



Annual Steep Rock Association Community Picnic

Let's Celebrate!

As September ushers in a change of seasons and the spectacular foliage of a Connecticut autumn, I'm pleased to invite you to two of Steep Rock's most popular community events. Our **Annual Community Picnic is Saturday, September 7th from 12 noon - 2:00pm** in the Riding Ring at Steep Rock Preserve. *In case of rain, picnic will be held at the Riverwalk Pavilion behind the Primary School.* Our annual gathering expresses our gratitude to the local community for their support and partnership in our efforts. Come enjoy fresh grilled burgers and hot dogs, Billy Fairbairn's

legendary fried onions, an assortment of outdoor games for the kids, and the camaraderie of a close-knit community. And on **Sunday, September 22 join us for our Fall Equinox Firepit celebration.** We'll celebrate the season with a walk around the Macricostas Hayfield at 5pm followed by the firepit at 5:30pm. And this year, Pizza Marzano food truck will be on hand with treats for the entire family. See details under our registration link below. [>more](#)

See you on our trails!
Brian Hagenbuch, Ph.D.
Executive Director



Dragonhunter (*Hagenius brevistylus*)

Odonata Survey

SRA is well underway with our third consecutive year of an exhaustive effort to document all the different dragonflies and damselflies occurring in our preserves. We want to understand the full suite of species occurring in specific habitat types, detect those that are most rare or vulnerable, and identify actions that will support their conservation. Dragonflies are

excellent bioindicators. They can tell us a great deal about the health of the environment because they need high quality waters for breeding and land for hunting and they hold a significant place in the food web as both prey and predator. We have now documented 65 species, including a recent discovery of Dragonhunter (*Hagenius brevistylus*) at two spots on the Shepaug River. Uniquely, this large and impressive member of the Clubtail (Gomphidae) family specializes in capturing other dragonflies.

Kid's Mindfulness Hike at Johnson Farm Preserve

Join us for this family-friendly easy hike (gentle slopes, mostly flat, beautiful views!) with a focus on being present in nature. This hike is for children and hikers of all ages and skill levels. Bring the whole family for a fun and relaxing outdoor adventure! Leaders: Roxanne Kraft and Alan Arellano.

[>more](#)

Round Up for a Cause at New Morning Market!

Steep Rock Association is proud to partner with [New Morning Market](#) in Woodbury for the September Round Up for a Cause effort! Every purchase has the opportunity to round up to support SRA and protect the land you love.

Seniors Program: Judea Garden & Camp House Tour

Enjoy a tour of Judea Garden and learn about the historic Isaac Camp House that Steep Rock is restoring as an education center and museum. A complimentary lunch will follow the presentation. Seniors in Steep Rock is a collaborative program with the Washington Senior Center and is generously supported by a grant from the [Connecticut Community Foundation](#)'s "Pathways for Older Adults" program. Info and registration

[>more](#)

Upcoming Events

Thanks to our donors, we're able to offer these events at no cost!

- Sept. 7 - [Annual Community Picnic](#) - Steep Rock Preserve
- Sept. 13 - [Seniors in Steep Rock](#) - Judea Garden & Camp House
- Sept. 15 - [Family Mindfulness Hike](#) - Johnson Farm Preserve
- Sept. 21 - [Monthly Trail Work Party](#)
- Sept. 22 - [Fall Equinox Firepit Event](#) - Macricostas Preserve
- Sept. 28 - [Tunnel Road Connector Hike](#) - Steep Rock Preserve
- Sept. 29 - [3 Peaks in 3 Weeks Begins!](#)

Donate

Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}
{{Organization Address}}
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