

**FIELD-LEARNING ACTIVITY | Herp Walk at Allanach-Wolf
Woodlands**

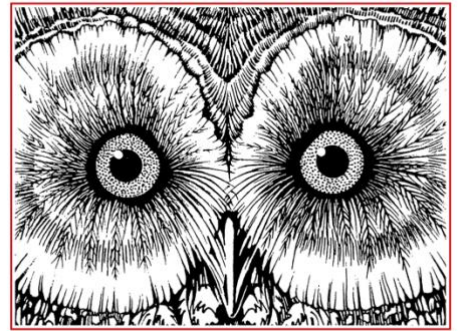
Saturday September 7, 2024

10 am-12 pm

Allanach-Wolf Woodlands

Windham, CT

Connecticut State
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY



UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Join herpetologist **Dr. Susan Herrick** from the University of Connecticut's [Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology](#) to search for hidden herpetofauna, including frogs, salamanders, snakes and more in the field! [The Connecticut State Museum of Natural History](#) is partnering with [Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust](#) to host a field-learning activity with Dr. Herrick to uncover common Connecticut herps in their native habitat.

Dr. Herrick is a Professor in Residence at UConn who studies herpetology and behavioral ecology. During this guided walk, she will explain the ecology and behavior of the herps that people would commonly encounter in Connecticut. In addition, participants will learn about a new census of the herps that seek shelter in artificial habitats called coverboards.

*** This event is free and open to the public, but space is limited and registration is required! ***

Visit <https://csmnh.uconn.edu/programs> for more information and to register.

Recommended for participants aged 8 and up; those 16 and under must be accompanied by a chaperone. This hike may be challenging for some and will include hilly, wet areas and forays off trail to view coverboards and vernal pools. Sturdy footwear and long pants are recommended.

This event will be held rain or shine!

If you require an accommodation to participate in this event, please contact the CSMNH at 860-486-4460 or CSMNHinfo@uconn.edu by **Friday August 30, 2024**.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Museum Hosts Guided Walk in Search of Frogs, Salamanders, Snakes and More in Windham

Windham, CT – Join herpetologist Dr. Susan Herrick from the University of Connecticut's Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (EEB) to search for hidden [herpetofauna](#), including frogs, salamanders, snakes and more in the field! The [Connecticut State Museum of Natural History](#) (CSMNH) is partnering with [Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust](#) to host a field-learning activity with Dr. Herrick to uncover common Connecticut herps in their native habitat. The community is invited to learn about local Connecticut amphibians and reptiles and how scientists use coverboards to regularly observe these animals in the field. Herrick will guide participants through a field site managed by Joshua's Trust, where participants will search for herpetofauna, learn about their behaviors, and the habitats where these animals are usually found.

Dr. Herrick is an Associate Professor in Residence in the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology at the University of Connecticut. She studies herpetology and behavioral ecology, with particular interest in social behavior and acoustic interactions among frogs. During this guided walk, Dr. Herrick will explain the ecology and behavior of common herps found in local forests. In addition, participants will learn about data collection for a new census of herpetofauna that are attracted to wooden coverboards.

Coverboards are artificial habitats placed in nature by scientists that small animals seek out and use for shelter. Scientists place boards of various sizes in wooded areas near water and visit them on a regular schedule. They identify the variety of animals they observe to learn about the different species who make the forest home. Information such as air, soil, and water temperature are recorded to learn more about the local environment. This joint research project between

the CSMNH and EEB aims to gather data about the animals that live in the Allanach-Wolf Woodlands, a property managed by Joshua's Trust.

Recommended for participants aged 8 and up; those 16 and under must be accompanied by a chaperone. This hike is along maintained trails but may be challenging for some. It may include hilly, wet areas and forays off trail to view coverboards and vernal pools, which could involve walking through some areas of dense vegetation and mud (depending on prior rainfall).

Appropriate clothing and protective gear (sun/rain/mud) is required, and sturdy footwear and long pants are recommended. This event will be held rain or shine!

Visit <https://csmnh.uconn.edu/programs> for more information and to register.

If you require an accommodation to participate in this event, please contact the CSMNH at 860-486-4460 or CSMNHinfo@uconn.edu by **Friday August 30, 2024**.

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