

“Introduction to Backyard Birdfeeding”

This program, by Derek Lovitch of [Freeport Wild Bird Supply](#) will provide an overview of the important components of a successful backyard feeding station, including food, feeders, and squirrel-proofing (yes, it can be done!). In addition to feeders, a well-rounded backyard also offers food, shelter, and nesting locations. Targeting a wide range of audiences, everyone from the veterans to the rookies will learn something from this informative presentation.

Derek Lovitch is a career biologist with a lifelong passion for birds, having worked on avian research and education projects in nine states from New Jersey to Hawaii and from Florida to Michigan. He also spent three summers as a tour guide on Alaska’s Pribilof Islands; he served as tour director in 2003, and organized and conducted the first comprehensive Fall Avian Survey in the island’s history. Derek and his wife Jeannette have settled down in Pownal, Maine, where they own and operate Freeport Wild Bird Supply, a retail store that caters to birders of all levels. The store serves as a vehicle for Derek to continue to share his enthusiasm for birding, birds, and bird conservation.

Derek serves on his town’s Conservation Commission, and with Jeannette founded the Bradbury Mountain Raptor Research Project, and is active with many birding and conservation issues in Maine. He also works as a consultant, performing various bird surveys in the state. Yet somehow he still finds to time to bird just about every day: whether as a Senior Leader for WINGS, guiding for private clients, or simply working on his local patch list, hardly a day goes by when he isn’t in the field.

Derek’s first book, titled *How To Be a Better Birder*, was published in March 2012 by Princeton University Press. He was also the “Tools of the Trade” Department Editor for *Birding Magazine* for 6 years, and his writing has also appeared in *Birder’s World*, *Bird Observer*, *Bird Watcher’s Digest*, *NJ Audubon*, and *Winging It*. He is the author of *A Birder’s Guide to Whitefish Point* (Michigan) and wrote the text and designed the *Birds of the Maine Backyard* folding guide.

Along with birding, Derek enjoys hiking, exploring new natural areas, developing his native plant garden, and eating.

Topsham Garden Club
Wednesday, March 11, 2015, 1:30 PM
(following 12:00 PM brown bag lunch and business meeting)
Topsham Public Library
25 Foreside Road, Topsham
www.TopshamGardenClub.com

PUBLIC WELCOME!