



The HERON

Quarterly Newsletter of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society

THE HERON

Fond du Lac County
AUDUBON
 SOCIETY
 MEMBERSHIP

- Yes!** I want to become a member or renew my membership to the National Audubon Society, and the Fond du Lac County Chapter. The annual membership dues of \$40 entitle me to six issues of the Audubon magazine, and all local chapter benefits. I am enclosing a check payable to Fond du Lac County Audubon.
- I am only interested in being a member and supporting the programs of the Fond du Lac County Audubon. The annual local membership dues of \$20 entitle me to receive the chapter newsletter and all chapter benefits. I am enclosing a check payable to Fond du Lac County Audubon.
- I am a new member. I am a renewing member.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Mail this form with payment to:
 Fond du Lac County Audubon, Membership Services
 N5545 Winnvue Court, Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Be Part of "No Mow May"

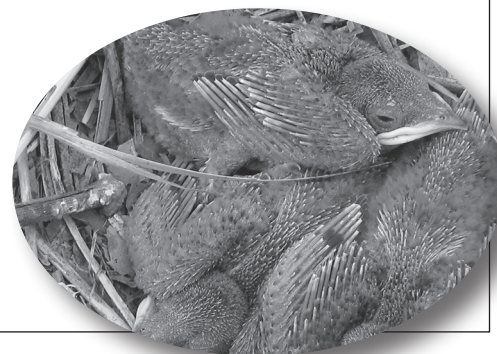
Research has shown that one in four native pollinators are imperiled. Not mowing in May allows early flowers to grow and helps the bees emerging from hibernation. Equally important is to avoid use of pesticides on your lawn. If you are worried that your neighbors won't approve, put out a yard sign that lets them know that you are observing "No Mow May," and that your lawn is "Chemical Free." Audubon has signs that can be purchased at cost. They will be available at our Audubon events or call 920-922-7931.

Conservation Camp Scholarships

Our Audubon chapter, through the Dave Stetter Environmental Education funds, offers scholarships for both middle and high school students. See our website.

Future Purple Martin Colony

Dorothy Messner lives by the Camelot Pond Natural Area and established a small prairie area on the east side of the pond. Now she has set her sights on establishing a Purple Martin colony. The plan is to install a new 8-unit gourd rack and pole in early May. More housing will be added as the colony increases in size.



SPRING EVENTS

We have a new room for our programs this year at MPTC.
 Our room will be B141. People can park in the B lot on the north side of MPTC and enter door B3.

Bald Eagle Watch (Presentation)
 Wednesday, March 12, 7 pm, MPTC Room B141

Eldorado Marsh Spring Full Moon Hike
 Thursday, March 13, 6:30 pm, Dike Road

**Canaries in the Coal Mine:
 Birds and Climate Change (Presentation)**
 Wednesday, April 9, 7 pm, MPTC Room B141

Spring Flower Hike at Kay's Ledge
 Saturday, April 19, 10:30 am, N7816 County Road WH

CSA Earth Day Fair
 Saturday, April 26, 320 County Road K
This event is sponsored by csasisters.org

Bird City Events
 First weekend in May
 See page 3 for Walks/Hikes/Program/Art

Invasive Species Removals
 April 12 to June 21

**The Marsh in Our Backyard –
 Eldorado (Presentation)**
 Wednesday, May 14, 7 pm, MPTC Room B141

Horicon Marsh Boat Tour
 Saturday, May 17, 6 pm

More information on programs and activities is on pages 2 and 3.

Visit Us Online
fdlaudubon.org

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Spring Invasive Species Removal

All sessions will run from 9 to 11 am in April and May. The June sessions will run from 8 to 10 am. Canceled if steady rain. Bring a dandelion fork, garden trowel, or a Hori Hori if you own one. No experience is necessary. For more information call 920-922-7931 or email dianahbeck@gmail.com.

APRIL		JUNE	
12 Sat	Hobbs	2 Mon	Hobbs
14 Mon	Hobbs	4 Wed	Hobbs
16 Wed	Hobbs	16 Mon	Kettle M (9 am)
21 Mon	Hobbs	18 Wed	Lallier
23 Wed	Hobbs	21 Sat	Hobbs
25 Fri	Kay's Ledge		
28 Mon	Lallier		

MAY	
1 Thurs	Lallier
3 Sat	Lallier
5 Mon	Kettle M
7 Wed	Kay's Ledge
10 Sat	Peebles (Prairie Rd)
12 Mon	Kettle M
15 Thurs	Peebles (Prairie Rd)
17 Sat	Peebles (Hwy K)
19 Mon	Kettle M
21 Wed	Kay's Ledge
24 Sat	Peebles (Hwy K)
26 Mon	Kettle M
29 Thurs	Hobbs
31 Sat	Hobbs



Hobbs Woods Meet at Hobbs Woods County Park, N4197 South Hickory Road.

Lallier Park Meet at the southern end of the park on National Avenue.

Kay's Ledge N7836 Cty Road WH – Drive east on County Road WH, up the ledge .9 miles from the 151 bypass to the entrance on the west side.

Peebles Trail/Prairie Road Meet at the intersection with Prairie Road (¼ mile south of Winnebago Drive).

Peebles Trail/Hwy K Meet at the intersection with Cty K (½ mile south of Winnebago Drive).

Kettle Moraine Adopted Area Get directions from Diana Beck: dianahbeck@gmail.com.

AUDUBON PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Bald Eagle Nest Watch

Wednesday, March 12, 7 pm, MPTC Room B141
Bald Eagle Nest Watch is a Wisconsin volunteer citizen science program that works with community members to monitor hundreds of Bald Eagle nests each nesting season. Come learn about how the program works and how you can join to watch an eagle family grow while collecting important data. Brenna Marsicek is the director of outreach for Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance (formerly Madison Audubon), and coordinates the statewide Bald Eagle Nest Watch effort. She enjoys connecting people with the natural world through programs, field trips, events, and more.

Eldorado Marsh Spring Full Moon Hike

Thursday, March 13, 6:30 pm
Come on a sunset and full moon hike on the dike in Eldorado Marsh on Thursday March 13. At this time of evening, there should be an opportunity to see and hear the birds in the marsh. The moon will be rising at 6:34 pm and the sunset at 7:00 pm. Late tonight, there is a lunar eclipse. Our hike will last about an hour. We will cancel the event if skies are overcast.

We will meet in the parking lot at the end of Dike Road on the east side of Eldorado Marsh at 6:30 pm. Bring binoculars, wear good hiking shoes, and dress warmly. For more information, call 920-922-7931 or email dianahbeck@gmail.com.



Canaries in the Coal Mine: Birds and Climate Change

Wednesday, April 9, 7 pm, MPTC Room B141
Dr. Benjamin Zuckerberg will present on how birds are responding to modern climate change in Wisconsin and the world. He will provide examples of changes in behavior, phenology, and range changes. Dr. Zuckerberg has been studying the impacts of climate change for over twenty years and works closely with conservation agencies to think about how to reduce the vulnerability of wildlife to the stressors of climate change.

Spring Flower Hike at Kay's Ledge

Saturday, April 19, 10:30 am, N7836 Cty Road WH
Enjoy a leisurely hike through Kay's Ledge during the early spring in search of the many different spring ephemerals. Please wear boots for the hike because early spring can be wet and muddy. Bring binoculars for spotting birds as well.

The hike will start at 10:30 am and last about an hour and a half. Afterwards, you are welcome to stay for a picnic lunch around a bonfire. If you would like to contribute some food to the picnic, contact 920-922-7931. Dogs will be allowed if kept on a leash. Canceled if raining.

Directions—Drive east on County Road WH, up the ledge .9 miles from the 151 bypass to the entrance on the west side. Watch for Audubon signs by the entrance.

CSA Earth Day Fair

Saturday, April 26, 320 County Road K
Watch for details about exhibitors, educational sessions, and more at csasisters.org.

Bird City World Migratory Bird Day Walks/Hikes/Program/Art

Look for the Bird City flag at the locations below. See birds and native plants on these guided walks.

- Friday, May 2**
6 pm, Camelot Business Park, 28 Camelot Drive
- Saturday, May 3**
7 am, CSA Oak Woodland, 320 County Road K (park at top of hill.)
10 am, Greenway Arboretum, 55 W. Pioneer Road
1 pm, Lakeside Park East and West (park in lot south of Frazier Point; bridge parking lot.)

Saturday, April 26

6 pm, Fond du Lac Public Library—Join Amber Eschenbauch and her kestrel ambassador, Goose, from Central Wisconsin Kestrel Research for a program about North America's smallest falcon and the research happening in the Buena Vista Grasslands. **TBD**—Bird Art by local artists

The Marsh in Our Backyard—Eldorado

Wednesday, May 14, 7 pm, MPTC Room B141
James Christopoulos is the DNR wildlife biologist for Fond du Lac County/Property Manager for Eldorado Marsh and also manages the Glacial Habitat Restoration area (GHRA) lands in Dodge and Fond du Lac counties. In all, these encompass about 16,000 acres of mostly restored grasslands and wetlands. He will give us a general overview of the property and management at Eldorado Marsh.

Horicon Marsh Pontoon Boat Birding Adventure

Saturday, May 17, 6 pm
Over 290 species of birds live in or visit Horicon Marsh each year. Participants in this 2-hour evening narrated bird trip through the marsh will seek and identify some of them. Experienced and casual bird watchers will enjoy the quiet of the marsh on this early evening tour. Bring binoculars, bird book, insect repellent, and dress for the weather. Meet at 5 pm at the southeast corner of the Fleet Farm parking lot to form a carpool for the 35 minute drive to Blue Heron Landing in Horicon. Or meet the group at Blue Heron Landing, 305 Mill Street in Horicon, for a 6 pm departure.

The cost is \$38 per person. To reserve a spot on the pontoon boat (limit of 16), a non-refundable deposit of \$20 is required before April 15, with the balance due before departure. If we do not fill the boat, the remaining seats will be open to the public.

Signups with deposit will begin at our March events. Or call 920-922-7931 or email dianahbeck@gmail.com.

