

OCCA organizes two nature walks for weekend

A walk jointly sponsored by the Otsego County Conservation Association and the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society will take place on the Basswood Pond State Forest trails on Saturday, May 30. Robert Donnelly will lead a bird walk which will take about three hours. Participants are asked to meet at 8 a.m. at the Jacobs Road parking area. Jacobs Road intersects County Highway 16 about 3 miles north of State Highway 80. More information may be obtained by contacting Robert Donnelly at rsdonn@yahoo.com.

On Sunday, May 31, Patricia Riddell Kent and Steve Kent will lead a walk of the 200-acre field and creek portion of The Robert V. Riddell State Park in Milford. This portion of the park is part of a 1,036-acre parcel the Kents donated as state park land in 2005. The fairly easy walk on mostly flat terrain should take about one to one and one-half hours. Participants should meet at the park entrance at the Robert V. Riddell Road, located off State Highway 28, to the right, just after taking I-88 Exit 17. Heading south on State Highway 28, the park entrance is on the left of State Route 28, just past the Department of Transportation gravel lot and tourist area at Lifgren Road, on the right. Walkers will see the old homestead and beautiful scenic vistas. For more information, contact OCCA at director@occainfo.org or 547-4488.

For this season's nature walk schedule or for a copy of "Otsego Walks and Paddles," an area outdoor recreation guide published by OCCA, contact director@occainfo.org or 547-4488.

OCCA is a private, non-profit environmental organization, with a membership of 500. It promotes the enjoyment and sustainable use of Otsego County's natural resources through education, advocacy, resource management, research and planning. Among other things, the organization publishes a guide for recycling items not included in the county's recycling program and informational brochures on light pollution, natural gas drilling, and aquatic invasive species. All publications, as well as a comprehensive overview of OCCA, its history, and its programs, is available at www.occainfo.org.