Bourne. Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 9 a.m.

Spooky Stargazing—We will be taking a journey from The Bogs in Mattapoisett through our solar system. Our craft will be a Celestron 8-inch SCT telescope with attached camera and monitor, making this a safe and socially distanced exploration. Wednesday, Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.

Watershed Runners—Join us at Copicut Woods in Fall River for a trail run through hardwood forests and serene nature. We'll ramble from 3 to 5 miles, depending upon the interests of the group. Thursday, Oct. 29 at 4:30 p.m.

Costume Photoshoot and Harvest Hunt—A Halloween parade in the wilds of The Sawmill in Acushnet, along with a costume contest and harvest hunt. Saturday, Oct. 31 at 1 p.m.

Given current health concerns, the Coalition's outdoor programs will be restricted to small groups, typically no more than 12 individuals or a limited number of immediate families. Guests should bring and be prepared to wear masks for those times when participants are not able to maintain at least three feet apart outdoors. When equipment and supplies are required, there will be no sharing among participants. Additional safeguards may be put in place as appropriate.

Come learn a new skill, pursue a previously established interest or activity, connect with people who have similar interests, explore a conservation area, and participate in a fun outdoor activity."