



On Parker Pond, Mount Vernon Maine

presents

A Natural History Week at Bearnstow

June 19–23, 2017

Program for Thursday, June 22

MORNING SESSION: 10:30 A.M.

“Forests as Dynamic Ecological Systems”

Justin Waskiewicz, Lecturer
Rubenstein School of Environment and
Natural Resources, University of Vermont

Forests are complex both in the diversity of components within them and in the ways those parts interact over time. This presentation will introduce the basic concepts of forest ecosystem function—the processing of energy and materials by interacting organisms, and how those processes and their results change as a forest grows and ages.

AFTERNOON SESSION: 1:30 P.M.

“Tree Behavior and Strategy, Forest Structure and Interactions”

The complex and dynamic environment of a forest ecosystem presents challenges for long-lived organisms like trees. Different species have developed different strategies for ensuring their success in this environment, both as individuals and as reproducing populations. The interaction of these tree behaviors shape the appearance of a forest at any given time and provide clues for estimating the past and predicting the future of forest development.



Justin Waskiewicz is a forestry lecturer in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources at the University of Vermont, where he teaches a variety of courses in forest ecology, forest measurements, and forest management. He grew up in rural northern Pennsylvania, surrounded by actively managed northern hardwood forests. With those surroundings, and a forester and amateur naturalist as parents, Justin developed a strong interest in forest ecology early on, which he pursued through hobbies and education.

Justin has a BS in Forestry from Northern Arizona University, an MS from the same institution, where he studied standing dead trees (snags) in ponderosa pine forests subject to prescribed fire restoration treatments, and a PhD in Forest Resources from the University of Maine, where he studied competition between species in red oak–white pine dominated mixtures.

Admission is free, but contributions for the nature walks and presentations are greatly appreciated. Please reserve for any event by calling 207-293-2280 after June 15. Lunch is also available (\$10). Bearnstow is located at 84 Bearnstow Road in Mount Vernon. See www.bearnstow.org/contact.htm for directions.