

BULLETIN

FALL 2019



In this issue: The California Condor is a Success Story in Overcoming the Dangers Posed by Lead Ammunition. Learn What You Can do to Help.

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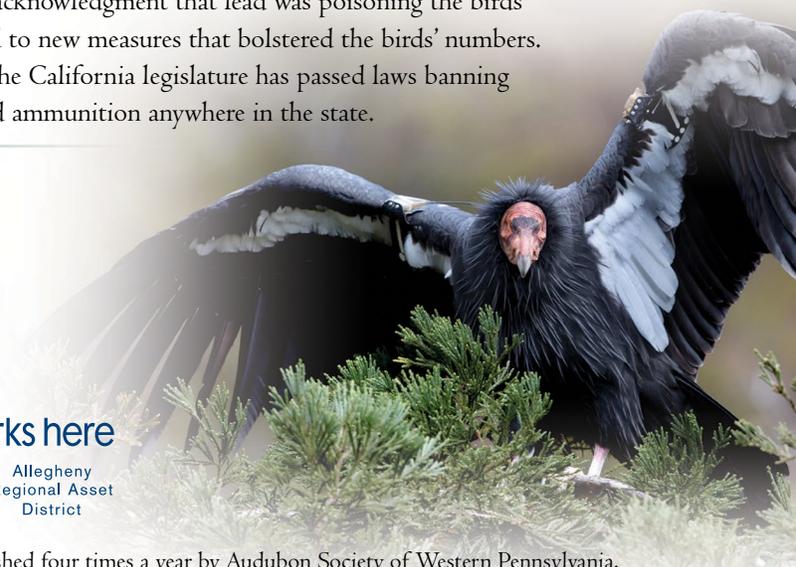
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The California Condor is a success story—a captive breeding program and acknowledgment that lead was poisoning the birds in the wild led to new measures that bolstered the birds' numbers. Just recently, the California legislature has passed laws banning the use of lead ammunition anywhere in the state.



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This Audubon View

While we are all excited about the Bald Eagle chicks that hatched in and around Pittsburgh this year, there was another hatching this year that is a cause for celebration. Sometime in early May, in part of Zion National Park, the 1,000th California Condor chick hatched since the condor recovery program was initiated in 1980s.

Like Bald Eagles, California Condors were protected under the Endangered Species Act. And like Bald Eagles—and over 1,600 other species—they were kept from becoming extinct through that act. While they still have a long way to go before they come off of the endangered species list, for the first time in my lifetime, their prospects are looking better.

But unlike many other endangered species, the primary cause of their decrease was not broad-based environmental degradation or habitat loss, or even the impacts of chemicals (or pesticides like DDT that caused the problems for eagles and our other birds of prey). It was lead. Specifically, lead shot left behind from hunting. And lead continues to pose the greatest threat to the condors' recovery.

Although lead-based paints were banned in the 1970s, its deadly legacy continues in many older homes and apartment buildings throughout the region. The water crisis in Flint, Michigan a few years ago and the recent problems with service lines here in western PA, are reminders that lead is still a significant problem for people and birds. Thankfully, we've quit adding more new lead to our homes. But it's time to do the same for the forests, lakes, rivers, and other places our birds and wildlife call home.

Changing practices and equipment can be challenging—particularly for activities steeped in as much passed-on traditions as hunting and fishing. Non-toxic ammunition and fishing weights are now available, although not as readily available as lead-based items. Increased demand will lead to more variety and cheaper prices. Working together, we can, and should, “get the lead out.”

—Jim



OUR RESERVES, NATIVE PLANT NURSERY, AND NATURE STORES

BEECHWOOD FARMS NATURE RESERVE

614 Dorseyville Road in Fox Chapel, Pittsburgh, PA 15238

- Audubon Nature Store & Native Plant Nursery

SUCCOP NATURE PARK

185 W. Airport Road in Penn Township, Butler, PA 16002

- Audubon Nature Store

TODD NATURE RESERVE

367 Kepple Road, Sarver, PA 16055

- Buffalo Creek Nature Center: 154 Monroe Road, Sarver, PA 16055
- Audubon Nature Store: 612 South Pike Road, Sarver, PA 16055

ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION: For accessibility needs or questions about any of our sites, please contact Brian Shema at (412) 963-6100 or at bshema@aswp.org. For accessibility needs or questions about any of our programs, please contact Chris Kubiak at (412) 963-6100 or ckubiak@aswp.org. All other questions regarding accessibility or inclusion can be directed to Jim Bonner at (412) 963-6100 or jbonner@aswp.org.





THE CALIFORNIA CONDOR:

Back from the Brink

The California Condor, North America's largest land bird with a wingspan of nearly 10 feet, has returned from the brink of extinction. Twenty thousand years ago, condors soared across North America in search of mammoth carcasses and other large mammals that lived during the Ice Age. As the massive glaciers retreated and the Pleistocene mammals went extinct, the condors' range narrowed to the western corner of the continent.

By the late 1900s, the remaining individuals were limited to the mountains of southern California, where they fed on dead cattle, sheep, and deer. The mid-20th century saw the species in steep decline due to human activity, and the condors neared the point of extinction in the late 1970s, when only two or three dozen birds survived.

In 1982, with only 22 California Condors left in the world, conservationists took a bold step in line with the Endangered Species Act and other local and national laws. They captured every last remaining bird in the wild. In 1987, the final condor was removed from the wild, and the last 27 condors left in the world were being kept in breeding facilities at the Los Angeles Zoo and in San Diego. With the exception of these captive birds, the species was functionally extinct.

The good news? The breeding program was a resounding conservation success story, reversing the birds' march to extinction and leading to the first condors being reintroduced in the wild in 1992. From a low of 22 birds in 1982, the population has now grown to more than 500, with over half living outside of captivity.

Nearly four decades later in May 2019, a new milestone was reached. In Utah's Zion National Park, the 1,000th California Condor chick hatched as a result of the official rescue program.

This progress represents one of the most dramatic turnarounds ever for a species on the brink of extinction, and proves that cornerstone conservation laws like the Endangered Species Act work. Without strong laws like the Endangered Species Act, not only would the California Condor be gone, but so would our national bird the Bald Eagle and countless other species.

LEAD POSES SIGNIFICANT DANGER TO BIRDS INCLUDING THE CONDOR AND BALD EAGLES

The condor and other birds of prey—including our local Bald Eagles—are not out of danger yet. By far, the leading killer of California Condors and other carrion eaters is lead. The birds are poisoned when they prey on animals—or the remains of animals—that have been shot with lead ammunition or lead fragments. When the California legislature learned just how damaging lead is to birds and wildlife, they voted to ban lead ammunition effective July 2019. Lead ammunition is now banned when shooting any wildlife anywhere in the state.

But it's not just lead ammunition that causes problems. Lead fishing weights are often dropped near the water's edge or lost when lines are snagged, where they can be ingested by ducks and other birds, fish, or wildlife. Closer to home in Pennsylvania, an increasing number of Bald Eagles have been admitted to wildlife rehabilitation centers exhibiting signs of lead poisoning. ASWP is leading the charge to get the lead out of ammunition and is committed to expanding public education on lead's effects on birds and wildlife. The birds and other animals are counting on us.

Fall Program SCHEDULE



REGISTER FOR PROGRAMS ONLINE AT ASWP.ORG OR BY CALLING (412) 963-6100. SEE A LIST OF OUR LOCATIONS AND ADDRESSES AT THE BOTTOM OF PAGE 3.

Special Events

AUDUBON'S NATIVE PLANT NURSERY FALL SALE

The month of October / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Did you know that you can purchase native plants anytime the Audubon Nature Store is open—and that fall is a great time to put plants in the ground? During the month of October, we're offering an additional 10% off on our native plants. That's 10% off for nonmembers and 20% off for members!

EVENING WITH SPIDERS

October 2, 7pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Learn all there is to know about spiders with Amy Bianco. Enjoy discovering what spider species we have here in the region, see live specimens, and go on a brief spider hunt outside at Beechwood! Cost is \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember.

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT FAMILY-FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN

October 18 & 19, 6:30, 7, or 7:30pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve
October 25, 6:30, 7, or 7:30pm / Succop Nature Park
October 26, 6:30, 7, or 7:30pm / Buffalo Creek Nature Center

Delight in our annual autumn experience! Fireflies guide you on our trails to encounter larger-than-life costumed nocturnal creatures. Hear stories from a Great Horned Owl, observe the acrobatics of the Flying Squirrel, go batty with Little Brown Bat, and more. Crafts and refreshments provided. Come in costume for twice the fun. This event takes place even if it's raining. Registration required. Cost is \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember; under 2 is free.

CERTIFIED BACKYARD HABITAT FALL GATHERING

November 14, 6–8pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Join ASWP to celebrate the success of our 2nd season working with people across the region to support birds, pollinators, and wildlife in their yards through the Certified Backyard Habitat Program (CBH). CBH program participants are invited to share their favorite garden photos, swap lessons learned, and meet other wildlife gardeners. Folks who are not enrolled in the CBH program are also welcome to join to learn more about the program and share in the fall fun. Free.

ASWP MEMBERS-ONLY HOLIDAY SALE AT AUDUBON NATURE STORES

November 16, 9am–5pm

Join us for members-only discounts throughout the stores! Audubon Nature Stores are located at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve, Succop Nature Park, and Yellow Jacket Square in Sarver. See page 8 for more information.

MAKE HOLIDAY GIFT WRAP USING PLANT-BASED DYES

November 16, 10am–2pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle! Create plant-based dyes using native plants, then transform bird seed sacks into festive compostable holiday wrapping. Free to ASWP members and to members of the Fox Chapel Garden Club. \$5 for nonmembers. Special thanks to the Fox Chapel Garden Club for underwriting this event. While you're in a festive mood, stop in Audubon Nature Store for our annual Member's Day Sale! Members receive 20% off* of their purchases on this day only! See page 8 for details.

DECORATE A MINI TREE

December 7, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Get into the holiday spirit by decorating a mini tree using natural materials. For each tree: \$35 per member or group; \$40 per nonmember or group. If you want to decorate more than one tree, please register two groups.

YULE LOG HIKE AND CRAFT

December 7, 12–2pm / Succop Nature Park

Hike out into the woods to gather natural materials to decorate a birch Yule log. We will drill candle holes and level your log so that it will stay in proper position when you use it to decorate for the holidays. For each Yule log: \$6 per member or group; \$10 per nonmember or group. If you want to decorate more than one log, please register two groups.

HOLIDAY TEA FOR GIRLS AND BOYS

December 7, 11am & 3pm / Succop Nature Park

Bring your girls and boys, along with their favorite doll or toy, for a tea party that celebrates the holidays! We'll have tea, snacks, holiday carols, and a craft. These events fill quickly, so register early. Cost is \$20 per member; \$25 per nonmember.

HOLIDAY TEA

December 14, 11am & 3pm / Succop Nature Park

Succop Nature Park is beautifully decorated for the holidays! Join us for tea, snacks, holiday carols, and a craft. Cost is \$20 per member; \$25 per nonmember.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

Join one of our ASWP Christmas Bird Counts! For a list of local count leaders, please visit www.aswp.org.

Buffalo Creek Valley (includes Todd Nature Reserve): December 14

Pittsburgh (includes Beechwood): December 28

South Butler (includes Succop Nature Park): January 4

Christmas Bird Count Dinner at Beechwood: December 29 at 6pm at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Christmas Bird Count Lunch, South Butler: January 11 at 12pm at Hardwood Cafe

KIDS' CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

December 14, 10am–12pm / Buffalo Creek Nature Center

December 28, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

January 4, 10am–12pm / Succop Nature Park

Kids and parents are invited to participate in a family-friendly version of the Christmas Bird Count. Our naturalist will guide you. This event is appropriate for school-age and up. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Advance registration is required. This event is free.

Birding & Nature Hikes

BIRDS & MORE NATURALIST LED MORNING WALKS – THESE WALKS ARE FREE!

Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve: Every Wednesday at 9am (No walk December 25)

Succop Nature Park: Every Thursday at 9am (No walk November 28)

Todd Nature Reserve: Every Friday at 9am through October 25th

HARRISON HILLS BIRD WALK

October 6, 8am–12pm / Harrison Hills Park

Join us at Harrison Hills Park, one of the region's most popular places to bird. We will meet in the parking lot at the Environmental Learning Center and bird some of the surrounding trails. Free.

Audubon at Night

OWL PROWL

November 8, 7pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

November 9, 7pm / Todd Nature Reserve

Learn about our local owls inside, then search for them on the trails. This event is appropriate for all ages. Cost is \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

OWL PROWL AND GROWLER

Start the program learning more about our local owls as you search for them on the trails. Afterwards, head out to a local brewery and enjoy a glass of your favorite adult beverage as you talk birds. Must be 21 years of age and older. Cost is \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember. Cost is for program only; participants are responsible for the cost of their food and drinks.

Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve: Hitchhiker Brewery in Sharpsburg, November 22 at 7pm

Buffalo Creek Valley: Buffalo Creek Nature Center and Cellar Works Brewing in Sarver, November 30 at 7pm

Preschool Programs

FLEDGLINGS PRESCHOOL ACTIVITIES: AGES 3-5

October 8, November 12 & December 10 / Succop Nature Park

October 10, November 14 & December 12 / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Give your 3-5 year old a head start on a lifetime of loving the outdoors. Fledglings' programs incorporate stories, a walk, and activities to introduce new and fun nature themes to young participants. Parent or caregiver must be present. Cost is \$4 per member; \$6 per nonmember.

September: Cricket Cacophony

November: Turkey Trot

October: Signs of the Season

December: Holiday for the Birds

Volunteer Events

MEADOW PLANTING

October 5, 9am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Volunteers are needed to help plant a variety of native plants and seeds to expand the size of the meadow habitat at BFNR. Meadows provide cover and food sources for birds, pollinators, reptiles, and mammals—plus, they are beautiful! No experience is necessary and all materials will be provided. Thank you to Patagonia Pittsburgh for providing funding for this project.

RIPARIAN TREE PLANTINGS

October 19 & November 2, 9am–12pm / Buffalo Creek Nature Center

Volunteers are needed to help ASWP plant trees along Little Buffalo Creek to help improve water quality and habitat at the future site of the Buffalo Creek Nature Center. All supplies will be provided and no experience is necessary. Large groups and families are welcome. Funding for this project has been provided by DCNR and PENNVEST.

VOLUNTEER NATURALIST TRAINING

Sept. 16, 23, 30 & Oct. 7, 14, 21, 9:30am–2:30pm / Beechwood

Sept. 17, 24 & Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 9am–12pm / Succop Nature Park

Join our crew leading school field trips. This training will teach you techniques and natural history. You must attend all days of the training to become a volunteer naturalist! Dress to be both in the classroom and on the trail. Audubon volunteer naturalists will need to complete a background check before leading a program. Contact Scott at sdetwiler@aswp.org for complete details about the program. If you're taking the program at Beechwood, please bring a lunch.

Hands-on Evening and Weekend Programs

TALKING TREES

September 21, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Learn about recent research on the amazing Underground Communication network within a forest. Then visit Audubon's native plant nursery and learn the best methods to grow some important tree species from seed. Cost is \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

NATURE SKETCH JOURNALING: 1 DAY WORKSHOP

October 5, 10:30am–2:30pm / Succop Nature Park

In this class we will journey into nature and record our observations with sketches and descriptions of what we are experiencing. As we journal, it will help us connect with how we view and interpret the nature that surrounds us. Supplies to bring: sketch book, pencils, eraser that can also work on markers and watercolor." Cost is \$50 per member; \$75 per nonmember. Contact Chris Kubiak at ckubiak@aswp.org for more information.

NATIVE SEED COLLECTION WORKSHOP

October 19, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Learn how to harvest native seed while you help the Audubon Center for Native Plants replenish its stocks and add to your own plant collection. Participants will get hands on experience collecting, cleaning and sowing a variety of native plant seed. Free to ASWP members and to members of the Fox Chapel Garden Club. \$5 for nonmembers. Special thanks to the Fox Chapel Garden Club for underwriting this event.

BETTER BACKYARD BIRD FEEDING

October 26, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve
October 26, 2–4pm / Todd Nature Store at Yellow Jacket Square
November 2, 10am–12pm / Succop Nature Park

Ever want to attract more birds to your backyard? This program explains the dos and don'ts behind backyard bird feeding, and how the experts get more birds. Participants will also learn about Project Feeder Watch and how it helps scientists monitor bird populations. Appropriate for adults and interested youth. This event is free.

ACT 48 TEACHER WORKSHOP: WILD ABOUT ELK

November 16, 9am–3pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Ben Porkolab, the Conservation Education Coordinator at Keystone Elk Country Alliance, will present a teachers workshop *Wild about Elk*. Participants learn about elk management in Pennsylvania, the importance of elk habitat and receive the Wild About Elk workbook which has excellent lessons they can utilize in their classroom. Cost is \$60. Act 48 hours available.

THE ELK OF PENNSYLVANIA

November 16, 7pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Ben Porkolab, the Conservation Education Coordinator at Keystone Elk Country Alliance, will discuss the ecology, life history, and management of the Pennsylvania elk herd. This event is free.

BIRDING 101

November 16, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve
November 17, 10am–12pm / Succop Nature Park

Birdwatching is one of the fastest growing hobbies in the United States. Come learn the basics of birding and why watching our feathered friends is such a captivating hobby. Cost is \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT WARM UP WITH COFFEE AND BAGELS

December 7, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve
December 7, 10am–12pm / Todd Nature Store at Yellow Jacket Square
December 7, 10am–12pm / Succop Nature Park

Want to participate in the world longest running citizen science program? Come enjoy coffee, bagels, and a bird hike as you learn how you can help count birds for science. Learn or review the birds most likely to be seen for Audubon's annual Christmas Bird Counts. Beginners welcome! This includes a classroom session and a short birding walk, conditions permitting. Appropriate for adults and interested youth. This event is free.

LITTLE BROWN JOBS: SPARROW ID

December 12, 7pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve
December 14, 10am–12pm / Succop Nature Park

Ever wonder what that "little brown job" of a bird was? It probably was a sparrow: one of the harder species of birds to identify. Come to this free lecture and learn the art and science of sparrow identification. This event is free.

**Citizen Science programs are offered for free through a generous grant from Dominion Foundation.*

Scout Programs

CUB AND GIRL SCOUT BADGE DAY

October 12, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve
October 19, 10am–12pm / Succop Nature Park

Choose your nature-related badge or activity! This program is for Cub Scouts and elementary Girl Scouts and is booked by group or den. Contact Scott Detwiler at (412) 963-6100 to make your reservation. Cost is \$7.50 per scout; one adult chaperone (free) required per den. (Other dates available by arrangement, subject to minimum fees.)

Audubon NATURE STORE



THIS FALL, FEED THE BIRDS!

Shop Audubon Nature Store's extensive bird feeder selection, featuring the Droll Yankee Ring Pull Classic Sunflower Feeder. Now it's easier than ever to give songbirds just what they need—fresh food from a clean, hygienic feeder. Have questions about the feeders? We are happy to help answer your questions!

NEW AT THE BEECHWOOD STORE: SWAROVSKI CL COMPANION 8X30 BINOCULARS

You'll never miss out with the new CL Companion. These elegant binoculars with impressive optics fit perfectly in your hand. They are always with you to ensure you make the most of every sighting. Best of all, the new CL Companion combines Swarovski quality with a very attractive price. And the ergonomic design of these compact, lightweight (490 g/17.2 oz) binoculars makes them an excellent companion providing you with unique experiences when you're on the move.

BEECHWOOD FARMS NATURE RESERVE

Tuesday–Saturday: 9am–5pm
Sunday: 1–5pm

YELLOW JACKET SQUARE IN SARVER

Wednesday–Friday: 12–6pm
Saturday: 9am–5pm

NOW OPEN! SUCCOP NATURE PARK

Wednesday–Friday: 12–6pm
Saturday: 9am–5pm
Sunday: 1–5pm

**SAVE THE DATE:
MEMBER'S DAY SALE**
*November 16, 9am–5pm at all
Audubon Nature Stores!*

ASWP members: shop all three of our Nature Stores for 20% off* of purchases! Find gifts for your entire nature loving crew, browse holiday décor and treat yourself (and the birds) to a new birdfeeder!

If shopping at our Beechwood Nature Store, join in on the festive fun by attending our nature-inspired gift wrap program from 10am–2pm. See page 5 for details.

**Discount excludes optics and select artwork.*



LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT PLACE TO HOLD YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY, SHOWER, ANNIVERSARY PARTY, OR CORPORATE EVENT?

Succop Nature Park and Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve provide a beautiful backdrop to your special celebration! We'll provide planning and on-site event assistance and our caterer will create just the right menu for your event. It couldn't be simpler! Contact Davlin to learn more: dsmith@aswp.org.

VOLUNTEER *Spotlight*



WE'RE EXCITED TO SPOTLIGHT EILEEN LUBA, OUR THURSDAY MORNING STORE VOLUNTEER AND VOLUNTEER NATURALIST!

Many of you have already met Eileen in the store or at one of our programs. We're glad to have her as part of our team! Eileen has volunteered at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve for nearly five years.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT VOLUNTEERING?

Coming from a medical background, I just love working in retail, it's very different from what I'm used to. ASWP has become my extended family; there are so many great people and opportunities for involvement. Winter is my favorite season at ASWP—it gets me out of the house when it would normally be tough to get the motivation to head outside and explore. Plus the store always looks so nice during the holidays.

WHAT FIRST BROUGHT YOU TO ASWP?

Birding! We wanted to live where we could birdwatch so in 1986 we bought a house just down the road from Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

I've been playing Lawn Bowl for 35 years and have been a birdwatcher for 50 years! I attended the Master Birder program here at ASWP and that was one of the best things I've ever done. I learned so much; the Master Birder program opened up a whole new world. (Editor's note: Eileen is also an amazing baker; she has the most impressive sugar cookie skills we've ever seen and tasted!)

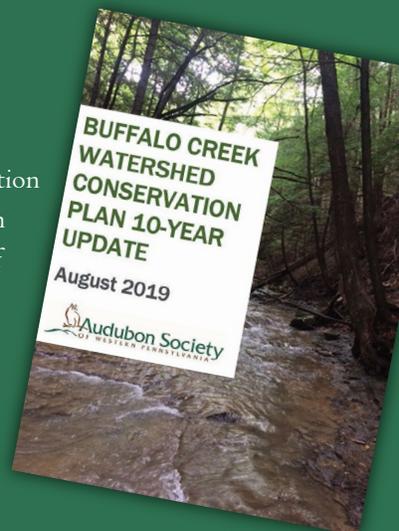
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BIRD?

My favorite is a Bluebird—but really it's whatever bird I'm looking at. Bluebirds are my favorite because they sing so sweetly, and they are a harbinger of Spring. They are also a model example for us because of their shared parental duties.

Visit Eileen at our Beechwood Nature Store on Thursday Mornings! To find out more about volunteering opportunities at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve or Succop Nature Park, contact us at info@aswp.org. If you're interested in volunteering in the store like Eileen does, contact Sam Ditch, Retail Manager, at sditch@aswp.org.

ASWP RELEASES BUFFALO CREEK WATERSHED CONSERVATION PLAN 10-YEAR UPDATE

In August 2019, ASWP published a 10-year update to the Buffalo Creek Watershed Conservation Plan. Buffalo Creek is an Important Bird Area, a high quality watershed, and home to many species of conservation concern. ASWP has over 75 years of environmental stewardship in Buffalo Creek including the protection of over 500 acres of property, public- and school-based environmental education, and the development of the 2008 Buffalo Creek Watershed Conservation Plan. The updated plan is a tool that will help prioritize activities and secure additional resources for the protection and enhancement of this amazing area. We invite you to check out the plan at aswp.org to learn more about the watershed, its challenges, and opportunities for conservation. Our next focus is riparian buffer planting throughout the watershed and the development of a watershed coalition. Keep an eye on our calendar for opportunities to get involved! Thank you to the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds for providing funding for this initiative.



BEECHWOOD HABITAT ENHANCEMENT *Highlights*

2019 has been a very busy season for habitat enhancement and monitoring activities at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve. Volunteers and staff worked to enhance pond, meadow, and forest habitats to help make BFNR even better for birds, pollinators, and wildlife. We planted 27 seedlings at the DiscoverGround nature play area along with the Discovery School preschoolers at Beechwood! ASWP is deeply grateful to the 220 volunteers that joined us to plant almost 2,000 plants, remove invasive species, and monitor project impacts through Bioblitzes and an avian point count. We're excited to watch all of the new native trees, shrubs, and perennials grow—we hope that you enjoy them as much as we (and the birds) do.



MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING GROUPS AND THE DOZENS OF INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS THAT JOINED US FOR THIS YEAR. WE CAN'T WAIT TO WORK WITH YOU AGAIN!

- American Eagle Outfitters* • *AmeriCorps, Literacy Pittsburgh* • *ASWP Master Birders & Volunteer Naturalists*
Bidwell Horticultural Technology Students • *Discovery School at Beechwood* • *Fox Chapel Area High School Environmental Science Students*
HW Lochner • *Mod Cloth* • *Patagonia Pittsburgh*

Native Plants FOR SUPPORTING BIRDS IN WINTER

Native plants are important for birds throughout the year, including winter. The following list highlights some of the species that provide food and shelter for birds that overwinter in our region. Plant these this fall to boost the habitat value of your yard.

Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*): Large evergreen tree that provides shelter; pine seeds are a great food source.

Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*): Large evergreen tree that provides shelter; fruit-like cones are a great food source.

American Holly (*Ilex opaca*): Large/medium evergreen tree with leathery leaves that is good for shelter; bright red fruit are a favorite of birds.

White Oak (*Quercus alba*): Large deciduous tree that provides great shelter; acorns are loved by birds and mammals.

Hawthorn (*Crataegus spp.*): Medium deciduous tree that provides good shelter; red fruit are a good source of food.

Winterberry Holly (*Ilex verticillata*): Medium/small deciduous tree that provides food in the form of red fruit.

American Cranberrybush (*Viburnum trilobum*): Large deciduous shrub with red fruit.

Black Chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*): Medium deciduous shrub with purple/black berries.

Goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*): Spreading perennial that provides ground level shelter and food in the form of seed.

Green-Headed Coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*): Large self-seeding perennial that provides food in the form of seed.

Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina*): Medium deciduous tree that provides shelter and food in the form of a cluster of red seed.

SUPPORT SENIORS *with the Gift of Audubon!*

Do you have a family member or loved one living in a Senior Care Facility? Do you struggle to find the right gift for their birthday, Father's or Mother's Day, or the holidays? Consider giving the gift of an Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania program.

ASWP has a wide range of programs tailored for older adults of all abilities. From nature walks to video presentations to live bird demonstrations, we can help to keep your loved one connected, curious, and engaged in the natural world. Our Citizen Science programs provide simple activities that Seniors can continue to perform after the presentation is done—providing a sense of purpose while helping to collect meaningful scientific data used by researchers around the world. Programs can be private, but most choose to share with the wing, floor, or ward. Some family members combine their gifts to create an ongoing series of nature programs for the facility.

For more information on our programs for Senior Centers, please call us at 412-963-6100 or visit aswp.org.



Memorials & Honors

Memorials

Dave Clapperton

*Carol & William Rodgers
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JoAnne & Don Lightner
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