

# The Lake Flyer

Newsletter of Winnebago Audubon

April-May-June 2024

All programs and activities are open to the public.

Vol. 45, No. 5

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Check our website for up-to-date information: [www.winnebagoaudubon.org](http://www.winnebagoaudubon.org)

## BIRD COUNTS

See page 3 for details.

- Thurs., April 4: **Pre-Crane Count Meeting**  
Sat., April 13: **Crane Count: *Sign up now!***  
Sat., May 11: **May Bird Count**

## BIRD WALKS

See page 2 for details.

- Sat., Apr. 27: **Woodcock Walk**  
Wed., May 1: **Shangri La Pt. Nature Preserve**  
Wed., May 8: **Winnebago Co Community Park**  
Wed., May 15: **Waukau Creek Nature Preserve**  
Wed., May 22: **Menasha Conservancy**  
Wed., May 29: **Uihlein Waterfowl Production Area**  
Fri., June 7: **An Evening with Bluebirds**

## NATURE'S POTPOURRI

See page 4 for details.

- Sat., June 1: **South Woods**  
Sat., July 20: **Niemuth Property**  
Sat., Aug. 17: **Bohn Farms GHRA**

**Save the Date!** Details in next newsletter.

**ANNUAL MEETING  
& FAMILY PROGRAM**  
**Sunday, July 28 — 2:00 pm**

## OSHKOSH BIRD FEST

# Oshkosh Bird Fest

**Saturday, May 4**

**6:00 am - Noon**

Lakeshore Park Pavilion  
1875 Punhoqua St.

**Rain or Shine!**

**FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**A morning of birdy activities  
for the whole family  
to celebrate World Migratory  
Bird Day and the fact that Oshkosh  
is a BIRD CITY!**



- 6 am - 11 am: **Big Sit**, a unique way to  
bird watch with Anita Carpenter
- 6:30 am: **Bird Walk** with Kelli Bahls/Tom Ziebell
- 7:00 am - 10:30am: **Bird Banding Demonstration**  
with Dick Nikolai
- 8:00 am: **Bird Walk** with Kelli Bahls/Tom Ziebell
- 8:00 am - 11:30 am: **Silent Auction**
- 8:00 am - Noon: **Informational Exhibits**
- 10:00 am - Noon: **Kid's Activities**
- 10:00 am - Noon: **Live Birds of Prey**  
by Aves Wildlife Alliance

For up-to-date information on Oshkosh Bird Fest,  
check our website: [oshkoshbirdfest.com](http://oshkoshbirdfest.com)  
and like us on Facebook. [Click here.](#)

# BIRD WALKS



## Woodcock Walk

at Bohn Farms  
Glacial Habitat  
Restoration Area

**Saturday, April 27, 2024**

**7:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

Join us in search of American Woodcock, Wilson's Snipe, and early spring migrants on this evening outing. Bohn Farms GHRA is a state-owned property with more than 120 acres of prairie and woodland. Estimated walking distance is 0.5-1.0 mile. Terrain may be uneven, wet, and muddy. Rain boots or rubber knee boots are strongly recommended.

**Directions:** From Oshkosh, take Hwy 41 North to Hwy 45 North. Take the Highway 116/County Rd GG exit toward Winneconne. Turn left onto County Rd GG/Hwy 116 South. Follow Hwy 116 through and out of Winneconne until you reach County Road D. Turn right on County Road D. Travel approximately 7 miles and then turn right on County Rd B. We will meet in the parking area off to the right adjacent to Welsch Rd. Please park in the parking area or along Welsch Rd. where it is safe and reasonable to do so. 🐦

*American Woodcock, Wisconsin.  
Teri Shors/Audubon Photography Awards*

## Wednesday Evening Birding Every Week in May 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

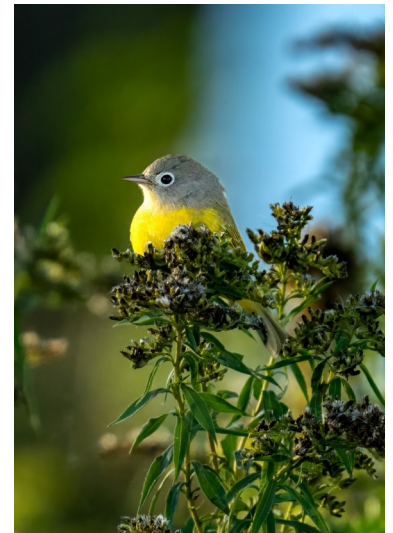
We will visit a different birding hotspot every Wednesday evening in May. We hope to see a variety of birds as the spring migration progresses, including thrushes, vireos, warblers, and sparrows. Join us each week to see what birds are migrating through our area.

### May 1 Shangri La Pt. Nature Preserve

**Directions:** From I-41 North, take US 45 North for about 1 mile and exit at Co. Rd. T. At the stop sign turn left and proceed over US 45. Continue straight on Ryf Rd for about 1 mile and turn left onto Shangri La Pt. Rd. Park only along the east side of the road.

### May 8 Winnebago Co. Community Park

**Directions:** From the intersection of Hwy. 76 and Co. Rd. Y (Sunnyview Rd.) go east on Co. Rd. Y (Sunnyview Rd.). In about a half mile, turn right into the Community Park north entrance. At the first round about turn right and continue to the first parking area.



### May 15 Waukau Creek Nature Preserve

**Directions:** The nature preserve is located at 2987 Delhi Road, Omro (near Waukau) in Winnebago County. From Highway 41, take State Rd 44 south to State Road 91 west. Turn right (north) onto State Road 116 at Waukau. Turn left onto County Road K and then right onto Delhi Road. The nature preserve will be on the right, with a parking area on the left.

### May 22 Menasha Conservancy

**Directions:** From Hwy 41 North, take Hwy 10 East/Hwy 441 North for about 3 miles. Take the Oneida Street exit to the right. Follow S Oneida Street for about 1.5 miles. Turn left on Hwy 10 East (Plank Road). Continue east for about 1 mile and turn left into the parking area using the shared turn lane.

### May 29 Uihlein Waterfowl Production Area

**Directions:** From Oshkosh, take Hwy 44 South. Turn right on Hwy 91 West. Continue for approximately 8 miles and turn left on County Road M (Deer Dr). Continue for about 1-1/2 miles. The parking area will be on your left adjacent to Osborne Rd. 🐦

*Photo of Nashville Warbler © Matt Saunders.*



## An Evening with Bluebirds at Utica Golf Club Friday, June 7

**5:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

Dave Misterek will lead a short tour of a fraction of the 25 bluebird houses that make up this bluebird nest box trail. We will meet at 5:30 pm at Utica Golf Club, 2330 Knott Road, SW of Oshkosh, for a short introduction by Dave.

Beverages will be available for purchase at the bar.

Then we will walk out onto the beautiful course to visit some of the bluebird houses to see what is involved in monitoring a bluebird trail and hopefully see some adult bluebirds, eggs or even young.

Remember to dress for the weather and wear walking shoes as the tour will be foot powered. See you then. 🐦

# BIRD COUNTS



*Sign up Now!*

## Annual Midwest Crane Count

**Saturday, April 13 - 5:30-7:30 am**

**Pre-count Informational Meeting: Thurs., April 4 - 6-7:30 pm**

The International Crane Foundation is sponsoring the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Crane Count in April. More than 2,000 volunteer participants from throughout Wisconsin and portions of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio and Minnesota participate in the spring survey, which gathers information on the abundance and distribution of cranes in the upper Midwest.

New volunteers interested in taking part in the survey should contact their local County Coordinator for instructions. **If you want to count in Winnebago County, please contact Evelyn Meuret of Winnebago Audubon who serves as our county coordinator. Contact Evelyn at 920-573-7828 or [evelynmeuret57@att.net](mailto:evelynmeuret57@att.net).** Additional information on the crane count can be found at [cranecount.org](http://cranecount.org).

We are hosting an in-person meeting before the crane count on **Thursday, April 4 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm** at the Oshkosh Food Co-op, 155 Jackson St., Suite 1. You may choose a site that night, meet other counters, and ask questions. We will review crane call identification and data entry. This meeting is optional but new counters may find it helpful.

**We invite all counters to meet for breakfast immediately after the count to share your morning experience at the Delta Restaurant, 515 N. Sawyer St., Oshkosh. Dutch treat.**

The International Crane Foundation sponsors the Annual Midwest Crane Count to conserve the world's 15 species of cranes and the natural communities on which they depend. Sandhill Cranes once nearly disappeared from Wisconsin, but the species has successfully recovered and is slowly expanding into neighboring states.

Observations of Sandhill Cranes can lend insight into threatened crane species, including the endangered Whooping Crane. There are now approximately 75 Whooping Cranes in the reintroduced population in central Wisconsin, and Crane Counters may have a chance of sighting a Whooping Crane during the survey, just like last year! 🐦

*Photo of Sandhill Cranes © Tim Sweet.*

Find us on



*Here's an excuse to  
bird all day long.*

## May Bird Count

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**

On the annual May bird count, observers record all birds seen or heard in Winnebago County on one day (24 hour period). The Winnebago County May bird count has been conducted every year since 1966. The final results are submitted to the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology.

Anyone can participate in the bird count. The amount of time that you wish to commit is up to you. You can watch your feeders/yard for an hour or all day. You can walk, bike, or boat an area. For the more dedicated birder, surveying one of the 30 county areas is also an option.

### WHAT IS REQUIRED?

- Record the number of each species seen or heard (including Starlings, House Sparrows, etc.)
- Record time spent watching
- Record distance traveled
- Record names of all observers

For more information or if you plan on participating PLEASE contact Tom Ziebell at:

[thomasziebell@gmail.com](mailto:thomasziebell@gmail.com)  
[920-312-1976](tel:920-312-1976)

to inform him of the location that you intend to cover or if you would like an area to survey. This is to reduce duplication of birds counted.

Thank you! 🐦

*Photo of Palm Warbler © Matt Saunders.*

# NATURE'S POTPOURRI Summer Field Trip Series

Join Winnebago Audubon for our second annual Nature's Potpourri Field Trips, held one per month, in June, July and August. Led by Anita Carpenter, the focus is to discover whatever nature presents including birds, flowers, trees, insects and more.

## South Woods #1

**Saturday, June 1 / 9:00 am-11:00 am**

This area is a mature maple woods which is well known for its spring floral display and bird migration. We'll discover what early June has to offer. Please wear proper footwear as some spots could be damp.

**Directions:** From Oshkosh take Hwy. 44 to Ripon. Go straight on Oshkosh St. at the 4-way stop sign at Eureka St. At the stoplights at Hwy. 23 (Fond du Lac St.) continue straight (south) on to Union St. South Woods is 1.3 miles south on the right side (N7974 Union St.). There is a small parking area or park safely on the west side of the road.

## Kim Niemuth Property #2

**Saturday, July 20 / 9:00 am-11:00 am**

Kim has invited us to explore her 68-acre property near Pickett. Walking trails will lead us through native grasses, marsh, crop land, and oak savanna and wander past a pond and a creek! We'll discover what this special place has to offer our natural curiosity in mid-summer.

**Directions:** From Oshkosh take Hwy 44 south for

about 2.2 miles. Turn left onto Clairville Rd. In 4.9 miles continue straight onto James Rd. In .8 miles continue onto County Rd FF. In .3 miles turn right onto Zoar Rd. In .5 mile you will arrive at W9974 Zoar Rd on your left.



## Bohn Farms GHRA #3

**Saturday, August 17 / 9:00 am-11:00 am**

Bohn Farms is an 80 acre Glacial (Prairie) Habitat Restoration Area, located west of Winnebago near Lake Poygan. Lots to discover here. I hope to find the wandering glider dragonfly, an amazing insect. There are no defined trails here – expect to walk about a mile.

**Directions:** From Oshkosh, take Hwy 41 North to Hwy 45 North. Take the Highway 116/County Rd GG exit toward Winneconne. Turn left onto County Rd GG/Hwy 116 South. Follow Hwy 116 through Winneconne until you reach County Road D. Turn right on County Road D. Travel approximately 7 miles and then turn right on County Rd B. We will meet in the parking area off to your right adjacent to Welsch Rd. There is limited space in the parking area, so please plan on parking along Welsch Rd.

## 2024-2025 SLATE OF OFFICERS AND PROPOSED BUDGET

The Winnebago Audubon Society will hold its annual meeting for the election of officers and board members and to approve the proposed budget for 2024-2025 on July 28, 2024.

The board presents the following **slate of officers** for 2024-2025:

*President:* Janet Wissink  
*Vice President:* Carmen Meuret  
*Secretary:* Zaiga Freivalds  
*Treasurer:* Mike Brandel  
*Board of Directors:* Dana Hartel  
 Dave Moon  
 MaryBeth Petesch  
 Tom Ziebell

Kelli Bahls, Anita Carpenter, and Evelyn Meuret have another year to serve of their two year term as Directors.

If you would like to nominate someone, or know of someone who might be interested in serving on the board, please contact Janet at winnebagoaudubon@gmail.com or 920-216-1172. We would very much like to have more members take an active role in our chapter.

The following budget has been approved by the WAS Board. Please take this opportunity to review it. If you have questions, contact Mike at 920-233-5914 PRIOR to the July 28 annual meeting.

## 2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET

### INCOME:

Chapter Memberships .....	700.00
Donations .....	4,800.00
National Dues Share .....	771.00
National New Memberships .....	200.00
Program Admissions .....	29.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME .....</b>	<b>\$ 6,500.00</b>

### EXPENSE:

Activities .....	\$ 500.00
Annual Report .....	25.00
Donations .....	2,000.00
Dues and Memberships .....	100.00
Fundraisers-Annual Appeal.....	220.00
Newsletter .....	700.00
Postage .....	525.00
P.O. Box Rental.....	260.00
Supplies/Storage Unit.....	750.00
Website .....	300.00
Project SOAR .....	1,000.00
UW Oshkosh .....	
Misc Fees .....	20.00
Meeting Room Rental.....	100.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE .....</b>	<b>\$ 6,500.00</b>

# Badger Tracks *by Anita Carpenter*



## Coffee anyone?

What native tree found in extreme southern Wisconsin, could boast that it has one of the largest, if not the largest leaf, of any deciduous tree in the United States? This rare, medium to large-sized tree is called the Kentucky coffeetree.

At first glance, Kentucky coffeetrees might resemble any other tree with its 2", smooth-edged, oval leaves. However, each individual "leaf" is not what it appears to be because each leaf is actually one small part of a much larger leaf. Let's take a closer look.

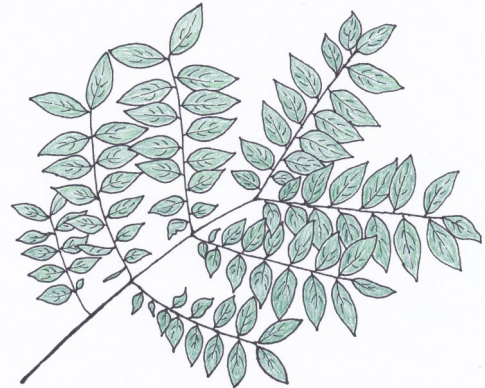
When a Kentucky coffeetree produces a new leaf, it sprouts a midrib that has 5 to 9 slender branches attached alternately along the midrib. Each of these branches then sprouts up to 16 or so of the 2" leaflets.

Consequently, one entire leaf may display up to 100 of the 2" leaflets and measure from 1 to 3 feet long. Because the entire leaf has branched twice, botanists identify this leaf as being twice compound. Not many plants with twice compound leaves are found in nature. This uncommon leaf silhouette is just one of the unusual and interesting features of this tree.

Another interesting feature is the presence of separate male and female trees. How does one tell the trees apart? After the leaves sprout in late spring, look for tiny, greenish-white flowers which can be easily overlooked. (I can attest to that!). Flowers hang in small clusters with male clusters (on male trees) being shorter than female clusters (on female trees). Insects pollinate the flowers.

Fruits develop on female trees as thick, reddish-brown, leathery pods which, when mature, measure about 1-1/2" wide and 5 to 10 inches long. Each pod contains a few large, brown, hard-shelled, slightly flattened, 1/2" seeds nestled in a thick, sticky pulp. Mature pods remain closed on the trees through winter which provides an easy clue for tree identification. The closed pods drop in spring, dry out and open.

The Kentucky coffeetree is considered rare throughout its mid-continent range. Its rarity may be due to the challenges it faces with seed dispersal and successful germination. Nothing eats the seeds (although I've seen crows hammering on the pods and seeds), therefore no critters help the tree spread its seeds. Also, each seed has a thick, hard shell that must be scarified. This means something must split, scrape or somehow damage the shell to expose the seed thus leading to possible germination.



However, the location of coffeetrees may aid seed dispersal. These trees are often found in rich, bottomland habitats often associated with water. Nearby streams and floods may carry the pods and seeds to new suitable areas for germination.

How did the tree get its name? Historical records indicate native people and early settlers roasted and ground the seeds, then used the powder to make coffee. It's suggested that early Kentucky settlers may have coined the name. It should be noted that the pods and seeds are poisonous but prolonged roasting detoxifies the seeds. PLEASE DO NOT TRY THIS! Besides, this coffee is non-caffeinated!

Anthropological studies of native villages often documented the presence of Kentucky coffeetrees. Evidence shows that the villagers used the seeds in jewelry, in ceremonies, and for games of chance. These trees were most likely planted.

Kentucky coffeetree leaves turn yellow and drop early in autumn. New leaves sprout about 6 to 7 months later in late spring. Its scientific name, *Gymnocladus dioicus* refers to this unusually long leafless period. *Gymno* means naked and *cladus* means branch. *Dioicus* refers to separate male and female trees.

If you would like to see these rare trees, walk the Wiouwash Trail along the Fox River on the UWOC campus. Just north of the Wellness Center you will find 5 trees (4 female trees with pods and 1 podless male). They are planted in a row of trees on the inside of the trail - not the riverside. Look at their graceful silhouettes with curvy and angular branches and rough, scaly fissured bark.

This is one of my favorite trees which I visit daily on my morning walk. 🐾

*Winnebago Audubon is grateful for your support of our mission to provide positive experiences in nature for our community.*

Anita Carpenter  
George Coghill  
Laura & Dennis Coppage  
Daryl & Rainy Davis  
Linda DeNell  
Nancy Finn  
David Gay  
*In Memory of Carroll Gay*  
Robert Gluth  
Andy Hansen  
Richard & Kandra Hansen  
*In Memory of Carla Hansen*  
Ron Harrell

Bettie Harriman  
Sharon Janty  
Desiree Johnson  
Kristin Kauth  
Jean Kellermann  
Shirley Klapperich  
Becky Kriha  
Kurt Kronberg  
Steve Labus  
Pam & Larry Lang  
Jerry MacKenzie  
Timothy McKeon

Carole Meton  
*In Memory of Don Meton*  
Dave Misterek  
*In Memory of my wife, Christine*  
David Moon  
Jeanna Owens  
MaryBeth Petesch  
Doris Pierzchalski  
Arlene Prickett  
Michele Purnell  
Emmy Reichenberger  
*In Memory of James Reichenberger*  
Jeff Rill

Jane Shipman  
Marilyn Stark  
Thomas & Susan Sullivan  
Mike & Kathy Swederske  
Doris Thomas  
Donna VanBuecken  
*In memory of Katherine Rill*  
Mike Wicinsky  
Valerie Williams  
Tom & Char Ziebell  
*In Memory of Jim Ziebell*

# 2023 Summary of Bluebird Nest Box Trail

*By Dave Misterek, Trail Monitor*

I am glad to report on another year of successful bluebird monitoring during 2023 at Utica Golf Club. Unfortunately, my wife Christine passed away a year ago so I have received help from my friend Zaiga Freivalds and three of my grandchildren: McKenzie, Ella and Ben, in conducting the weekly bluebird monitoring. For those of you who are not familiar with this effort, a brief background summary is in order. This bluebird trail is sponsored by Winnebago Audubon and the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin (BRAW). Following guidelines of BRAW, we monitor the trail weekly and report the results to BRAW annually when nesting is complete. We initiated this trail several years ago at Utica Golf Club with the approval of the golf club owner, Greg Johnson and his wife Christine. I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to them for the support that they and their grounds keeping staff give us in providing a safe environment for the bluebird houses. We have found Utica Golf Club to be a great option to attract bluebirds and other native cavity nesting songbirds who depend on bird houses for safe nesting sites. Without the assistance of native bird enthusiasts who install and monitor bluebird houses on appropriate habitat, these beautiful birds would be dependent on natural tree cavities for nest sites. Unfortunately, natural cavities are declining due to changing land uses and deadly competition from aggressive non-native birds such as starlings and house sparrows (English sparrows). The semi-open grass habitat found at golf courses provides ample volumes of insect larva and insects for bluebirds to eat and feed their young.

Last year we were able to increase the number of bird houses at Utica to 38. Three additional houses are located in my yard and two more at my daughter Jennifer and her husband Mark's property. This bluebird trail may also be called a bluebird/tree swallow trail because of the large number of tree swallows that are found in eastern Wisconsin and the favorable birdhouse nest boxes provided for them on our trail. The competition between bluebirds and tree swallows for nest sites is a friendly one as the two species do not harm one another. Both are beautiful songbirds that are important members of our environment. This year we have continued with the experiment of placing some birdhouses in pairs 20 feet apart to see if bluebirds and tree swallows will nest close to each other. At times they do, and it increases the total production of both species. We installed 13 pairs of bluebird houses and found that several pairs of houses did produce successful bluebird and tree swallow nests at the same time. Male bluebirds seem to accept the presence of tree swallows in their nest territory even though they do not allow other bluebirds to nest within their territory. This year, we intend to continue our experiment with paired bird houses to further explore this alternative.

Last year we again enjoyed watching and recording the nesting success of these wonderful songbirds. We have kept a record of the nesting activity and can happily report



that our total results last year includes the production of 87 bluebirds, 139 tree swallows and 6 house wrens. There are usually more tree swallows produced simply because the population of tree swallows in Winnebago County is greater than that of bluebirds. The overall nesting success was greater this year than last year due to the greater number of bird houses and more favorable weather than we had two years ago. We are always glad to see the continued success of tree swallow nesting even though we place our emphasis on bluebirds. Tree swallows are beautiful native birds that have a tremendous positive impact by helping to keep a natural control on nuisance insect species such as mosquitos. They do not compete with bluebirds for food supplies and therefore do not seem to harm bluebird production. We reported this successful production to BRAW. They in turn accumulate this data from other bluebird monitors statewide and are able to announce at a later date a total production for the entire state. As a result, Wisconsin is always among the top producers of bluebirds in the US.

With the use of predator guards and 3/4 inch metal conduit posts we are able to reduce most raccoon and other mammal predation. This year we noted almost no loss of bird eggs or young due to these predators. We do have a few houses that were initially occupied by house sparrows that are present at nearby farms. These non-native birds are a main predator of bluebirds and are known to kill adult and young bluebirds and tree swallows on their nests. Fortunately, we are able to control these predators by placing bird houses far from farm buildings and by using VanErt sparrow traps placed in the bluebird house entrance hole.

For those of you who may be interested in placing one or more bluebird houses in your back yard or other appropriate habitat, we strongly encourage you to do so to promote bluebirds and other cavity nesting native song birds. I advise you to follow the guidelines provided by BRAW at [www.braw.org](http://www.braw.org). This guidance includes birdhouse plans, birdhouse placement and monitoring recommendations. Please also consider joining BRAW to receive additional guidance in promoting this important songbird. So, for now, so long and good luck in your bluebird monitoring experience. We hope to report to you again next year. 🐦

## Meet Our Board Member: Anita Carpenter

My name is Anita Carpenter and I'm a charter member of Winnebago Audubon.

I've been fascinated by the natural world from a very early age. My mother kept a detailed diary of my first two years. I was 14 months old when she documented my first long walk. For two hours, I wandered, picking up stones, leaves, sticks, looking at sidewalk cracks, studying ants. She never rushed me as I explored nor told me not to pick up objects. I returned home with a favored stone.

I'm still returning home with a favored rock! Besides life, I believe the greatest gift she gave me was curiosity.

As the years quickly slip away, my insatiable curiosity is my constant companion. I love to share the discoveries of my curiosity with others. That is why I continue to write my "Badger Tracks" column, now in its 43rd year.

The natural world is a fascinating discovery zone which we all must nurture and protect. And we must be careful not to discourage our young people from curiosity and exploration because of our own prejudices. We can offer words of caution, but sticky earthworms and frogs are OK to touch!

May your days be filled with curiosity. Happy exploration! 🐦



### SOS Begins at Home

Wisconsin's songbirds are in serious trouble and need your help!

The songbirds we love to see and hear have suffered the biggest declines: warblers, tanagers, orioles, grosbeaks, thrushes, and sparrows. Even the American Robin is declining. But, you can help.

SOS Save Our Songbirds is a state wide initiative of 180 groups committed to sustaining our songbirds and encouraging people to take immediate action at home to save our songbirds. Yes, you can help bring back our songbirds by doing three things at home: Plant, Protect, and Purchase.

#### Plant Natives

Habitat destruction and degradation are the biggest causes of bird loss. Our yards, no matter their size, can provide important habitat for birds. Plant some native plants that are good for birds. 96% of land-based birds feed insects to their young. Native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers that have evolved in Wisconsin provide far more insects than the nonnative plants common in many of our yards. Also, native plants can supply nectar, seeds, berries, shelter, and nesting areas for our birds.

Where can you get native plants? The Wisconsin DNR has a listing at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/endangeredresources/nativeplants>.

Our Fox Valley Area Wild Ones has a native plant sale every spring. See <https://foxvalleyarea.wildones.org/spring-native-plant-sale/>.

#### Protect Windows

Glass is invisible to birds. Up to 1 billion birds die every year after colliding with U.S. buildings, nearly half at home

windows. Birds see reflections of habitat and sky in windows or see habitat through a window on the other side - and think they can fly to or through that habitat. By fixing just one window birds fly into you can immediately save birds!

There are many options for treating windows: screens, patterns, decals, cords, etc. Information on window solutions can be found at [sossaveoursongbirds.org](http://sossaveoursongbirds.org).

#### Purchase Bird-friendly Coffee

Most coffee is grown in ways that destroy songbird wintering habitat. Vast swaths of forest are cleared in Central and South America to grow open fields of coffee, eliminating songbird wintering habitat.

But there's good news, some coffee is grown bird-friendly! Bird-friendly coffee is grown under a canopy of native trees/vegetation, the forest is not cleared, providing critical winter habitat for songbirds. Bird-friendly coffee is also grown organically without industrial fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides. Coffee that meets the Smithsonian's strict Bird-Friendly standards carries the Bird-Friendly seal and is the best choice to help birds. A second option is USDA organic certified coffee. This coffee is probably grown under some shade and native vegetation that supports songbirds.

Where can you get bird-friendly coffee? Many bird-friendly coffees are available online, visit the Smithsonian's site <http://nationalzoo.si.edu/migratory-birds/bird-friendly>. Birds and Beans Coffee is Bird-Friendly Certified and a partner with SOS. Birds and Beans Coffee is conveniently available at the Wildbird & Backyard in Appleton, Wis. or can be ordered at <http://birdsandbeanscoffee.com>.

USDA organic certified coffee is widely available at local stores and coffee shops in Wisconsin. Look for the USDA organic certified seal.

Please take these three actions at home to help save our songbirds. And spread the word about SOS Save Our Songbirds to everyone. [sossaveoursongbirds.org](http://sossaveoursongbirds.org). 🐦



Winnebago Audubon Society, Inc.  
PO Box 184, Oshkosh, WI 54903

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**Treasurer:** Mike Brandel  
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MaryBeth Petesch,  
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Tom Ziebell,  
920-312-1976 / thomasjziebell@gmail.com

**GO GREEN** by opting to receive your newsletter via e-mail. E-mail request to winnebagoaudubon@gmail.com

**Important Note: TEMPORARILY AWAY?** Please notify us if you will be temporarily away. The post office will not forward your newsletter. If you want to receive your newsletter while at your temporary address, please notify us at winnebagoaudubon@gmail.com.

**RENEWALS:** Your mailing label includes your membership expiration date above your name. If you are a "Chapter Only" member the word CHAPTER will appear with the expiration date. Please renew your Chapter membership by filling out the application form below. Thank you for helping us save on the cost of renewal reminders.  
If you are a member of National Audubon which automatically makes you a member of our local Chapter, NATL will appear with the expiration date. You will receive renewal notices from National or you may renew by using the form below.  
If you are receiving a complimentary newsletter, COMP will appear with an expiration date. Please consider joining our Chapter or National (Dual) by using the application below.

**Our Mission:**

Winnebago Audubon encourages people to enjoy and protect birds, other wildlife, and their habitats through recreation, education, conservation, and restoration of the natural environment.

**AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Please choose one:

- \$20.00 — Local Winnebago Audubon Chapter ONLY Membership.** You receive the Winnebago Audubon Chapter newsletter.
- \$35.00 — Dual Membership (Local Winnebago Audubon Chapter AND National Audubon Membership)** You receive Winnebago Audubon Chapter newsletter and National Audubon magazine.

Make check payable to Winnebago Audubon or online at winnebagoaudubon.org.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Code: **Z12**

Mail this form with payment to:  
Audubon Membership  
PO Box 184, Oshkosh, WI 54903

*Welcome  
to Winnebago Audubon*

You are invited to participate in activities of your local Winnebago Audubon chapter. It's a great way to meet like-minded people and to enjoy what nature has to offer. A special thank you to all those who are renewing again this year as well.

Vicki Farley  
Marissa Finkey  
Don Nussbaum  
Michael Norkofski  
Alex O'Brien  
Annette Schaberg  
Thomas & Susan Sullivan  
Mary Wussow

*Membership questions?*  
Please contact **Membership Chair** at  
winnebagoaudubon@gmail.com  
or 920-216-1172