



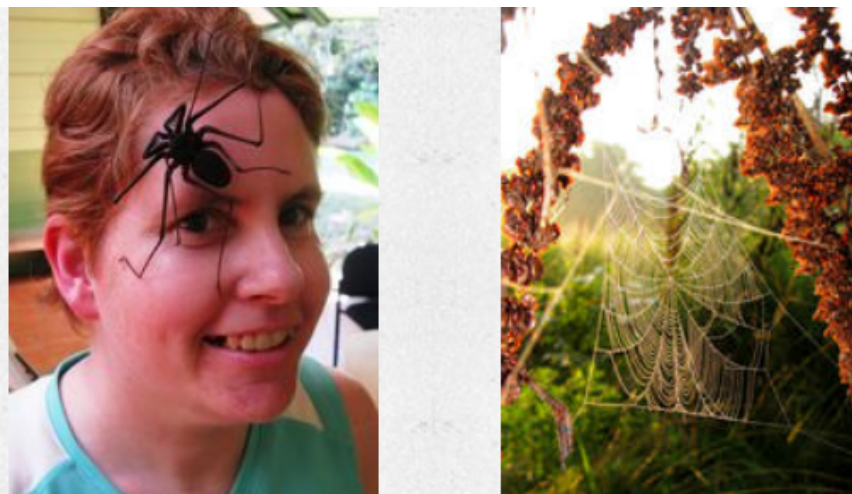
Upcoming Programs and Events

GAAS November Program (Virtual)

Spidering: It Is Just Like Birding

Dr. Sarah Rose

Tuesday, November 28, 2023 7:00 p.m.



Photos courtesy of Sarah Rose

Whether you love spiders, or hate them, they are important members of the ecosystem and vital to many bird species. Join us for a talk by Sarah J Rose,

PhD, as she highlights how similar birds and spiders are and discusses some of the specific roles spiders play in our ecosystems.

Please register in advance for this Zoom meeting at [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Note: The monthly programs offered by Greater Akron Audubon Society are free and open to the public. We welcome all who are interested to join us on the fourth Tuesday of each month – except for December, when the Christmas Bird Count will be held on Sunday, December 17th. Programs during the months of November, January and February will be held virtually on Zoom.

OSU Extension: Ohio Woodland Stewards Program
Friday's Escape to the Forest Webinar
How Does Ohio Get So Many Non-native Insects?
Sam Ward, Ph.D.
Friday, December 1, 2023 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



CFAES OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Ohio Woodland Stewards Program

Friday's
ESCAPE TO THE FOREST

Take a break to relax and visit the woods with us...

On Friday's, we will host webinars about Ohio's woodlands, wildlife, invasive species, management recommendations and more!

Woodlandstewards.osu.edu/resources

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

How Does Ohio Get So Many Non-native Insects?

Friday, December 1, 2023
10 am - Noon

Globalization has facilitated the unintentional and international movement of insects. Many of these invading species have been forest insects, due to the exchange of live plants and widespread use of wood packaging materials in global trade. Join OSU's Sam Ward, Assistant Professor of Forest Entomology to learn about the patterns and processes that have shaped forest insect invasions in the United States.

Register online at
<http://go.osu.edu/forestpests>

This last webinar of 2023 in the *Escape to the Forest* series will feature Sam Ward, OSU's Assistant Professor of Forest Entomology, to explore why we have so many insect invaders. Globalization has facilitated the unintentional and international movement of insects. Many of these invading species have been forest insects, due to the exchange of live plants and widespread use

of wood packaging materials in global trade. This talk will cover the patterns and processes that have shaped forest insect invasions in the United States, emphasizing the state of Ohio. Register in advance for this webinar:

[Webinar: How Does Ohio Get So Many Non-Native Insects? | Ohio Woodland Stewards Program \(osu.edu\)](#)

Professional Development Opportunity:

Teacher Open House at the CVEEC

Friday, December 8, 2023 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Or

Saturday, December 9, 2023 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



The Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center (CVEEC) is hosting two teacher open houses in December. Join Conservancy for CVNP and National Park Service staff to learn about upcoming teacher professional development opportunities and CVEEC's program offerings! This is a special chance to access the CVEEC, which is usually closed to the public. The Saturday session will include family-friendly activities for those needing to bring their children. The first 50 registrations receive a free swag bag full of Cuyahoga Valley National Park items! Free tickets are going fast; register on Eventbrite: [Teacher Open House and Professional Development Kickoff at CVEEC Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)

For more information about the CVEEC and its current programs, teacher development and resources, or to subscribe to their Educator Newsletter, visit their Environmental Education Webpage at [Environmental Education – Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park \(conservancyforcvnp.org\)](#).

**Brandywine Golf Course Masterplan
Framework Community Review Meeting
Sunday, December 10, 2023 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Happy Days Lodge
500 West Streetsboro Street
Peninsula, OH 44264**



The Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park Public will present a review of the proposed framework for the former Brandywine Golf Course site. Doors will open at 4:00 p.m. and the presentation will begin at 5:00 p.m. All attending are asked to RSVP: [Public Presentation on Proposed Framework for Former Brandywine Golf Course – Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park \(conservancyforcvnp.org\)](#).

Bird Walks

**Cuyahoga Valley National Park
Saturday Adventure: Bird Watching for Beginners
Saturday, December 9, 2023 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Boston Mill Visitor Center
6947 Riverview Road, Peninsula 44264**



Saturday Adventures – a time to get outside! Stretch your legs and mind through experiencing something new in your park. Curious about bird watching? Come along on a leisurely walk to search for birds. Learn how to use binoculars, field guides and bird apps. Binoculars provided or bring your own.



Summit Metro Parks

Winter Bird Walk

Sunday, December 10, 2023 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Liberty Park/Tinkers Creek State Nature Preserve

1230 Old Mill Rd., Aurora, OH 44202



Join a naturalist to learn which birds spend winter in Ohio and what northern species from Canada consider us a tropical winter paradise! Search the pines for Red-breasted Nuthatches, Golden-crowned Kinglets and more. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather. Parking is limited, so please carpool, if possible.

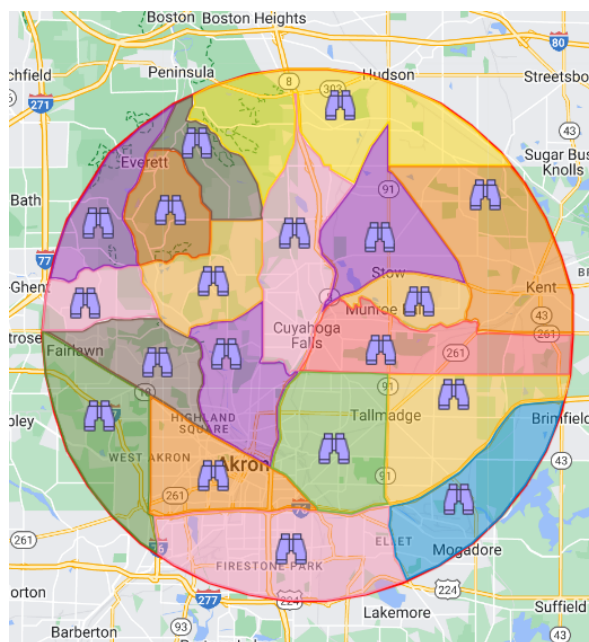


News You Can Use

Greater Akron Audubon Society

Christmas Bird Count

Sunday, December 17, 2023



OHCFCircle ID: 56496

Thank you to those who have responded to the request for CBC assignments in the last few weeks. Someone should be in touch with you shortly if you haven't been contacted yet. Currently, there are two **critical areas that do not have a leader or anyone counting in them**; they are **Areas #14 and #17**. Area #12 has counters but no leader to tally multiple checklists before they are submitted to the circle's compiler, Dan Toth. See these areas, shown in red, yellow and gray overlay near the midsection of the circle on the interactive Google map shown on the GAAS website: [CBC-Territories - Greater Akron Audubon Society](#). By clicking on the binoculars, you'll find the area number and will be able to zoom in to identify local detail. If you and/or a group of birding friends would like to claim these areas, please contact Dan Toth at dtoth@summitmetroparks.org or call or text his cell phone at [330-703-2117](tel:330-703-2117); he's available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Feel free to continue to email info@akronaudubon.org with questions or comments about the count.

In addition to the field counters, anyone who lives within the boundary of the circle is encouraged to submit a **feeder count from their home anytime during count day**. Please see details about counting birds at home here: [cbc-feedercoverletter2023.pdf \(akronaudubon.org\)](#) and the official checklist here: [2023 Feeder Checklist \(akronaudubon.org\)](#). Last year, only a handful of feeder checklists were submitted; your participation is strongly encouraged if you live within the circle's area.

There are many areas that could also use more birders to help count, so if you're interested in helping out, please continue to drop a line to info@akronaudubon.org and indicate your level of birding ability, phone number, area you'd prefer to be assigned to, how you best bird (i.e., by foot or car), and how you feel most comfortable birding (with a

small group or alone). Last year, 79 species were reported. How many will be counted in 2023?

**Another Certified Bird-friendly Product: American Bison
Audubon Conservation Ranching (ACR) Initiative
Benefits Birds and Biodiversity**



The National Audubon Society has partnered with Montana Audubon and other western states to collaborate in a program that manages grasslands for both birds, beef and bison, and biodiversity. The Audubon Conservation Ranching (ACR) program connects ranchers with consumers of beef and bison products and “encourages ranchers to pay attention to birds as an indication of ecosystem health.” Over 100 ranches encompassing over 3 million acres throughout the western U.S. are now participating in the sustainable ecosystem effort that creates better habitat for grassland birds. This August, North Bridger Bison became the first bird-friendly bison ranch in Montana to earn the Audubon Certified bird-friendly designation. With this seal, consumers are assured that the products come from bison grazed on land that is managed for biodiversity and regenerative practices.

This 5–minute YouTube video showcases North Bridger Bison ranch: [Bird Friendly Ranching at North Bridger Bison - YouTube](#) Find a local retailer that sells the certified products here: [Where To Buy Conservation Ranching Products | Audubon](#) Find more information on the ways that bringing back the American bison benefits birds and people, see this Audubon article [Five Ways Bison Benefit Birds | Audubon](#),

Enjoy a Virtual Visit to Cornell Lab’s Wall of Birds!



The *Wall of Birds Project* is a one-of-a-kind celebration of birds featuring 270 species representing all the living bird families and a ghostly parade of their extinct ancestors. Artist Jane Kim and her colleagues from Ink Dwell studio brought this mural to life on the largest wall in the Cornell Lab's Visitor Center—painting each bird life-sized and in colorful detail. To carry the mural's message beyond Cornell Lab Visitor Center, the Lab has an online interactive feature as part of Bird Academy. Explore the mural through high-resolution images, browse the basics of each of the bird families of the world, and learn more about some of the most impressive and outrageous birds on the planet. This interactive virtual wall is easier to explore and much more eco-friendly than driving the six hours to see it in person. Experience it here: [Wall of Birds \(allaboutbirds.org\)](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/wall-of-birds).



Dr. Joe Blanda featured on Mindful Birding Podcast

The Mindful Birding Podcast

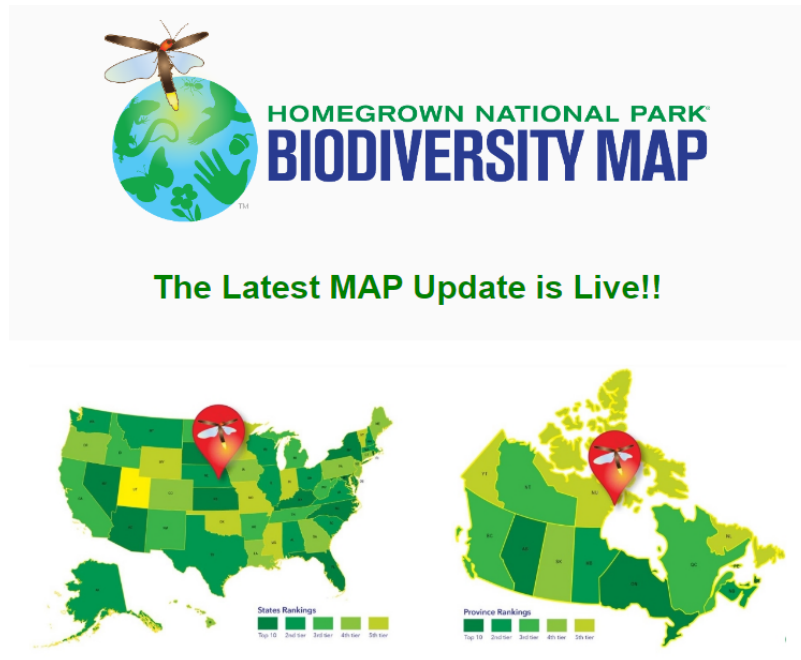
Episode 9: Prescriptive Nature

OCTOBER 30, 2023 THE MINDFUL BIRDING NETWORK WITH HOLLY MERKER & HOLLY THOMAS



This October 30th episode explores the concept of *Prescriptive Nature* and plans for the Cuyahoga Valley National Park and surrounding metro parks to get more involved in slow birding and awareness of nature. Using nature as an integrative approach to healing, along with nutrition and exercise, underserved or compromised patient populations are given a health and wellness program directory that is geared toward mindfulness in nature. If you missed the October GAAS meeting that featured Dr. Joe [Blanda], listen in on the first 13 minutes of this podcast to hear him explain the concept and how we can all help spread the word on how mindful birding and nature experiences can be our best prescription for better mental and physical health outcomes [Episode 9: Prescriptive Nature \(buzzsprout.com\)](https://www.buzzsprout.com/episode-9-prescriptive-nature).

Homegrown National Park Launches New Interactive Biodiversity Map



HNP recently launched a total revamp of its biodiversity map that now includes the United States and Canadian Provinces. The re-envisioned map features many new features. Among them:

Global User Interface - Transformative enhancements to the MAP's appearance and functionality.

All the action is on one MAP! - View color coded State/Province Rankings by selecting a given region and zoom in or search to view MAP markers.

Streamlined Account Creation - It's never been easier to get on the MAP, tell your friends, family, and coworkers!

Improved Account Management - It's never been easier to add new plantings and locations or edit existing ones.

Personalized Planting Site Names - Make your marker stand out!

Have a look, explore and sign in to share any new plantings on this major upgraded map: [Homegrown National Park](#)

USDA Issues Revised Plant Hardiness Zone Map



USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

EcoWatch, a provider of science-based content on environmental issues, causes, and solutions, has provided its digital subscribers with the news that a new Hardiness Zone Map has been issued for 2023. Christopher Daly, lead author of the map, from Oregon State University, indicated that the Central Plains and Midwest have warmed the most, and generally, the contiguous United States has warmed about 2.5 degrees F since 2012, when the previous map was issued. The bottom line? You don't need to start changing which plants you're growing; thriving plants will likely continue to grow successfully. Read more about the new maps and link to an interactive map that now shows Ohio in Zones 6a and 6b: [USDA Updates Plant Hardiness Map With Many Areas Moving Into Warmer Zones - EcoWatch](#)



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

Follow us on Instagram: @akronaudubon

Find us on Facebook: @greaterakronaudubon

Greater Akron Audubon Society

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