

Saw Mill River Audubon Spring Coastal Birding Trip

Tuesday, June 3 to Sunday, June 8, 2025

- **Visit five East Coast birding hotspots**
 - Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, DE
 - Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, VA
 - Cape Henlopen State Park, DE
 - Cape May National Wildlife Refuge, NJ
 - Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, NJ
- **Private Sunset Boat Trip around Assateague Island** for coastal birds as well the Chincoteague ponies
- **Private Cape May Marshes Boat Trip** for coastal birds

[Google map of trip locations](#)

Space limited. \$1465/person \$400/single supplement

- Five nights lodging:
 - One night Smyrna, DE. Two nights Chincoteague, VA.
 - One night Wildwood, NJ and one night Absecon, NJ
- All meals from Wednesday breakfast to Sunday breakfast
- Assateague Sunset Boat Trip
- Cape May Marshes Boat Trip
- Tips for Boat rides
- Trip and Guide Services from Saw Mill River Audubon
- \$300/person donation to Saw Mill River Audubon

Not included: Tuesday night dinner, alcoholic beverages, housekeeping tips, tolls (~\$40) and gas, and Cape May-Lewes Ferry crossing (~\$41/vehicle, \$8/\$10 for senior/adult vehicle occupants.) If carpooling, decide on share of gas, tolls, and Ferry crossing between driver and passenger(s).



Yellow-throated Warbler



American Avocet



Blue Grosbeak



White Ibis

Photos: US Fish & Wildlife Service

To reserve your spot, send registration form and \$300/person deposit by US Mail with check payable to "Saw Mill River Audubon," SMRA Office, 275 Millwood Road, Chappaqua New York 10514

OR visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/paypal OR use Zelle: smrapay@gmail.com.

Email or mail form if paying online. Deposit is fully refundable until 05/15/25.

Balance of trip cost due 05/15/25 and we'll email you an invoice reminder two weeks before.

After 05/15/25 final payment, only \$300 of the trip cost is refundable.

We encourage you to consider trip insurance to cover balance of trip costs and any other expenses in the event that you have to cancel for a reason covered by your policy.

Questions? Contact trip coordinator Anne Swaim, Executive Director, Saw Mill River Audubon via email at aswaim@sawmillriveraudubon.org or by voice/text to 914-548-3235 or office 914-666-6503.



2025 Spring Coastal Birding Trip

Tue June 3 to Sun June 8, 2025

TRIP ITINERARY

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 – Arrive Bombay Hook NWR, Birding & Seafood Dinner

Bombay Hook NWR is approximately 3.5 hours/200 miles from SMRA Office in Chappaqua, New York

- **OPTION #1: Meet us 1:00 pm Tue June 3 at the Visitors Center for Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge.**
2610 Whitehall Neck Rd, Smyrna, DE 19977.
 - We'll bird the driving loop at Bombay Hook with some stops at observation points for short walks. We expect to spend at least 4 hours in the refuge.
- **OPTION #2: Meet us 6:00 pm Tue June 3 for dinner** at a local restaurant between the refuge and our lodgings. (Note: this meal is not included in the trip cost.) After dinner, we'll head to our lodgings.
- **Overnight: Quality Inn of Smyrna, 190 Stadium Street, Smyrna, DE 19977**

Wednesday, June 4, 2025 – Bombay Hook NWR early birding, drive to Chincoteague NWR

- **Meet us 7:00 am Wed, June 4 the Visitors Center for Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge.**
See address above. We plan to bird just a couple more hours Wednesday at Bombay Hook and then head south to Chincoteague. We'll pick up sandwiches/salads for takeout lunch at Wawa's in Smyrna on our way out of town.
- **Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, 8231 Beach Road, Chincoteague, VA 23336** is a 2.5 hr/120 mi drive. We'll stop first at the Visitor's Center to view display and then bird. Dinner in Chincoteague near our lodgings.
- **Overnight: (Wed & Thu nights) Best Western at Chincoteague, 7105 Maddox Blvd, Chincoteague, VA 23336**

Thursday, June 5, 2025 – Chincoteague NWR birding and Assateague Sunset Boat Trip

- Breakfast will be quick: McDonald's! And then we're off to bird around Chincoteague for the morning and early afternoon, catching a quick lunch along the way. We'll return to hotel mid-late afternoon to refresh.
- At 6:00 pm, after picking up light dinners, we'll meet up with our private charter from Daisey's Island Cruises, for a boat trip around Assateague Island for birding & sunset. Then we'll return to our lodgings.

Friday, June 6, 2025 – Chincoteague NWR early birding, drive to Cape Henlopen, Cape May birding

- **Chincoteague:** option for very early morning birding at Chincoteague OR sleeping late! We plan to leave Chincoteague by 8:30 am to head back north to Cape Henlopen State Park, Delaware. (2 hour drive)
- At **Cape Henlopen State Park**, we'll do a little walking and birding.
- At **Cape May Lewis Ferry**, we'll queue up our cars and then lunch at *On the Rocks*, waterside by the ferry dock
 - The crossing takes about 85 minutes. Participants will pay Ferry costs of \$41/vehicle, \$8-10/occupant
- We'll arrive by ferry in Cape May, NJ around 3:15pm, birding our way across the Delaware Bay!
- Then we will bird in late afternoon around Cape May Lighthouse and other nearby spots, depending on reports
- Dinner in Cape May. **Overnight: Red Roof Inn, 1801 Route 47 South, Rio Grande, NJ 08242**

Saturday, June 7 – Cape May Boat Trip, Ocean City Heron Rookery, Forsythe NWR Sunset Drive

- At 8:00 am we'll have a two-hour private charter boat trip around the Cape May marshes for birding and sightseeing on *The Skimmer* followed by lunch break at local restaurant.
- Then we'll drive north to spend some early afternoon time at the renowned Ocean City heron rookery
- We'll continue up to Absecon for a take-out seafood dinner with option for an early night eating in hotel OR eating at Forsythe NWR before a sunset drive in the refuge to listen and look for Chuck-wills-Widow and other night birds.
- **Overnight: Howard Johnson Wyndham Galloway, 224 E White Horse Pike, Galloway, NJ 08205**

Sunday, June 8 – Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, NJ and travel back to New York

- We'll grab another Wawa breakfast as we head to Forsythe NWR, 15 min away, for early morning birding.
- We'll do some walking with birding and then do the 8-mile driving loop before heading back to NY around 11:30 am

For registration form or for questions, contact Saw Mill River Audubon, 914-666-6503 or office@sawmillriveraudubon.org