



Upcoming Programs and Events

GAAS September Program

Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Shady Hollow Lodge in Sand Run Metro Park
1750 Sand Run Parkway, Akron, OH 44313
(Note new location and see note below)

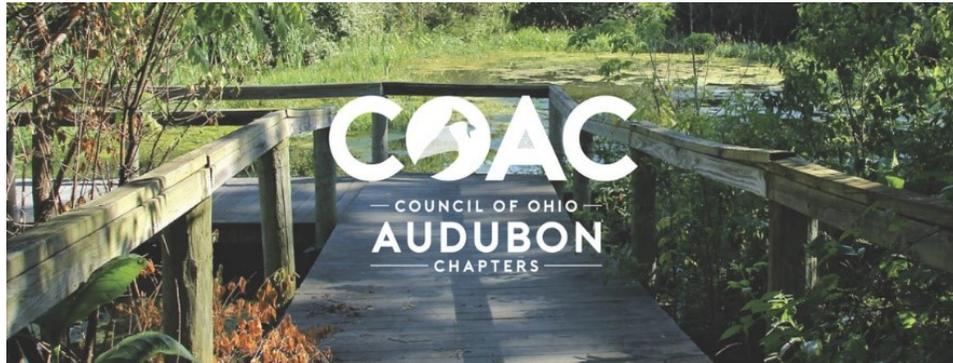
How Does a Fish Biologist Improve Fishing and Aquatic Resources?



We welcome **Curtis Wagner**, Fisheries Management Supervisor from Ohio Division of Wildlife's District 3, as he provides an overview of the Division of Wildlife's mission and funding mechanics and the organization of and activities that fisheries management staff engage in. He'll take attendees on a photo tour of fisheries management and aquatic conservation activities during a typical calendar year and he will bring some fish sampling gear for display.

(Because this is an indoor event, **we respectfully request that all attendees wear face masks.**)

Please Note: Because sections of Sand Run Parkway are now closed, you must approach Shady Hollow Lodge from the east via the N. Portage Path and Sand Run Parkway intersection. Shady Hollow Lodge is west of Mingo Lodge and will be a left turn, before the ford, up the driveway to the parking area.



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/>

Looking ahead to our **October 26th program meeting**, Nathan Eppink, Director of Medina County Park District will be speaking on Medina County's Parks. Eastern Medina County is part of our chapter's territory and offers many habitats in which to bird. Come to Shady Hollow Lodge to learn more about these lesser-known possible birding areas to our west.

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 will be available at the September meeting and should also arrive in member mailboxes around October 1, 2021. 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 partners with the UA Field Station, your designated donations will stretch their limited funds that would otherwise be used for educational outreach efforts.



National Audubon Society has compiled an *online birdy care package* to its members. From Zoom backgrounds to inspiring photos to birding science news, photography tips, sound recordings, ID tips, mental health tips, birding apps and activities, to John James Audubon's original watercolor prints and much more, ***The Joy of Birds*** offers something for everyone. Check it out at [The Joy of Birds | Audubon](#)

COVID times have brought about an awareness of nature and with that, the world of birding has opened to many. As a response to this awareness, Akron Audubon has deliberately crafted the upcoming 2021—2022 speaker series to focus on local birds, birding areas, habitats and conservation efforts. With that in mind, we'd also like to share a recent (Aug. 10, 2021) blog entry from ***Out There With the Birds***, the official blog from Bird Watcher's Digest: ***10 Tips for Getting Started in Birdwatching***. Not only for newer birders, the content is well written and offers sage tidbits of advice for birders of all experience levels. [10 Tips for Getting Started in Birdwatching » Out There With the Birds Blog \(birdwatchersdigest.com\)](#)



Photo by W. Clark

In another blog post from Bird Watcher's Digest, former Akronite and current Assistant Editor for BWD, Jennifer Vaughan writes about experiencing an August outing to Nimisila Reservoir as the Purple Martins stage for their premigratory roost in the reed beds. [Purple Martin Majesty » Out There With the Birds Blog \(birdwatchersdigest.com\)](#)



If you haven't experienced this local phenomenon, here's a spoiler alert. Next June, at our annual picnic at Bath Nature Preserve, Larry Hunter, founder of the Portage Lakes Purple Martin Association and now advisor to the group, will be our guest speaker.



The National Wildlife Refuge System Operations and Maintenance Fund has proposed its largest budget ever (\$584 million) to support nearly all work on the national wildlife refuges that total approximately 850 million acres--the world's largest network of lands and waters set aside for wildlife conservation. As the end of the fiscal year approaches on September 30th it is more and more likely that a short-term continuing resolution that would only fund the government (and refuges) for up to two months at current funding levels or a government shutdown will occur. The NWR Association is now working to ensure that Congress protects wildlife and their habitats. They call on us to add our voices by asking Congress to support these funding increases. Insufficient funding, oil and gas exploration, border walls, development and road construction all threaten the System. **Take Action >>** to send a letter to your Congressional representatives.

Spotted Lantern Fly (SLF) Update



In early September, a tree care professional found this insect, now at its most colorful adult stage, and notified the Ohio Department of Agriculture. State plant pest instructors confirmed a group of live adult SLFs between East 56th and East 55 Streets, and Euclid and Carnegie Avenues. Another inspector with Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (a USDA agency) found another patch between Woodland and Holton Avenues and East 71st and East 86th Streets. The invasive planthoppers are native to China and favor the invasive Ailanthus tree (known as tree-of-heaven). It is thought that they may have arrived via railcars in the area.

The adult will lay small gray, waxy-coated egg masses in early October through the beginning of winter. A good resource for detection, trapping and management comes from Virginia Tech and the Virginia Cooperative Extension: https://www.ento.vt.edu/4-H_Entomology/SpottedLanternfly.html

But rest assured that National Audubon is also on the case. In a timely report last week, Editorial Fellow for Audubon Magazine, Carlyn Kranking, reported on new research that shows birds are eating these bugs. Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Northern Cardinals, Gray Catbirds, Blue Jays, Tufted Titmice and chickens have been reported most commonly on the citizen science app **iNaturalist** as eating these pests.

Ailanthus trees produce chemicals that prevent other plants from growing. Research is showing that SLFs that feed on the preferred Ailanthus trees also produce a chemical that is bitter (but not toxic) to birds and therefore discourages predation by the birds. Thus, by getting rid of the Ailanthus trees, predation by birds and other insects could be one line of defense to control SLF populations. Read the Audubon Magazine article: [Birds Are One Line of Defense Against Dreaded Spotted Lanternflies | Audubon](#)

For more information on how to report a suspected infestation, see the Ohio Department of Agriculture's webpage here: [Spotted Lanternfly | Ohio Department of Agriculture](#).

Please visit our website regularly: <http://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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