

May 2020

Spring greetings to our lifelong learners! We hope our free Distance Learning offerings this month have brightened your day and offered a mental and social distraction. As we all learn new skills that allow us to keep healthy and engaged, we are heartened by the resilience and determination of our teachers, students, volunteers, and board members. Together we will flourish and stay connected.

## NEW FREE ON-LINE COURSES ANNOUNCED MAINE AUDUBON SOCIETY @ MSC



### Maine Birding

Four Thursdays at 1 pm, starting 5/7/20 (90 min) FREE  
To sign up, email: [msoffice@midcoastseniorcollege.org](mailto:msoffice@midcoastseniorcollege.org)



*Doug Hitchcox*  
*Staff Naturalist*

#### Thursday, May 7, 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Identifying birds: There are 10,000 species of birds in the world—with 455 spotted in Maine—but which is the one you are looking at right now? This class will teach you the essentials of identifying birds: from beak to tail, we will teach you the things to look for when identifying birds.

#### Thursday, May 14, 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Finding birds: You've got the tools, you know how to identify them, but where are they?! This will focus on how to attract birds to your yard and how to find birds.

#### Thursday, May 21, 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Bird behavior: When we go birding, we get a quick glimpse into the lives of those birds. This we will focus on learning about bird behavior and analyzing exactly what it is birds are doing throughout the day.

#### Thursday, May 28, 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Birding by Ear: Being able to identify birds by their songs literally adds a new dimension to your birding. This program will present tools and techniques for learning bird song. New this year, the program will also cover basics of recording and visualizing bird songs with spectrograms.

## MAINE AUDUBON SOCIETY @ MSC

### Bringing Nature Home

Maine Audubon's native plants restoration and community engagement project based on the bestselling book by Doug Tallamy

Four Wednesdays starting 5/13 at 10 am (60 minutes) FREE  
To sign up, email: [msoffice@midcoastseniorcollege.org](mailto:msoffice@midcoastseniorcollege.org)



*Eric Topper*  
*Director of Education*

#### Backyard Ecology 101

Wednesday, May 13, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Get an introduction to the wildlife and natural processes that have been occurring around us, in some cases for centuries. We will focus on how simple it can be to restore, observe, and conserve.

#### The Birds of Maine

Wednesday, May 20, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Learn more about the birds that share our landscapes. We will profile some of Maine's avian residents and visitors, and look at what our landscapes should do for them.

#### Selecting Native Plants

Wednesday, May 27, 10:00 – 11:00 am

We will introduce our favorite native plants for your home, as well as the online resources we use to choose them. We will also tackle where to find these plants.

#### Grow Your Own Native Plants

Wednesday, June 3, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Learn to work with nature to propagate your own plants from seeds. We will cover how different seeds germinate, where to get seeds, basic seed collection, and some of the proven techniques.



### Maine's Monarchs

Tuesday, May 19, 11 am, 60 min FREE

To sign up email:

[msoffice@midcoastseniorcollege.org](mailto:msoffice@midcoastseniorcollege.org)

Learn about the natural history and importance of Maine's migratory Monarch butterflies, as well as what Maine communities can do to steward them.

## LEARN TO ZOOM

Are you new to Zoom?

Do you want to take an on-line class but you don't know how to use the platform called "Zoom"?

Are your friends, neighbors, family inviting you to join them on Zoom but you haven't yet given it a try?

We can help!

Join us on TUESDAY, MAY 5 anytime between 9 to 11 a.m.

TO SIGN UP, EMAIL [MSCOFFICE@MIDCOASTSENIORCOLLEGE.ORG](mailto:MSCOFFICE@MIDCOASTSENIORCOLLEGE.ORG)



## DISTANCE LEARNING AT YOUR OWN TIME, PACE, AND ENJOYMENT

[Music for the Piano](#) - Follow this eight-week course complete with a class lecture and music links each week, created by one of MSC's most beloved teachers of music classes, Larry Lemmel. It has been updated by Jack Henderson for your enjoyment.

[The Greatest Music You Have Never Heard](#) - This eight-week course complete with a class lecture and music links each week, created by one of MSC's most beloved teachers of music classes, Larry Lemmel. It has been updated by Jack Henderson for your enjoyment.

### [MSC Singers – Music at Home](#)

*Led by Stuart Gillespie, MSC Choral Director. A series of classes with lyrics, background, links to performances, and Stuart's upbeat inspiring wisdom.*

[Microbiomes & You](#) – Mini Video Lectures by Barbara Snapp. Enjoy video lectures of MSC faculty member Barbara Snapp.

[Albert Camus' The Plague](#) – Video presentations by retired Bowdoin professor of French, William VanderWolk

[Organic Gardening and Soil Science](#) – Follow Master Gardener Linton Studdiford's 2020 course materials in learning tips on Maine gardening.