

International Migratory Bird Day



Sharing a Passion for Birds

organizer's packet



International Migratory Bird Day

Sharing a Passion for Birds

Welcome to International Migratory Bird Day!

Greetings and Congratulations!
By simply obtaining the International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) Organizer's Packet, you have joined the strong and growing *Community of Birders* and have taken an important step towards protecting migratory birds.

IMBD is first and foremost a celebration. It is a celebration of life, of renewal, and of hope. It is a celebration of spring, of growth, and of seasonal change when longer days and warming temperatures prompt millions of birds to embark on arduous journeys to their breeding grounds in North America.

In addition, IMBD is about making connections—connections between public and private land owners; researchers and educators; backyard birders and activists; businesses and conservation groups; the news media and national, state, and local officials. Perhaps most importantly, IMBD is about making connections between birders, birds, and the natural world on which we all depend.

Before diving into the IMBD Organizer's Packet, take a moment to consider the *Partners in Flight* logo. The logo design represents the joining of two worlds. Redstarts flying north and south illustrate our common heritage with partners throughout the Western Hemisphere and the resources—physical, natural, cultural, and economic—we share. *Partners in Flight* is about stemming declines of migratory birds. To do so, we must join forces with diverse partners from throughout the hemisphere to design innovative solutions to resource management challenges.



The reality is that many migratory bird species are declining due to habitat loss throughout their range. The good news is that most bird species are still abundant. We, as members of the *Partners in Flight* family, have an historic opportunity to do what has not been done well before—get out ahead of the curve to conserve and maintain abundant bird populations into the next millennium.

The *Partners in Flight* vision is one of abundant and diverse bird populations. Our mission is to promote collaborative teamwork among researchers; land managers; educators and communicators; activists; avid, novice, and backyard birders; and even entrepreneurs. We are indeed a *Community of Birders* and we are *Conservation Leaders*.

IMBD is our annual opportunity to *Share our Passion for Birds* in the strongest, most vivid, and most resounding way possible! The IMBD Organizer's Packet will help you do just that. It contains activities that anyone can use to contribute to bird conservation. The IMBD Organizer's Packet is made to fit into a 3-ringed binder. Please keep this packet as your permanent Organizer's material—in future years we will send briefer supplements with new ideas and activities.

Now is the time to set aside those pressing details, reschedule those urgent commitments, and start planning your IMBD events.

Make this year's IMBD celebration the best yet!

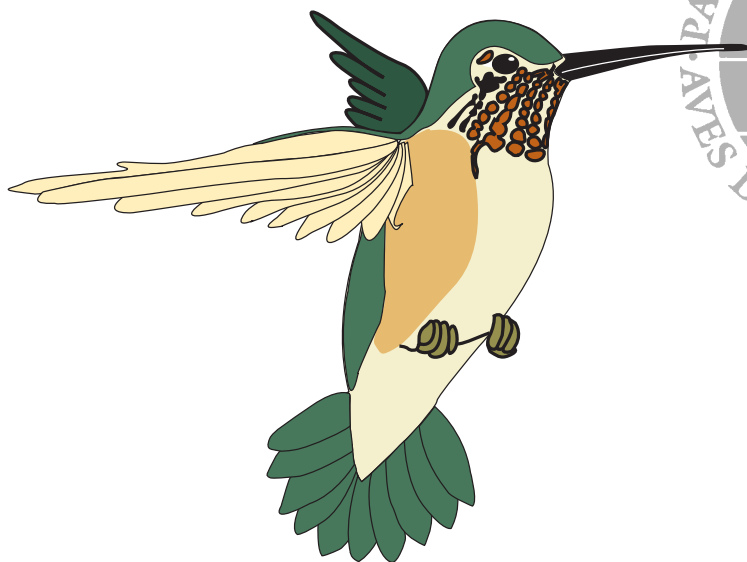


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International Migratory Bird Day, 1996 Sponsors

PARTNERS IN FLIGHT

Partners in Flight (PIF) is not an organization; it is an umbrella under which people can work together for conservation of Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats throughout the Americas.



Launched In 1990 by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, PIF seeks to “maintain, restore, and enhance populations of Neotropical migratory bird species” by promoting conservation before species become endangered. It is a comprehensive, habitat-based conservation program, which focuses on the North American breeding areas, the Neotropical nonbreeding grounds, and the migration routes connecting the two.

About one-half of all species of birds that nest in the United States and Canada are classified as Neotropical migrants. *Partners in Flight* focuses on 250 or so landbird species. Conservation of these birds is a daunting task, so PIF focuses on partnerships as the key to the program's success. There are now 16 federal agencies, over 60 state and provincial agencies, 15 companies representing the forest products industry, over 35 private conservation groups, and dozens of colleges and universities who actively participate in this program. But, with nearly 65 million birdwatchers (from casual to professional) in this country, the most important partner is you—the birdwatcher, outdoors person, conservationist.

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was established by Congress in 1984 to stimulate private sector involvement in conservation. NFWF's mission is to promote the conservation of fish, wildlife, and plant resources by developing partnerships between the public and private sectors through a Challenge Grants program. NFWF's operating costs are supported entirely by donations from the private sector—individuals, foundations, and corporations. NFWF also participates in the Combined Federal Campaign (#0892).



Since 1986, NFWF has awarded 1,171 grants that have leveraged more than \$150 million for 448 conservation partners, including 11 federal agencies, 63 state and provincial agencies, 325 nongovernmental organizations, and 49 colleges and universities. Each federal dollar from NFWF has been matched by more than \$2.00 in non-federal funds.

Since 1990, NFWF's Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Initiative has funded 230 grants in support of *Partners in Flight*, committing nearly \$7 million in federal challenge funds matched by over \$13 million in non-federal funds, for a total of over \$20 million to support on-the-ground bird conservation projects. NFWF also produces the *Partners in Flight* newsletter.



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has the principal authority among federal agencies for protection of migratory birds. The Migratory Bird Management Program has the responsibility of enhancing, restoring, and protecting migratory bird populations and their habitats throughout the Western Hemisphere. This is accomplished through: (1) monitoring of bird populations; (2) habitat enhancement and restoration; and (3) implementation and promotion of sound wildlife management practices on National Wildlife Refuge System lands, and in cooperation with private land owners. FWS also offers outreach materials, presentations, and training on migratory bird ecology to school children, conservation and civic groups, and others interested in the conservation of wildlife.



The FWS has played an active role in *Partners in Flight*, including being a leader in the development of International Migratory Bird Day. By viewing migratory birds as important parts of the total wildlife community, FWS biologists can more effectively ensure the long-term persistence of those species. Visit the National Wildlife Refuge nearest you, and see for yourself the good things that are being done for migratory birds.

PHILLIPS PETROLEUM COMPANY

The Phillips Petroleum Company has been in the vanguard of bird conservation for over a decade. More than any other private corporation, Phillips has supported on-the-ground bird conservation projects across the United States and internationally. Through its environmental partnerships programs, Phillips stimulates conservation joint ventures with numerous other private organizations and government agencies.



Several projects in avian conservation that Phillips has supported over the past five years include: *Playa Lakes Joint Venture*, a five-star partnership that Phillips helped form, and which was awarded a Presidential Citation by President George Bush; *Gulf Coast Bird Observatory*, another partnership Phillips helped form to preserve habitat for Neotropical migratory birds from Florida to Mexico; *A Home for Pearl*, an award-winning video series on the importance of habitat that Phillips distributes to teachers at no charge; and *Wolfweed*, a project to assure fresh water and food for wildlife on the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge in south Texas. Phillips is in its third year of supporting International Migratory Bird Day.



ANHEUSER-BUSCH COMPANIES



At Anheuser-Busch, a dedication to protecting the earth and its creatures is forever ingrained in the company's heritage and culture. Sea World and Busch Gardens, part of the Anheuser-Busch Theme Parks, are proud to carry on the company's long-standing commitment to environmental conservation and preservation of wildlife. Through our conservation work at the parks and sponsorship of programs such as International Migratory Bird Day, we will continue to help lead the charge to conserve wildlife and encourage public appreciation for animals. This is our pledge and our promise.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE



The Department of Defense (DOD) occupies nearly 25 million acres of land, much of which provides critical habitats for Neotropical migratory birds resting and feeding during migration, and nesting and rearing their young during the breeding season.

DOD joined the PIF effort in 1991. Since that time, DOD has actively managed its public lands for the benefit of Neotropical migratory birds. DOD's strategy is to focus on inventory, on-the-ground management, education, and long-term monitoring of birds on installations. DOD is a vital partner in the PIF effort, having entered into over 100 partnerships, and contributed more than \$4 million to help stem the decline of migratory birds, and conserve and improve the habitats in which they live. For a copy of the DOD *Partners in Flight* Migratory Bird Conservation Strategy, contact: Joe Hautzenroder, Chesapeake Division, NFEC, 901 M Street SE, Bldg 212, Washington, DC 20374-5018.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE



The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture (FS), manages 191 million acres of national forests and grasslands in 44 states, comprising the largest amount of breeding bird habitat under one ownership in the United States. While managing under the concepts of ecosystem management and sustainable multiple use to meet the diverse needs of people, the FS is actively working to conserve Neotropical migratory birds and the habitats upon which they depend.

Through its Sister Forest Program, National Forests in the U.S. join in partnership with forests in Mexico and Latin and South America, providing information and personnel links between migratory bird breeding and nonbreeding habitats.



Acknowledgements

In the spirit of *Partners in Flight*, development of the 1996 International Migratory Bird Day Organizer's Packet relied upon the ideas and talents of many individuals and organizations. Susan Carlson led the effort by serving as coordinator of this packet. She was ably assisted by Julie St. Louis. The packet was beautifully co-designed by Laura Penington Jones (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and the graphics wizardry of Dan O'Connor (USDA Forest Service). Others who contributed written materials or reviewed portions of this packet include:

Alison Dalsimer, Andrew Romero, and Peter Stangel - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Dan Petit - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Steve Wendt - Canadian Wildlife Service



1996 IMBD Poster, by Margo McKnight



How To Use the IMBD Organizer's Packet

The Organizer's Packet is divided into three sections: "Getting Started," "Projects and Activities," and "Resources."

There are many different ways to make use of the Organizer's Packet. We hope you will use the Packet to help you:



- Plan IMBD programs
- Develop specific IMBD projects
- Access additional resources needed to support IMBD and your ongoing migratory bird conservation programs

1) PLANNING IMBD PROGRAMS

Go first to *Planning your IMBD Programs and Events*, (Getting Started, p. 1). Then see the *IMBD Action Agenda*, (Projects and Activities, p. 1) to consider the array of ten innovative and fun projects emphasized this year. See also *IMBD Communications Points* (Getting Started, p. 5) and *Migratory Bird Media Masters* (Projects and Activities, F-1) for additional support in planning and implementing effective migratory bird media campaigns.

2) DEVELOPING IMBD PROJECTS

The *IMBD Action Agenda* (Projects and Activities, p. 1) provides a series of ten innovative projects for those interested in initiating or expanding migratory bird conservation projects for IMBD and beyond. Go first to the *IMBD Action Agenda* to choose from the list projects that best suit your needs. Then go to the *Action Sheet(s)* for a quick, yet detailed description on how to develop each one of these projects.

3) ACCESSING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Resources and References (Resources, F-1) contains a wealth of information on additional resources, references, and programs to further advance your migratory bird conservation programs.





Planning IMBD Programs and Events

You and your group can plan informative and fun IMBD events that will raise awareness of the need for bird conservation in your community. Planning does take time and effort but will pay off in the ultimate success of your IMBD events. We offer the following steps to help you prepare your IMBD programs as efficiently as possible.

- Identify the IMBD coordinator.
- Clearly define your IMBD message.
- Determine conservation goals and IMBD objectives.
- Identify IMBD target audience(s).
- Broaden coalitions through IMBD.
- Develop IMBD program activities - see *Projects and Activities* section
- Outline IMBD logistical and financial needs.

IDENTIFY THE IMBD COORDINATOR

An IMBD coordinator can help plan a series of varied, geographically-distributed events across your city, county, or state. The coordinator can also help develop coalition of federal, state, and local agencies, conservation groups, and local businesses; obtain gubernatorial and mayoral proclamations; and generate media coverage.

CLEARLY DEFINE YOUR IMBD MESSAGE

Developing a clear message is essential to communicating the need for bird conservation to others, most importantly opinion leaders and the news media. Ask yourself: "Why do I care about migratory birds and bird conservation and why should others care?" Hold a brainstorming session to generate multiple answers to this question, then focus on several key statements. These statements will help formulate your IMBD message and clarify all communications to the public and the news media. See also *IMBD Communications Points* (p. 5, 6) and *Migratory Bird Media Masters* (*Projects and Activities*, p. F-1).



DETERMINE CONSERVATION GOALS AND IMBD OBJECTIVES

First, identify your conservation goals for migratory birds. For example, if your group has a conservation goal to protect a local wetland, your IMBD conservation objective might be to make your county's land use planner aware of the ecological and economic values of the wetland by taking him or her on a tour of the site. Second, make sure your conservation goals and objectives are aligned with your communications messages. If one of your key messages is that birds are an important economic asset in your community, your IMBD conservation goal might be to make local officials aware of the growth of markets for bird feeding in your community. Third, make your goals and objectives as measurable as possible. This will help you demonstrate successes!

IDENTIFY IMBD TARGET AUDIENCES

Determine national, state, and local opinion leaders who are vital to achieving your migratory bird conservation goals. Many groups find they have multiple audiences including the news media, business leaders, politicians, youth, families, and others. Determine which audiences are most important to reach in order to advance your conservation goals for migratory birds.

BROADEN COALITIONS THROUGH IMBD

Develop broad support for your migratory bird conservation programs by including a variety of diverse partners in IMBD events. Fully invest these groups in your events by including representatives early on in your planning meetings. Consider representation from the following: 1) Partners in Flight regional and state working groups; 2) federal, state, and local agencies; 3) state and local affiliates of national conservation groups such as National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, The Nature Conservancy, and others; 4) nature centers and science museums; 5) related groups who also value migratory bird conservation such as environmental education organizations, garden clubs, land trusts, and some sport and recreation groups; 6) local businesses, including bird feeding retail stores; 7) county land use planning offices; 8) corporations with large land holdings in your community; 9) other large private landowners in your community.



DEVELOP IMBD PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

See the Projects and Activities section (p. 1) for “learning and doing” activities that contribute to bird conservation.

OUTLINE IMBD LOGISTICAL AND FINANCIAL NEEDS

Determine needs for volunteers, materials, tools and equipment for your projects as early as possible. It is especially important to identify how many individuals with what skills (publicity, fundraising, habitat management, and bird identification, etc.) you need for your events. The more specific you can be about your needs for volunteers the better able you will be to recruit them. Finally, develop an IMBD budget to provide a clear picture of financial resources needed for your projects. Try getting local businesses and organizations to make financial and in-kind donations. The more local sponsors you line up to donate funds and supplies, the more organizational and business partners you will be including in your ongoing migratory bird conservation programs.





IMBD Communications Points

Include the following key points in all your IMBD Communications. Also see *Migratory Bird Media Masters* (Projects and Activities, p. F-1); *Bucks from Birds Economic Values of Bird-Related Recreation* (Resources, p. A-1); and *Did You Know? Facts about Migratory Birds and Their Habitats* (Resources, p. B-1);

Contact your state wildlife agency and county land use planning office to help localize bird conservation information noted in III below.

I) GENERAL POINTS

- Numerous species of Neotropical migratory birds are declining;
- Habitat loss throughout the Western Hemisphere is the primary cause of species declines;
- Habitat conservation on local, national, and international levels is needed to stabilize populations of migratory birds;
- Birders are a large and growing constituency. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates approximately 64 million Americans participate in bird-related recreation (USDI, 1993);
- In the United States, a total of \$5.2 billion is spent annually by bird watchers in pursuit of their hobby.

II) PARTNERS IN FLIGHT

- Promotes conservation of resident and migratory birds and their habitats while they are still common, thereby avoiding risks and costs associated with recovering Endangered Species;
- Focuses on conservation of habitats supporting multiple species of birds, rather than on single species;
- Encourages comprehensive conservation on breeding grounds, nonbreeding areas, and migratory routes;
- Promotes conservation on managed as well as natural landscapes;
- Stresses cooperative and voluntary actions on behalf of birds and their habitats;
- Motivates groups to take action for species that can be found commonly—Chimney Swifts, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, Purple Martins, Barn Swallows—and most species of warblers, orioles, and thrushes;
- Builds partnerships among diverse groups with a common interest in bird conservation.



III) LOCALIZE BIRD CONSERVATION INFORMATION BY SPECIFYING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

- Lists of Neotropical migratory bird species found in your state;
- Examples of state-wide population trends of these species;
- Facts about land use trends in your state and county and how these trends may be impacting bird populations.



1995 IMBD Success Stories

- The South Carolina Wildlife Federation, in conjunction with Sandhill Research and Education Center, held a “Plant An Idea” event. Participants took in bird banding demonstrations, use of native plants in backyard habitat projects, and presentations on many other topics. Contact: Trish Jerman, 715 Woodrow Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29205 (803-771-4417).
- More than 300 people attended Green Point Environmental Learning IMBD Celebration in Saginaw, Michigan. Programs included live raptor presentations and attracting birds to backyards. A local Boy Scout troop demonstrated making pine cone and pop bottle feeders. Contact: Rebecca Goche, USFWS Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, 3010 Maple Street, Saginaw, Michigan 48602 (517-759-1669).
- The Wendell Gilley Museum in Southwest Harbor, Maine held their annual “Whittle a Warbler Workshop” and presented an exhibition of bird carvings. Contact: Nina Gormley, Wendell Gilley Museum, P.O. Box 254, Southwest Harbor, Maine 04679-0254 (207-244-7555).
- The Rainier Audubon Society of Auburn, Washington held a Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary Tour and Binocular Drive. Participants traveled in vans to five area backyard wildlife sanctuaries and enjoyed interpretation and refreshments at each one. In addition, Rainier Audubon Society conducted a binocular drive for donation to its sister chapter, the Audubon Society of El Salvador. Contact: Debbie Fischer, Rainier Audubon Society, P.O. Box 778, Auburn, Washington 98071 (206-852-7766).
- Starsmore Discovery Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado drew more than 1,000 people for their Hummingbird Festival. The festival, free to the public, featured a hummingbird demonstration garden, hummingbird walks, face painting, children’s art show, storytelling, food and plant sales. Contact: Bette Large, Starsmore Discovery Center, City of Colorado Springs Parks and Recreation, 2120 South Cheyenne Canon Road, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906 (719-578-6146).
- Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society and Coyote Creek Riparian Station, Cupertino, California, drew more than 100 people, despite pouring rain, to their multicultural, bilingual IMBD Festival. The festival included bird banding demonstrations, bird walks, revegetation tours, and educational displays. Binoculars, cameras, and field guides were collected for donation to a sister research station project in central-Mexico. Contact: Jayne DiCandio, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, 22221 McClellan Road, Cupertino, California 95014 (408-252-3747).



- Janet Fitzpatrick, an art teacher in Chester, New York, coordinated joint IMBD and Earth Day activities for her school. The 1st grade made bird and animal collages, the 2nd grade made a full wall mural depicting a rain forest, and the 5th grade made drawings and etchings of birds. All items were displayed in a comprehensive Earth Day and IMBD exhibit. The school collected more than \$200 in pennies for the Pennies for the Planet rain forest preservation project coordinated by Earth Force. Contact: Janet Fitzpatrick, Chester Elementary School, 2 Herbert Drive, Chester, New York 10918.

- Larry Napier, Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge Manager, coordinated the first annual IMBD event for the refuge, in Bonners Ferry, Idaho. Two weeks of publicity before the events generated stories in the local newspaper and on local radio stations. The Northern Idaho Audubon Society volunteered assistance for birding tours, mist netting, and banding demonstrations. Children made blue bird nest boxes and plaster of paris casts of animal tracks. Contact: Larry Napier, USFWS Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge, HCR 60, Box 283, Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805 (208-267-3888).

- Maryland Partners in Flight secured a Gubernatorial Proclamation from Governor Parris Glendening for IMBD 1995. The Information and Education working group has also developed a Partners in Art project in which students from approximately 25 elementary students in Maryland exchange migratory bird posters and other art work with sister schools located in Mexico, and other Central American countries. Contact: Ellen Lawler, Salisbury State University, Salisbury, Maryland 21801 (410-543-6496).

- Rangers in the U.S Forest Service Yampa Ranger District in Colorado held a variety of district- wide youth education activities to celebrate IMBD including close to 700 individuals. Area elementary students presented a day-long program on migratory birds. Fifth graders took a 4-hour wildlife hike and preschoolers attended migratory bird art and story telling program at the Yampa public library. Contact: Jackie Sanderson, USFWS Yampa Ranger District, P.O. Box 7, Yampa, Colorado 80483 (970-638-4516).

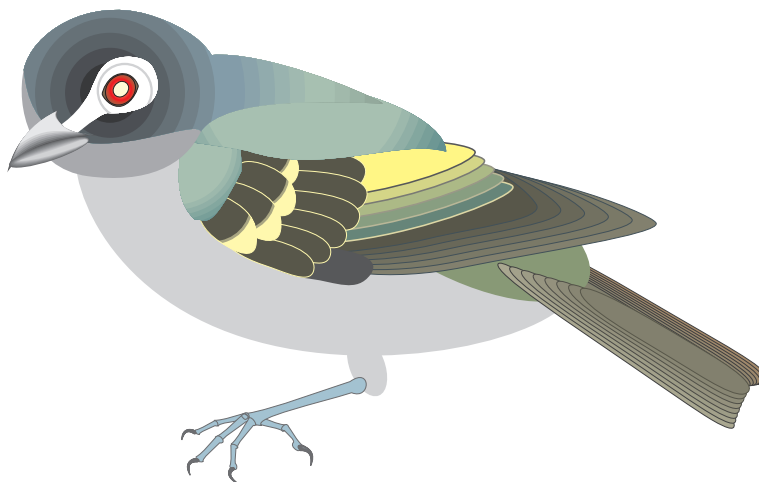
- Many North Newton, Kansas residents, including members of local media, attended a “Birds and Brunch” program at the Kauffman Museum at Bethel College. The Birds and Brunch program, held from 6AM to 10AM, combined a county IMBD count with brunch after which the museum provided a special tour of its bird collections. Contact Loma Harder, The Kauffman Museum, Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas, 67117 (316-283-1612).



- The U.S. Forest Service at Mount Hood National Forest, Zigzag, Oregon held a “Songbird Celebration” for more than 1,000 people including politicians and members of the press. Among the activities were guided bird walks, live birds from the Metro Washington Park Zoo, music from a South American band playing traditional music of the Andes, appearances by Big Bird and Woodsy Owl and feeding, nest box building, and flower and bird ornament painting for kids. Contact: Jennifer Whitford, USDA Forest Service, Mount Hood National Forest, 70220 East Highway 26, Zigzag, Oregon 97049 (503-622-3191).

- Bear River National Wildlife Refuge, in Brigham City, Utah obtained permission from the city for the second year to create and hang migratory bird banners along main street. School children designed and painted banners. A local senior center sewed the banners. The art contest designated for the banners drew close to 700 designs with 94 winners. Contact: Stephanie Jones, USFWS, DFC, P.O. Box 25486, Denver, Colorado 80225 (303-236-8145 ext. 608).

- USFWS Region 4 reported IMBD activities at 31 of its field stations. The Brunswick, Georgia field office initiated butterfly and hummingbird gardens at a local elementary school with more than 600 children participating; the Asheville, North Carolina field station coordinated a multifaceted program with 13 state, federal, and private cooperators at the North Carolina Zoo for more than 2,000 visitors. Contact, Richard Coon, USFWS, 1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200, Atlanta, Georgia 30345 (404-679-7193).





IMBD Action Agenda



COMMITMENT TO BIRD CONSERVATION

Get large numbers of people involved in migratory bird conservation by distributing the “Commitment to Bird Conservation” at your IMBD events, bird supply retail stores, bird club and chapter membership meetings, entrances to National Wildlife Refuges, and other natural areas, schools, and nature centers.



NORTH AMERICAN MIGRATION COUNT

Join in this single day, continent-wide bird count to help produce an annual “snapshot” of the shape of bird migration.



POWER BIRD WALKS

Transform your IMBD bird walks into Power Bird Walks by building on the international recognition of IMBD and *Partners in Flight*.



MIGRATORY BIRD YOUTH EDUCATION PROJECT

Obtain the new IMBD Educator’s Supplement and develop a youth education program and festival for IMBD.



BIRD FEEDER AND NEST BOX BUILDING PROJECTS

Get the entire family building bird feeders and nest boxes to improve habitat for birds in your backyard and neighborhood.



MIGRATORY BIRD MEDIA MASTERS

Put the return of millions of migratory birds to North America on the front pages of your local newspapers and on the lips of public officials and hundreds of citizens in your local community.



PATHWAYS TO BIRDING

Show beginners how to get started bird watching and bring together federal, state, and local agencies, conservation organizations, and wild bird retail stores in one informative, fun, and potentially lucrative event.



BACKYARD HABITAT FOR BIRDS

Attract birds to your backyard by following simple Backyard Habitat for Birds planning and planting techniques.



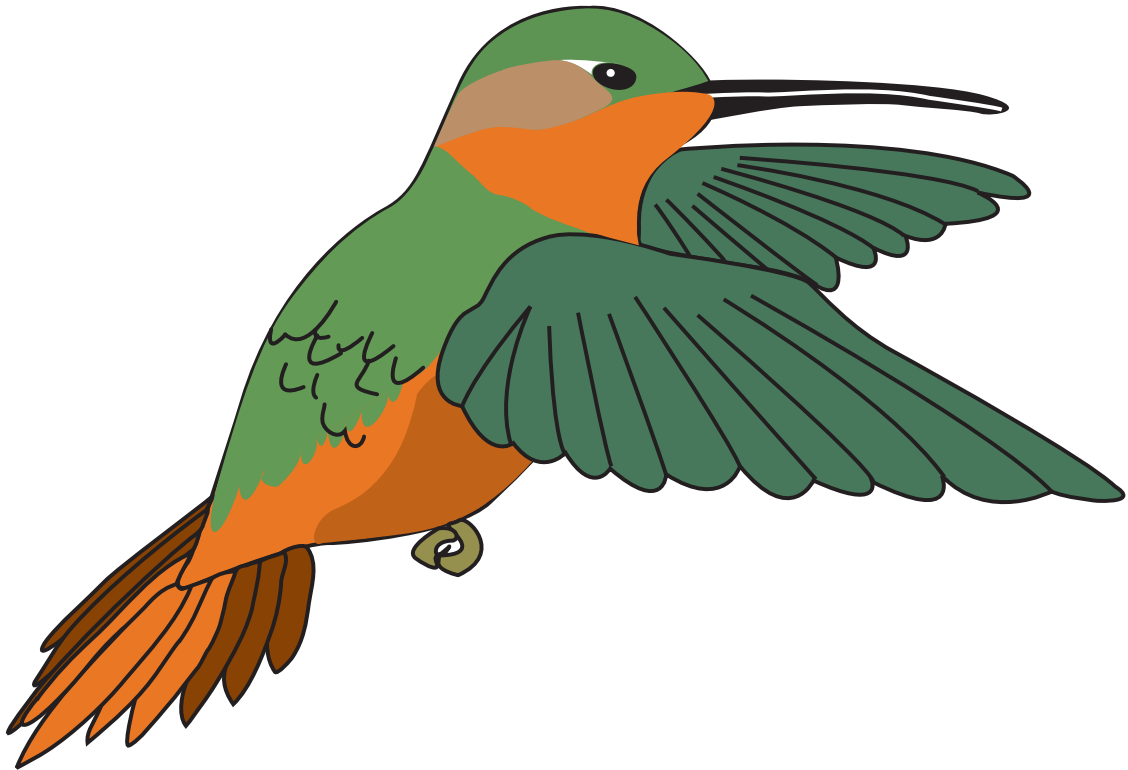
ONLINE MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION

Join the growing *Community of Birders* “online” who are linking research and monitoring with important migratory bird education and conservation programs over the Internet.



Take the Pledge!

PLEASE PHOTOCOPY THIS PROCLAMATION FORM AND DISTRIBUTE TO
YOUR **IMBD** PARTICIPANTS...



Commitment to Bird Conservation

- Whereas, populations of migratory birds and their habitats are declining throughout the Americas, and
- Whereas, conservation of these birds and their habitats is the responsibility of each and every person who enjoys watching and feeding birds, and
- Whereas, the *Partners in Flight* Program was established to promote conservation of migratory birds through voluntary partnerships,
- Therefore, I hereby resolve to make a personal commitment to bird conservation in 1996 by undertaking the actions listed below:

SHARE MY PASSION FOR BIRDS WITH A NON-BIRDING FRIEND

Take someone who has not yet discovered the pleasure of birds on a bird walk, or invite them to your house to watch the activity at your feeders. Help them with identification, and share some of the fascinating facts about birds. They'll be hooked before you know it!

VOLUNTEER AT A NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, NATIONAL FOREST, OR OTHER BIRD SANCTUARY

Many resource management agencies and private organizations need volunteers to help maintain trails, offer interpretive programs, monitor birds, and assist with other maintenance activities on their refuges and parks. Your assistance, and commitment to birds, can make a big difference.

KEEP MY CAT INDOORS!

Domestic cats kill millions of birds every day. The most effective solution is to keep your cat inside. Even well-fed cats are voracious predators on birds and other urban wildlife. Bells help, but are not very effective. Keeping cats inside is healthier and safer for the cat, too!

BUY A DUCK STAMP

On your next trip to the post office, buy a federal waterfowl stamp (\$15). Hunters must buy them, and birders should. The money goes to purchase lands for the National Wildlife Refuge System. And, the stamps are beautiful!

GIVE NEW LIFE TO OLD OPTICAL EQUIPMENT

Your old binoculars and telescopes could be in the hand of a budding young ornithologist in Latin America, instead of collecting dust on the shelf! Send only equipment in excellent condition to Birder's Exchange (Manomet Observatory, Box 1770, Sapsucker Woods Road, Manomet, MA 02345); send equipment in excellent condition and that needing a little work to Fairfax Audubon Society, c/o Gary Filerman, 1322 Banquos Ct., McLean, VA 22102. These groups will make sure your old equipment enjoys new life in the hands of a worthy group in Latin America. Enclose a card and say your equipment was collected as a result of IMBD!

Yes! I made the 1996 Commitment to Bird Conservation. Please enter my name for your sweepstakes!

Mail to : NFWF, 1120 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036

Name _____

Street/Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES





North American Migration Count

Have you ever wondered “What is the Shape of Migration?” What are the patterns and pathways of Neotropical migratory songbird migration from Central and South America? Do American Redstarts line up military style and move northward in a solid front? Do Wood Thrushes migrate as if along major rivers before spilling into many smaller tributaries? Do Bobolinks move like shorebirds, along a series of widely spaced, but essential habitats?

WHAT IS THE NORTH AMERICAN MIGRATION COUNT?

The North American Migration Count (NAMC) was established in 1992 to provide a “snap-shot” of bird migration. Additionally, the NAMC helps to identify important stopover areas for migratory birds, determine population trends, and estimate relative abundance of certain species in defined geographic areas.

The NAMC is designed for birders of any skill level. The goal of the NAMC (as paraphrased by Chandler Robbins, founder of the Breeding Bird Survey) is to: “give each and every bird watcher the opportunity to enjoy a day birding during spring migration with the knowledge that the result of their findings, together with those of others, would fit together like the pieces of a puzzle and reveal the status of bird migration on a specified date.”

WHERE IS THE NORTH AMERICAN MIGRATION COUNT?

The NAMC occurs in states and provinces throughout the United States and Canada. NAMC participants record every bird seen across their entire county.

WHEN IS THE NORTH AMERICAN MIGRATION COUNT?

The NAMC is conducted annually on IMBD—the one day each year when bird watchers from Maine to California and Florida to Alaska gather locally to record bird migration in their area.

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THE NORTH AMERICAN MIGRATION COUNT?

To join in the NAMC, simply:

- 1) Contact your state coordinator listed on the following page;
- 2) Gather with other NAMC participants in your county on IMBD to record every individual bird seen;
- 4) Submit your data to the NAMC state coordinator; and
- 5) Watch for the NAMC newsletter, sent the following spring to all participants.



North American Migration Count 1996

State Coordinators

ALABAMA: Sharon Hudgins, 5660 Pine Street, McCalla AL 35111. (205)477-5390.

ARIZONA: Edward Boyd, 2882 Constellation Way, Finksburg MD 21048. (410)840-9722.

ARKANSAS: Duane R. Moren, Bull Shoals State Park, P.O.Box 205, Bull Shoals AR 72619. (501)431-5521.

DELAWARE: John Janowski, 122 Pine Valley Drive, Middletown DE 19709.

COLORADO: Brandon Percival, 835 Harmony Drive, Pueblo West CO 81007. (719)547-3722.

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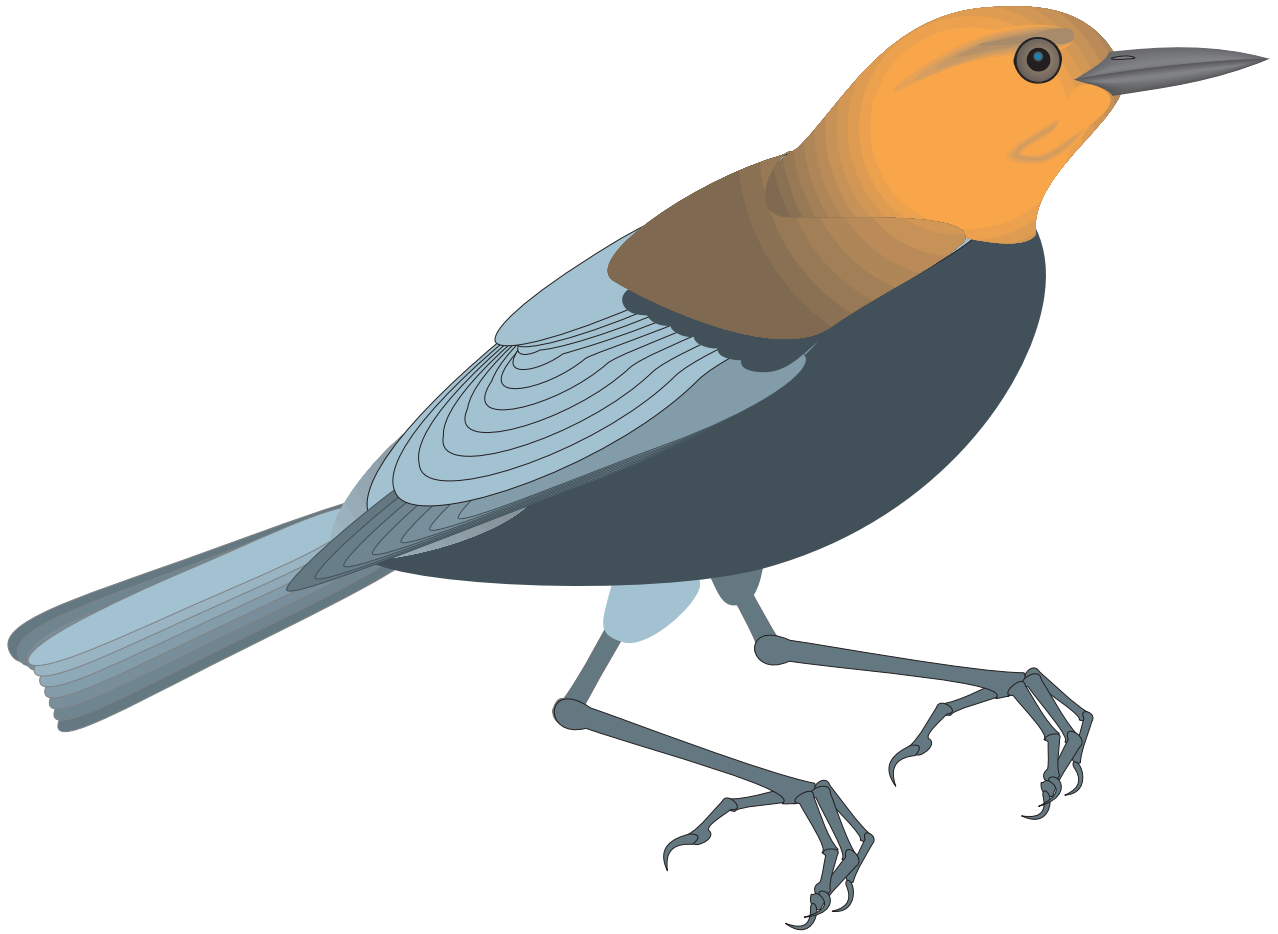
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Power Bird Walks

What could be more captivating for a first time birder than viewing a tanager, towhee, or oriole through binoculars? What could be a more compelling conservation message for a land use planner or county council member than to be escorted to community birding sites to spot vireos, thrushes, and warblers with the help of local experts?

People need to *experience* the serenity of the early-morning dawn and the thrill of capturing brightly-colored birds in the lens, to truly understand the joys of birding. Once they have these sorts of experiences, maybe they will be hooked on birds for a lifetime!

Many groups raise awareness of migratory birds by hosting bird walks on IMBD. This year's challenge is to expand your IMBD bird walk to reach as many audiences as possible, including key opinion leaders in your community. Take your IMBD bird walk the "next step" by planning an IMBD Power Bird Walk!

IMBD Power Bird Walks are designed to *Share Your Passion for Birds* with high level officials and other key opinion and business leaders who can make a difference for bird conservation in your community. The following steps will help you plan effective, fun, and memorable IMBD Power Bird Walks.

-  Identify your site
-  Develop your guest list
-  Recruit media coverage
-  Organize a post-Power Bird Walk brunch
-  Encourage local officials to officially proclaim IMBD at your brunch
-  Issue awards for outstanding conservation leadership
-  Organize an educational seminar.

IDENTIFY YOUR SITE

Consider the IMBD goals and objectives you developed in Planning your IMBD Programs (Getting Started, p. 1-3) when identifying possible locations for your Power Bird Walk. A strategically chosen site could have significant impact on raising awareness of the need for habitat conservation in your community among participants, including local officials. Choose a location that promises good viewing opportunities. For novice birders, straining to see a Cerulean Warbler in the top of a 100-foot tree may not be very exciting. But watching Bald Eagles leave a roost site or visiting a heron rookery could be a life-changing experience.



DEVELOP YOUR GUEST LIST

Make your guest list varied as possible including community leaders who can make a difference for bird conservation. Include: 1) your mayor, county land use planners, and county trustees; 2) high-profile television news anchors, athletes, and local celebrities; 3) news media; 4) business and corporate leaders; 5) conservation group leaders; 6) representatives from federal state, and local agencies; 7) experienced birders to help spot and identify birds; 8) a photographer or videographer to capture your Power Bird Walk on film. Don't miss the opportunity to obtain good visuals which can later be used for promotional purposes with the press as well as with potential funders.

Use distinctive invitations to appeal to participants' desire to be involved in something really special. Note any celebrities or experts on your invitations to help draw participation from others. List the date, time, location of your Power Bird Walk and a date to RSVP. Send invitations as early as possible. Busy people are more likely to commit to an event when they know about it well in advance.

RECRUIT MEDIA COVERAGE

Distribute a short press release describing your bird walk for print and broadcast media. See Getting Started (p. 5) for key statements to include. Promise of good visuals—live birds, children and families birding together, and participation by local officials—will help recruit news media for your Power Bird Walk. List species likely to be seen and offer members of the press special opportunities to spot birds with assistance from local experts. Note any local officials who will also be attending the Walk. Follow up with phone calls to media contacts one week and one day before your Power Bird Walk.

ORGANIZE A POST-POWER BIRD WALK BRUNCH

A beautiful May morning white tablecloths covering pine picnic tables, and coffee, juice, and pastries will provide guests a wonderful opportunity to relax, share lists, and talk about birds. Invite a local coffee shop to donate coffee and pastries. Your brunch can also provide a good backdrop for celebrities and experts to say a few words about the importance of birds to your community.

ENCOURAGE LOCAL OFFICIALS TO PRESENT AN OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION FOR IMBD

Local officials should see your Power Bird Walk as a very positive civic activity. Encourage them to officially proclaim IMBD at your post-bird walk brunch. (Projects and Activities, p. F-2, F-4). Let them know of the diverse group that will be assembled for the brunch including any media, experts, and celebrities (Proclamations found in Projects and Activities).

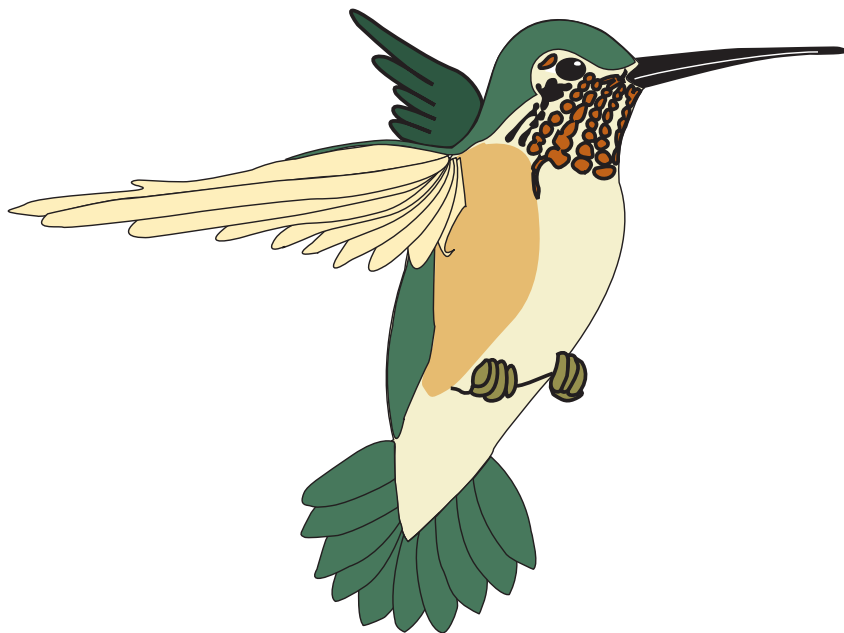


ISSUE AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP

What better opportunity than IMBD to initiate an annual migratory bird conservation awards program for local officials, business leaders, private land owners, and/or developers who have demonstrated conservation leadership in your community? American Forest's *Global ReLeaf* Program has initiated the *New Communities Program* which recognizes developers nationally who have demonstrated excellence in ecological site planning.

ORGANIZE AN EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

Now that you have sparked interest in birds among members of your audience, including local opinion leaders, don't miss the opportunity to further educate them about the values of birds (biological, sociological, and economic) and the importance of habitat conservation in your community. Organize a special seminar for local officials and business leaders to help galvanize strong local support for bird conservation. Include presentations on bird populations, land use trends, and economic values of birds and bird-related recreation. Invite a local bird supply store owner to discuss growth in the bird feeding and bird watching markets in your area. Develop accompanying educational activities for children. Obtain the IMBD Educator's Supplement for ideas on migratory bird education programs. See the "IMBD Nest Box and Bird Feeder Projects" Activity Sheet (Projects and Activities, p. E-1).





Migratory Bird Youth Education Programs

The study of migratory birds offers rich educational opportunities for teachers and students alike. The opportunity to observe wild birds in backyard and neighborhood settings can connect children to the natural world in ways that observing wildlife in captivity cannot. The following guidelines can be applied by anyone wanting to design or enhance an education program, unit, lesson, or single activity on migratory birds.

- ✈ Obtain the IMBD Educator's Supplement (order from: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, 1120 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036 or call 202-857-0166)
- ✈ Convene a group of teachers to help brainstorm your migratory bird education unit
- ✈ Plan an IMBD school-wide festival and migratory bird art exhibit
- ✈ Obtain a list of migratory birds in your area
- ✈ Focus on one "emblematic" migratory bird or have students "Adopt-a-Bird"
- ✈ Develop a habitat inventory of your school grounds
- ✈ Initiate a school yard habitat restoration project

OBTAIN THE IMBD EDUCATOR'S SUPPLEMENT

The new IMBD Educator's Supplement provides a host of ideas for migratory bird lessons and activities appropriate for both formal and informal educational settings. The Supplement is based on five subthemes, lessons and activities which can be taught each day of IMBD week.

CONVENE A GROUP OF TEACHERS TO HELP BRAINSTORM YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD EDUCATION UNIT

Classroom teachers will be best able to incorporate migratory bird lessons and activities when they are neatly integrated into existing curriculum. Gather a small group of teachers to consider opportunities for incorporating migratory bird themes and concepts into the existing curriculum for science, social studies, language arts, math, visual arts, music, and drama programs. Additionally, consider appropriate grade levels for the lessons and activities you wish to teach.



PLAN AN IMBD SCHOOL-WIDE FESTIVAL AND MIGRATORY BIRD ART EXHIBIT

IMBD is a wonderful event on which to culminate educational activities on migratory birds. Plan a school-wide IMBD festival and art exhibition. Have students develop posters, banners, place mats, paper mache puppets, and many other items as part of your art program. Develop an exhibit of these items and invite parent volunteers, PTA members, and others to view the art and participate in other IMBD festival activities. Stage a fundraising benefit along with the art exhibit to help raise funds for a school yard habitat. Students' migratory bird art projects can provide opportunities to develop partnerships with local businesses and with other schools. Students in Bridgerland, Utah created street banners which flew over city streets for two weeks before and after IMBD. Students in Missoula, Montana created paper mache birds which hung in store front windows throughout town. Students in approximately twenty-five schools in Maryland exchanged their migratory bird artwork with Latin American classrooms through the *Partners in Art* project (Getting Started, p. 8). A focus on migratory bird art projects can also be a useful way to introduce the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest—a nationwide student art competition (Projects and Activities, p. A-2).

Other festival activities could include: showcasing a school yard habitat project; food and music from countries to which birds in your area migrate in the winter; dedicating a sister school partnership with a school in one of these countries; and viewing bird migration on-line in the school's computer lab through the *Journey North* program (Projects and Activities, I-1).

OBTAIN OR DEVELOP BIRD LISTS FOR YOUR STATE AND SITE

An accurate list of migratory birds for your state is an important component in any education program on Neotropical migratory birds. Contact your state wildlife agency, local bird feed supply store, local chapter of the National Audubon Society, or state ornithological society to obtain bird lists. Then, work with students to create a list of species for your school or center property. Make sure to distinguish migratory and resident birds for students.



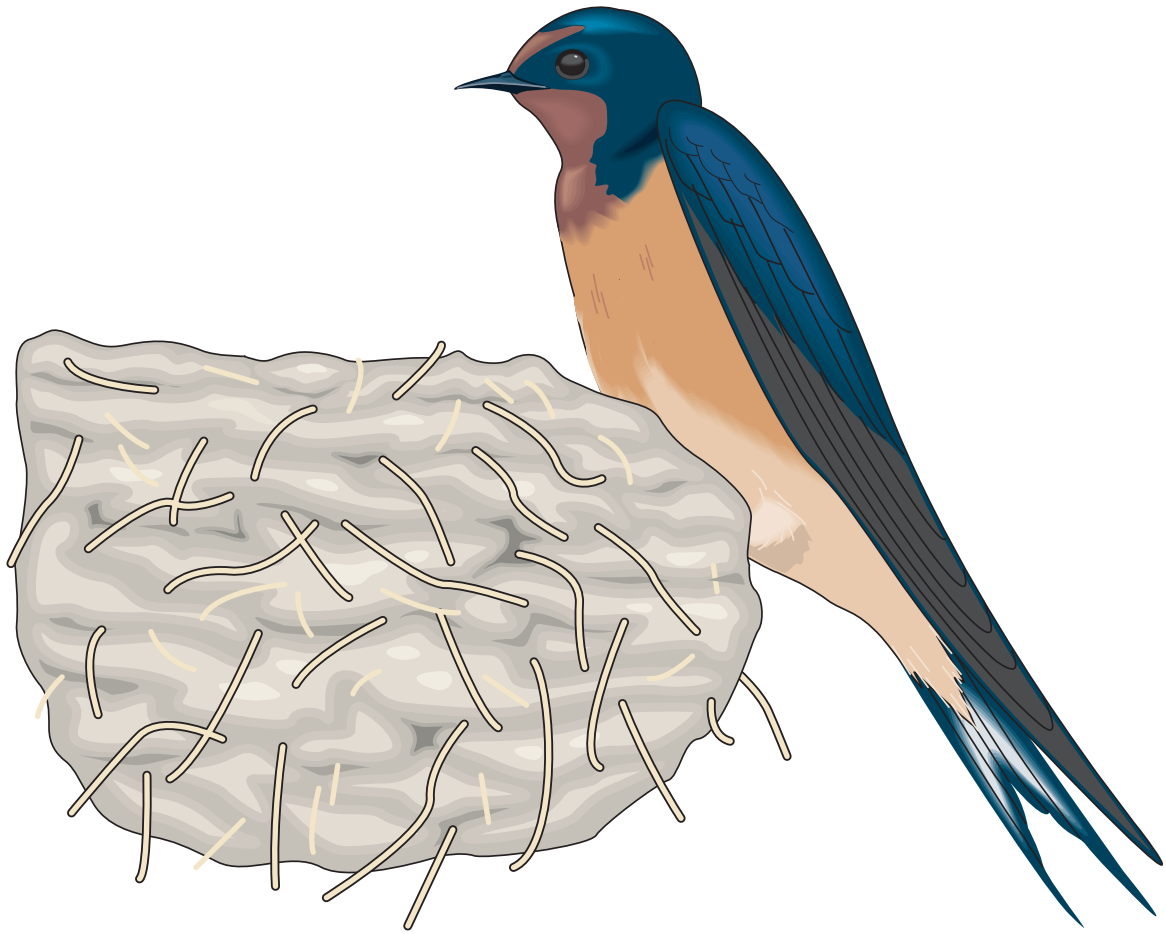
FOCUS YOUR EDUCATION UNIT ON AN “EMBLEMATIC” MIGRATORY BIRD OR ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO “ADOPT-A-BIRD”

More than one-half of the states in the United States have a Neotropical migrant as their state bird. By choosing your state bird or another familiar bird as an emblematic species, you can focus on its ecology, behavior, migration, and habitat needs for breeding, stopover, and wintering areas. Another approach is to encourage students to select a bird of their choice. Students can develop Adopt-a-Bird reports featuring identification and behavioral characteristics, breeding and wintering range, habitat needs, and population status (see IMBD 1996 Educator’s Supplement). Have students develop a journal of observations for their bird. Finally, have students create drawings or paintings of their bird based on field observations or identification materials you can provide.

INITIATE A SCHOOL YARD HABITAT PROJECT

Start by discussing birds’ needs for adequate habitat, including food, shelter, and water. Encourage students to consider that even *their* school yard could provide habitat for more bird species. Work with students to develop an inventory list of trees, shrubs, and other plants found on your school property. Have students develop “before” maps based on their inventories of trees, shrubs, and other features that currently exist on your school’s property. Then, have them develop “after” maps of what they would like to see the school or center’s property look like based on their knowledge of habitat needs for birds. Invite a biologist from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or other federal or state agency to help provide expert advice in choice of plants and development of your school yard habitat site. School yard habitat projects can both protect important habitat for birds and provide valuable outdoor learning sites offering many inter-disciplinary, hands-on learning opportunities for the entire school. The IMBD Educator’s Supplement provides information, guidelines, and worksheets on developing school yard habitat projects. The excellent environmental education curriculum, *Project Wild*, (Educator’s Supplement) provides a full unit on developing school yard habitat projects.





IMBD Nest Box and Bird Feeder Projects

Designing and building nest boxes and bird feeders can be a great way to bring entire families together for creative, fun projects that will also help bird populations. Supplies are simple, plans are easy, and participation involves just three groups—parents to help oversee design of nest boxes and feeders, children to help with construction, and birds to move in once their new homes and feeding stations are provided. As habitat dwindles, we can help replace homes and food sources for birds through nest box and feeder building projects. What better day than IMBD to bring families together in “home-building and hospitality” projects for birds.

NEST BOXES

More than 50 species of birds—including bluebirds, kestrels, owls, titmice, chickadees, nuthatches, wrens, Tree Swallows, Prothonotary Warblers, and woodpeckers—use nest boxes. Both Wood Ducks and Eastern Bluebirds have made dramatic comebacks, thanks in part to artificial nest boxes.

A good nest box is one that is designed for a specific species and placed in a habitat that is suitable for that species. Most nest boxes can be placed 3 to 10 feet high on a tree or post just about anywhere that is not disturbed by humans. In addition to nesting, some birds such as woodpeckers, swallows, and nuthatches, use the boxes for roosting at night. Cedar is a good wood to use for nest boxes and does not need to be stained. If you use pine, you can preserve it with a coat of linseed oil. A basic nest box plan is shown on p. E-3. You will also want to customize the basic nest box for specific species you wish to attract. Figure 1 specifies dimensions for adapting the basic nest box for 34 different species of common cavity nesting birds.

BIRD FEEDERS

Attracting birds to your backyard with the use of bird feeders is both beneficial for birds and offers endless hours of educational fun for the whole family. While providing food sources for birds in the winter can be a matter of survival, there is no reason not to feed birds in the summer as well. The most important factor in setting up a successful feeding station is to offer a variety of foods and to place each in the proper settings. Four types of feeders are needed for any successful feeding station:

- A hanging feeder for sunflower seed
- A ground or tray type feeder for cracked corn and mixed seed
- A suet feeder
- A water source



Why not make a family project out of building a backyard bird feeding station by working with children to make feeders representing each of these categories? Basic descriptions for these simple feeders follow.

A hanging feeder with sunflower seed—A hanging feeder to provide sunflower seed, or an approved seed mix, for birds in your area is a standard element in any bird feeding station.

A ground or tray type feeder for cracked corn and mixed seed—Simply provide an open shallow tray, box, or board that is set 1 to 1½ feet off the ground. Choose seed that doesn't attract predators, such as white millet, and avoid table scraps. Birds that usually don't visit any kind of hanging feeder, including juncos and mourning doves, will feed at low lying trays.

Suet feeder—One of the best cold-weather bird foods is suet, a dense beef fat. Most suet feeders are wire mesh cages. You can also make a suet feeder by hanging a simple onion bag.

Water—Be sure to offer fresh water sources at all times of year.

During the summer months, try adding citrus fruits, bananas, pieces of apple and raisins to your feeding station. The fruits may draw orioles, House Finches, grosbeaks, tanagers, mockingbirds, thrashers, and catbirds. Figure 2, p. E-4, provides outlines for very simple, easy-to-make home feeders. Once you have your feeders built and feeding stations established, try one or more of the following activities:

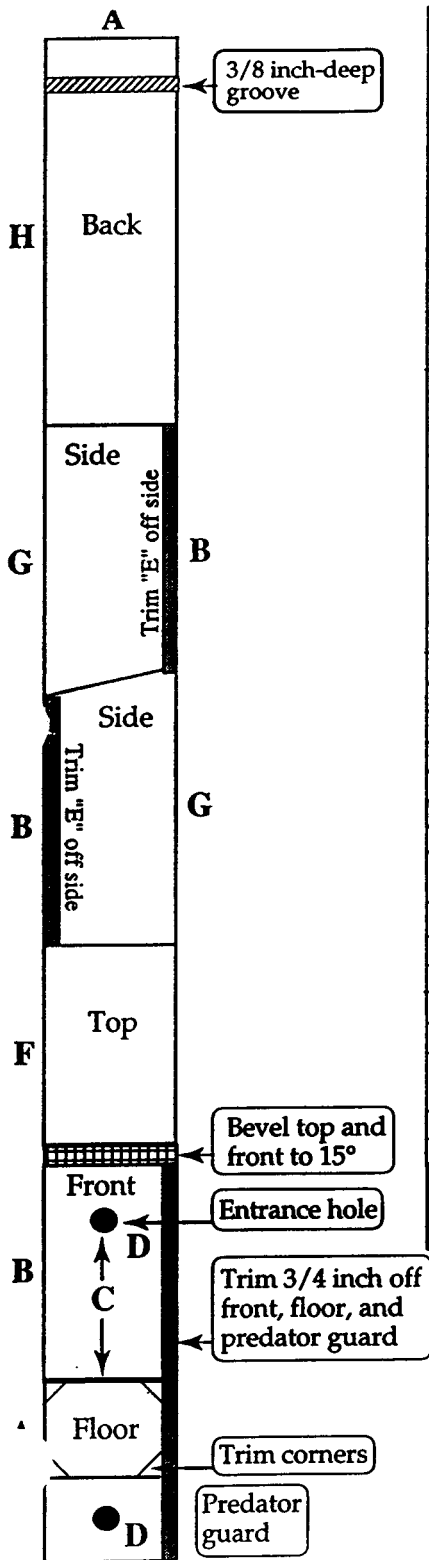
1) Engage children in bird observation by asking them to watch feeders at a regular time each day. Set up a chart with the following categories: Date, Time, Feeder 1, Feeder 2, Feeder 3. Ask children to note different birds that frequent each of the feeders. Use field guides to help them identify birds coming to each type of feeder.

2) Have children try to determine the food preferences of the specific birds coming to your feeders. Which birds seem to prefer which foods? Contribute to [Project FeederWatch](#) (Resources, F-3), a program which collects bird feeding data from children and adults across the country.

3) Get together with other families in your neighborhood, or join with a scout troop, boys and girls club, or after-school group to conduct a nest box or bird feeder building contest. Add an element of competition by convening a panel of judges drawn from a local architect's office, a bird supply store, a nearby wildlife refuge, nature center, or other wildlife authorities. Pitch "Home and Garden" and "Entertainment" editors to publicize results of your nest box and bird feeder contest in your newspaper and perhaps even on local television news shows.



**FIGURE 1
NEST BOX DIMENSIONS**



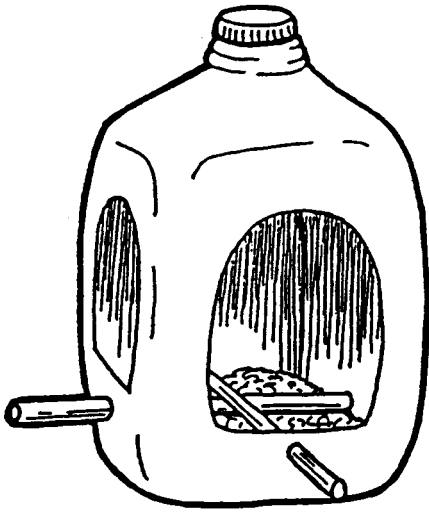
Species	Floor (inches)	Front (inches)	Entrance Above Floor (inches)	Diameter Entrance Hole (inches)	Actual Board Thickness (inches)	Top (inches)	Side (inches)	Side (inches)
Wood Duck†	10x12	22	17	4x3	1	16	24	27
Common Goldeneye	12x12	24	20	5	1	16	26	29
Barrow's Goldeneye	9x9	30	24	4	1	13	32	35
Bufflehead	7x7	16	13	2 7/8	1	11	18	21
Hooded Merganser	10x10	18	13	5	1	14	20	23
Common Merganser	11x11	40	35	5	1	15	42	45
American Kestrel	8x8	15	12	3	1	12	17	20
Barred Owl	12x12	24	14	6	1	16	26	29
Screech-owl	8x8	15	11	3	1	12	17	20
Boreal Owl	7x7	18	14	2 1/2x5	1	11	20	23
Saw-whet Owl	6x6	12	8	2 1/2	3/4	9 1/2	14	17
Red-headed Woodpecker	6x6	12	9	2	3/4	9 1/2	14	17
Golden-fronted Woodpecker	6x6	12	9	2	3/4	9 1/2	14	17
Downy Woodpecker	4x4	9	7	1 1/4	3/4	7.5	10	14
Hairy Woodpecker	6x6	15	12	1 5/8	3/4	9 1/2	17	20
Northern Flicker	7x7	18	14	2 1/2	1	11	20	23
Great Crested Flycatcher	6x6	10	8	1 9/16*	3/4	9 1/2	11	15
Ash-throated Flycatcher	6x6	10	8	1 1/2	3/4	9 1/2	11	15
Purple Martin	6x6	6	1	2 1/4	3/4	9 1/2	7	11
Tree Swallow	5x5	10	7	1 1/2*	3/4	8 1/2	11	15
Violet-green Swallow	5x5	10	7	1 1/2*	3/4	8 1/2	11	15
Chickadees	4x4	9	7	1 1/8	3/4	7 1/2	10	14
Titmice	4x4	9	7	1 1/4	3/4	7 1/2	10	14
Brown-headed Nuthatch & Pygmy Nuthatch	4x4	9	7	1 1/8	3/4	7 1/2	10	14
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4x4	9	7	1 1/4	3/4	7 1/2	10	14
White-breasted Nuthatch	4x4	9	7	1 3/8	3/4	7 1/2	10	14
Carolina Wren	4x4	8	6	1 1/2*	3/4	7 1/2	9	13
Bewick's Wren	4x4	8	6	1 1/4	3/4	7 1/2	9	13
House Wren	4x4	8	6	1 1/4	3/4	7 1/2	9	13
Eastern Bluebird & Western Bluebird †	4x4	10	6 1/2	1 1/2*	3/4	7 1/2	11	15
Mountain Bluebird	4x4	10	7	1 9/16*	3/4	7 1/2	11	15
Prothonotary Warbler	4x4	6	4	1 3/8	3/4	7 1/2	7	11

† Detailed plans available in other Bird Notes from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.
* Precise measurement required; if diameter is larger, starlings may take over box.

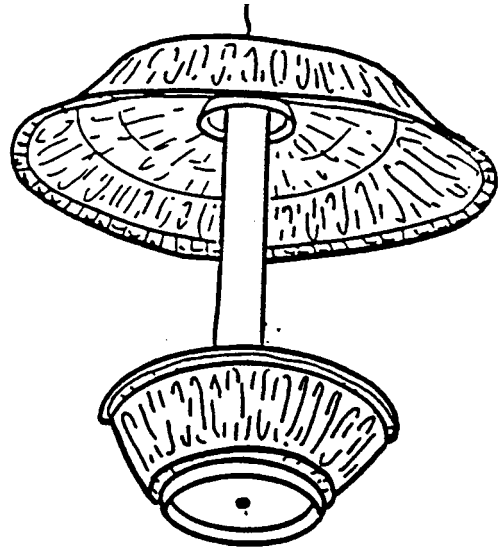
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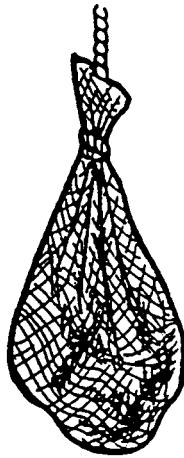
FIGURE 2
BIRD FEEDERS



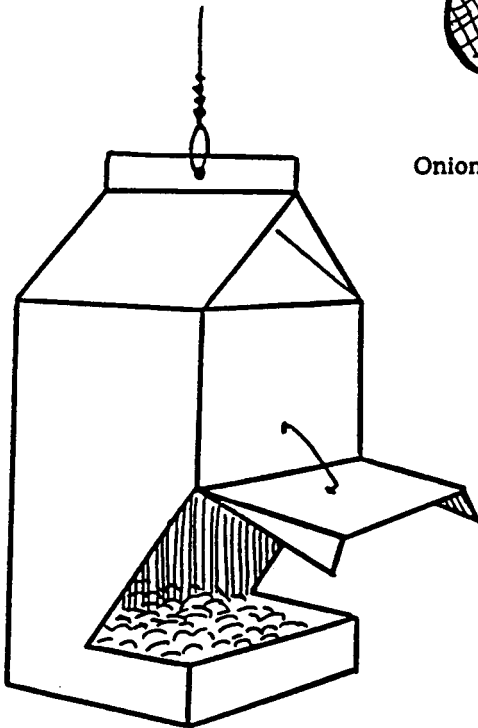
Milk jug feeder



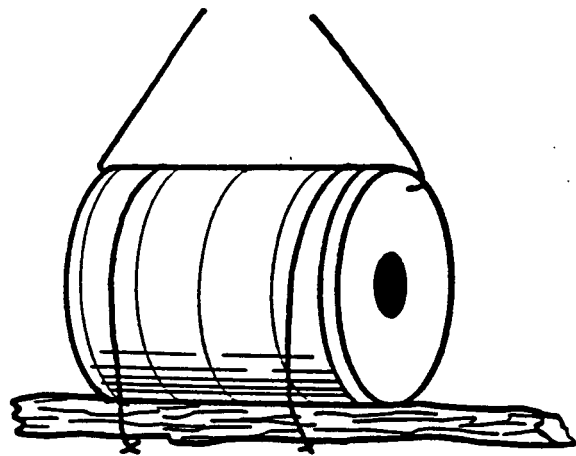
Pie plate feeder



Onion sack suet feeder



Milk carton feeder



Coffee can feeder

From *Nature's Recyclers*, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



Migratory Bird Media Masters

While a large and growing number of Americans enjoy watching and feeding birds, many experience only those familiar species which frequent backyards and bird feeders. The efforts of *Partners in Flight* have helped to raise awareness of Neotropical migratory birds and the need for their conservation. However, there is still much that needs to be done.

The ability to make effective use of the news media is one of our most powerful tools to quickly educate our neighbors of the need for bird conservation. The guidelines below are designed to help you quickly and easily become a **Migratory Bird Media Master**:

- Develop your message, media pitch, and local story angles
- Generate a variety of story ideas
- Determine your audiences
- Develop specific, measurable objectives for targeted audiences
- Identify media strategies
- Obtain gubernatorial and mayoral proclamations
- Follow an IMBD media time line

DEVELOP YOUR MESSAGE, MEDIA PITCH, AND LOCAL STORY ANGLES

A strong pitch is key to “selling” migratory bird conservation to the news media. Fine tune the general IMBD message(s) you developed in Planning your IMBD Programs (Getting Started, p. 1). See also IMBD Communications Points (Getting Started, p. 5) and Economic Values of Bird-related Recreation (Resources, A-1). Localize your media pitch by asking “Why should members of the news media care about migratory bird conservation? What makes migratory birds and their annual return to your area unique? What species are especially significant to your state? Are their populations declining?”

GENERATE A VARIETY OF STORY IDEAS

You never know who might be interested in what aspect of migratory bird conservation. Ideas for stories might include: economic values of birds and birding in your community; conservationists’ profiles; importance of key local habitats; migration feats of species breeding in your area; ornithological research carried out at a local university or college; or a partnership conducted by a local conservation group with Latin American communities.

DETERMINE YOUR AUDIENCES

Which audiences identified in Planning your IMBD Programs (Getting Started, p. 1) will be most responsive to what they see and hear through news media? To whom is it most important to focus your media efforts?



DEVELOP SPECIFIC, MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES FOR TARGET AUDIENCE GROUPS

What changes in awareness, attitudes, or behaviors in target audience groups do you want to impact through your media efforts? Do you hope to raise awareness among officials of the economic values of birds? Do you want to influence local politicians to support wise land use decisions?

IDENTIFY MEDIA STRATEGIES

What media strategies will you use to meet objectives for target audiences identified above? You may choose to conduct a press conference; lead a media tour; or simply generate as many stories as possible in local newspapers, magazines, and on television and radio stations. Other ideas might include: behind the scenes tours of refuges, zoos, and wildlife sanctuaries; bird walks escorted by local experts; demonstrations of bird banding or rehabilitated birds. Live birds, children and families, and local politicians interacting with families will help attract the media.

OBTAIN GUBERNATORIAL AND MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS FOR IMBD

Make use of the proclamation materials (Projects and Activities, F-4) to help you obtain official proclamations for IMBD by your state governor and city mayor.

FOLLOW A MEDIA TIME TABLE

A suggested time line for developing strong media coverage for your IMBD events is outlined below:

6 WEEKS BEFORE IMBD

- Develop your media list.
- Send initial press releases to all contacts on your media list.
- Send letters requesting IMBD proclamations to the state governor's and city mayor's office (Projects and Activities, F-4,5).

4 WEEKS BEFORE IMBD

- Follow up with all media contacts. Focus on developing strong relationships with these individuals. Offer to provide any additional information that will help sell your stories. Contact weather reporters. Ask them to run a series of spots on bird migration. Offer to send them information on general distribution of migration as the birds are moving northward to your community.
- Follow up with phone calls to state and local politicians' offices to inquire of willingness to issue IMBD proclamations. Request politicians to personally present proclamations at your press events.
- Contact press secretaries or public relations staff of federal and state agency offices to work with you. Many of these individuals are most willing to help develop positive media opportunities.



2 WEEKS BEFORE IMBD

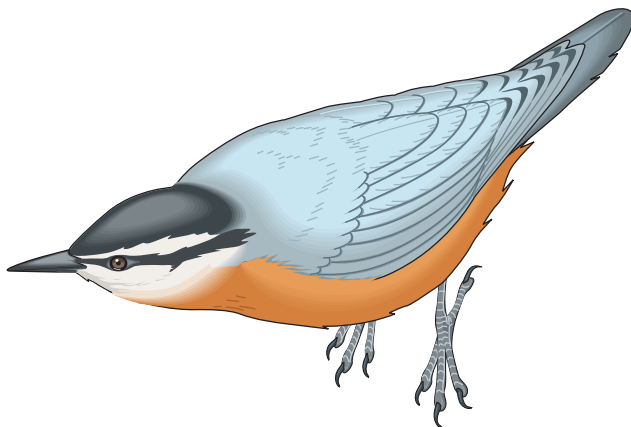
- Send a media advisory to all contacts on your media list providing them the What, When, and Where of your press event.

1 WEEK BEFORE IMBD

- Make all last minute preparations for your press event(s).
- Communicate with all public officials who will be attending your event to make sure their logistical needs are handled.
- Make final pitch calls to all contacts on your press list.

AT YOUR EVENT(S)

- Designate a small group of volunteers to watch for all invited VIPs and members of the press. Once identified, make sure these individuals are well taken care of. Don't forget to enjoy yourself at your IMBD press events. IMBD only happens once a year!



OBTAINING IMBD GUBERNATORIAL AND MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS

Date

Honorable governor/mayor/city or county official

Address

Street

City, State, Zip

Dear Governor/ Mayor/County Official:

I am writing to request a proclamation for International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD). Celebrated annually the second Saturday in May, IMBD heralds the return of migratory birds to their nesting grounds throughout North America. IMBD is celebrated by hundreds of communities and thousands of individuals across the country in an effort to raise awareness of declines in these species and the need for conservation of their habitat. It is the hallmark, annual event of *Partners in Flight* the international conservation program whose mission is to stem declines in migratory birds. A formal proclamation for IMBD from your office would significantly elevate recognition for this important event across the (state/city).

(Organization/Community) is planning (brief description of activities). (State/city/community) is home to (#) species of migratory birds and provides important breeding habitats for such species as (list species which breed in your area). (#, #, # and #) are "species of management concern" (see species of management concern-Resources, p. C-2) in (state) and are especially at risk in this region.

While some bird populations are in trouble in (state, county, region), the bird watching and bird feeding industries are growing rapidly. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service documents that some 64 million Americans currently enjoy bird watching and bird feeding and generate \$20 billion to the national economy. Bird watching and bird feeding markets are also growing in (state/city/community). (Document any available facts on bird-related recreation or increase in bird supply retail stores. Interview a store owner to get this information).

For your information and convenience, I am enclosing a sample proclamation along with news releases and other background materials. I will call your office during the week of (week) to follow up on this inquiry.

Sincerely,

Name

Title



INVITING PARTICIPATION IN IMBD

Modify this template with appropriate names and dates to invite participation in your IMBD events.

PRESS RELEASE

For release: Date

Contact: Name

Phone: Number

International Migratory Bird Day

Name of City, State (Name of organization) is inviting local conservation groups, area businesses, and federal, state, and local agencies to participate in International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD), (date) at the (name of location).

(Organizing group) is planning (theme and focus of your event) in an effort to increase awareness of Neotropical migratory birds and the need for conservation of their habitat in (your city, county, state), Neotropical migratory birds include familiar birds such as warblers, tanagers, and thrushes that winter in Central and South America and spend the summer breeding in our own backyards.

IMBD is recognized as the keystone event for Partners in Flight, the international conservation program whose goal is to reverse declines in migratory bird populations. (Name of the organization) invites you to celebrate the return of Neotropical migrants by joining us at (location of event). IMBD events are scheduled for (date/times/location).

IMBD is a production of Partners in Flight, the international conservation program whose goal is to stem declines of Neotropical migratory birds. This year's events are sponsored by National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Phillips Petroleum Company, Busch Entertainment Corporation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Defense, and U.S. Forest Service (add local sponsors).

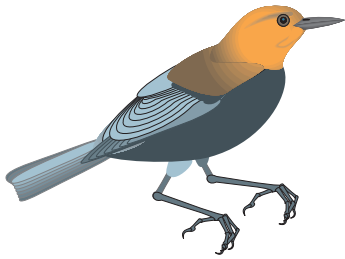
For more information on how you and your organization can become involved in IMBD, please contact (name and phone number of contact person).





Pathways to Birding

Pathways to Birding is a new approach to introduce non-birders to the joys of bird watching and also to generate revenue for bird conservation in your community. *Pathways to Birding* provides an interdisciplinary approach to education, interpretation, and fundraising for bird conservation. The program offers four basic themes, or Pathways:



- Beginning Bird Watching and Bird Identification
- What You Will Need
- Places to Go
- Conservation

These themes can provide any group or individual the basic information and equipment needed to participate in bird watching and to engage in local bird conservation projects. Adapt these themes based on resources available to you in your local community. For example, if a banding station is located nearby, incorporate a Pathway on the importance of banding research to bird conservation.

HOW IT WORKS

- Pathways are consecutive learning stations, each representing topics noted above and set up at a common location. There are four individual stations, including a table-top display and information and resource materials (field guides, study skins, binoculars, etc.). Stations are attended by experts who conduct presentations, answer questions, and generally orient participants to his or her Pathways station. As participants move through the stations, they receive instruction in bird watching and conservation and have the opportunity to sample or purchase products and materials related to the topic.
- All four (or more) Pathway stations should be set up at a common location—outside a National Wildlife Refuge; state or county park; on a university or college campus; school or nature center property; even a bird supply store parking lot (permits are generally required). In the case of inclement weather, *Pathways to Birding* could even be set up indoors—in a high school gymnasium, local shopping mall, or city armory.
- On IMBD, participants pass by the Pathways stations learning about the different themes and topics on the way and sampling supplies, materials, and equipment necessary to conduct the activity. A profit sharing program with participating vendors can be established whereby a portion of sales goes to bird conservation. Added incentives can be offered such as raffle tickets for a grand prize drawing at the end of the day.



HOW TO DEVELOP A PATHWAYS TO BIRDING PROJECT

1) Identify the themes or topics you want to include as Pathways. Use the four listed below or add other Pathways based on local resources.

2) Identify the expertise and resources required for each Pathway. The outline below can help determine expertise you will need.

STATION I BEGINNING BIRD WATCHING AND BIRD IDENTIFICATION

Expert to instruct in basic bird watching and bird identification techniques.

STATION II WHAT YOU WILL NEED

Expert to discuss capabilities of various brands of binoculars and other optics; representative to provide optics, field guides, literature, and equipment.

STATION III PLACES TO GO

Expert to orient participants to birding opportunities in your community; Representative to provide local field guides, maps, and other information on local birding sites.

STATION IV CONSERVATION

Expert to discuss enhancing habitat for birds; garden center supplier to provide native plants, backyard habitat guides, etc.

3) Offer other partners opportunities to showcase exhibits or conduct presentations if they are not part of a Pathways learning station.

4) Businesses may be amenable to profit sharing in exchange for the exposure they will receive at your IMBD *Pathways to Birding* project. Solicit additional incentives discount coupons to stores, trips, goods and services, and promotions.

The keys to *Pathways to Birding* is that each participant learns about birds, bird watching and bird conservation, and can sample or purchase products and services needed to participate in these activities, and has a good time in the process.



Backyard Habitat for Birds

Each spring millions of migratory birds return to the United States and Canada to find less and less habitat in which to breed and raise young. Luckily, recent years have also seen a dramatic increase in the number of Americans working in their backyards and neighborhoods to enhance properties for birds. Whether you own acres or live in a city town house, there is much you can do to restore and improve habitat for birds on your property. Food, water, protective cover, and a sheltered place to raise young are basic requirements for breeding success among migratory and resident birds. The following guidelines outline basic principles for developing backyard bird habitats. Contact your county extension service and state wildlife agency for additional publications, expert advice on plant selection, and availability of backyard wildlife habitat registration programs. See *References and Resources* (Resources, F-1) for additional publications.

- Set your priorities
- Develop a map of your property
- Get your soil tested
- Understand basic habitat components needed by birds
- Develop your planting plan
- Throw an IMBD Backyard Habitat for Birds picnic

SET YOUR PRIORITIES

A well designed backyard landscape, with a diverse combination of plants, open space, and buildings, can offer many parallels to natural bird habitats. Determine the types of birds you wish to attract. Assess your property to identify the features that may already be attracting birds to your yard. Note existing natural features in the surrounding neighborhood that may be attracting birds, such as a park, small pond, field, or even a drainage ditch, and take advantage of these naturally occurring resources. Taking stock of your property and the surrounding community will help you develop a comprehensive planting plan best suited for your backyard.

CREATE A MAP OF YOUR PROPERTY

Using graph paper, map of all trees, shrubs, flower and vegetable beds as well as physical features including buildings and fences. Indicate sunny and shady areas and low and wet sites that currently exist on your property. This will represent a “before” picture of your property. You will later develop an “after” picture to depict the ideal Backyard Habitat for Birds you wish to create.



GET YOUR SOIL TESTED

A soil test by your county extension service or soil conservation service will determine the type of soil you have and whether any deficiencies exist. Soil type is a key factor in determining the types of plants will grow there. Consult with a county extension agent or other landscaping expert on ways to enhance soils with the using organic materials.

UNDERSTAND BASIC HABITAT COMPONENTS NEEDED BY BIRDS

There are seven types of plants considered important for bird habitat. These include:

CONIFERS—Evergreen trees and shrubs including pines, spruces, firs, arborvitae, junipers, cedars, and yews to provide cover, winter shelter, and summer nesting sites. Some also provide sap, buds, and seeds.

GRASSES AND LEGUMES—Grasses and legumes can provide cover for ground nesting birds—especially if the areas in grasses are not mowed during the nesting season. Some grasses and legumes also provide seeds. Obtain information on grass species considered native to your area.

NECTAR-PRODUCING PLANTS—Nectar producing plants attract hummingbirds and orioles. Flowers with tubular red corollas are especially attractive to hummingbirds.

SUMMER-FRUITING PLANTS—This category includes plants that produce fruits or berries from May through August. Among birds that can be attracted in the summer are Brown Thrashers, catbirds, robins, thrushes, waxwings, woodpeckers, orioles, cardinals, towhees, and grosbeaks. Summer fruiting plants include cherry, honeysuckle, raspberry, serviceberry, blackberry, blueberry, grape, mulberry, plum, and elderberry.

FALL FRUITING PLANTS—Fall fruiting plants are an important food source for migratory birds to build up fat reserves for migration. Fall fruiting plants include dogwoods, mountain ash, winter-berries, cottoneasters, and buffalo-berries.

WINTER FRUITING PLANTS—Winter fruiting plants are those whose fruits remain attached to the plants long after they first become ripe in the fall. Examples include: glossy black checkerberry, "Siberian" and "red splendor" crabapple, snowberry, bittersweet, sumac, highbush blueberry, cranberry, eastern and European wahoo, and Virginia creeper.



DEVELOP YOUR PLANTING PLAN

Sketch on your map plants you wish to add to create your Backyard Habitat for Birds. Trees should be drawn to a scale that represents three-fourths their mature width. This will help you determine how many tree and shrubs of what varieties you can add. Consult with local garden centers, county extension agents, and other landscaping experts about native plant varieties for each of the seven categories noted above. Don't feel you have to develop your entire Backyard Habitat for Birds all at once. You will ultimately have more success by developing your backyard habitat in small, discrete steps.

THROW AN IMBD BACKYARD HABITAT FOR BIRDS PICNIC

Don't miss an opportunity to *Share your Passion for Birds* by including your family, neighbors, and other friends in planting your Backyard Habitat for Birds. Throw an "IMBD Backyard Habitat for Birds Picnic" to allow these individuals the opportunity to help with plantings; give them a sense that they are doing something positive for birds; and educate them about bird conservation and the need for habitat restoration in your community. Provide take-home literature to encourage anyone who attends to also develop a Backyard Habitat for Birds project. Before you know it your Backyard Habitat for Birds project will have motivated similar projects throughout your neighborhood.





Migratory Bird Conservation Online

Get with the Net! Your computer terminal and Internet can make bird migration come alive right in your own home. Use a computer to make IMBD 1996 an electronic, interactive celebration of migration—after all, bird migration is an electrifying event!

The Journey North program welcomes scientists, conservation professionals, naturalists, teachers and their students, birders, and all others involved with Partners in Flight network to share their knowledge about migratory birds with students over the Internet.

Journey North is an annual Internet-based project that engages students in a global study of wildlife migration and seasonal change. Over 20,000 students from the U.S. and Canada are participating this spring. Beginning every year on Groundhog Day (February 2), students track spring as it sweeps across the continent of North America. With global classmates and state-of-the-art computer technology, they predict the arrival of spring from half a world away.

Up-to-the-minute news about migration is exchanged between classrooms as students report observations from their own home towns. With the help of field biologists, the dramatic migrations of several migratory species are tracked by satellite. This gives students a bird's-eye view of the remarkable challenges birds face as they migrate.

Linked to classrooms from the tropics to the tundra, students conduct interactive, comparative studies of the natural world. In addition to following migrations, they observe the local emergence of spring through studies of changing day length, temperature, and other events.

They watch the food chain come back to life, and see how migratory birds fit in. Together students gather, organize, and analyze their own data about familiar, backyard signs of spring. The Internet then lets them view nature in a global context and see the interdependence of living systems.



See other side...



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Here is how to “get with the Net” this IMBD:

- ✈ In 1996, we are focusing on Baltimore Orioles, Common Loons, Peregrine Falcons, Bald Eagles, and American Robins. Send your observations of these species to Journey North via E-mail (jnorth@learner.org) or the World Wide Web (<http://www.learner.org/k12>).
- ✈ even if you don't have time to see these birds, contact Journey North anyway! You can track the migration of these birds through observations made by others.
- ✈ contribute a brief news story about spring migration in your area. Journey North will post your story on the Internet so others can “share your passion for birds!”
- ✈ write a brief story about your ongoing bird research or monitoring project. You can talk about banding programs, the effect of weather on migration, or anything else that interests you.
- ✈ share you knowledge of computers, the Internet, and birds with a local class or scout troop. Use the Internet and Journey North as your entre to open up a whole new world for these students.
- ✈ contact Journey North to learn about a whole new world of activities that are available to you over the Internet!

DOES THIS WORK?

Journey North
125 North First Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401
Phone: 612-339-6959
Fax: 612-339-7056
E-mail: jnorth@learner.org
WWW: <http://www.learner.org/k12>



IMBD Event Reporting Form

Tell us about the exciting events and activities you conducted for IMBD 1996. Your feedback is vital to help further develop IMBD in ways that meet your needs. Please take a moment to complete and return this form to: IMBD, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Migratory Bird Management, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 634, Arlington, VA 22203.

I) Contact Information

Organization/Agency/Business

Address

Location of Event(s)

Date(s) of Event(s)

Contact Person

Telephone

II) Event Description Describe IMBD events and activities you conducted by checking all that apply. Please provide a brief narrative of your events and include any additional information that help to describe your activities.

- A) Commitment to Bird Conservation B) North American Migration Count
C) Power Bird Walk D) Migratory Bird Youth Education Projects
E) Nest Box and Feeder Building Project F) Migratory Bird Media Masters
G) Pathways to Birding H) Backyard Habitat for Birds
I) Online Migratory Bird Conservation J) Modification of Previous Year Success Story
K) Other, please describe

Additional information you wish to add

* Remember to include pictures, press releases, news articles, etc.

III) Participation

A) Audience groups you reached through your IMBD events and activities.

Place the letter P next to those groups you consider *Primary* target audiences.

Place the letter S next to those groups you consider *Secondary* target audiences.

- Youth Members of the news media Local politicians Business leaders
 Private land owners General adult audience Public land managers International
 Other: _____

B) Estimated number of participants from each group in your IMBD activities.

- Children Adults Local Officials Media

IV) Media Outreach

A) Estimated number of IMBD stories obtained in each type of news media. (Please attach copies of news clips).

- Newspapers Magazine/Newsletters Radio Television

V) Revenue

A) Estimated funds raised through IMBD events

B) Project(s) or program(s) to which funds are directed



IMBD 1996 Organizer's Packet Reporting Form

I) Please indicate which components of the IMBD 1996 Organizer's Packet you found useful and which you did not find useful.

Topics	Very Useful	Useful	Not Useful
Planning IMBD Programs and Events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IMBD Communication Points	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IMBD Action Agenda	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commitment to Bird Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
North American Migration Count	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Power Bird Walks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Migratory Bird Youth Education Projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Building Nest Boxes and Bird Feeders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Migratory Bird Media Masters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pathways to Birding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Backyard Habitats for Birds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online Migratory Bird Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1995 IMBD Success Stories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bucks for Birds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Did You Know?</i> Facts About Migratory Birds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Partners in Flight</i> Species List	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State-by-State Lists of PIF Priority Species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Partners in Flight</i> Contacts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IMBD 1996 Announcement and Order Forms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Camera-Ready Clip Art	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
References and Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

II) Please let us know what new topics you would most like to see included in the IMBD 1997 Organizer's Packet.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1) _____ | 5) _____ |
| 2) _____ | 6) _____ |
| 3) _____ | 7) _____ |
| 4) _____ | 8) _____ |

III) Did you find information contained in the IMBD 1996 Organizer's Packet presented in an accessible, "user-friendly" manner?

Accessibility of information very satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/>	Accessibility of information Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/>	Accessibility of information could be improved <input type="checkbox"/>
--	---	--

IV) Please provide any additional comments that would help improve the IMBD 1997 Organizer's Packet.



Bucks from Birds: Economic Values of Bird-related Recreation

For birders, the thrill of birdwatching often comes in the sights, sounds, and serenity of spotting colorful migrants in a tranquil forest dawn. For others, the thrill of birdwatching comes in the birdwatcher's wallet! Wildlife-based recreation is a big business, producing billions of dollars annually in taxes, sales, and salaries. Recent studies have determined that birdwatching and wildlife photography yield substantial economic benefits for communities near refuges and protected areas. Birders need binoculars, field guides, maps, film, and other field gear. On a typical weekend they might fuel up the car, head down to the Refuge, buy lunch at a local diner, and spend the night in a motel. And when they get home, they fill up the bird feeder. All of these things cost money, and annually they add up to billions of dollars for the birds!

Highlighting the economic impact of birds and birdwatchers brings the habitat conservation message home to your community leaders. When publicizing the habitat needs of migratory birds in your area, try to include examples of how much money birdwatchers invest in the pursuit of wild birds. Birds should be seen as natural and economic attractions, and their habitats should be seen not as economic dead-zones but as fertile investments. Listed below are several facts related to the economic impacts of birdwatchers. The numbers may amaze you!

In the United States in 1991, 64 million people fed birds. Of the 54 million Americans who reported watching wildlife around their homes, about 51 million (94%) were "backyard" birdwatchers. (USDI Survey, 1993)

Each year, nongame wildlife appreciation in the United States generates a total economic return of \$20 billion (USDI, 1993). The largest part is contributed by bird enthusiasts.

A total of \$3 billion was spent in 1991 on equipment and supplies for nongame wildlife appreciation activities. (USDI Survey, 1993)

Annually, more than \$1 billion is spent on bird seed, feeders, baths, and nesting boxes. (USDI Survey, 1993)

The average birder annually spends more than \$350 on travel and paraphernalia related to birdwatching. Committed birders spend much more—on average, active birders annually spend about \$2,000 on birdwatching, with half that amount on travel, i.e. avitourism. (Wiedner and Kerlinger, 1990)

In 1991, 24 million Americans took trips for the express purpose of viewing and photographing wild birds. They spent \$2.5 billion on trip-related expenses, including \$1.5 billion on food and lodging. (USDI Survey, 1993)



In a 1990 survey, twice as many vacationers preferred to watch birds than play golf! (*Fortune*, 1990).

The best places to find birds are usually well-known. Less known, however, are details about the significant economic benefits provided to the communities surrounding these sites by birdwatchers. The effect of dollars spent by ecotourists is “multiplied” as tourist dollars become profits, then local wages, then consumer income once again, and so on. In some regions, this cumulative effect may be close to five-to-one. Consider the following examples:

- *Cape May, New Jersey*: More than 100,000 birders visit this area annually, providing a cumulative impact of nearly **\$10 million** (Kerlinger and Wiedner, 1991)
- *High Island, Texas*: In 1992, more than 6,000 birders visited this small Gulf Coast town. They spent \$2.5 million directly in the community, and generated for the region a total economic impact of about **\$6 million**. (Eubanks, Kerlinger, and Payne, 1993)
- *Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, Virginia*: The economic impact to the local community by wildlife viewers in 1994 was nearly **\$10 million**. (Kerlinger, 1994)
- *Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Pennsylvania*: More than 50,000 visitors each year contribute more than **\$4 million** to the local economy. (Kerlinger and Brett, 1990)
- *Grand Island, Nebraska*: At least 80,000 avitourists annually visit this rural community on the Platte River; they spend more than **\$15 million**, and provide to the region a cumulative “roll-over” benefit of nearly **\$40 million**. (Lingle, 1991)
- *Point Pelee, Ontario*: Another migration “hot-spot” that attracts more than 57,000 birders each year, who spend almost **\$4 million** in the area.
- *Arizona*: A University of Arizona study revealed that two birding “hot-spots” in southwestern Arizona attracted 38,000 avitourists in 1991, who in turn spent **\$1.6 million** and generated **\$2.7 million** in local economic impact, sustaining 56 local jobs. (*Common Ground*, 1993).
- *Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, Ohio*: More than **\$5 million** was spent by bird watchers visiting this refuge in 1993.



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Did You Know?

INTERESTING ECOLOGICAL FACTS ABOUT BIRDS

YOU MAY KNOW THAT *ROBIN EGGS ARE BLUE* AND MALE BIRDS *USUALLY ARE MORE COLORFUL* THAN FEMALES, BUT...

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Most birds do not mate for life, but instead switch mates every year or even between nesting attempts in the same year?
- The parasitic Brown-headed Cowbird is known to lay its own eggs in the nests of nearly 250 other species?
- About half of all nests are destroyed by predators?
- The typical adult passerine makes 4-10 trips to the nest each hour (12 hours or more a day) to feed its nestlings, which often results in the young weighing as much or more than the adults at fledging time?
- Most eastern forest fragments smaller than 100 acres receive so much predation and parasitism pressure that Neotropical migrants breeding there cannot even raise enough young to replace themselves?
- Birds nesting in tree or saguaro cavities in the hot Southwest often orient the entrance so that the prevailing winds can cool their cavity from the hot afternoon sun?
- Most small land birds place insects into their nestling's open gape, but many adult water birds (which regurgitate food) open their beaks and let their young reach into it to receive food?
- Most nestlings raised in open-cup nests spend only about 8-10 days in the nest after hatching, but the young of cavity-nesting species (such as woodpeckers and chickadees) remain within their well-protected confines about twice as long?
- Females usually do the nest building and incubation, with males sometimes bringing nest material or making small contributions to the actual nest construction?
- Most small land birds defend a breeding territory of ½ to 3 acres in size, while many hawks and eagles range over several square miles?



YOU MAY KNOW THAT ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF ALL NORTH AMERICAN SPECIES *MIGRATE TO THE TROPICS* EACH AUTUMN AND RETURN EACH SPRING, BUT...

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- More than half of all land bird nestlings that leave the nest die before they themselves are able to breed?
- The vast majority of birds in North America show some sort of migratory movements during the annual cycle — Neotropical migrants trek to the tropics, short-distance migrants travel to the southern United States, and so-called permanent residents often exhibit regional movements in response to the prevailing local weather?
- Very little is known about the ecological and habitat requirements of migratory birds along their migration routes?
- The Blackpoll Warbler flies from southern Canada directly to South America in a single 80 hour, non-stop flight (a 3,000 kilometer trip that is equivalent to a human running a 4-minute mile for 80 straight hours)?
- Most songbirds migrate at night, but some species migrate during any time of day (waterfowl, shorebirds), and some birds that feed on the wing (swifts and swallows) or require warm thermals (hawks) travel during daylight hours?
- Birds probably use the stars, the Earth's magnetic fields, visual landmarks, or a combination of these for orientation during migration; many birds are able to return to the exact same territory year after year?
- The Gulf Coasts of the United States and southern Mexico (Yucatan) are important areas for migrants to build up fat reserves — often putting on 5% of their body weight each day — before making the 1,000 kilometer flight across the Gulf of Mexico?
- Radio towers and other tall man-made structures kill tens of thousands of migrating birds every year when “low ceilings” (clouds) force them below their typical 500-2,000 meter flying altitudes?
- Males often precede females by a week or so during spring migration?
- Many normally insectivorous species consume large quantities of fruit (which are high in carbohydrates and lipids) before and during autumn migration in order to build up fat reserves?



YOU MAY KNOW THAT *TROPICAL RAINFORESTS* ON THE WINTERING
GROUNDS ARE BEING DESTROYED AT A RAPID RATE, BUT...

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Neotropical migrants often defend territories on the wintering grounds, much in the same way they do during the breeding season?
- Many Neotropical migratory species do not require pristine forests in which to spend the winter, but instead are found in overgrown fields, forest fragments, disturbed forests, residential areas, and coffee plantations?
- Most long-distance migrants overwinter in southern Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central America, an area only about one-eighth as large as their combined North American breeding grounds?
- About one-third of all Neotropical migratory land birds are known to eat fruit during the winter?
- Most migratory land birds from western North America overwinter in western Mexico and Guatemala, whereas those from eastern North America typically overwinter in eastern Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, and northern South America?
- Males and females of at least two dozen migratory species are known to use different habitats in tropical wintering areas, with males usually occupying more mature, taller vegetation and females lower stature and edge habitats?
- More than 40% of the moist forests and nearly all of the dry forests in Latin America and the Caribbean have been converted to other land uses?
- The Worm-eating Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, and Blue-winged Warbler are “aerial leaf-litter specialists” in the tropics, spending most of their time foraging for roaches and spiders in dead leaves caught in the subcanopy and understory of forests?
- Solitary Vireo, Magnolia Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Hermit Warbler, American Redstart, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Townsend’s Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, and other Neotropical migrants often are found in large flocks with other resident and migratory species in the tropics?
- The large influx of Neotropical migrants each winter into the tropics does not alter the behavior or habitat use of most resident, tropical species?



FINALLY, YOU MAY KNOW THAT *PARTNERS IN FLIGHT* IS WORKING HARD
TO *KEEP COMMON BIRDS COMMON*, BUT...

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- There are 20% fewer Chestnut-sided Warblers, 80% fewer Loggerhead Shrikes, 50% fewer Black Terns, and 80% fewer Olive-sided Flycatchers and Curve-billed Thrashers today than there were in the 1960s?
- Habitat loss and degradation are the primary causes for the population declines of most bird species on the Endangered Species List?
- The number of species on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's national list of *Species of Management Concern* expanded in the 10 year period between 1987 and 1996?
- Even 30 years after Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, pesticides and other contaminants still kill tens of thousands of migratory birds each year, such as 30,000 waterfowl at one site in Mexico in 1994; 10,000 water birds in California in 1983; and up to 20,000 Swainson's Hawks in Argentina in 1994?
- Community nest box projects by families and conservation groups have helped bring back several species that were in real trouble, such as Eastern Bluebirds and Barn Owls?
- Despite closer attention to grassland and scrub habitats, Prairie Warblers, Painted Buntings, Grasshopper Sparrows, Eastern Meadowlarks, and Sprague's Pipits continue to decline in the 1990s?
- It is far more economical to keep common birds common, than to try to recover them once they become Endangered?
- There are 70% fewer American Bitterns, 20% fewer Chimney Swifts, 40% fewer Western Wood-Pewees, 30% fewer Black-billed Magpies, 40% fewer Veerys, 50% fewer Bay-breasted Warblers, and 80% fewer Cerulean Warblers today than only 30 years ago?
- More management plans, historically developed for game species, have integrated nongame birds than ever before in the histories of state and federal agencies?
- We still don't have good population monitoring information for more than half of all species that nest in North America?



Did You Know?

IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT HABITAT LOSS AND BIRDS

YOU MAY KNOW THAT MORE THAN 300 SPECIES OF BIRDS NEST IN THE *FORESTS* OF NORTH AMERICA, BUT...

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- More than 85% of forest habitats have been permanently destroyed or logged in the United States?
- Two out of every three woodland species in the Central United States have declined in abundance during the past 30 years?
- 99% of the original forests in the eastern United States have been cut, and the forests that regenerate or are replanted are often of lower quality for Neotropical migratory birds?
- More than 75% of riparian woodlands in the West have been destroyed, and that this loss has caused several bird species to be placed on the Endangered Species List?
- Most forests in the midwestern United States have been lost — for example, 99% of mature oak forest and beech-maple forest in Michigan, 96% of bottomland forests in Missouri, and 72% of northern hardwoods in Minnesota?
- In eastern Montana, about 90% of the trees in wooded draws have been removed?
- Most woodlands in eastern United States are less than 100 acres in size, and this allows parasitic Brown-headed Cowbirds and predators easy access to the nests of Neotropical migratory birds breeding there?
- 98% of the longleaf pine forests along the Southeastern Coastal Plain have been replaced?
- Only 5% of the original old-growth forests of the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee remain today?
- Nearly all of the temperate rainforests of Oregon have been logged?



YOU MAY KNOW THAT THE *GRASSLANDS* OF NORTH AMERICA HARBOR
DOZENS OF UNIQUE SPECIES OF BIRDS FOUND NO PLACE ELSE IN THE
WORLD, BUT...

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Although more than 400,000 square miles of tallgrass prairie once covered the United States (15% of the lower 48 states), 95% of those grasslands have been permanently destroyed or converted to agriculture?
- Three out of every four grassland bird species in North America have declined in abundance during the past 30 years?
- 99% of the Palouse prairie in the Pacific Northwest has been lost to agriculture?
- More than 90% of sagebrush habitats in the Southwest and Intermountain West have been overgrazed, and that cattle grazing usually results in significant degradation of nesting habitats for birds?
- Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana have lost more than 99% of their prairies during the past 150 years, and with those prairies went Upland Sandpipers, Dickcissels, and Bobolinks?
- In Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, only 5% of the once widespread coastal prairie remains?
- Most remaining grasslands in the East and Midwest are fragments so small that Brown-headed Cowbirds and predators can readily parasitize or destroy nests of birds nesting there?
- 94% of native grasslands in San Diego County, California have been developed?
- Properly reclaimed strip mines can provide excellent habitat for many grassland species?
- Land management practices such as fire suppression, grazing, and water regulation have created a massive invasion of exotic grasses and shrubs on millions of acres of native grasslands and steppe in western North America?



YOU MAY KNOW THAT HEALTHY *WETLANDS* PROVIDE CLEAN DRINKING WATER FOR CITIES AND TOWNS EVERYWHERE, BUT...

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- More than 50% of all wetlands in the contiguous United States have been drained or filled since the time of European settlement?
- The bottomland hardwood forests of the South have declined by more than 75%?
- Scientists know relatively little about the breeding ecology of many species of wetland birds, such as rails and shorebirds?
- More than half of all original barrier island vegetation and coastal wetlands in the United States have been destroyed or altered, thereby depriving birds important resting and feeding sites during migration?
- The Midwestern states have been particularly hard on their marshes and swamps — Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and Missouri have drained more than 90% of their original wetlands?
- 94% of inland wetlands have been drained in California, but Alaska has retained more than 90% of its original wetlands?
- Most Western states have destroyed one-third to one-half of their wetlands during the past 100 years?
- There are 30-70% fewer King Rails, Virginia Rails, Soras, Lesser Yellowlegs, and Black Terns today than there were only 30 years ago?
- More than half of all the areas identified as critical for Endangered Species are contained in wetlands?
- The North American Waterfowl Management Plan has protected, restored, or enhanced more than 15 million acres of marshes, potholes, and forested wetlands in Canada, the United States, and Mexico between 1986 and 1996?



FINALLY, YOU KNOW THAT BIRDS ARE *Fun* TO WATCH, BUT...

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Spruce budworms cause millions of dollars in damage each year in Northern and Western forests, but that five out of every six budworms are eaten by migratory birds?
- Birds are good indicators of the health of the environment, and that population declines of Peregrine Falcons and Ospreys in the 1960s alerted us that the pesticide DDT was harmful to all animals, including humans?
- In 1921, biologists estimated that, through insect control, birds saved farmers and timber owners \$44 million in losses?
- Homes in neighborhoods with large trees for birds cost less to cool and heat and are worth more than similar homes in neighborhoods without trees?
- Agricultural areas, such as orchards, with woodlots nearby usually have more birds than areas without woodlots, and that birds have been shown to consume 95% of the tree-damaging codling moths in those orchards?
- Many tropical birds, and birds that migrate to the tropics during the winter, are important for the pollination of many valuable species of flowers and trees?
- By eating thousands of leaf-damaging insects each day, birds in the Ozarks allow commercially-valuable white oak trees to grow faster than they would if birds weren't in those forests?
- Birds save the timber industry tens of millions of dollars in timber damage each year by consuming wood boring insects?
- The Blue Jay is one of the "Johnny Appleseeds" of the bird world, playing an important role in dispersal of acorns, and hence oak trees, in the Midwest?
- Raptors, such as Swainson's Hawks, Red-tailed Hawks, and Great-horned Owls, provide a natural control for rodents that destroy crops and infest grain supplies?



Just What Is a Neotropical Migrant?

The term “neotropical migrant” can be applied to any bird that migrates within the Neotropical Faunal Region. The *Partners in Flight* Program, however, focuses primarily on those species that nest in the Nearctic Faunal Region and winter in the Neotropical Region.

The Neotropical and Nearctic Faunal Regions are two of six geographically large areas characterized by 19th century zoogeographers as having distinctive kinds of animal life. The Neotropical Region includes all of tropical America, the non-tropical parts of South America, the West Indies, and other islands near South America. The Neotropical Region extends from the northern edge of the tropical rainforest in Mexico to Cape Horn. The Nearctic Region includes all of North America north of the tropics.

Thus, to be accurate, *Partners in Flight* concentrates on nearctic birds that migrate to the neotropics. To save breath, we call them “Neotropical migrants.”

The actual geographic boundaries between the Nearctic and Neotropical Regions are difficult to define because climate and vegetation changes occur gradually. John Rappole and his coauthors in their publication *Nearctic Avian Migrants in the Neotropics* defined the neotropics as the region of the Western Hemisphere located between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. Rappole et al. (1983) defined Neotropical migrants as “... any Western hemisphere species, all or part of whose populations breed north of the Tropic of Cancer and winter south of that line...”

The Research Working Group of the *Partners in Flight* Program chose the political border between the United States and Mexico as the dividing line between nearctic and Neotropical (“*Preliminary List of Neotropical Migrants*” 1991). The Research Working Group has further classified species of neotropical migrants by their primary breeding and wintering grounds. The “primary list” of Neotropical migrants includes species that breed primarily in the Nearctic Region, and winter south of the United States. Another class of species breeds and winters primarily in the Nearctic Region, but populations of some species winter south of the United States. A third category includes those species that breed primarily in the neotropics, with only the northern portion of their range in the United States. These species largely vacate the United States in the winter.

To help you identify those species considered Neotropical migrants, the Research Working Group list is included on the reverse side.

Rappole, J.H., E.S. Morton, T.E. Lovejoy, III, and J.L. Ruos. 1983. *Nearctic Avian Migrants in the Neotropics*. U.S. Government Printing Office: 1983 0-413-121.

Research Working Group *Preliminary List of Neotropical Migrants* 1991. Contact: Sidney A. Gauthreaux, Jr., Department of Biological Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina 29634-1903 (Phone: 803-656-3584).



Preliminary Lists of Migrants for Partners in Flight Neotropical Migrant Bird Conservation Program

The following four lists of migrant landbirds are grouped according to broad patterns of breeding and nonbreeding distribution. The emphasis is on landbirds because of the thrust of the Neotropical migrant bird conservation program. Other initiatives for the conservation of waterfowl and shorebirds are already underway, and a separate initiative for migrant landbirds was warranted.

The first list "A" contains those species that breed in North America and spend their nonbreeding period primarily south of the United States. This list contains species that are generally recognized as being "Neotropical" migrants. The second list "B" is made up of those species that breed and winter extensively in North America, but some populations winter south of the United States. The third list "C" contains those species whose breeding range is primarily south of the border and enter the United States where the Mexican Highlands extend into the United States and along the Rio Grande Valley. These populations largely vacate the United States during the winter months. The fourth list "D" contains those tropical species whose breeding range is restricted to the Florida Peninsula within the United States, and these species withdraw from Florida during the nonbreeding season.



LIST "A"

American Swallow-tailed Kite
Mississippi Kite
Broad-winged Hawk
Swainson's Hawk
Merlin
Peregrine Falcon
Mountain Plover
Upland Sandpiper
Long-billed Curlew
Band-tailed Pigeon
Black-billed Cuckoo
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Flammulated Owl
Burrowing Owl
Lesser Nighthawk
Common Nighthawk
Chuck-wills-widow
Whip-poor-will
Black Swift
Chimney Swift
Vaux's Swift
White-throated Swift
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Costa's Hummingbird
Calliope Hummingbird
Broad-tailed Hummingbird
Rufous Hummingbird
Allen's Hummingbird
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Western Wood-Pewee
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
Acadian Flycatcher
Alder Flycatcher
Willow Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
Hammond's Flycatcher
Dusky Flycatcher
Gray Flycatcher
Pacific-slope Flycatcher
Cordilleran Flycatcher
Vermilion Flycatcher
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Great Crested Flycatcher
Western Kingbird
Eastern Kingbird
Cassin's Kingbird
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Purple Martin
Violet-green Swallow
No. Rough-winged Swallow
Bank Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
House Wren
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Veery
Gray-cheeked Thrush
Swainson's Thrush
Wood Thrush
Gray Catbird
Phainopepla
White-eyed Vireo
Bell's Vireo
Black-capped Vireo
Gray Vireo
Solitary Vireo
Yellow-throated Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Philadelphia Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Bachman's Warbler
Blue-winged Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler
Nashville Warbler
Virginia's Warbler
Northern Parula
Yellow Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Cape May Warbler
Black-throated Blue Warbler
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Townsend's Warbler
Hermit Warbler
Black-throated Green Warbler
Golden-cheeked Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Yellow-throated Warbler
Grace's Warbler
Kirtland's Warbler
Prairie Warbler
Palm Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Blackpoll Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Black-and-white Warbler
American Redstart
Prothonotary Warbler
Worm-eating Warbler
Swainson's Warbler
Ovenbird
Northern Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush
Kentucky Warbler
Connecticut Warbler
Mourning Warbler
MacGillivray's Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Hooded Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Canada Warbler
Yellow-breasted Chat
Hepatic Tanager
Summer Tanager



Scarlet Tanager
Western Tanager
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Black-headed Grosbeak
Blue Grosbeak
Lazuli Bunting
Indigo Bunting
Painted Bunting
Dickcissel
Green-tailed Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Clay-colored Sparrow
Brewer's Sparrow
Black-chinned Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Lark Bunting
Baird's Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
Bobolink
Yellow-headed Blackbird
Orchard Oriole
Hooded Oriole
Baltimore Oriole
Bullock's Oriole
Scott's Oriole

LIST "B"

Turkey Vulture
Northern Harrier
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Cooper's Hawk
Northern Goshawk
Red-shouldered Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Ferruginous Hawk
Golden Eagle
American Kestrel
Prairie Falcon
Killdeer
Mourning Dove
Long-eared Owl
Short-eared Owl
Common Poorwill
Anna's Hummingbird
Belted Kingfisher
Lewis's Woodpecker
Red-naped Sapsucker
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Red-breasted Sapsucker
Williamson's Sapsucker
Northern Flicker
Eastern Phoebe
Say's Phoebe
Horned Lark
Tree Swallow
Brown Creeper
Rock Wren
Sedge Wren
Marsh Wren
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Eastern Bluebird
Western Bluebird

Mountain Bluebird
Townsend's Solitaire
Hermit Thrush
American Robin
Northern Mockingbird
Sage Thrasher
Bendire's Thrasher
American Pipit
Sprague's Pipit
Cedar Waxwing
Loggerhead Shrike
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Rufous-sided Towhee
Cassin's Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Black-throated Sparrow
Sage Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
McCown's Longspur
Chestnut-collared Longspur
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
Western Meadowlark
Brewer's Blackbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Purple Finch
Cassin's Finch
Pine Siskin
Lesser Goldfinch
Lawrence's Goldfinch
American Goldfinch



LIST "C"

Common Black-Hawk
Gray Hawk
Zone-tailed Hawk
White-winged Dove
Groove-billed Ani
Elf Owl
Buff-collared Nightjar
Broad-billed Hummingbird
Buff-bellied Hummingbird
Violet-crowned Hummingbird
Blue-throated Hummingbird
Magnificent Hummingbird
Lucifer Hummingbird
Elegant Trogon
Green Kingfisher
Northern Beardless Tyrannulet
Greater Pewee
Buff-breasted Flycatcher
Dusky-capped Flycatcher
Brown-crested Flycatcher
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher
Tropical Kingbird
Couch's Kingbird
Thick-billed Kingbird
Rose-throated Becard
Cave Swallow
Colima Warbler
Lucy's Warbler
Red-faced Warbler
Painted Redstart
Olive Warbler
Varied Bunting
Botteri's Sparrow
Bronzed Cowbird

LIST "D"

White-crowned Pigeon
Mangrove Cuckoo
Antillean Nighthawk
Gray Kingbird
Black-whiskered Vireo
Shiny Cowbird



State Lists of Partners in Flight Priority Species

High priority species are those species most in need of conservation action. In the *Partners in Flight* prioritization scheme, this determination is based on seven important biological criteria, such as threats within the breeding area and wintering area, population trends, and abundance of the species. Below are examples of high priority species within the United States, and within individual states.

TOP TEN HIGHEST RANKING PRIORITY SPECIES IN THE UNITED STATES

- Bachman's Warbler
- Golden-cheeked Warbler
- Kirtland's Warbler
- Black-capped Vireo
- Cerulean Warbler
- Colima Warbler
- Golden-winged Warbler
- Black Swift
- Baird's Sparrow
- Cassin's Sparrow



STATE HIGH PRIORITY SPECIES

ALASKA

- Black Swift
- Olive-sided Flycatcher
- Hammond's Flycatcher
- Grey-cheeked Thrush
- Townsend's Warbler

ALABAMA

- Bachman's Warbler
- Swainson's Warbler
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Wood Thrush
- Blue-winged Warbler

ARKANSAS

- Bachman's Warbler
- Swainson's Warbler
- Cerulean Warbler
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Worm-eating Warbler

ARIZONA

- Gray Vireo
- Lucy's Warbler
- Gray Flycatcher
- Bell's Vireo
- Virginia's Warbler

CALIFORNIA

- Hermit Warbler
- Lawrence's Goldfinch
- Black Swift
- Gray Vireo
- Allen's Hummingbird

COLORADO

- Mountain Plover
- Black Swift
- Gray Vireo
- McCown's Longspur
- Gray Flycatcher



CONNECTICUT

Blue-winged Warbler
 Wood Thrush
 Golden-winged Warbler
 Chestnut-sided Warbler
 Cerulean Warbler

DELAWARE

Swainson's Warbler
 Cerulean Warbler
 Chestnut-sided Warbler
 Blue-winged Warbler
 Hooded Warbler

FLORIDA

Swainson's Warbler
 Prothonotary Warbler
 Yellow-throated Vireo
 Hooded Warbler
 Red-shouldered Hawk

GEORGIA

Bachman's Warbler
 Swainson's Warbler
 Cerulean Warbler
 Wood Thrush
 Golden-winged Warbler

IOWA

Cerulean Warbler
 Dickcissel
 Chestnut-sided Warbler
 Sedge Wren

IDAHO

Black Swift
 Olive-sided Flycatcher
 Gray Flycatcher
 Burrowing Owl
 MacGillivray's Warbler

ILLINOIS

Cerulean Warbler
 Swainson's Warbler
 Black-billed Cuckoo
 Golden-winged Warbler
 Chestnut-sided Warbler

INDIANA

Cerulean Warbler
 Golden-winged Warbler
 Wood Thrush
 Blue-winged Warbler
 Chestnut-sided Warbler

KANSAS

Black-capped Vireo
 Cassin's Sparrow
 Mountain Plover
 Black-billed Cuckoo
 Cerulean Warbler

KENTUCKY

Bachman's Sparrow
 Cerulean Warbler
 Swainson's Warbler
 Blue-winged Warbler
 Golden-winged Warbler

LOUISIANA

Swainson's Warbler
 Prothonotary Warbler
 Painted Bunting
 Mississippi Kite

MASSACHUSETTS

Golden-winged Warbler
 Black-billed Cuckoo
 Wood Thrush
 Chestnut-sided Warbler
 Cerulean Warbler

MARYLAND

Golden-winged Warbler
 Swainson's Warbler
 Wood Thrush
 Worm-eating Warbler
 Chestnut-sided Warbler

MAINE

Chestnut-sided Warbler
 Philadelphia Vireo
 Black-billed Cuckoo
 Black-throated Blue Warbler

MICHIGAN

Kirtland's Warbler
 Golden-winged Warbler
 Sedge Wren
 Wood Thrush
 Cerulean Warbler

MINNESOTA

Golden-winged Warbler
 Chestnut-sided Warbler
 Cerulean Warbler
 Baird's Sparrow
 Sedge Wren

MISSOURI

Bachman's Warbler
 Cerulean Warbler
 Swainson's Warbler
 Bell's Vireo
 Prothonotary Warbler

MISSISSIPPI

Swainson's Warbler
 Cerulean Warbler
 Louisiana Waterthrush
 Painted Bunting



MONTANA

Baird's Sparrow
Mountain Plover
McCown's Longspur
Chestnut-collared Longspur
Long-billed Curlew

NORTH CAROLINA

Bachman's Warbler
Swainson's Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Worm-eating Warbler

NORTH DAKOTA

Baird's Sparrow
Chestnut-collared Longspur
Lark Bunting
Sprague's Pipit
Dickcissel

NEBRASKA

Black-capped Vireo
Mountain Plover
Cerulean Warbler
Swainson's Warbler
Black-billed Cuckoo

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Chestnut-sided Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Wood Thrush
Golden-winged Warbler
Cerulean Warbler

NEW JERSEY

Blue-winged Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Black-billed Cuckoo

NEW MEXICO

Gray Vireo
Mountain Plover
Black Swift
Gray Flycatcher
Bendire's Thrasher

NEVADA

Gray Flycatcher
Gray Vireo
Virginia's Warbler
Hermit Warbler
Bendire's Thrasher

NEW YORK

Golden-winged Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Wood Thrush

OHIO

Cerulean Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Blue-winged Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Great Crested Flycatcher

OKLAHOMA

Black-capped Vireo
Mountain Plover
Bell's Vireo
Swainson's Warbler
Mississippi Kite

OREGON

Hermit Warbler
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Black Swift
Gray Flycatcher
Williamson's Sapsucker

PENNSYLVANIA

Golden-winged Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Worm-eating Warbler
Swainson's Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler

RHODE ISLAND

Golden-winged Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler

SOUTH CAROLINA

Bachman's Warbler
Swainson's Warbler
Wood Thrush
American Swallow-tailed Kite
Chestnut-sided Warbler

SOUTH DAKOTA

Chestnut-collared Longspur
Long-billed Curlew
Cerulean Warbler
Baird's Sparrow
Bell's Vireo



TENNESSEE

Cerulean Warbler
Swainson's Warbler
Wood Thrush
Blue-winged Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler

TEXAS

Golden-cheeked Warbler
Black-capped Vireo
Bachman's Warbler
Cassin's Sparrow
Swainson's Warbler

UTAH

Gray Vireo
Gray Flycatcher
Virginia Warbler
Black Swift
Bendire's Thrasher

VIRGINIA

Bachman's Warbler
Golden-cheeked Warbler
Kirtland's Warbler
Black-capped Vireo
Wood Thrush

VERMONT

Chestnut-sided Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Philadelphia Vireo
Black-throated Blue Warbler

WASHINGTON

Black Swift
Hermit Warbler
Olive-sided Warbler
Gray Flycatcher
Long-billed Curlew

WISCONSIN

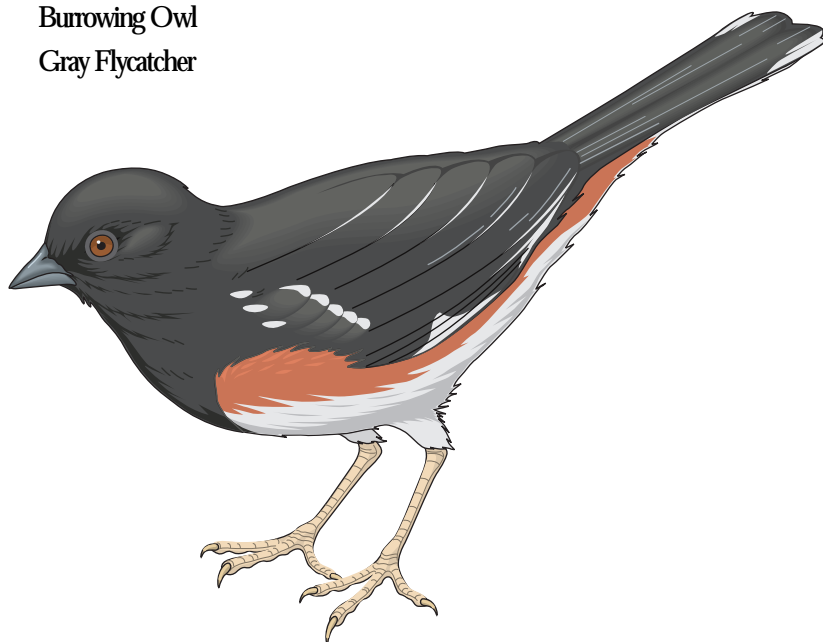
Golden-winged Warbler
Sedge Wren
Black-billed Curlew
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler

WEST VIRGINIA

Swainson's Warbler
Louisiana Warbler
Hooded Warbler
Black-billed Warbler
Wood Thrush

WYOMING

Mountain Plover
McCown's Longspur
Chestnut-collared Longspur
Burrowing Owl
Gray Flycatcher





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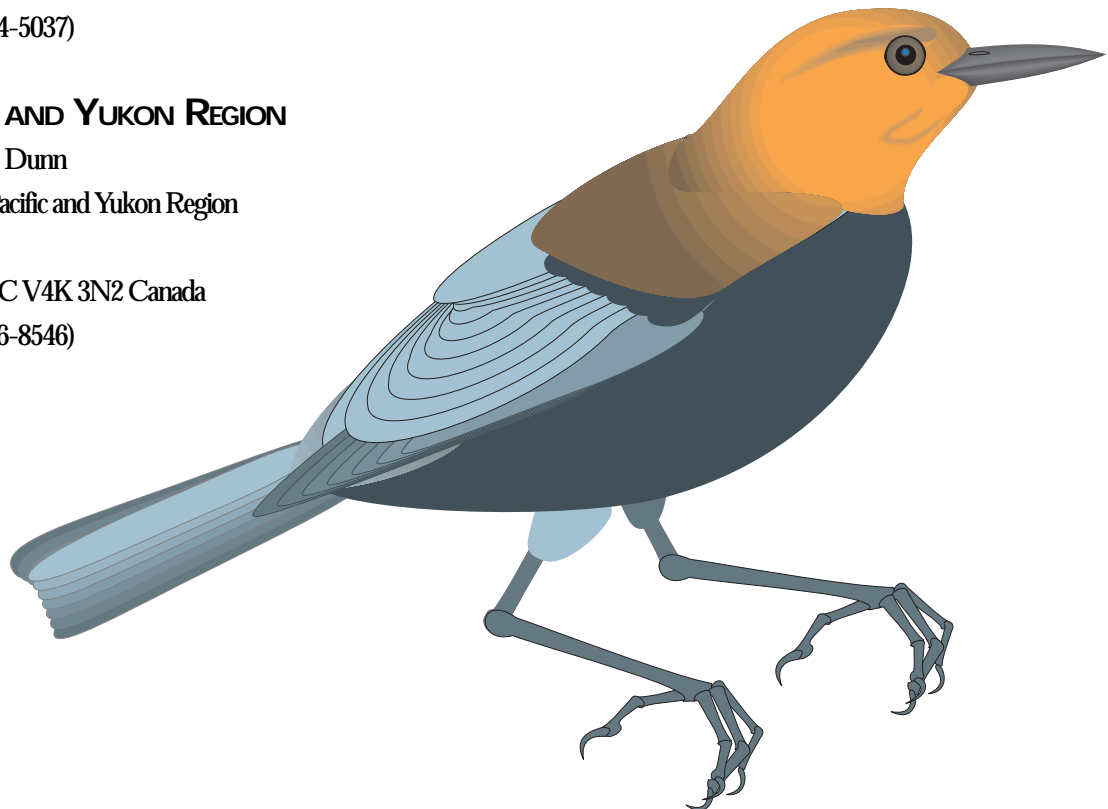
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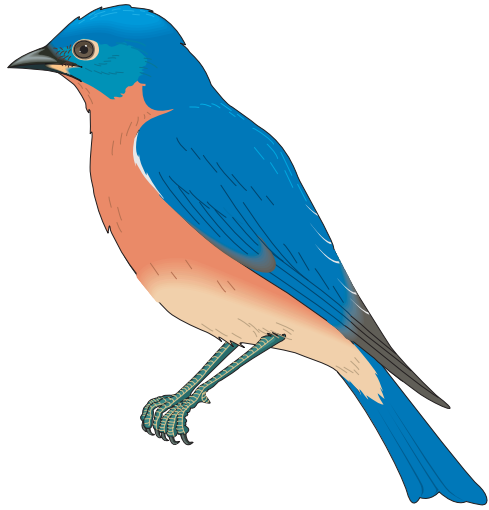
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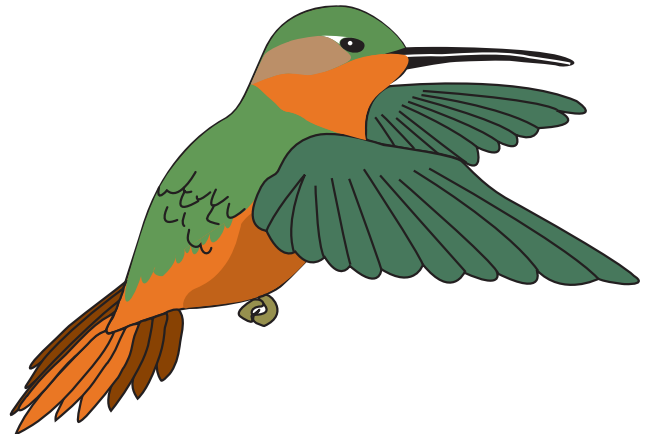
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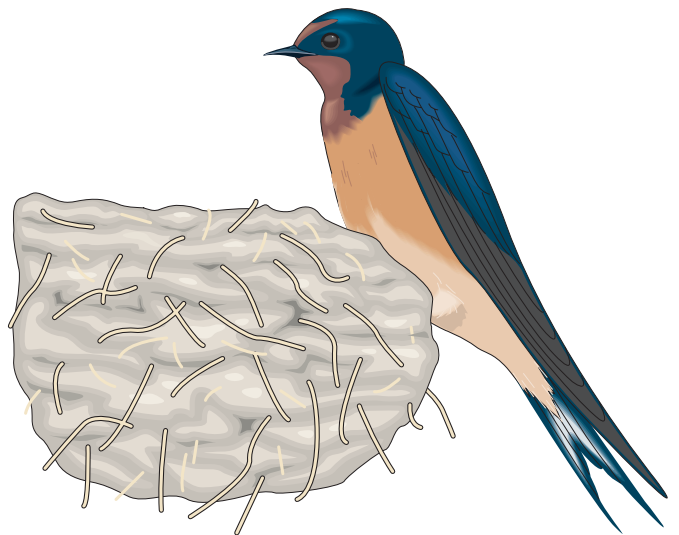
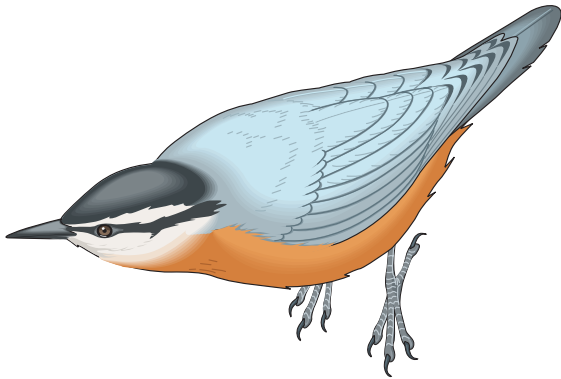
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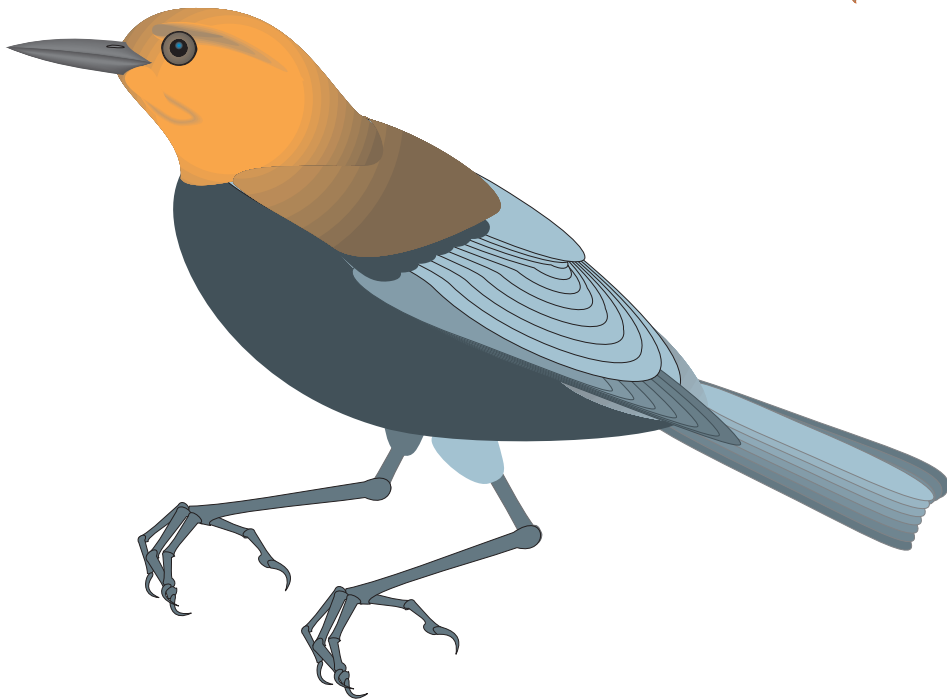
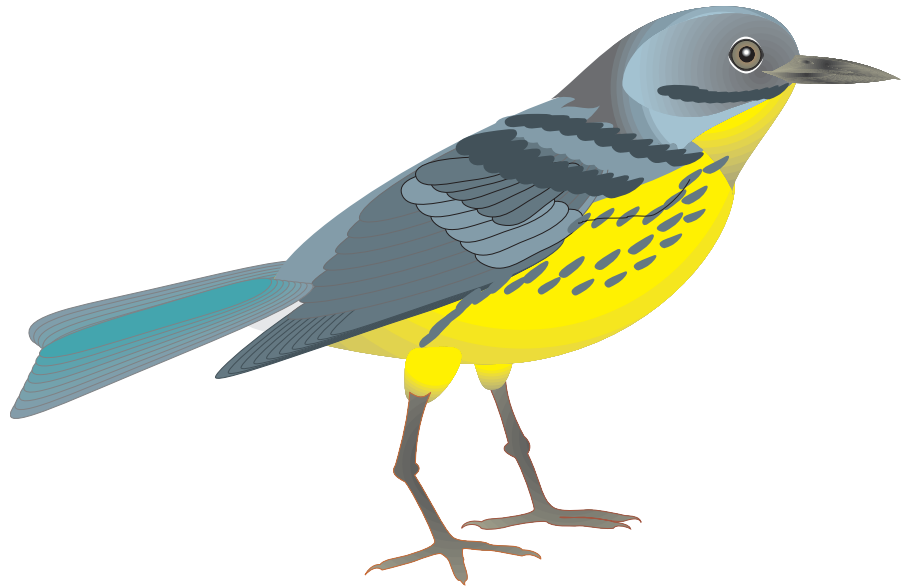


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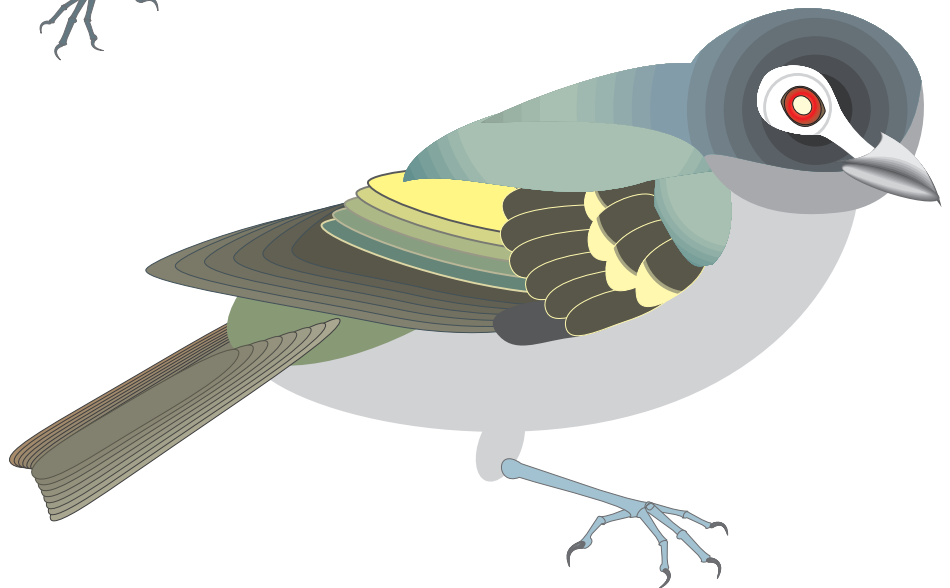
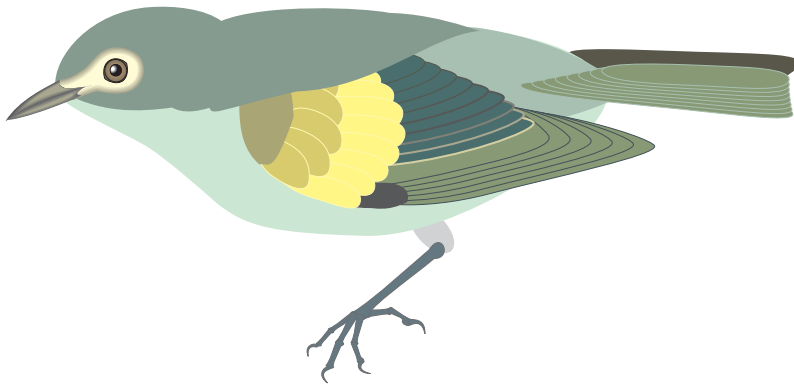
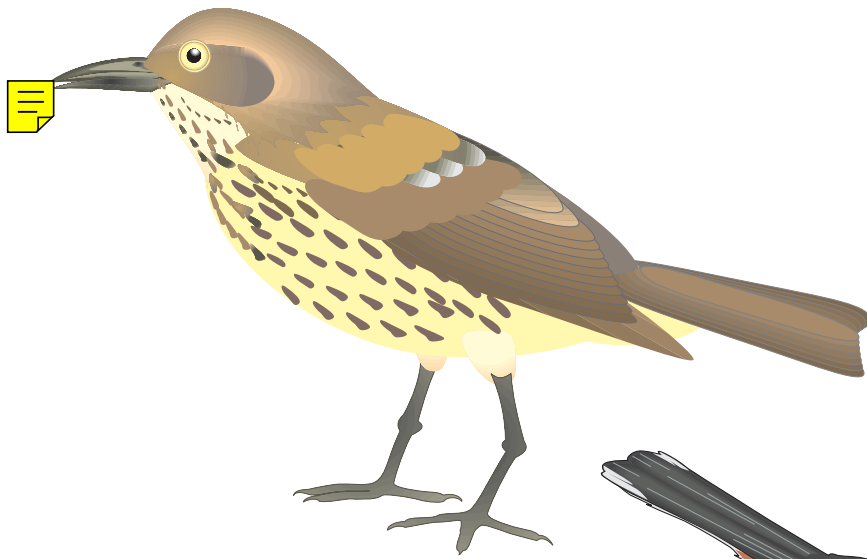












References and Resources

Since the Partners in Flight Program began in 1990, a wealth of information on Neotropical migratory birds has been produced. The following list highlights materials that might help make your International Migratory Bird Day a little more exciting!

To keep abreast of the latest research, management, and education information, subscribe to the free Partners in Flight Newsletter by writing: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, 1120 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036, or access the newsletter electronically via our homepage: <http://www.nfwf.org>

REFERENCE BOOKS

Where Have All the Birds Gone?, by J. Terborgh. 1989. Princeton University Press. (popular style)

How Birds Migrate, by P. Kerlinger w/ illustrations by Pat Archer. 240pp. \$16.95. Stackpole Books, PB 0-8117-2444-1. (popular to semi-technical)

Ecology and Conservation of Neotropical Migrant Landbirds, edited by J.M. Hagan and D.W. Johnston. 1992. Smithsonian Institution Press. (technical papers)

Status and Management of Neotropical Migratory Birds, edited by D.M. Finch and P.W. Stangel. 1993. USDA Forest Service General Technical Report. (semi- to technical papers)

Nearctic Avian Migrants in the Neotropics: Maps, Appendices, and Bibliography, by J.H. Rappole, E. S. Morton, T.E. Lovejoy, and J.L. Ruos. 1995. Smithsonian Conservation and Research Center, 1500 Remount Road, Front Royal, VA 22630. (540-635-6516); English—\$12, Spanish—\$19. Add \$2 for shipping in the U.S. (for Mexico and Canada, add \$4; all other destinations, add \$6)

Ecology and Management of Neotropical Migratory Birds: A Synthesis and Review of Critical Issues, edited by T. E. Martin and D.M. Finch. 1995. Oxford University Press. (technical papers)

The Ecology of Migrant Birds: A Neotropical Perspective, by J.H. Rappole. 1995. Smithsonian Institution Press, or \$37 from Conservation and Research Center, listed above. (semi- to technical)



Neotropical Migratory Birds: Natural History, Distribution, and Population Change,
by R.M. DeGraaf and J.H. Rappole. 1995. Cornell University Press, Sage House, 512 E. State
St., PO Box 250, Ithaca, NY 14851-0250. (607-277-2374)

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Partners in Flight Slide Show, 13 mins., 60 slides with script and cassette tape depicting the plight of Neotropical migrants and what Partners in Flight is doing to help. Eastern (\$53.95) and Western (\$43.95) versions: Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Visual Services, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607-254-2442)

Songbird Story video, 15 mins., for grades K-6. Animated dream in which two children migrate with the birds to learn that declines in migratory birds is a complex problem, and that they must act quickly to help. \$195 to buy/ \$25 to rent. ISBN: 1-56029-554-6, Bullfrog Films Inc., P.O. Box 149, Oley, PA 19547 (800-543-3764)

Birds Over Troubled Forests—colorful booklet introducing the reader to migratory birds through lively descriptions. \$5 from Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, National Zoo, Washington, DC 20008

Songbird Blues Trunk—comprehensive curriculum for elementary school students; \$20 for 3-week rental. Contact: Montana Natural History Center, P.O. Box 8514, Missoula, MT 59807

The Songbird Connection—multidisciplinary lessons for k-12 grades; \$50. Contact: New Jersey Conservation Foundation, 300 Medham Road, Morristown, NJ 07690 (201-539-7540)

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

1996 Directory to Volunteer Opportunities for Birders, American Birding Association, Box 6599, Colorado Springs, CO 80934-6599, \$2, postage paid.

Citizen's Guide to Migratory Bird Conservation, 1995. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. (607-254-2440) \$5, postage paid.



Bring Back the Birds—guidebook for people who want to make an active contribution to bird conservation. Stackpole Press, 5067 Ritter Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 (800-732-3669) \$19.95 plus \$4 shipping first book, \$1 each additional book.

Project Feederwatch and Project Pigeon Watch—fun programs for students to collect information used by scientists. Contact: Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14859 (607-254-2473).

POSTERS

Songbirds of Forest and Field—full color poster featuring 11 migrants by Louis Agassiz Fuertes. \$6.50. Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402-9325; reference #024-010-00699-4.

Birds of Two Worlds: Tropical Birds of the Midwest—full color. Missouri Dept. Conservation, Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102 (314-751-4115).

Oklahoma's Rainforest Connection—folded full color poster featuring Oklahoma's Neotropical migrants. Free. Oklahoma Department of Conservation, ATTN: Nongame Dept., 1801 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105 (405-521-4616).

Disappearing Habitat, Disappearing Birds—full color, includes teacher's guide. \$7 folded, \$10 unfolded. National Audubon Society, Education Division, 700 Broadway, New York, NY, 10003-9501.

National Geographic Shorebird Migration Map—free; small donation requested. American Birding Association, P.O. Box 6599, Colorado Springs, CO 80934.

