**CT TRAILS DAY 2022**

**at Sherwood Island State Park**

**Sat. June 4th and Sun. June 5th**

**Events Sponsored by the Friends of Sherwood Island**

**Saturday, June 4th**

**1:00-4:00 pm Kayak Paddle**

***See Sherwood Island from the water!*** Join us for an afternoon paddle, as we explore the shoreline of the park. Bring your own kayak, canoe, or other paddlecraft, as well as a pump/bailer. A life vest and whistle/horn are required by CT state boating regulations. Your life vest must be worn for this event. We recommend a waterproof VHF radio or cell phone. It’s a long carry over the beach, so bring a kayak cart (with wide wheels for sand) if you have one. We will help each other.

The event begins promptly at 1 pm (high tide is at 3:33) and ends at 4:00 pm, so plan to arrive by 12:45. We’ll do a safety check & demonstration on the beach for life vest fit, seaworthy vessel, and emergency gear. We’ll paddle into the salt marsh behind the park while the tide is rising. Then we’ll paddle the length of the Sherwood Island shoreline, west to the entrance of Mill Pond, and return to our launch point on the open beach. Your guide will point out birds along the way, and show you how to safely exit and enter your kayak from deep water just off the beach. Michele is a retired Coastal Kayak Instructor with twenty years teaching experience. Optional: Bring waterproof binoculars for spotting birds, and/or a waterproof camera.

**Leader:**Michele Sorensen

**Total Distance:**3 miles

**Meeting Place:**Drive around the circle to the East Beach Parking lot; follow the road along the shore past the Nature Center; park in front of beach almost at the end of the lot.

**Rain Plan & Registration:**

Rain or Shine, except heavy rain cancels.

Pre-registration is APPRECIATED.

**Questions and/or participant registration, contact:**

Cece Saunders, cece@historicalperspectives.org, 203-984-1488

**Sunday, June 5th**

**1:00 am Archaeology Walk**

***Join us for an Archaeology Walk on the Sherwood Island History Trail.***The walk will be led by Archaeologists Dawn Brown and Ernie Wiegand. The walk will include points of interest, terrain, and examining the traces of past inhabitants of Sherwood Island, from 1000 B.C. to the 1940s. The leader will share findings from recent excavations, including Native American, early settlers, and onion farmers.

Along the trail, various sites will be described and examined, and various artifacts, maps, old photos, and recent recoveries will be used to bring the island's past inhabitants to life.

**Leaders:** Dawn Brown and Ernie Wiegand

**Total Distance:**1.5 miles

**Meeting Place:**Meet at the Sherwood Island State Park Nature Center. Ask at the Park gate, turn left at East Beach, parking lot is adjacent to the Nature Center.

**Rain Plan & Registration Details:**

Rain cancels.

Pre-registration is APPRECIATED.

**Questions and/or participant registration, contact:**

Cece Saunders, cece@historicalperspectives.org, 203-984-1488

**2:00 Nature Walk**

**Discover Sherwood Island!** Go beach to beach and discover habitats, inhabitants, and special features (9/11 Memorial, Model Airport, wetlands, pine forest) of this waterfront Gateway park.

Go beach to beach on a Fun Walk along Long Island Sound- discover habitats, inhabitants, birding locations, viewing platforms, a purple martin enclave, and other special features of this waterfront Gateway park. Other points of park interest include Connecticut's 9/11 Memorial, model aircraft Airport, Trail heads, wetlands, and a pine forest.

**Leader(s):**Louis Pietig

**Total Distance:**2.5 miles

**Meeting Place:**

Meet at the Sherwood Island State Park Nature Center. Ask at the Park gate, turn left at East Beach, parking lot is adjacent to the Nature Center.

**Rain Plan & Registration Details:**

Rain or shine.

Pre-registration is APPRECIATED.

**Questions and/or participant registration, contact:**

Cece Saunders, cece@historicalperspectives.org, 203-984-1488