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[Test] This Week at Giants Neck Beach

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This Week at Giants Neck Beach

August 19, 2024

[Upcoming Meetings/Events](#)

There will be a zoning meeting on August 22 at 6:45 p.m. [Agenda](#). This meeting is a public hearing regarding the proposed zoning regulation changes, notice [here](#). Proposed regulations [here](#).

The PWC is hosting a general meeting of its membership on August 23 at 6:00 p.m.

The annual pickleball tournament will be on Saturday, August 31, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The PWC will host its August cocktail party on Saturday, August 31, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Featuring the Scott Hopkins band.

News

It's time to Clear the PWC Closet! There will be a GNBA Merchandise Pop-up Sale on Saturday, August 31, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. All CLOTHING items (6 months to Adult XXL) are Buy One/Get One Half Off (lower-priced); non-clothing items are NOT included in this special!

Giants Neck Beach - A Natural Beauty!



A beautiful frog visited my garden last week. As you can imagine, I wanted to know more about what I found. All 3 inches of it was sitting there in the creeping phlox in my garden. I was unsure how close I could get to taking a picture with my phone without scaring it off. But there the frog sat, very still, hoping I wouldn't be looking to go for a grab. Thank goodness it didn't move because now I could look back to see what kind of frog I had found.

This was one of two native frogs that looked very similar. The Pickerel Frog (*Rana palustris*) and the Northern Leopard Frog (*Rana pipiens*) have the same general appearance and are the same general size. According to the Connecticut Herpetology website, I found the more common Pickerel Frog because the spots look square (and are in distinct rows), and the leopard frog's spots appear more circular. The Pickerel frog enjoys living five to eight years in or near a variety of wet habitats and the lands surrounding them, finding shelter in the grasses. Its skin secretes a toxin to keep itself safe from predators. This toxin can irritate the skin, make humans sick, and be fatal to smaller animals (an excellent way to keep it from being every animal's favorite snack!) However, they are not without predators, as Bullfrogs and green frogs are immune to the toxin, so they rely on them for their meals. The Pickerel Frog's mating season typically begins in early spring, with males calling to attract females. After mating, the female lays her eggs in shallow water, and the

tadpoles hatch within a few weeks. These tadpoles then undergo a metamorphosis, transforming into adult frogs in about 2-3 months.

Pickerel frogs enjoy eating insects, spiders, and other small invertebrates (snails and earthworms), so bring them on! They are voracious predators, feeding on various small creatures, which helps control insect populations in their habitats. Immature pickerel frogs feed on the plant matter in the pond during their 2-3 months as tadpoles.

Pickerel frogs, being sensitive to water quality, are a testament to the health of our ponds. By ensuring the well-being of our ponds, we can foster a thriving population of pickerel frogs and even reduce the number of slugs in our gardens. This underscores our responsibility to preserve our local environment.

They are the unsung heroes of our neighborhood, playing a crucial role in maintaining the balance of our ecosystem. Here are some resources to find out more about these remarkable creatures.

<https://www.therpetology.com/frogs-and-toads>

<http://wildlifeofct.com/pickerel%20frog.html>

I hope you are enjoying our beautiful, natural Giants Neck Beach. Get out, enjoy, and remember to be kind! We have a lot to be thankful for here in Giants Neck.

Have a great week!

visit us on the web

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