

Finches, raptors, and an array of common waterfowl species. This will be a full day trip, carpooling from the Harrisburg area at 8:00 am. Bring a drink and a bagged lunch; we will plan to stop at a restaurant for dinner. Contact Rick Price at rprice210@comcast.net or 717-657-1950 to register. National Wildlife Refuges may charge an entry fee unless the driver of the vehicle has a current "Duck Stamp" or National Park Senior Pass.

December 2017

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS. Become a citizen scientist for the day by participating in this century-old annual tradition. Contact one or all of the circle compilers for a team assignment and details.

Harrisburg CBC — Saturday, December 16, 2017. Contact Deuane Hoffman at 717-564-7475 or corvuscorax@comcast.net.

New Bloomfield CBC — Saturday, December 23, 2017. Contact Annette Mathes at amathes19@verizon.net or 717-514-4512.

York Springs CBC — (Cumberland, Adams, and York) – Wednesday, December 27, 2017. Contact Vern Gauthier at 717-385-9526 or pabirder@gmail.com

Newville CBC — Saturday, December 30, 2017. Contact Vern Gauthier at 717-385-9526 or pabirder@gmail.com

Saturday, January 13, 2018

JUNIATA COUNTY WINTER BIRDING. Bird with locals Aden Troyer and Chad Kauffman in search of owls, longspurs, hawks, eagles, waterbirds, and other winter specialties. Contact Aden at 717-463-3117 or Chad at chadkauffman@earthlink.net, 717-436-8257 or 717-994-6715. Meet at the Lost Creek Shoe Shop at 12:30 pm, where you may browse their extensive selection of birding optics, with hands-on testing and expert advice from the owners. Car-pooling is required from the meeting place. Participation is limited to the first 20 registrants, with a maximum of five vehicles. In case of cancellation due to inclement weather, we may reschedule to the following week.

Saturday, February 17, 2018

THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT AT WILDWOOD PARK (Ongoing from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.) MODIFIED FOR 2018! The Great Backyard Bird Count is a citizen science program of Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology that relies on people everywhere to provide a "snapshot" of bird populations during one weekend in February. After last year's success introducing young people and families to birds at Wildwood Park, we expanded our focus to help people of all ages learn more about identifying local birds that frequent feeders in winter. This is a chance for beginners and well-seasoned

birders to enjoy winter birds from the warmth of the indoors. Children below the age of 16 should be accompanied by an adult. Call the Wildwood Nature Center at 717-221-0292 to register.

New!

Saturday, March 24, 2018 or Sunday, March 25, 2018 GOLDEN EAGLES IN SPRING.

Ian Gardner will lead a spring raptor migration trip to Tussey Mountain, with a focus on Golden Eagles on Saturday, March 24 with Sunday as a back-up in case of adverse conditions. This location records about 200 Golden Eagles during spring migration from about mid-February to mid-April. Plus there are other birds migrating past, including interesting finches, waterfowl, and other raptors. Meet at Jo Hays Vista along Rt. 26, south of State College at 9:30 am. Bring lunch, water, binoculars, and dress in layers as weather can vary in spring. Please register in advance by contacting Ian Gardner at gardner07@gmail.com or Rick Price at rprice210@comcast.net or 717 657-1950.

New!

Saturday, April 7, 2018 SPRING WILDFLOWERS AT SHENK'S FERRY with Dan Welte.

Shenk's Ferry is well known among local botanists and wildflower enthusiasts as a Central PA hotspot for spring wildflowers. Wildflower expert and naturalist Dan Welte will lead the trip to this special place. Carpoolers will meet at the Newberry Commons off of I-83 in York County at 11:30 am. Those traveling from the east shore may want to carpool to meet at the preserve at 12:30 pm, where there is limited parking on weekends in season. Contact Dan at dcawelte@verizon.net for registration and details.

Saturday, May 5, 2018

WARBLER WALK IN STONY VALLEY — CLASSIC! Join warbler expert Tom Smith on this annual classic trip through the Stony Creek area to see, hear, and learn about the various species of warblers and other spring birds. Meet at the power line by the PPL substation along Stony Creek Road at 7:00 am. Participants must register with Tom at 717-921-2461.

Sunday, May 6, 2018

WARBLER WALK AT STATE GAME LANDS 230. Pete Lusardi will lead a walk along the base of Blue Mountain near Carlisle Springs to look for migrating and summer resident warblers and other song birds. This trip has a history of uncommon birds showing up such as Golden-winged Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Canada Warbler, and a Summer Tanager in 2017. Contact Pete at 717-243-6419 or pjlusardi@aol.com to register. Participants will meet at the first parking lot on the right (coming from the east) at 7:30 am.

Saturday, May 12, 2018

ANNUAL SPRING MIGRATION COUNT. Actively participate in identifying as many bird species as possible within the day. In Dauphin County contact Rick Price at 717-657-1950 and for Cumberland and Perry Counties contact Vern Gauthier at 717-385-9526 or pabirder@gmail.com

New!

Saturday, June 2, 2018 BREEDING BIRDS OF CHESTNUT GROVE NATURAL AREA.

Join Jeff Musser of Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority and Lancaster Bird Club and Rick and Peggy Price to look for breeding birds in the restoration area along the Susquehanna that includes wetlands, meadows, woods and river hills. Species to look for include American Kestrel, Blue Grosbeak, Worm-eating Warbler, Bobolink, and Orchard Oriole. For registration and directions, contact Rick Price at rprice210@comcast.net. or 717-657-1950.

HARRISBURG FALCON WATCH

Volunteers have an opportunity to observe and help the young Peregrine Falcons from the nest on the Rachel Carson Building in Harrisburg. As the fledglings attempt their first flights, the Harrisburg Falcon Watch team is on the lookout for mishaps or injuries. For more information, contact Sue Hannon at hbgfalconwatch@gmail.com. Information on dates will become available after the eggs have hatched.

BEGINNING BIRDER SESSIONS

Jon Dale will provide instruction, tips, and a field experience in central Pennsylvania locales for individuals, families, or small groups. If you are new to birding and would like an individualized field trip with an experienced birder and longtime AAS member, contact Jon at jwdale4@comcast.net or call 717-432-0335 to schedule.

Appalachian Audubon Society

P.O. Box 234, Camp Hill, PA 17001
www.appalachianaudubon.org
facebook.com/appalachianaudubon



APPALACHIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY

Programs & Field Trips 2017-2018

www.appalachianaudubon.org



Appalachian Audubon Society is excited about the variety of field trips and programs we are offering this year. We hope you will take advantage of the opportunities available to be informed and entertained by our program schedule. We have planned field trips that provide new outdoor opportunities for our members, while some of our popular excursions remain on our schedule. The information in this brochure will be presented in more detail in upcoming newsletters.

Programs 2017–2018

Unless otherwise noted, programs take place at Christ Presbyterian Church, 421 Deerfield Road, Camp Hill. The public is welcome to attend. Social time with refreshments starts at 7:00 pm. Announcements begin at 7:30 pm, followed by the program. All programs except the Annual Banquet are free.

September 21, 2017

BIRDS OF PREY by ZooAmerica

Special Time: Please note this meeting starts a half hour earlier than usual to accommodate families with children. Many birders look forward to fall, when northwest winds bring migrating hawks southward along the ridges, inspiring hawk watchers to perch on rock outcrops with binoculars to observe this natural phenomenon. For the September program, ZooAmerica will bring live birds of prey. Don't miss this opportunity for a close look at these amazing birds. The program will include information about raptor habitats, adaptations, and their importance in nature.

Join us at 6:30 pm for refreshments and socializing. Announcements will begin shortly before 7:00 pm and will be followed by the evening program.

October 19, 2017

HAPPY CAMPERS: SCHOLARSHIP ROUNDUP

Special Time: Please note this meeting starts a half-hour earlier than usual to accommodate families with children. Education is an important part of the mission of Appalachian Audubon. This past summer, 11 youth received AAS scholarships to attend five different camps with ornithological, natural history, and environmental themes. This evening, a few of the campers will share their favorite experiences and some of what they learned. Camp representatives will be on hand to answer questions for prospective campers.

Join us at 6:30 pm for refreshments and socializing. Announcements will begin at 7:00 pm, followed by the evening program.

November 16, 2017

THOSE DAZZLING DRAGONFLIES! by Tony Schoch

Naturalist and retired teacher Tony "Doc" Schoch will focus on dragonfly anatomy, life cycle, identification, and their place in the food chain of the wetlands. Local species of dragonflies and damselflies will be discussed to help you with identification of common ones seen here in central Pennsylvania. The program will also include information on field guides and tips on photographing these beautiful creatures.

December 14, 2017

YEAR-END SOCIAL

Special Event: Please note this meeting is the **second Thursday of the month.** We are planning a fun evening that involves your participation in a special end-of-year event. There will be a silent auction, snacks, and hot cider. Mark your calendars to attend!

January 18, 2018

BIRDS, BUGS, AND THE WATER THEY DEPEND ON; A VIRTUAL WATERSHED TOUR WITH AUDUBON PA. by Kim Schubert and Holly Smith

Join Audubon PA educators Kim Schubert and Holly Smith for a virtual watershed tour! Learn about endangered birds nesting at Kiwanis Lake, important sources of water pollution, fascinating "water bugs" that reveal water quality, and green stormwater management best practices. These topics will be discussed through the lens of Audubon PA's Watershed Education programs that take students out in the field and into the stream to explore, examine and take action to protect area waterways and conserve their local watershed.

February 15, 2018

HONDURAS by Ian Gardner

Last year, we heard from Ian Gardner about a team of ornithologists who began studying remote regions of Honduras. This past January, the team returned for a look at two understudied and threatened regions: Reserva Biologica Rus Rus in La Moskitia and Parque Nacional Botaderos in Olancho. They met with local conservationists, learned about the regional natural history and environmental threats, and documented both resident and neotropical migrant birds, including significant range expansions for several species. Ian will present an update that includes their most recent findings.

ATTENTION MEMBERS: If we do not have your email address, you will not receive newsletters from Appalachian Audubon Society this year. People who do not have access to a computer can still get the newsletter in the mail by sending a written request with your name and mailing address to: Appalachian Audubon Society, P.O. Box 234, Camp Hill, PA 17001. Members who have already requested a printed/mailed copy as well as those who currently receive the newsletter link and other chapter communications by email do not have to do anything.

March 15, 2018

WILD EDIBLES by Deb Naha

Many people don't realize that they are surrounded by hundreds of wild edible plants. From vacant fields to backyards and woodlands, nature provides an abundance of plants that are food for humans. Educator, licensed nutritionist, and wild edibles expert Debbie Naha will discuss plant identification, safety, look-alike plants, sustainable harvesting and nutrition. Join her to learn about the wild edible plants of our area, and take home a wild recipe or two!

April 19, 2018

HABITAT RESTORATION by Allison Vollmer

The Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA) manages the municipal solid waste and recyclable materials from Lancaster County, as well as refuse for the Greater Harrisburg area. Their innovative approach to handling waste saves significant landfill capacity while creating clean, renewable energy (electricity). LCSWMA owns land that includes the Chestnut Grove Natural Area. Located in Manor Township, the 170-acre site comprises restored wetlands, grasslands and wildflower meadows, and forest. Join us to learn about the transformation of Chestnut Grove and the wildlife that call this free community nature preserve home.

May 17, 2018

BANQUET PRESENTATION by Bob Mulvihill

West Shore Elks Club, 108 N. Saint Johns Road, Camp Hill PA, 17011

Topic TBA

Bob Mulvihill is an ornithologist for the National Aviary in Pittsburgh. While attending the University of Pittsburgh, he began volunteering with bird banding at Powdermill Nature Reserve, the field research station of Carnegie Museum of Natural History. After graduation, he was hired by Powdermill. Over the years, he has done ornithological research that has led to over 30 scientific articles on a wide range of subjects including molt, migration, eco-morphology, and breeding biology. Bob was a regional coordinator and species account author for the first Atlas of Breeding birds in PA and served as the statewide project coordinator for the second Atlas. He presents programs on such a wide variety of topics that we had not managed to choose one at the deadline for publication. Whatever he presents is certain to be interesting!

Field Trips 2017–2018

Appalachian Audubon Society welcomes people at all levels of experience. Birding with a group is a good way to improve your skills and confidence in birding.

Saturday, September 30, 2017

AAS FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE. Autumn is a great time to transplant native plants to your property. Come to Diakon Wilderness Nursery outside of Boiling Springs and choose your plants with expert advice from nursery staff and AAS volunteers. Go to appalachianaudubon.org for details.

Sunday, October 1, 2017

THE VINCENT DIFILIPPO NATURE PRESERVE with Jane Earle.

Join Jane Earle for a walk through this lovely 54-acre natural area, the site of the former Silver Spring golf course. The preserve has nine ponds, a flat 2-mile trail along the Conodoguinet Creek and travels through open meadows. The preserve is the home to over 40 species of trees, some of which are uncommon and quite large, as well as numerous species of wildflowers and birds. The walk is scheduled for 1:30 pm. Contact Jane Earle at janeearle7@msn.com or 717-728-4241.

Sunday, October 29, 2017

OWL BANDING with Sandy Lockerman at Small Valley.

Bird bander Sandy Lockerman has again graciously agreed to demonstrate owl banding to a small group of participants, provided an owl is caught that evening. No guarantees! Participation is limited to 10 and carpooling is required and limited to no more than 3 vehicles. No children under six please. The group will meet near Harrisburg at 6:30 pm. Contact Rick Price at rprice210@comcast.net. or 717-657-1950. The demonstration should be over before midnight. Dress in warm layers, as the small cabin is unheated.

New! Sunday, November 5, 2017 **FALL BIRDING AT EASTERN NECK NWR.**

Mid-fall birding at Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge on the Eastern Shore of Maryland can produce an extensive species list. Recent years have recorded an interesting variety, including two species of scoters, two species of pelicans, Lincoln's Sparrows, Brown-headed Nuthatches, Purple