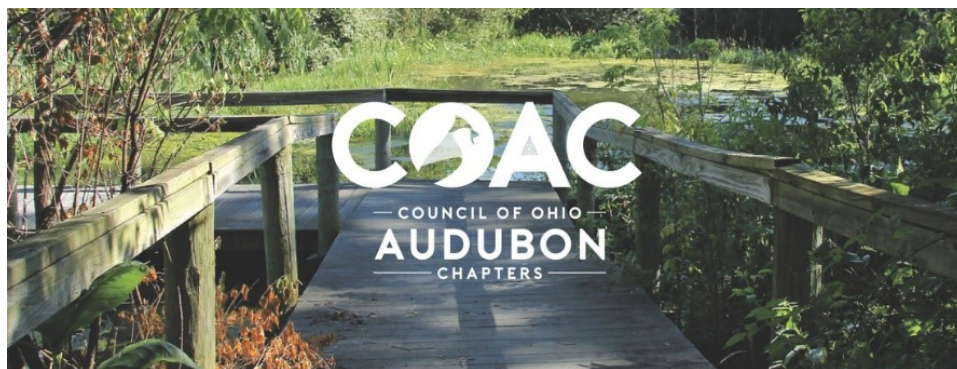




Upcoming Programs and Events



The **Fall Gathering** of the Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters (COAC) will now be held virtually **October 16, 2021**. Keynote Speaker **Kenn Kaufman** will present ***Everything is Connected***. Audubon Great Lakes staff will present advocacy opportunities and news from the region and other formats will encourage collaboration and networking among Ohio's chapters. All Ohio Audubon chapter members are encouraged to attend and registration is now free. Register at: <https://counciloac.org/gatherings/2021-fall-gathering-registration/>



Birdability Week: October 18 – 24, 2021 In promoting issues of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, National Audubon Society fully supports this weeklong celebration of birders with disabilities and other health concerns to; it's an opportunity to share resources and ideas to help the birding community be accessible, inclusive and welcoming to everybody and every body. Over a lifetime, one in four of us will have some kind of disability or mobility challenge so it's in all of our best interests to encourage accessible places and events. *Birdability* is a newer non-profit organization that works to ensure the birding community and the outdoors are welcoming, inclusive, safe and accessible for everyone. One component of the entity is a [Birdability Map](#), a crowd-sourced collaborative effort with National Audubon, that offers accessible birding locations and details of their features so that everyone may share in the joys of birding. Find out more at [Birdability](#).

Bird Walk at Cascade Valley Metro Park October 23

There will be a bird walk at Cascade Valley Metro Park in the Valley View Area on Saturday October, 23 at 8:00 AM. The Valley View area is the newest area in Summit Metro Parks system. The bird walk is open to all and usually lasts about two hours, but you are free to leave at any time. We will meet in the main parking lot at [1212 Cuyahoga St., Akron, OH 44313](#).

GAAS October Program Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Shady Hollow Lodge in Sand Run Metro Park 1750 Sand Run Parkway, Akron, OH 44313

(Note location and see note below)



Connecting People with Nature

Nathan Eppink, Director of Medina County Park District (MCPD), will present a history and overview of Medina County's Parks. The Park District currently manages 7,500 acres and diligently strives to preserve land in Medina County. Currently, there are over 18 open park sites/nature preserves and nearly 50 trails throughout the County. (Because this is an indoor event, we ***respectfully request that all attendees wear face masks.***)

Summit Metro Parks has informed us that a GPS does not work for Sand Run Parkway. Because of changing road conditions, it is best to approach Shady Hollow Lodge from the intersection of Sand Run Parkway and Portage Path.

The Wild Bird Seed Sale (our only fundraiser) will be held **November 6, 2021** with generous cooperation from Copley Feed and Supply, 1468 S. Cleveland-Massillon Rd. and Boy Scout Troop #382. Order form postcards were mailed to Audubon members of record and will be available at the October meeting. Order forms are also on our website at <https://www.akronaudubon.org/bird-seed-sale.html>. The deadline for return of the order form is October 29. Pick-up will be held from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. *Please consider purchasing seed (Black Oil Sunflower preferred) as a donation to the University of Akron's Field Station's feeders (at Bath Nature Preserve) if you don't or can't feed birds at your place of residence.* As GAAS partners with the UA Field Station, your designated donations will stretch their limited funds that would otherwise be used for educational outreach efforts.

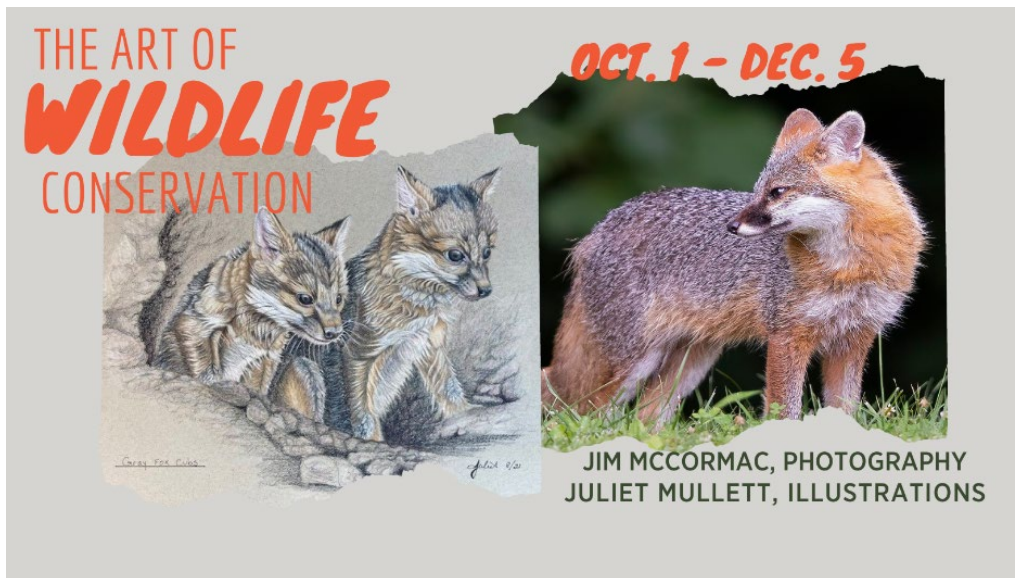
In Other News



MESSAGE FROM DOUG

Homegrown National Park issued a newsletter in late September: [Homegrown National Park Newsletter \(mailchi.mp\)](#). In it, Doug Tallamy's lengthy message is entitled, *Helping Nature Take Its Course* and it's worth a read. For example, buried in the text, you'll find: "Every time you choose to plant a non-native species over a native plant, you are deciding whether the chickadee in your yard can feed its babies or watch them starve to death because there aren't enough caterpillars? Every person who installs or continues to maintain acres of lawn is inadvertently deciding whether hundreds of species of native plants and the thousands of animal species those plants support will live in that space or whether they will be replaced by one species of European grass. Every person who hires Mosquito Joe to fog his or her property is condemning not just mosquitoes, but all of the butterflies and bees on their property to death as well." Besides Doug's message, there are several other items in the newsletter that may be of interest.

The Art of Wildlife Conservation: Gallery Exhibition at Grange Insurance Audubon Center: October 1 -- December 5, 2021



This **Art at Audubon** exhibition features the work of photographer Jim McCormac and wildlife illustrator Juliet Mullett. The exhibit, a year in the making, includes 50 pieces depicting Ohio's wildlife and features Mullett's original watercolor artwork side by side with McCormac's photos. Twenty-five species of fauna are featured: amphibians, birds, crayfish, fish, insects, mammals, and reptiles. A brief text that explains the significance and conservation issues (pro or con), accompanies each species.

Grange Insurance Audubon Center is just south of downtown Columbus, Ohio, on the banks of the Scioto River at 505 W. Whittier Street, Columbus OH 43215. For hours and more information, see [Visit Our Center | Grange Insurance Audubon Center](#).

The 2021 Audubon Photography Awards: Top 10 Videos

This year National Audubon Society expanded their Photography Awards to include a video category. Of the hundreds of entries submitted, only 10 were chosen to share along with the top 100 photos. The videos range from 10 to 30 seconds and show unique bird behaviors and include the backstories behind each shot. [The 2021 Audubon Photography Awards: Top 10 Videos | Audubon](#)

Reduced human activity during COVID-19 alters avian land use across North America

Researchers from University of Manitoba and Cornell Lab of Ornithology examined over 4 million eBird observations in urban areas across Canada and the United States between March and May during the years 2017 through 2020 and found significantly more birds near centers of human activity during the pandemic lockdowns compared to pre-pandemic levels. Decreased traffic and human activity (and therefore less air pollution, noise and risk of collisions) during the lockdown period showed an increase in abundance of 66 out of 82 species studied, regardless of size of the bird (Bald Eagles and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds). And conversely, some species, such as Red-tailed Hawks decreased in abundance, showing that they actually benefit from human activity (more roadkill). Also lower in abundance were Barn Owls, Gray Catbirds and Palm Warblers. But House Sparrows and Rock Pigeons, both non-native species, apparently showed no effects from the lockdown. CBS News reported a general interpretation of the research ([Bald eagles and other birds' behavior may have changed due to COVID lockdowns, study finds - CBS News](#)) while the detailed scientific account was presented in Science Advances [Reduced human activity during COVID-19 alters avian land use across North America \(science.org\)](#).

In Search of a Facebook Page Administrator

If you'd care to assist our chapter by keeping our Facebook page current with a post or two each month and providing timely details on chapter programs and activities, please email info@akronaudubon.org with your contact info.

Please visit our website regularly: <https://www.akronaudubon.org> If you've missed or deleted these *For the Birds* emails, they are also posted in the **Archives** under the **News** tab on the Home Page.

Please direct questions or comments to info@akronaudubon.org

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