



**JULY 26, 2017 | 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**  
**PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY | RINES AUDITORIUM**

## **“Bringing Nature Home” in Maine**

Like many places, the landscape of coastal Maine has changed dramatically. Today, gardens, yards, neighborhoods and towns are playing increasingly critical roles in supporting native food webs for birds, pollinators and other wildlife. Our individual efforts to support wildlife can be both intimately rewarding and broadly beneficial. With an overall focus on Maine birds and their habitats, Eric Topper, Director of Education for Maine Audubon will introduce what individuals and groups can do, including what plants to choose and how to manage and maintain our gardens for their full ecological function and benefit. Eric will also discuss the large selection of beautiful native flowers, shrubs and trees we can incorporate into our yards to attract and support a multitude of birds, butterflies and other interesting native wildlife. Discussion and Q&A will be encouraged.

## **Guest Speaker: Eric Topper, Director of Education for Maine Audubon**



Eric has over 20 years of experience teaching and managing environmental education programs in diverse settings for all ages. He oversees all educational programs at Maine Audubon, including school programs, camps, family events and trips. Eric has extensive experience in communications, fundraising and program development, and a proven record of increasing capacity, enriching curriculum and improving operational efficiencies. Eric has been in Maine since 2002 working to advance numerous initiatives that teach and inspire both social and environmental responsibility. He also spent twelve years instructing courses and managing programs for Outward Bound schools and centers. Eric has a B.A. in Communication from the University of Colorado at Boulder. He is a graduate of the National Outdoor Leadership School and a licensed Maine Guide.

For more information visit: [www.maineaudubon.org](http://www.maineaudubon.org)