

Upcoming Programs and Events



GAAS April Program (Live)

**Aaron Brown, State Wildlife Officer, District 3, Wayne County
Waterfowl ID and Law Enforcement of Waterfowl and Migratory Bird
Regulations**

Tuesday, April 26, 2022 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)

Ducks and waterfowl are on the move. We welcome ODNR District 3 Officer Brown as he presents some confidence-boosting waterfowl identification tips, from up close to distant and at a range of angles. Officer Brown's duties as a Wildlife Officer include law enforcement, wildlife conservation and public outreach. Wildlife law enforcement uniquely blends criminal justice and law enforcement duties with wildlife conservation and education.

Protecting Ohio's wildlife resources and ensuring fair and equitable use while protecting state property and enforcing statutes and regulations require a range of skills and knowledge. Most often, the public's only contact with the Division of Wildlife is with a wildlife officer, so acceptance of conservation programs and regulations can often be enhanced by an officer's actions. Officer Brown will touch on the duties of enforcing waterfowl and other migratory bird regulations.

Please Note: Do not rely on your GPS to direct you to this location. Shady Hollow Lodge is most reliably approached from the east via the intersection of N. Portage Path and Sand Run Parkway.

Warbler Warm-up (live program)
Sunday, May 1, 2022 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Liberty Park Nature Center
9999 Liberty Rd., Twinsburg, OH 44087

Birders of all experience levels can prepare for *warbler season* as a naturalist reviews the basics of warbler identification, songs and other tidbits.

Bird Walks



Thursday, April 28, 2022 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park
5779 Riverview Rd., Peninsula, OH 44264

Join a Summit Metro Parks naturalist on a Birds & Blooms hike at this designated Important Bird Area (IBA) in search of songbirds and wildflowers. Binoculars and field guides are recommended.

Friday, April 29, 2022 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Bath Nature Preserve

4160 Ira Rd., Akron, OH 44333

Summit Metro Parks teams up with the University of Akron Field Station to explore the trails and diverse habitats of this preserve. New birders are welcome and if you haven't been to this location, it's an excellent way to become familiar with the area. Bobolinks and Eastern Meadowlarks have been regular summer visitors in the past. With the help of eBird and many birders, this *hotspot* now boasts 199 observed species of birds and the list keeps growing each season. Please bring binoculars.

Note: If you're in search of guided bird walks (and other bird-related programs not shown here) to our north, please check out the Northeast Ohio Regional Bird Calendar hosted by the Kirtland Bird Club of Northeast Ohio here: [CALENDAR \(kirtlandbirdclub.org\)](https://www.kirtlandbirdclub.org).

Looking ahead, Greater Akron Audubon Society will be joining Summit Metro Parks on a bird walk on Friday, May 13, 2022 at Valley View area of Cascade Metro Park. Details will be in the next issue of *For the Birds*. Please plan to attend if you can.

Traveling Exhibit:

Wings and Voices over the Cuyahoga: How Birds Connect

Open Thursdays through Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Beginning Saturday, April 30, 2022 and Continuing through Sunday, July 31, 2022

Trail Mix Boston (near the Boston Mill Visitor Center)

Park nearby at Boston Trailhead, 1508 Boston Mills Rd., Peninsula, OH 44264

Accessible parking only at 1565 Boston Mills Rd., Peninsula, OH 44264

This traveling exhibit, presented by Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners and the National Park Service, is a must-see for birders and nature lovers. The exhibit, curated by Mary Grodek, Arrye Rosser, and Joe Valencic, features the photography of local photographer Jim Roetzel and "explores the relationships between people and nature." The project has generous support from the Akron Community Foundation, Ohio Arts Council, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, and more than 20 community partners. After opening to the public in July 2021 at the Twinsburg Library, the collection of images has already made three more stops and will continue on this fall to Summit Metro Parks locations as well as

at the Summit County Courthouse, Cleveland-Hopkins International Airport, and Cuyahoga Community College. The intro to the show reads as follows:

Wherever you go, birds are all around. Sometimes they are fleeting flashes of bright color. Other times they capture our attention, dazzling us with their singing, their variety, and their feats of endurance. As neighbors who share our spaces, they can be charming—or annoying. Artists are attracted to their beauty. For park scientists, studying birds is a way to measure the health of our environment. What comes to your mind when you think about birds?

Cuyahoga Valley National Park recently shared a short online slideshow of images taken by Jim Roetzel that explores the conservation successes and emerging challenges in the park. To view it and for more information about the exhibit and photographer, see [Wings and Voices over the Cuyahoga - Cuyahoga Valley National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#)

Other News You Can Use



North American birds are in decline. Here are 8 simple ways you can help

A recent NPR segment featured a podcast and accompanying text just in time for spring migration, but these tips are relevant throughout the year and reference resources from National Audubon Society, American Bird Conservancy, Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Smithsonian National Zoo. Feel free to share your concern and these simple actions to improve our shared environment in the *Mississippi Flyway North*. Listen to this 19-minute podcast or read the various ways we can help:

[How you can help North American birds during migration : Life Kit : NPR](#)

Spotted Lanternfly Update



Egg masses of Spotted Lanternfly (SLF), *Lycorma delicatula*, on Tree of Heaven, *Ailanthus altissima*, were discovered by an arborist during the week of February 14, 2022 in Amherst, Lorain County. Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive pest commonly found to infest Tree of Heaven. In addition, the insect's 2nd favorite host is grapes – which is bad news for vineyards in Ohio. As of April 18th, infestations have been found in Jefferson County, Cuyahoga County and Lorain County. All 3 of these infestations were found on Tree of Heaven that were growing along railroad tracks.



After hatching in late spring, the SLF goes through four nymph stages. During the first three they appear black with white spots, and in the last stage, which typically occurs during mid-summer, they are red with white dots and black stripes. These insects do not bite or pose a threat to people. They do consume large amounts of sap from the phloem tissue causing the plant to look like it is bleeding. If you suspect a spotted lanternfly

infestation, at any life stage, please take a picture or collect a sample and report the finding to the ODA Plant Pest Control using the form above, at plantpest@agri.ohio.gov, or 614-728-6400.



Ray Brown's *Talkin' Birds* is broadcast live from Marshfield, Massachusetts and is a live and interactive radio show about wild birds and the beauty of nature—attracting birds to your backyard, feeding them, and learning more about them. Ray features expert guests, news stories and updates from the world of birds and conservation, and contests for prizes like bird feeders and other bird-related items each week. His latest show featured Black Swamp Bird Observatory, hosts of the **Biggest Week in American Birding** festival, now celebrating their 30th year of bird conservation. The broadcast's mission is to encourage appreciation of our natural world and to promote the preservation and protection of our environment. Over the last 15 years, the show has broadcast more than 879 shows and more than 40,000 podcast listeners download *Talkin' Birds* each month. For more information about Ray and the show or to listen on livestream or listen to archived shows see [Ray Brown's Talkin' Birds \(talkinbirds.com\)](http://talkinbirds.com)

Hummingbird Migration is in Full Swing! Do you have your feeder out yet?

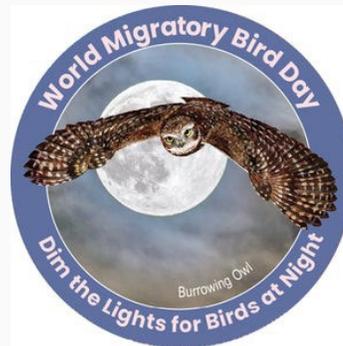
The Ruby-throated Hummingbird is making its way northward and you can track the northward progression and input on this interactive map: [2022 hummingbird spring migration map, 2022 hummingbird sightings, hummingbird tracker, migration patterns, migration times \(hummingbirdcentral.com\)](#) This species migrates by day to take advantage of the flowering nectar sources along their way. The first arrivals are usually the males and it is likely that they'll arrive at your feeders on or around the same day each year. Using

phenological relationships, their arrival in northeast Ohio typically coincides with the flowering of the Ohio Buckeye (*Aesculus glabra*). Look for them to arrive in the early evening during the latter part of this week. If you've had a feeder out in past years, they'll typically come looking for it where they were used to feeding. Keep the feeders clean and use the recommended mix of four parts water to one part sugar, i.e., 20% sugar. Warm water helps dissolve the sugar quicker and boiling the water can help remove any impurities and help dissolve the sugar.

World Migratory Bird Day is Saturday May 14th!



Environment
for the Americas



The organization behind World Migratory Bird Day is Environment for the Americas and this year's theme is **Dim the Lights for Birds at Night**. The group aims to connect diverse people to birds and nature with the intent of inspiring the next generation of conservationists to protect birds and their habitats. Their focus on migration highlights artificial light at night (ALAN) for not only birds but many other highly mobile animals that depend on darkness during their life cycle, including humans. And because light pollution has been found to be the greatest along migration routes around the world, the threat that light pollution brings is growing exponentially as urban areas in the Western hemisphere continue to grow, leaving the birds susceptible to exhaustion, predation and collisions (see Nature.com research article from March 2018): [Light pollution is greatest within migration passage areas for nocturnally-migrating birds around the world | Scientific Reports \(nature.com\)](#).

Lights Out programs and use of The Cornell Lab's **BirdCast** technology to predict the few nights each season, when migratory activity is likely to be highest, may play a key role in assisting the situation. Many birders are now using BirdCast to plan their most productive birding days and location. These real-time maps show intensities of actual nocturnal bird migration, as detected by the US weather surveillance radar network from local sunset to

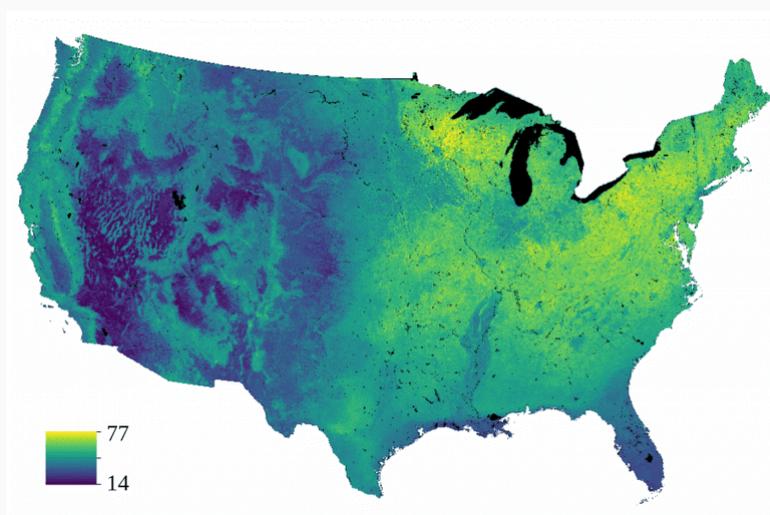
sunrise. And now Lights Out programs and building superintendents in many major U.S. cities are using the *alert* capability to have advance notice so that lights may be turned out for safer passage of the nocturnal migrants. Learn more about BirdCast and help spread the word about this new tool: [BirdCast - Bird migration forecasts in real-time](#). The Migration Dashboard is a live data feed that was just announced last week and it's amazing. Have a look: [Summit County, Ohio - BirdCast Migration Dashboard](#). Forecasting of spring migrants will end on June 15, 2022.



Bird Song Hero: The Song Learning Game for Everyone

This game isn't new, but it may be a good way for some to learn bird songs. Train your brain to recognize over 50 bird songs with the Bird Song Hero matching game. Listen closely to featured songs and match each with the correct spectrogram visualization. You'll be harnessing the power of the visual brain to help you identify the unique qualities of each song and commit sound patterns to memory. [Bird Song Hero: The Song Learning Game for Everyone | Bird Academy • The Cornell Lab \(allaboutbirds.org\)](#)

Maps of Bird Populations can Help Protect Biodiversity



Researchers mapped the number of bird species found across the contiguous U.S. Blue areas host fewer bird species than green or yellow areas do. Image by Kathleen Carroll and Anna Pidgeon

Conservation managers will soon have access to a new tool to help them focus their resources thanks to the efforts of researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

They've created detailed maps of bird biodiversity for the United States that will aid managers in managing areas that support endangered bird populations. Lead author Kathleen Carroll, a postdoctoral researcher in Wildlife Conservation at UW-Madison and her co-author, Anna Pidgeon, a professor of Forest and Wildlife Ecology at UW-Madison recognized a "disconnect between what scientists produce for conservation and how that translates to boots-on-the-ground management." They "clustered individual species by habitat, diet, behavior, or conservation status, grouping them in 'guilds' such as fruit eaters or forest dwellers. The final maps cover 19 different guilds at resolutions of 0.5, 2.5, and 5 kilometers. According to the researchers, the 2.5 km resolution maps provided the best balance of accuracy and usefulness for realistic conservation needs...The maps could also help private land conservancies decide where to prioritize their frequently limited resources to maximize biodiversity protection." Read the article written by staff writer Andrei Ionescu for Earth.com here: [Maps of bird populations can help protect biodiversity • Earth.com](#)

City Nature Challenge 2022: April 29 – May 2, 2022

Join the Cleveland-Akron-Canton-Toledo Team

If you're in Northeast Ohio and use iNaturalist, head outside to observe and record the living things in your backyard or nearby greenspace. Cities around the world compete to see who can document the most biodiversity in a single long weekend. The number of observations, the number of species identified and the number of people participating are shared and compared., You may be surprised by just how many species you can find! Join the Cleveland, Akron, Canton, and Toledo regions in celebrating and documenting the plants and animals that call our communities home. Observations recorded in the following counties will automatically be added to the project: Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga, Medina, Lorain, Portage, Summit, Stark, Carroll, Ashtabula, Tuscarawas, Erie, Huron, Ottawa, Sandusky, and Lucas. City Nature Challenge is organized by the California Academy of Sciences and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. For more information, see [City Nature Challenge 2022: Cleveland-Akron-Canton-Toledo · iNaturalist](#)



Featured Native Plant Vendor: Native Roots, Inc.

When the Countryside Farmer's Market at Howe Meadow opens on May 7th, Native Roots, Inc. will mark its eighth year as a vendor. The market (at 4040 Riverview Rd, Peninsula, Ohio 44264) will be open 9 a.m. until noon each Saturday until October 29th. Look for Native Roots at other upcoming programs and events that will be publicized in May and June. They aren't there *every* Saturday, so they advise checking their Facebook page for updates about their attendance: [\(4\) Native Roots Inc. | Facebook](#)

GAAS Volunteer Opportunity: Chapter Representative to COAC

Our chapter, along with nine others in the state (there are currently about 14 viable chapters on record), has participated in the restart of the Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters since June 2018. Meetings are typically an hour long and are held via Zoom/phone conference once a month on a Tuesday evening year-round. The Council seeks to support chapters through networking between the chapters, affiliates, individuals, and the National Audubon Society. Your chapter could use your help; we need someone who would be willing to represent Greater Akron Audubon Society and act as a liaison with our leadership. Any willing candidate could be gradually introduced to the meeting format and current representatives from other chapters for a few months prior to the start of the new fiscal year that begins July 1, 2022. If you'd like to help, please email info@akronaudubon.org.

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 and events, please visit the ***Northeast Ohio Bird Calendar***, hosted by Kirtland Bird Club: [CALENDAR \(kirtlandbirdclub.org\)](http://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 (<https://www.akronaudubon.org>) Under the **Participate** tab, find **Meetings** and click on **Meeting Archives** (<https://www.akronaudubon.org/meeting-archives.html>). If a 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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