

The Bluebird Bulletin

Spring 2025

WWW.YORKAUDUBON.ORG

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 10th

Keith Williams, vice-president of the Lancaster Conservancy, will present a program that explains all about the organization...how it began, location, plans for the future, etc. UUCY, 7P.M.

March 10th

Frank Marsden, director of Eden Mill Nature Center in Harford County, MD, offers a photographer's journey in nature, titled "The Story Behind the Photos". UUCY, 7 P.M.

March 15th

Field trip to Eden Mill Nature Center to look for early spring treasures. Leader: Frank Marsden. If interested, contact Tish Swam. 717-235-2578

April 5th

Annual YAS Banquet returns to East Berlin Area Community Center! Doors open at 4 P.M. for the silent auction, 50/50 tickets, followed by delicious food served family-style at 5:30 P.M. Speaker is Ryan O'Meara presenting "Native Plants: A Bird Sanctuary". See our website/newsletter in early 2025 for further details.

April 26th

Spring Wildlife Tour of Gettysburg Battlefield with licensed battlefield guide David Weaver. Meet at the Gettysburg NMP Visitors' Center at 8 A.M. If interested, contact Tish Swam 717-235-2578.

May 1st and 2nd

Please contribute to York Audubon Society during the Give Local York activity! Donations can be made at <https://www.givelocalyork.org/>

May 19th

Patrick Miller returns to us with an array of interesting animals! This program will be exciting for children of all ages!
West York Area High School cafeteria
1800 Bannister St York, PA 17404
6:00 P.M.

May 14-17th

Spend 4 days birding in Ohio during the spring warbler migration spectacle with Becky Stabler! Registration is currently open. For more information about lodging and schedules, Contact Becky Stabler at: NatureStabler@gmail.com

June 14th

Annual Audubon picnic, held in the Muskie pavilion at William Kain Park, starting at noon!
More Details to come.

President's Update

Greetings,

While most of you are very aware of that the York Audubon Society provides quality educational presentations about birds and protecting the environment at our regular monthly meetings, there are many different ways that York Audubon is working to achieve its goals. Here is an update of some other things the York Audubon Society has been up to:

Maintaining Habitat at the Kiwanis Lake and Devers Community Gardens



Debra Carman has been hard at work the past few years coordinating efforts to maintain the native gardens that were built by Pennsylvania Audubon several years ago at Kiwanis Lake and the surrounding Devers Community Gardens. She has organized several workdays where Audubon and community members have worked to weed and clean up the gardens. In addition, under the guidance of Debra and coordinator Leslie Rogers, York Audubon donated \$481 worth of native plants to replace and expand the Devers Community Gardens.

More Birding Backpacks Donated



In an effort to try to promote birding in York County, the York Audubon Society has donated "Birding Backpacks" to the York County Library System. We originally donated one backpack which is housed in the Mason-Dixon (Stewartstown) Library in 2023. A second backpack was donated to the Martin Library (downtown York) in 2024. We are currently building a 3rd backpack that will be donated to the Dover Area Community Library in 2025. Each backpack is a comprehensive birding kit that includes two pair of quality binoculars, a National Geographic Bird Field Guide for kids, the Kaufman Field Guide to Birds of North America, pocket guide to Pennsylvania Birds, a Birding Bingo game, and a Birding Backpack Binder containing a quick start to birding, binocular tips, and a guide to birding York County. The backpack is appropriate for both children and adults and can be borrowed from the library like a book for a 3 week time period.

Supporting Local Bird Rehabilitation

The York Audubon Society recently made a \$3,000 donation to the West Shore Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. These funds originated from an estate bequest specifically designated to support the protection of injured birds within the Kiwanis Rookery. Recognizing the vital work of the West Shore Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, York Audubon Society chose to direct this generous contribution towards the construction of essential flight cages at their new facility. These enclosures will play a crucial role in the rehabilitation process of injured birds, aiding in their recovery and eventual return to the wild.

Supporting Youth and the Future of Wildlife Advocacy

For the past several years, the York Audubon Society has generously contributed \$600 annually to the Pennsylvania Wildlife Leadership Academy program. These funds have supported scholarships for youth attending the summer program, enabling them to become conservation ambassadors. The Academy provides students with a passion for wildlife with invaluable experiences, training, and skills to deepen their understanding of nature and develop into effective advocates for wildlife conservation. This year, we are delighted to announce an increase in our donation to \$1000, further supporting the vital work of the Academy.

I hope to see you soon at our monthly meetings or other events,

David Arrow
President, York Audubon Society

Christmas Bird Count for Kids

With ideal weather for late December, 25 kids left the visitors Center at Nixon Park armed with binoculars and a goal of sighting as many birds and species as possible in the next 45 minutes.

When we reassembled inside and counters called off the species under the helpful eye of Park Naturalist, Carter Johnson, 21 were identified including most of the woodpeckers, a Bald Eagle and a Golden Crowned Kinglet. The kids and their families took advantage of hot chocolate and cookies while discussing their finds. Thanks to Nixon Park, Carter Johnson and Audubon guides for making a successful 8th CBC4Kids.

York Audubon Banquet

Saturday, April 5th, 2025

East Berlin Area Community Center
405 North Avenue, East Berlin, PA 17316

Ryan O'Meara presents

Native Plants: A Bird Sanctuary

Come early for our silent auction, raffle, 50/50 and socializing with members!

Doors open at 4:00pm

Dinner served at 5:30pm

Served family style:

Baked chicken	Dinner roll
Baked ham	Cranberry sauce
Scalloped potatoes	Fruit pies and ice cream
Candied carrots	Iced tea, water, coffee
Green beans	

Reservation deadline is March 29th

Tickets are **\$25** and can be purchased on our website or by mail-in. Cash/Checks accepted. Make checks payable to York Audubon Society and mail to:

Mail to Bernie Frick, 168 Springdale Rd, York, PA 17403.

\$35 CASH ONLY at the door for last minute attendees.

Give Local York 2025

York Audubon will be participating again in Give Local York for the 2025 donation drive! The date will be May 1st and 2nd, 2025.

Donations can be made at:

<https://givelocalyork.com>

125th Christmas Bird Count

On December 21, 29 counters on 9 teams identified 73 species among 5,365 birds. The weather was notable for the wind, which it was generally felt kept the number of birds down. Centered on the Lake Marburg Dam in Codorus State Park, counters searched around the Lake, and touched locations south to Lineboro, west to Hanover, east to Seven Valleys and north to Spring Grove.

With 29 counting, the effort surpassed previous years, while the results were in the range of prior years. Less frequently found species were: Tundra Swan, American Widgeon, Bufflehead, Common Loon, Red Headed Woodpecker, Winter Wren and Tree Sparrow.

Around noon most counters came to the Park Office to share their finds, stories and a bowl of chili.



Join us for outdoor adventures at different locations in York County each week as we explore to see what birds are in the area. These are informal walks and anyone with an interest in nature is welcome to attend, regardless of skill level or membership status. In fact, these walks are an excellent opportunity to learn about birding and nature. No registration required.

Look for the *Weekly Bird Walk* schedule under the *Birding* section of the York Audubon Web Page: <http://www.yorkaudubon.org>

York Audubon Society
P.O. Box 2432
York, PA 17405

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
YORK, PA
PERMIT163

Contact Information

Please contact board members at:

audubonyorkpa@gmail.com

President: David Arrow
tokens4dave@gmail.com

Vice President:

Vacant

Recording Secretary:

Sherry Lookofsky

Treasurer / Bird Counts:

Bernie Frick
717-843-6675

Ways and Means:

Kyle Groft

Dick Humbert
717-266-1864

Program/Field Trips:

Tish Swam
717-235-2578

Education:

Avary Sassaman
avarysassaman@gmail.com

Alice Simmons
tasimmons3@comcast.net

PA Birds:

Phil Keener
717-259-9984
pittche74@yahoo.com

Newsletter and Social

Media:

Evan Vaeth
nexevan@gmail.com

Past President:

Carolyn Mathur
717-309-7899

Membership/Website:

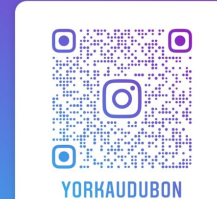
George Schardt
717-741-3078

Hospitality:

Darlene Schardt
717-741-3078



York Audubon Society



Our regular MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS
will be held at
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF
YORK,
925 S. GEORGE ST, YORK, PA
Meetings are free and open to the public - Come