

Workshop Title: Learning Birdsongs, with Topher Stephens

Tuesday June 10th, 1:00 – 3:30 PM

Description: In this workshop we'll tune in to the secret language of the forest and learn the tools you need to start identifying local birds by their songs and calls. Using a simple and systematic approach, you'll learn to focus on key features in birdsongs which make each one beautifully unique. The workshop will begin with a short presentation in which we'll define and discuss qualities such as pitch, volume, tempo, rhythm, texture, and repetition. Then, once we've established a common vocabulary, we'll head outdoors and put these tools to work. We'll tune into those distinct features, practice describing the songs we hear, and begin committing songs to memory using mnemonic devices and vocal imitation. Using these playful and practical techniques, ANYONE can learn to identify birds by sound. No birding or musical experience necessary!

Please Bring:

Binoculars if you have them (loaner pairs are available if not)

Weather-appropriate layers and footwear

A Notebook and writing utensil to take notes