Vol. 7 #2
10-3-2026

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Greater Akron Audubon Society FOR THE BIRDS

Upcoming Programs and Events

Protecting Our Drinking Water

Speaker: Charles Lacy

Date: October 21, 2026 at 7 pm

Location:

Goodyear Heights Lodge - East Room

Goodyear Heights Metro Park

2077 Newton Street

Akron OH 44305

Topic:

Curious how the City of Akron protects its drinking water and manages the Upper Cuyahoga River watershed? This presentation offers a clear look at where Akron's water comes from, how it's monitored, and the many programs dedicated to keeping the watershed healthy. Learn about land management, water quality monitoring, and Akron's public outreach efforts, and discover how you can play a meaningful role in protecting the Cuyahoga River.

Biography:

Charles Lacy has 20 years of experience in watershed management, environmental monitoring and stewardship for the City of Akron Water Bureau and Water Reclamation Facility. He actively contributed to the development and evolution of the Watershed Control Program, including a monthly dynamic, watershed-approach based sampling program to identify nutrient loading and pollution. He regularly reviews, interprets, and communicates watershed data and results. He has worked with Ohio EPA and USEPA in the development of a Cyanotoxin Management Example Plan from his work at Lake Rockwell, which was used as ana example of best management strategies to help utilities manage HABs. Charles is currently the City of Akron Water Supply team laboratory leader.

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HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARK
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About This Webinar

This spring, we hosted The Extraordinary Caterpillar, a 60-minute documentary about the hidden world of caterpillars, and the response has been incredible. People around the country have hosted and scheduled over 400 local screenings, reaching more than 39,000 viewers and counting.

Now we're going further. One registration gives you two ways to take part.

Register Here & Get your Ticket:
https://secure.qgiv.com/for/homegrownnationalpark/event/panel-caterpillars-arent-just-for-the-birds/?utm_source=Start+a+new+HABITAT&utm_campaign=b0826d68c5-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_11_06_03_46_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-f7088a1207-1421567997&mc_cid=b0826d68c5&mc_eid=a4ecbd78b2

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HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARK

Break Up with Your Fall Mums
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Every fall, millions of mums show up on porches across the country. They look great for a few weeks, then get tossed and replaced next year, having done next to nothing for the wildlife around you.

There's a better way to get that same porch full of fall color: native asters.

Similar look, real payoff. Asters bring the same daisy-like, overflowing color you love about mums, but they come back every spring instead of landing in the compost bin. They're also one of our most high-impact native plants, feeding pollinators and other insects at a time of year when a lot of other blooms have already faded.

Read the Full Guide Here:

https://homegrownnationalpark.org/news/special-announcement/break-up-with-fall-mums/?utm_source=Start+a+new+HABITAT&utm_campaign=956e245705-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_11_06_03_46_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-f7088a1207-1421567997&mc_cid=956e245705&mc_eid=a4ecbd78b2

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Stan Hywet HALL & GARDENS

Greater Akron Audubon Society
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Bird Walks at Stan Hywett

In conjunction with Stan Hywet staff & The Greater Akron Audubon we will be hosting bird walks on the following dates at Stan Hywett:

Program Date(s) and Time(s):

Friday, October 9, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Friday, November 13, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Non-members $10, SH members are free!

Registration is limited to 15 and is required one week prior to each walk

Bring binoculars and a bird guide, if you have them.

Address: 714 North Portage Path, Akron Ohio 44303

Participants must register (and pay if not a member) on the Stan Hywet website. Like before, any person on the bird walk then has access to Stan Hywet for the rest of the day (they must get a wristband before leaving). Register here

https://stanhywet.ticketapp.org/portal/product/24/events

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Bird Nerds: American Crow
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OCTOBER 10 @ 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

FA Seiberling Naturealm Visitors Center

1828 Smith Rd.

Akron, OH 44313

Bird enthusiasts of all kinds are welcome to join us for a deep dive into one of Ohio's most recognizable species each month. You see them. You love them. But how well do you really know them? After our indoor presentation, those interested can join for a guided birding walk.

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Leaf It!

OCTOBER 10 @ 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Liberty Park Nature Center

9999 Liberty Rd.

Twinsburg, Oh 44087

Autumn means time for that tedious task of raking, bagging and disposing of leaves — or does it? Learn how leaving the leaves can benefit your yard and the environment, while making your life easier! After the presentation, we'll take a walk to see why the leaf layer is important to the forest.

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Birding by the Canal

October 11 @ 9:00 am – 11:00 am

Clinton Trailhead — Towpath Trail

2749 North St., Clinton, OH 44216

Join an SMP naturalist and Open Trail Collective as we enjoy fall birds and foliage along the accessible Towpath Trail. Binoculars will be available to borrow on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have any questions regarding this program, please call the Nature Realm Visitors Center at 330-865-8065 (Wednesday—Saturday 10 a.m.—5 p.m., Sunday 12–5 p.m.)

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Book Club: A Passion for the Land

OCTOBER 14 @ 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Summit Lake Nature Center

411 Ira Ave.

Akron, OH 44301
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Whether a first-time visitor or a longtime book club member, all adults are invited to share in a lively discussion about the inspiring book, “A Passion for the Land: John F. Seiberling and the Environmental Movement,” by Daniel Nelson. Don’t forget to bring your mug — we’ll supply the beverages.

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Protecting Our Drinking Water

October 21 @ 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Goodyear Heights Lodge East Room

2077 Newton St. Akron OH 44305

Join the Greater Akron Audubon Society and City of Akron's Charles Lacy to learn how the City of Akron manages the Upper Cuyahoga River watershed. We’ll discover where Akron’s water comes from, how it’s monitored and the many programs dedicated to keeping your drinking water clean and our watershed healthy.

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Hawks, Owls and Eagles…Oh My!

OCTOBER 25 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Liberty Park Nature Center

9999 Liberty Rd.

Twinsburg, OH 44087

Hawks and owls are fascinating birds of prey known for their sharp vision and hunting skills. Hawks are active during the day, using speed and agility, while owls are nocturnal hunters with silent flight. Both play important roles in ecosystems by controlling rodent populations and maintaining natural balance. Join a naturalist as we learn how to identify these amazing creatures from their flight patterns and other clues.

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Spree with Me: Owl Prowl

NOVEMBER 6 @ 8:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Silver Creek/Big Oak Area

5199 S. Medina Line Rd.

Norton, OH 44230

“Whooo” goes there? Hike the 2-mile Chippewa Trail at night to get a glimpse into the nocturnal world of owls.

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Bird Nerds: Wild Turkey

NOVEMBER 7 @ 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

FA Seiberling Naturealm/Visitors Center

1828 Smith Rd.

Akron, OH 44313

Bird enthusiasts of all kinds are welcome to join us for a deep dive into one of Ohio's most recognizable species each month. You see them. You love them. But how well do you really know them? After our indoor presentation, those interested can join for a guided birding walk.

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Bird Walk at the Beaver Marsh

Oct 10, 2026 @ 8:00 AM

Ira Trailhead:
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3801 Riverview Road

Peninsula, OH 44264

Join expert and novice birders to search for migrating birds at the Beaver Marsh. This 2-mile walk on the firm, flat Towpath trail is wheelchair accessible

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"My Big Year: Birding for a Cause" with Dr. Joe Blanda

Tuesday, October 6 @ 7-9 pm

Sandy Ridge Reservation

6195 Otten Rd.

North Ridgeville.

Dr. Blanda will present his exciting adventures from his 2016 birding journey that led to much more than a long list of birds

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Field Trip: Wyandot Wetlands with Paul Sherwood

Saturday, Oct 17 @ 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Wyandot MetroPark,

5401 Cleveland Rd W, Huron, OH 44839

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Bird Banding with Master Bander- Tom Bartlett

October 27-29

Black River Audubon will be spending two days on Kelly's Island to observe (and participate in) bird banding of both owls and songbirds.

October 27

Owl Banding- Sunset to -?

October 28

Songbird banding: 6:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Owl Banding: Sunset to -?

October 29

Songbird banding: 6:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Tom suggests staying two nights in case the weather is not good one night.

Due to the ferry schedule, you will have to stay on the island to participate in the owl banding.

You can come and go as you please during the banding hours.

Please let Gina know by Oct 15th how many will be in your party and which day(s) you plan to attend.
ginaswindell@roadrunner.com

Ferry Schedule

NO COST to attend the banding sessions. You'll make your own ferry & overnight arrangements. We'll have dinner as a group at a local eatery.

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News You Can Use
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DISCOVERwildlife

From the team at BBC Wildlife Magazine

Remote cameras capture woodcocks aggressively charging deer in West Virginia

American woodcocks will go to extreme measures to defend their nests, new research reveals.

The American woodcock, a ground-nesting bird that is typically shy and discreet, will aggressively charge at deer should they feel their eggs or chicks are threatened.

https://www.discoverwildlife.com/animal-facts/birds/woodcock-charge-deer

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DISCOVERwildlife

From the team at BBC Wildlife Magazine

Astounding footage shows peregrine falcon attacking foxes in Los Angeles

A wildlife photographer filmed the moment a peregrine falcon fiercely protects her chicks from red foxes.

A wildlife photographer managed to capture this dramatic encounter at a peregrine falcon nesting site in Los Angeles, where two young red foxes were attacked by the birds.
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https://www.discoverwildlife.com/animal-facts/birds/peregrine-falcon-attacks-fox

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Condé Nast Traveler

Birdwatching Is Only Getting More Popular—Here Are the 11 Best Places to Experience It

Spanning from the hills of Scotland to the jungles of Sri Lanka.

Once viewed as a hobby reserved solely for the post-retirement generation, birdwatching or birding has had a serious shake-up. Today, hip villas, creatively designed hotels, and sumptuous bedrooms mark the starting point for a new breed of birdwatching trips popping up across the globe. What's more, many of these homes away from home allow endemic and colorful birds to be spotted directly from the grounds, ensuring a relaxing, nature-filled trip that rewards the patient traveler.

Whether you're a bird-watching obsessive completing a checklist, a nature-loving globe-trotter, or simply want to delight in the joy that spotting birds brings, these destinations are a perfect place to land. From Sri Lanka's vibrant endemic species to the migratory birds of Malaysia and Kenya, here's where to go for a brilliant birdwatching trip to remember.

https://www.cntraveler.com/story/birdwatching-is-only-getting-more-popular-here-are-the-best-places-to-experience-it

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Applause

Friends of the Crooked River and the Poiesis Quartet

Season 28 Episode 31 | 26m 46s

Video has Closed Captions|CC

A love for the Cuyahoga River keeps Elaine and Harold Marsh paddling together, and the Poiesis Quartet makes a triumphant return to its alma mater, Oberlin College.

It took the work of many people more than 50 years to clean up the river, though one couple has been a constant drumbeat for safe water quality.

Now in their 80s, they're still out paddling and lobbying for the beautiful Cuyahoga River. We are in the upper watershed of the Cuyahoga River upstream of Eldon Russell Park. And just look at this glorious place.

https://video.ideastream.org/video/friends-of-the-crooked-river-and-the-poiesis-quartet-2hcmkk/?utm_source=Ideastream+Public+Media&utm_campaign=6f2ea1021f-TODO_2026_01_08_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_398dc8223d-6f2ea1021f-284669861&mc_cid=6f2ea1021f&mc_eid=beda2071e4

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We asked a first grader to interview his hero: A bird scientist

PHILADELPHIA — Seven-year-old Khalib Townsend hikes in the rain along the Audubon Discovery Center's nature trail. He's all suited up in a bright blue waterproof jacket, holding in his small hands a pair of binoculars that hang around his neck.

Because today, he's going on a bird walk.

"I just really got interested in birds because I thought they were really cool and I wanted to study all types of animals," Khalib says with a big smile with his front teeth missing.
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https://www.npr.org/2026/08/02/nx-s1-5758054/we-asked-a-first-grader-to-interview-his-hero-a-bird-scientist?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social&unified=true&utm_term=nprnews&utm_campaign=npr&renderPlatform=nprone_ios

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MARKETPLACE®
Every story is an economic story

An Alabama cattle farm with a bird-tourism side hustle

Christopher Joe runs birdwatching tours on his father's Black Angus cattle farm in Alabama.

Christopher Joe, who works as a district conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, has found a way to tap into the bird tourism market on his father's multigenerational cattle farm in Newbern, Alabama.

https://www.marketplace.org/story/2026/08/21/an-alabama-cattle-farm-with-a-birdtourism-side-hustle

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npr

A fossil feather from the age of dinosaurs may explain why only some birds survived

Paleontology can be quite physical.

In 2016, David DeMar was doing field work in the rocky badlands of Montana in what's known as the Hell Creek Formation.

"We all get down on our hands and knees," he recalls. "And I start crawling up the hill and I noticed this little dark, round object on the ground. It was kind of odd."

https://www.npr.org/2026/09/10/nx-s1-5963519/best-fossilized-bird-feather-dinosaur-feces-extinction

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Leave the Leaves: Why Less Cleanup Means More Life

What the heck do I do with all these leaves? (The questions everyone asks)

Maybe you've heard that leaving your leaves is better for nature, but you're not sure why or where to start. You're not alone. Most of us grew up believing that a tidy yard meant a clean sweep each fall. The truth is, there's a better way to care for both your yard and the life that depends on it.

By the time leaves start to blanket the ground, many of us instinctively reach for the rake or blower. But those leaves aren't just debris. They're part of the foundation of life in your yard. Beneath every layer, countless creatures are tucked away for the winter.

https://homegrownnationalpark.org/news/stories/leave-the-leaves-why-less-cleanup-means-more-life/

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Spread the word.

If you know someone that may be interested in this Newsletter, please forward this email on to them.

As always, 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. For more northeast Ohio bird-related programs, events (including some bird walks), please visit the ***Northeast Ohio Regional Bird Calendar***, hosted by Kirtland Bird Club of Northeast Ohio: CALENDAR (kirtlandbirdclub.org)

Note: A chronologic listing of past GAAS program pages with speaker bios and topics can be found by going to the GAAS website *Meeting Archives* page: Meeting Archives - Greater Akron Audubon Society If a virtual meeting was recorded and is available for watching, there will be a <*recording*> button that can be selected to link to the recording on YouTube.

Please direct questions or comments to info@akronaudubon.org

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Greater Akron Audubon Society

P.O. Box 19190, Akron OH 44319
United States of America

info@akronaudubon.org

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