



Upcoming Programs and Events



Western Reserve Land Conservancy

Virtual Program

Cultivating Backyard Habitat for Pollinators in Every Season

Dr. Desiree L. Narango

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Cultivating Backyard Habitat for Pollinators in Every Season

Virtual Symposium

Tuesday, April 16
6:30-8:00 PM ET



Our urban and suburban areas hold more than 50% of the greenspace in our country. Establishing biodiversity on privately managed/owned land is key to tapping conservation potential. Join WRLC for an evening with Dr. Desiree L.

Narango and learn how you can create your own conservation success stories by using native plants, shrubs, and trees to support not only a higher species diversity, but also a greater species abundance of birds, native bees, wasps, moths, caterpillars, flower bugs and beetles.

In case the name doesn't "ring a bell," Desiree completed her Ph.D. in 2018 and was advised by Doug Tallamy and Peter Marra. She was a David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellow in 2020 with Susannah Lerman at the USDA Forest Service and completed her MS at The Ohio State University. In keeping with the theme of Protect Birds, Protect Insects, GAAS brings you news that The Land Conservancy is pleased to collaborate with the Cleveland Pollinator & Native Plant Symposium and Nature Spark, to bring you this free virtual program. Register in advance: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Medina County Parks Event

28th Annual Earth Day Festival

Saturday, April 20, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Buffalo Creek Retreat

8708 Hubbard Valley Rd.

Seville, OH 44273 (Guilford Township)



Come celebrate Earth Day at Medina County Park District's Buffalo Creek Retreat with earth-friendly exhibits, family fishing derby, kids' activities, food, and much more! Additional parking for this event will be at Hubbard Valley Park with shuttle service provided to Buffalo Creek. All ages are welcome. Free admission. No registration is required. Greater Akron Audubon volunteers will be hosting a table display at this event; stop by and say "Hello."

Summit Metro Parks Program

Bird Nerds: Songs 'N' Calls

Saturday, April 20, 2024

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm

1828 Smith Rd., Akron, OH 44313



Newbies and experts alike are welcome to join in this lively series for a fun, approachable discussion on a new bird topic each month. This month's topic will get a little noisy as the focus will be on how birds talk to each other.

GAAS April Program
Special 90th Anniversary Celebration
Featuring Akron's Own Jen Brumfield
The Presence (and Presents) of Birds
Tuesday, April 23, 2024 7:00 p.m.
Goodyear Heights Lodge – East Room
Goodyear Heights Metro Park
2077 Newton Street
Akron OH 44305



“The Presence (and Presents) of Birds” is Jen’s whirlwind lifetime passion and career dedicated to birds, birding and conservation illustrated through photos, stories and life lessons.

In this program, JB reviews a lifetime of chasing wings and eagerly combines her passions for extreme birding, field studies, outdoor education and detailed scientific illustration into a truly “wild” career. Her illustrations have appeared widely in birding journals and magazines, and she has written and illustrated six field guides in The Fascinated Naturalist Guides series. Her over-the-top enthusiasm and passion for studying the natural world is rivaled only by her knack for portraying it through her artwork and interpreting it to others through natural history education programs as a Naturalist for 18 years with Cleveland Metroparks. Just this year JB said farewell to the education world in trade for the next step in her career - the Natural Resources department - working in the

field doing land management. Currently residing in Cleveland, Ohio she spreads the joy of urban and local patch birding, and runs thrilling boat trips on the open waters of Lake Erie seeking rarities left and right. A veteran of big days and big years, JB has participated in the World Series of Birding, the Great Texas Birding Classic, the Montezuma Muckrace, and four excruciatingly intense and record-setting big years in her home county. JB is a rarity-finding machine and is forever obsessed with gulls, jaegers and lake-watching.

Admiration and respect for birds runs deep through her blood. She is honored and humbled to take a stand for bird conservation and education with her every last breath.

Join us as JB returns to Greater Akron Audubon to help us celebrate the chapter's 90th Anniversary.

Bird Walks

Summit Metro Parks Program

Woodcock Walk

Thursday, April 11, 2024

7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Tallmadge Meadows Area

Munroe Falls Metro Park

1088 North Ave., Tallmadge, OH 44278



Join a naturalist at Summit Metro Parks on a short walk to discover the amazing life of a common, yet elusive bird, the American Woodcock! With any luck you'll experience the males' fantastical sky dance and listen to their strange noises.

91st Annual Spring Bird Walk Series
Begins the Weekend of April 13 – 14, 2024

This series of Spring Bird Walks hosted by birding groups to our north is one of the oldest community science partnerships between northeast Ohio park systems, Audubon chapters, and other organizations: Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland, Blackbrook Audubon Society, Black River Audubon Society, Cleveland Metroparks, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Gates Mills Birders, Geauga Park District, Hiram College, Holden Arboretum, Lake Metroparks, Lorain County Metro Parks, Medina County Park District, Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, and Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society. Beginners and experienced birders alike celebrate the arrival of migratory birds, some remaining to breed in the many habitats of northeast Ohio, while others using the habitats as a stopover as they travel north to breeding areas.

The walks are led by experienced birders and will be held on **Sundays, April 14, 21 and 28, and May 5, 12 and 19 at 7:30 a.m.** unless otherwise noted. Choose to do all 6 walks at one location or attend a different location each week. Please note that the bird walks at the River Styx location in Medina County take place on the Saturdays prior to each of the Sunday walks. [The locations of the walks are listed here.](#)

Summit Metro Parks Program

Wetland Walk

Sunday, April 14, 2024

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Pioneer Area

Goodyear Heights Metro Park

550 Frazier Ave., Akron, OH 44305



Spring is here and it is a perfect time for birds and amphibians! Join a naturalist for a walk and take a look at this beautiful wetland area as Mother Nature wakes up.

FYI:

Exclusive Bird Walk for Cleveland Aquarium Members!

Wednesday April 17, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



Even the Cleveland Aquarium is having bird walks! As an exclusive event for Aquarium Passholders, an Aquarium Educator will lead an Urban Bird Walk in an attempt to find as many birds as possible and contribute to [community] science as the birds are logged in real-time using the eBird app. Compare bird species in the industrial flats to lakefront property at Metroparks' Wendy Park. The Aquarium provides binoculars and a guide to common birds in the area. Please dress for the weather, this event takes place outside. Total hiking distance is 2.5 miles. Recommended for ages 8 and up. Members must be

logged into their account to secure their complimentary ticket:

secure.greaterclevelandaquarium.com/#!/Programs

Summit Metro Parks Program

After Work Bird Walk

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Tuscarawas Meadows Area

Firestone Metro Park

2620 Harrington Rd., Akron, OH 44319



Feeling like a caged bird after a day of work? Come stretch your wings with fellow birders for an afternoon stroll along the 1.6-mile Willow Trail.

Bath Township Event

Bird Walk

Saturday, April 20, 2024 8:00 a.m.

North Fork Preserve of Bath

4400 Everett Rd., Bath, OH 44333



The new North Fork Preserve of Bath is now officially designated a “Birding Hotspot” by eBird. Bath Parks volunteer John Landis has been performing the Greater Akron Audubon Society Summer Bird Census at the North Fork Preserve for the last four years, long before it was open to the public. Mr. Landis will lead a bird walk to identify some of unique characteristics of the habitat and look and listen for some unique forest birds, including year-round residents and birds that have returned for summer breeding.

The approximately 90-minute leisurely walk will cover one of the loops in the preserve and walk along the meadow. Sturdy hiking shoes are recommended. The event and any updates will also be posted on the [Visit Bath Parks](#) Facebook page (not available as of 4/2/2024). See [Bath Township Bird Walk](#).

Summit Metro Parks Program

Bird & Blooms Hike

Saturday, April 20, 2024

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park

5779 Riverview Rd., Peninsula, OH 44264



Join us on a hike through Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park, designated as an Important Bird Area, in search of songbirds and spring blooms. Binoculars and field guides are recommended.

**Summit Metro Parks Program
Early Spring Migrant Bird Walk**

Sunday, April 21, 2024

7:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Valley View Area

Cascade Valley Metro Park

1212 Cuyahoga St., Akron, OH 44313



Hike the river corridor in search of early migrating songbirds and discover why we should be listening to the “canaries in the coal mine.” Please bring binoculars and a bird guide.

News You Can Use

Record Your Observations of Wildlife

During the Eclipse

April 8, 2024

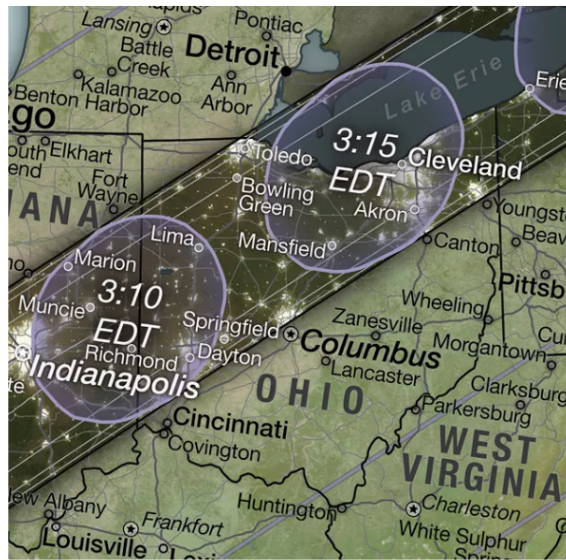


Past studies and observations have found that wildlife change their behavior during eclipses. As the moon blocks the sun, nighttime animals may start to stir and daytime animals quiet down or retreat. Some animals begin to sing their dawn or dusk choruses.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife has a community science research project that aims to record wildlife behaviors during the eclipse. If you plan to observe the eclipse in Ohio, consider keeping your eyes or ears out for changes in wildlife and report your observations to the [Ohio Wildlife Observations: Solar Eclipse 2024](#) project on iNaturalist.

**Cuyahoga Valley National Park to Temporarily
Close Parking Lots Ahead of Solar Eclipse**





An excerpt of a NASA map shows the path and timing of the eclipse over Ohio
NASA's Scientific Visualization Studio

In preparation for the solar eclipse, Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) will close the following parking lots at sunset (8:00pm) April 7 and re-open at sunrise (7:00am) April 8:

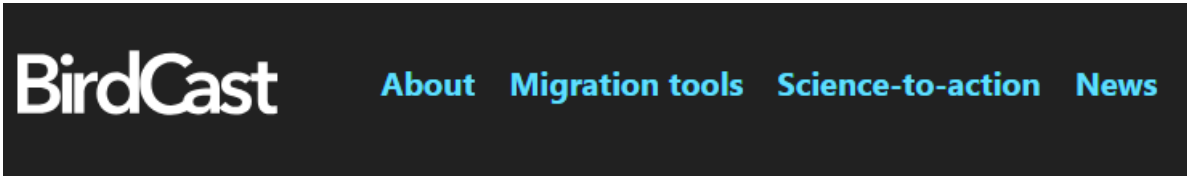
- Boston Mill Visitor Center
- Canal Exploration Center
- Crow Foot Gully
- Happy Days Lodge (south of Rt. 303)
- Hines Hill Center
- Ledges Shelter
- Little Meadow
- Octagon Shelter
- Pine Hollow
- Station Road Bridge Trailhead
- Kendall Lake

The following parking lots will close at 8:00pm April 7, remain closed for the day April 8, and will re-open at 8:00pm:

- Boston Trailhead
- Boston Store Limited Mobility Lot
- Brandywine Falls (parking lot only, Brandywine Falls accessible via Stanford Trail or Bike and Hike Trail)

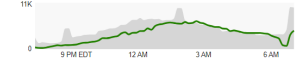
Read the release for the full announcement and continue to visit the [park's website](#) for updates.

Don't Forget to Use BirdCast Tools
During Spring Migration



Here's what happened last night...

Birds in flight



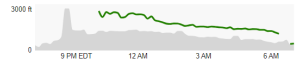
Birds usually begin to migrate 30 to 45 minutes after sunset, with the greatest number in flight two to three hours later.

Flight direction and speed



Birds tend to migrate northward in spring, but seasonal timing, weather, and geography alter their flight directions and speeds.

Altitude



Migrating birds regularly fly up to 10,000 feet above ground, although seasonal timing and weather conditions dramatically impact these distributions.

Note: Direction, speed, and altitude may be unreliable when the number of birds in flight is low. In such cases, chart data may include gaps.

And so far this season...

Birds in flight (nightly avg.)



During spring migration, most birds pass through the contiguous U.S. from mid-April to mid-May.

Total birds crossed

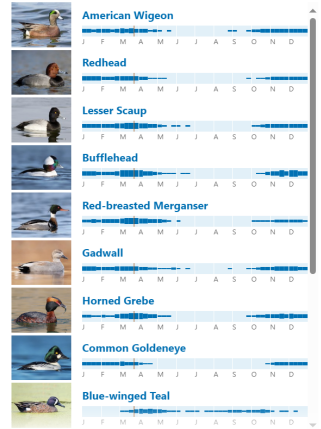


This is the estimated total number of birds that have fully crossed this region. The curve rises quickly during peak migration and levels off at the end of the season.

Expected nocturnal migrants

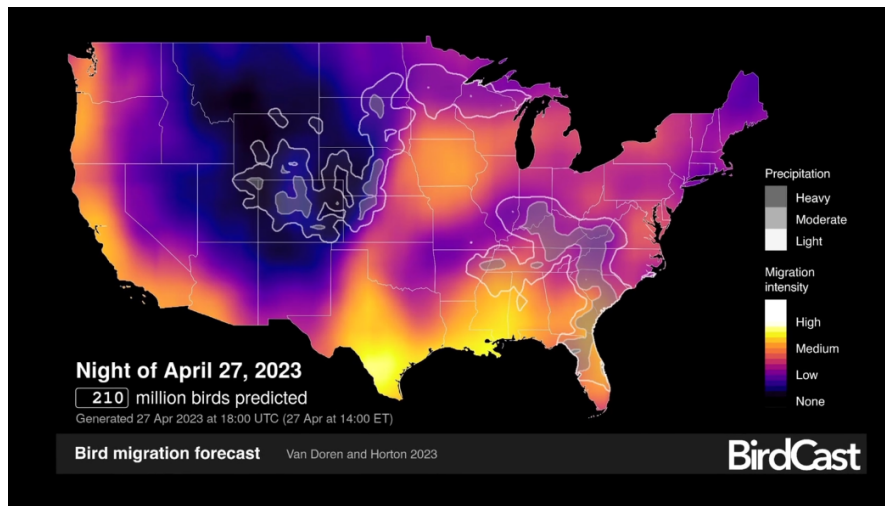
POWERED BY EBRO

Nocturnally migrating species most likely to arrive or depart this region at this time of year, based on frequency of observations.



BirdCast had its origins back in 1999 and is a collaborative project with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Colorado State University, and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. It consists of four major components: [bird migration forecast maps](#) by county; [live bird migration maps](#) in real time, by county; [local migration alerts](#) in the continental United States, by city; and a [migration dashboard](#) that provides info about the previous night's migration numbers, by county name. Brush up on what each of these tools does so that you can tell others about this powerful migration tool: [Migration tools - BirdCast](#)

Lights Out Texas
An Award-winning Film!



For years, Lights Out Texas has worked to persuade cities to dim nonessential lighting and save birds during peak migration. Explore the *Lights Out* movement in the Cornell Lab’s multi-award-winning film about this important work. Although the 35-minute-long film features Texas, the topic of migration can be translated to anywhere along the migratory flyways in the United States. A follow-up to the fall mortality event at McCormick Place in Chicago is also featured. [Lights Out Texas - Event Film Screener \(vimeo.com\)](#). Please share this film with anyone who may be interested.

About the film: “For millennia, Texas’ skies have cradled a remarkable spectacle – the migration of birds. Guided by the stars and the planet’s magnetic field among other cues, these fearless travelers embark on odysseys of epic proportions. Yet, against cities’ radiant nighttime backdrops, a poignant tale unfolds – the disorienting web of light pollution that distorts their cosmic guides. This film is a tale of redemption, where science and action harmonize in unity. Applied and research science join hands with conservation and education, pledging to safeguard these fragile wanderers. Data from the US weather surveillance radar network weave into a tapestry of understanding. Modern machine learning unfurls secrets, reshaping how we perceive the pulse of the planet’s spring and fall rhythms. Yet, the true lesson lies in the partnership among conservation groups, government and the private sectors. United in purpose, they craft a symphony of compassion – a simple yet profound dimming of lights. It is my hope that after watching this film, that with every light we dim, a beacon of hope is kindled.”

With special gratitude to the creatures gracing our skies,

- Daniel Sheire, Producer, Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Explore the Bird Migration Explorer
A Tool from National Audubon Society



The Bird Migration Explorer from National Audubon Society is your guide to the heroic annual journeys made by over 450 bird species, and the challenges they face along the way. Learn more about a species, the migratory birds at a specific location, or a conservation challenge birds face. Delve into the Explorer here: [About - Bird Migration Explorer | Bird Migration Explorer \(audubon.org\)](#).

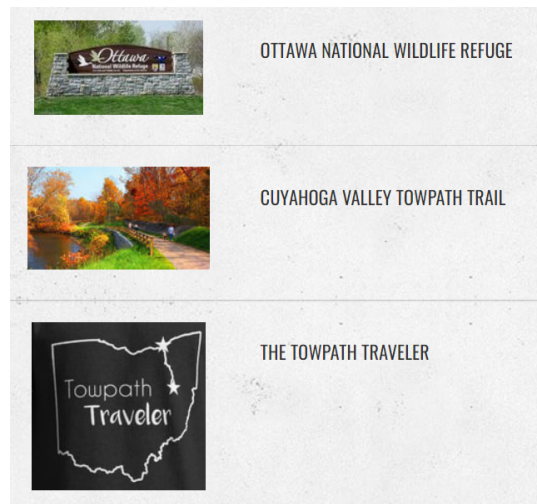
The Audubon scientists behind the Bird Migration Explorer teamed up with Audubon environmental educators to create “Bird Migration Explorer: Interactive Maps/STEM,” a new *Audubon Adventures* classroom kit. Available now and packed with age-appropriate content, this kit shows how to use the Bird Migration Explorer to learn about the migration journeys of North American birds. This classroom kit is available for teachers of grades 3 – 5 features a teacher’s guide and student activities and resources: [Audubon Adventures - The Bird Migration Explorer](#).

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**Did you Know?**

**Field Reports Available on GAAS Website!**

**(Talk about Dedicated Birders...)**



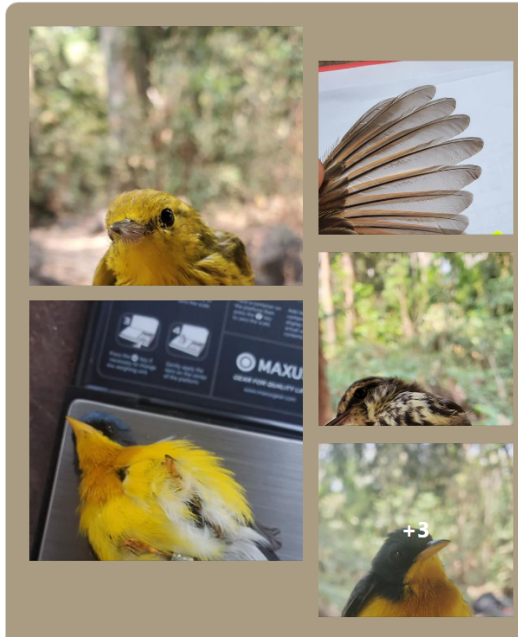
Doug Vogus and several volunteers from the Akron area and across the state have conducted monthly bird and other wildlife censuses at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge and on a stretch of the Cuyahoga Valley Towpath Trail between Red Lock Trailhead and Merriman Valley for many years. Doug sends these monthly reports to the Ohio Ornithological ListServe and to Greater Akron Audubon Society, where they are available: [Field Reports - Greater Akron Audubon Society](#). The Ottawa Census began in March 1969 by a group from Toledo and Akron Audubon member Ed Pierce continued the tradition with a group of dedicated volunteers from northeast Ohio in 1973. The walk is open to the public and is held the first Sunday of each month. Participants meet at the refuge at 7:30 a.m. and split into two groups that each follow different fixed routes through the front side of the Refuge. At noon, both groups convene, tally their results over lunch, and then merge for a driving census of the normally off-limits "back side" of the Refuge in the afternoon. The day usually ends at 4:30 p.m.; thus, it is an all-day affair, although some participants leave at noon and others stay for only several of the morning hours.

Doug also writes a lengthy monthly report called the ***Towpath Traveler*** that looks at the upcoming month and features historical data and a single bird species, as well as many trivial facts related to birding and history. Doug's latest issue of the Towpath Traveler (April 2024) is now out and available on the GAAS website and features the Great Egret and how the millinery industry almost brought several bird species to extinction ([towpathtraveler-april2024.pdf \(akronaudubon.org\)](#)). Doug's boundless energy and passion for birding have resulted in an impressive collective body of work. His ***Towpath Traveler*** series has been ongoing since 2010 and any birder, beginner to advanced, can learn a lot from perusing Doug's noteworthy efforts that are complete with a bibliography. If you happen to run into Doug during his marathon hikes on the Towpath, please offer him a word of "thanks" for his birding passion and dedicated efforts.

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## Gives a Shout Out to GAAS



Together with other Ohio Audubon chapters in Ohio, GAAS has contributed through the Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters (COAC) to an effort created by the Institute for Bird Populations. The MoSI (Monitoring Overwintering Survival) Program operates in Latin American countries and aims to monitor neotropical bird populations throughout their full annual lifecycle. For the third year, our support has gone to two research stations in Nicaragua (see [Institute for Bird Populations - Greater Akron Audubon Society](#)). In a recent post, the folks at Biometepe (the organization at Ometepe) gave a shout out to our chapter and we shared the post on our Facebook page:

Thanks to the effort of Biometepe and the valuable collaboration of donors such as: Greater Akron Audubon Society & #FaunayFlora we are performing the last MOSI pulse at the stations of the MADE and ISTI Reserve, making observations and studying of migratory birds that are currently preparing to [fly back to] the United States and Canada.

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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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recordingxtagendz

Greater Akron Audubon Society

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