

Thorncrag Nature Sanctuary and USM Atrium Art Gallery Field Trip

The first MES field trip for 2014 is set for Saturday morning May 17th from 9-12 at Thorncrag Nature Sanctuary with a picnic and more collecting at the USM Atrium Art Gallery from 12-2 pm. Ant expert, Aaron Ellison from the Harvard Forest, will be collecting with us so come prepared to learn about ants and collecting them. Thorncrag normally does not allow collecting of any kind in the Sanctuary but they have made an exception for MES in exchange for a list of what we find. <http://www.stantonbirdclub.org/thorncrg.htm>

The USM Atrium Art Gallery is showing an insect related exhibit Ant Farm: At the Nexus of Art and Science and we have set up the day so that hopefully some of the public will meet with us for a picnic, collecting near the gallery and a visit to the exhibit. At lunch time the Ant Girls will talk about the exhibit and Aaron Ellison will give a talk on ants – the art and science of ants all in one day! The gallery curator is MES member Robyn Holman. <http://usm.maine.edu/atriumgallery>

Dress for the weather and biting insects, bring collecting gear, a camera, enthusiasm and a lunch. No dogs are allowed at Thorncrag, including in the parking lot.

Below is a link to a great review of the ant farm art exhibit that was in the Portland Press Herald. http://www.pressherald.com/life/audience/USM_gallery_in_Lewiston_crawling_with_art_inspired_by_ants_.html

GETTING TO THORNCRAG

FROM I-495 - MAINE TURNPIKE, NORTH & SOUTH

Take exit 13 in Lewiston and head west on Rte. 196 (Lisbon Street).

Turn right onto East Avenue. (the Promenade Mall will be on your left, Martel School will be on your right). Take East Avenue to the intersection of Sabattus Street (Rte. 126). You will see Rite Aid on the opposite left corner. Turn right onto Sabattus Street and continue until you see Hannaford's Supermarket on the left. Turn left there onto Highland Spring Road at the stone pillar with a Thorncrag sign on top.

At the end of Highland Spring Road, turn right, and the Sanctuary parking area will be on your left.

FROM THE SOUTH and WEST (Gray, Poland & Minot)

Approach Lewiston along Court Street in Auburn, and cross into Lewiston over the Androscoggin River at Great Falls onto Main Street.

Head north on Main Street (Rt. 202)

Bear right onto Sabattus Street (Rt.126. You'll see a building with gold letters saying "287 Main Street" at that intersection. The Kora Temple will be on your right)

Stay on Sabattus Street until you come to Hannaford's Supermarket on the left.

Turn left there onto Highland Spring Road at the stone pillar with a Thorncrag sign on top.

At the end of Highland Spring Road, turn right, and the Sanctuary parking area will be on your left.

Thorncrag Bird Sanctuary Highland Spring Rd Lewiston to Art Gallery

Head south on Highland Spring Rd toward Sabattus St	0.1 mi / 20 s
Turn right onto Sabattus St	0.4 mi / 1 min
Take Farwell St to Webster St	0.6 mi / 2 min
Continue on Webster St to Lexington St	1.3 mi / 3 min
Continue on Lexington St. Drive to Westminster St	0.6 mi / 2 min
Take the 1st left onto Lexington St	0.4 mi
Take the 1st right onto Westminster St	
Destination will be on the left	0.2 mi

LEWISTON-AUBURN COLLEGE ATRIUM ART GALLERY 51 Westminster St, Lewiston