

July/August 2010  
E-news



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## Riverboat Season Begins

The Quinnetukut II Riverboat season is underway! Plan now to get the Friday, Saturday or Sunday date you prefer. Cruises depart at 11:00 a.m., 1:15 and 3:00 p.m. Join Captain Steve Larivee and first mate Sarah Doyle for this 12 mile scenic cruise along the Connecticut River. Please note that cruises will depart from Barton Cove, with tickets purchased at the Barton Cove Recreation Area, until further notice. Enjoy the magnificent French King Gorge, charter the boat for a wedding or enjoy a cruise with family or friends. [Click here](#) for prices, schedule and information or **call (800) 859-2960** for information and reservations. If you are unable to speak with us directly, be sure to leave a detailed message and we will get right back to you.

## Camping at Barton Cove and Munns Ferry

Store up great summertime memories. Join family and friends at a campsite overlooking the Connecticut River. At only \$22 per night the [31 tent sites](#) spread out along the



Captain Steve Larivee



Many tent sites have river views



half-mile long Barton Cove peninsula are a bargain. Spacious, private, wooded sites, limited vehicle access, and an alcohol free campground make [Barton Cove](#) a great place to relax. Stay for two days to two weeks.

Want a little more adventure for your camping trip? Pack up your gear, take a shuttle up river and paddle down to Munns Ferry Campground. Munns Ferry (available by reservation only) has five sites right on the water. Access to the campground is by boat only. Call us for information on camping and our canoe and kayak shuttle service.

**Reservations: 413-863-9300** [Click here for additional information.](#)

## Canoe and Kayak Summer Fun

What a great way to enjoy a hot, summer day! Paddling around Barton Cove exploring hidden coves while keeping an eye out for nesting bald eagles or heading upriver for a more adventurous paddle. Our boats are available for rent from our waterfront location - \$25 for two hours or \$40 for the day. Enjoy paddling on the scenic Connecticut River this summer. Barton Cove Recreation Area is open seven days a week from 9:00 - 5:00 Monday through Friday and from 9:00 - 6:00 on Saturday and Sunday through Labor Day weekend. [Click here for information and rates.](#)

**Come check out our brand new sporty kayaks from Current Design! The Kestrel 1400Cs just arrived.**

## Riverview Pavilion Reservations

Plan your beautiful day with coworkers, friends or family on the banks of the Connecticut River. The large grills, electricity and tables sheltered beneath a post-and-beam structure make the pavilion the perfect place for company outings, reunions and wedding parties. **Call (800) 859-2960** for reservations. [Click here for more pavilion information.](#)

## Upcoming Programs

**Exploring Barton Cove Ferns by Boat and Foot with Elizabeth Farnsworth**

[Riverview Pavilion](#)



[Author Elizabeth Farnsworth comes to Barton Cove](#)

Who better to explore Barton Cove with than Elizabeth Farnsworth, co-author of both the [Connecticut River Boating Guide](#) and the [Peterson Field Guide to the Ferns of Northeastern and Central North America](#)? Participants will paddle to two locations along the peninsula and take short hikes in search of ferns of woodland and rocky habitats. Please bring lunch and drinks to enjoy along the way. Program co-sponsors: Connecticut River Watershed Council and New England Wild Flower Society.

Elizabeth Farnsworth is Senior Research Ecologist with the New England Wild Flower Society. Her unique background as a botanist, professor, illustrator, author, boat builder and kayaker provide her with a wealth of information to share during this exploration of the Cove.

**Sat., July 10; 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. For ages 12 and older. Fee: \$25 per person includes canoe or kayak rental. Pre-register by calling 800-859-2960**

### **Space-tacular: Starry Night with Rachel Roberts**

Join Rachel Roberts at Northfield Mountain for this exciting program about constellations. A variety of hands-on science and art activities will help families learn about the science, viewing and mythology of stars. This workshop is free and is supported in part by a grant from the Northfield Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

**Sat., July 17; 6:30 - 7:30. For ages 7 and older. Free! Pre-registration required by calling 800-859-2960.**

### **Blueberry Moon Hike**

July is a berry nice time of year for a sunset/moonrise hike. Come search for all kinds of berries and look for signs of other berry eaters on this three-mile round-trip hike. The "high point" of the evening will come atop nearby Crag Mountain where we'll pick a couple of wild blueberries in the sunset and enjoy them over ice cream as the almost full moon rises. Participants should be in moderate condition and comfortable with a small amount of rock scrambling on steep slopes. Bring water, a cup or bowl, spoon and flashlight.

**Sat., July 24; 6 – 9 p.m. For ages 8 and older Fee: \$3 per**

person    **Pre-register by calling 800-859-2960**

### **Geologist Richard Little on the Riverboat**

Geology comes alive through the clear and often humorous stories of Richard Little. This relaxing cruise on the Connecticut River will be filled with tales of drifting continents, earthquakes, dinosaurs, glaciers and Lake Hitchcock, that are part of the creation of our idyllic Valley. Professor Emeritus of Greenfield Community College, Little has published books and created videos about the amazing 500 million year history of the Connecticut Valley. Don't miss this overview of the unique geology of our region by one of our greatest geology educators. More information about Richard Little's tours and publications is available at: <http://www.earthview.pair.com/>



[Special geology guest speaker Richard Little will be on the QII on Aug. 7](#)

**Sat., Aug. 7; 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. For ages 10 and older  
Fee: \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children. Pre-register by calling 800-859-2960**

### **Unlock the Mysteries of Canning with Pat Shearer & Alison Wahlstrom**

Learn basic techniques by canning tomatoes and peaches with mother-daughter team Pat Shearer and Alison Wahlstrom of Northfield, MA. Other food preserving methods, like drying, will also be discussed and samples of dried and canned foods will be shared. Pat is a long-time home canner, grandma and award winning 4-H leader. Daughter Alison was the 4-H national winner of Foods and Nutrition in 1984. These delightful women will share their stories around the kitchen stove at the Trinitarian Church in Northfield, MA. Participants will leave with samples of both products and the confidence to go forth and plan canning parties in their own home kitchen.

**Sat., Aug. 7; 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. For ages 12 and older Fee: \$20, includes cost of all supplies and use of church kitchen. Pre-register by calling 800-859-2960**

### **Turners Falls Block Party – Pond Creatures**

Come meet Northfield Mountain pond creatures at this family friendly event. Live music, yummy street vendor food and lots of fun activities make for a great way to connect with community members from this lively and



### [Unlock the Mysteries of Canning](#)



artistic town.

**Sat., Aug. 14; 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. For all ages Fee: Free  
Downtown Turners Falls.**

### **Astronomy Conjunction Shoots the Moon!**

Northfield Mountain will host the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Connecticut River Valley Astronomer's Conjunction. Enjoy the camaraderie of amateur astronomers learning and observing together at Northfield Mountain. The weekend will be jam-packed full of slide presentations, talks, and Friday and Saturday night sky viewing through telescopes of all shapes and sizes. This year many presentations will have a moon related theme as the Conjunction takes place just before the full moon. Check out the conjunction website at: <http://www.philharrington.net/astroconjunction/>. Or, to request free information and a registration form contact: Jack Megas, Astronomy Conjunction, 311 Surrey Road, Springfield, MA 01118 or e-mail Richard Sanderson at [RSanderson@springfieldmuseums.org](mailto:RSanderson@springfieldmuseums.org).

**Fri. & Sat., Aug. 20 & 21 For ages 12 and older. For information & registration visit**  
<http://www.philharrington.net/astroconjunction/>

### **Temporary Changes at Northfield Mountain**

There are a few temporary changes here at Northfield Mountain this summer! Please excuse our appearance and change of operations until the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Station's unwatering project is complete.

### **Riverboat Departs from Barton Cove**

The Quinnetukut II Riverboat will depart from Barton Cove while the Riverview Picnic area is closed. Tickets will be sold at the Barton Cove Recreation Area office located on Route 2 in Gill, Ma. The boat will depart from the Barton Cove picnic area at the regularly scheduled times of 11:00 AM, 1:15 PM and 3:00 PM on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Call (800) 859-2960 for reservations.

### **Riverview Picnic Area**

The Riverview Picnic Area and Riverview docks will be closed until the station dewatering is complete. Currently the parking lot and picnic area are busy work sites with cranes, heavy equipment, and materials related to the dewatering project. Alternate riverside picnic locations include our Barton Cove Picnic Area in Gill, MA and our Unity Park Picnic Area in Turners Falls, MA.

## Trail Closure at Northfield Mountain

The trails at Northfield Mountain will remain closed until the dewatering project and the 345kv highline project on 10th Mountain trail are complete. Heavy equipment and large construction vehicles are rumbling along both Reservoir Road and 10th Mountain Trail. For your safety, please do not use the trails. For alternate, nearby trail use locations try the Wendell State Forest or the Montague Plains. Both of these areas have diverse trail systems that are suitable for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding. We also invite you to enjoy our Barton Cove hiking trail which begins at the parking lot of the Barton Cove Picnic Area in Gill, Ma.

Check out the [complete listing](#) of summer programs on our website.

[Forward this message to a friend](#) | (800) 859-2960

Northfield Mountain is owned by:

