



WHAT IS A HEALTHY POND PROGRAM DETAILS

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BREWSTER PONDS COALITION INVITES YOU TO THE WHAT IS A HEALTHY POND ART FESTIVAL

The Brewster Ponds Coalition announces a FREE creative arts event for all ages which will take place on Saturday, March 12, 2016 at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, 869 Main Street, (RT 6A) Brewster, from 11AM – 2PM. The theme of the festival: "What is a Healthy Pond?," includes an exhibit of submitted artwork as well as a number hands-on activities – ideal for families with children ages 3-12.

The activities will help visitors experience the concept of healthy pond, which will vary depending on your perspective: for example fisherman, swimmer, homeowner, frog. Participants will learn to identify toxic algae and freshwater turtles, among other topics, and will have the opportunity to create their own healthy pond artwork and crafts.

Activities include:

1. **Create a nature journal** with Susan Baur, author of *The Turtle Sisters of Cape Cod*. Learn what to look for when observing nature, then create your own journal to take home, with a personal illustration on the cover and focus questions on the back.
2. **Enjoy story telling** from a pond's eye-view as Pond Coalition Board Clerk Gwen Pelletier reads aloud from the book *All Eyes on the Pond* by Michael Rosen: a beautifully illustrated book depicting a pond through the eyes of twelve pond inhabitants.
3. **Craft your own mighty CYNOBACTERIA!** Founding Board Member and Past

President, Karen Malkus-Benjamin teaches you how to tell the difference between “good” and “bad” bacteria, and helps you create a bacterium of your own, out of collage materials.

4. **Participate in a guided poetry activity.** deer Sullivan, Director of Children and Youth Ministries at First Parish Brewster, will guide participants of all ages in a creating their own pond-related poetry, using her bag of inspirational tricks. You will be amazed when you see your words transform into beautiful poems.
5. **See pond creatures up close.** Doug Smith, aquarist and former high school biology teacher, will be on hand to show off the museum’s fresh water habitat tanks, talk about the creatures that inhabit them, and what they need to thrive. Learn about turtles, frogs, fish and more – and how we can all help to protect them.
6. **Learn what makes a pond healthy – (hint: it’s not what you might think)** Why would anyway say they like to see a “good muddy pond”? A lot depends on your point of view! Come find out why.
7. **Pond Art Exhibit.** An exhibit of photos and paintings, by artists of all ages, showing the beauty and diversity of our ponds in their many moods and seasons.

Amateur or professional artists of all ages are welcome to submit original paintings, photographs, collages, fiber art, poems, or other flat creative works that interpret the theme of “A Healthy Pond.” Artworks may explore any aspect or season of pond life (such as water, animals, or recreation), that reflect the artist’s view of pond health. Submission deadline is March 5, 2016. Contact Dawn Walnut at dawn.walnut@brewsterponds.org.

For more information on this growing organization, to volunteer and become a member, visit www.brewsterponds.org, telephone 508-258-9801 or mail: Brewster Ponds Coalition, PO Box 459, Brewster MA 02631