

# NOTES FROM THE FIELD

## SANDY NECK NEWSLETTER

August 2024

### From the Staff,

July is in the rear view mirror and August has arrived. The waters warm(-ish), birds are learning to fly and the greenheads days are numbered. August is a great time of year for hiking the Marsh Trail in the hopes of seeing newly hatched Diamondback Terrapins making their journey from their nests in the dunes to the Great Marsh.

As for our Plovers, we ask for your patience a little while longer as our chicks learn to fly. We are currently open to 1.5 miles and expect to gain more beach as birds fledge.



**Important!**

### Upcoming Events!

August 1st: Mass Audubon Turtle Release 3PM @ SNK

August 8th : Turtle Talk @ The Guyer Art Barn  
Barnstable, MA. 12:30PM-2:00PM

\*Please call the gatehouse with questions at  
(508)362-8300.



A newly hatched Diamondback Terrapin makes its journey from its nest in the dunes to the Great Marsh. This turtle will spend its time eating small invertebrates and insects before burrowing into the marsh to sleep its way through the winter. Its been a great year for the Terrapin as we've counted over 600 nests! By far the most in Massachusetts!

ORV Beach hours are 8:00am to 10:00pm. The Gatehouse is open from 8:00am - 9:00pm.