



BULLETIN

— SPRING / SUMMER 2018 —



In this issue: Learn how you can attract birds, butterflies, beneficial insects, and wildlife to your backyard.

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Native plants attract birds,
butterflies, beneficial insects,
and wildlife to your backyard.
Shop native plants at our Native
Plant Nursery, opening for
the season on May 12.



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This Audubon View

As we go to print, we're hopeful that winter is finally behind us. While the extended cold and abundant snow made spending time outside unpleasant (except for those that enjoy skiing and ice skating!), it may have helped slow down many invasive pests that threaten our native trees and plants. In particular, the deep freeze of January and February should reduce the amount of hemlock woolly adelgid that has been plaguing Pennsylvania's state tree.



One other thing we noted this winter—a new parking lot makes a big difference. The new lot at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve, along with the new trails and other improvements completed last fall, made it a lot easier and safer for people visiting Beechwood.

With the Beechwood work behind us, we are now concentrating on the renovation of the 1880s bank barn at Succop Nature Park. Once completed, the T. W. Phillips Barn will include a large, modern classroom, nature store, vertical-axis wind turbine, nature play area, and other visit amenities. The upper level of the barn will be restored and maintained in a fashion that highlights the beauty of barns built during that era.

Many of the extended Phillips and Succop family members pooled contributions to name the barn for their grand patriarch, Thomas W. Phillips and to help us create the new nature center. Work is expected to run through November 2018 and we look forward to opening the new facility by the end of the year.

We thank the entire Succop and Phillips family, and everyone else who contributed to our Centennial Campaign, to make all of our improvements possible.

—Jim

DIRECTIONS TO *Our Reserves*

Trails are open year-round, 7 days a week, dawn to dusk.

BEECHWOOD FARMS NATURE RESERVE:

Take Route 28 north from Pittsburgh to Route 8 North/Butler exit. Turn right at first traffic light on to Kittanning Road, which becomes Dorseyville Road. Travel 4.3 miles and Beechwood will be on your left.

SUCCOP NATURE PARK: Take Route 8 North from Pittsburgh or South from Butler and turn on to West Airport Road. Once on West Airport Road, Succop Nature Park's driveway will be the first road on your left.

TODD NATURE RESERVE: Take Route 28 North from Pittsburgh to the Butler/Freeport Exit I7. Turn right at Route 356 North, and then right at Monroe Road. Travel about 2 miles, and make a right at Kepple Road. Travel 1.5 miles and Todd Nature Reserve will be on your right. Park in the lot and please sign in at the informational kiosk at the cabin. Trail maps are located at the kiosk.



THE IMPORTANCE OF THE *Migratory Bird Treaty Act*

2018 marks the centennial of one of the most important bird conservation acts ever passed in American history. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 is federal law that prohibits anyone from trying to “take, possess, import, export, transport, sell, purchase, barter, or offer for sale, purchase, or barter, any migratory bird, or the parts, nests, or eggs of such a bird except under the terms of a valid permit issued pursuant to Federal regulations.” The MBTA was also signed in conjunction with Canada, Japan, Mexico, and Russia, as birds move and migrate across international borders. Its establishment was one of Audubon’s most important conservation victories; and in the 100 years since its enactment, has arguably saved billions of birds and countless species from certain death or extinction.

Here’s how it’s accomplished so much in its 100-year history. In the 19th century, with essentially zero regulations in place, market hunters decimated U.S. bird populations without restrictions as native bird species—from owls to eagles—were targeted. A large part of this trade was done so that fashion-conscious women could wear hats adorned with ornamental feathers from egrets and herons. By the end of the century, Labrador Ducks and Great Auks were extinct, soon to be joined by Passenger Pigeons in 1914, Carolina Parakeets, and Heath Hens. Numerous other bird species stood on the precipice of extinction before passage of the MBTA.

YOU CAN TAKE ACTION FOR BIRDS

The MBTA, a vitally important conservation law, is under siege. Legislation in Congress (HR 4239), and a new interpretation of the law and definition of an “incidental take” would end the effectiveness of the treaty and result in countless bird deaths. These proposals would prevent enforcement of “incidental” bird deaths, by removing incentives for companies to adopt best practices that protect birds from threats such as oil waste pits (which are estimated to kill over 1 million birds a year), powerlines (175 million), and communication towers (50 million), while eliminating penalties for companies that kill substantial numbers of birds.

With the MBTA in place, many of these species began to recover—today they have healthy populations. The act not only protected birds that cross international borders, but also state borders inside the U.S. An earlier law focused on the state level, but the lack of uniform laws made conservation difficult as birds often ignore political boundaries. And rigid enforcement in one state and lax enforcement in another was no longer a problem when the act was administered by the federal government.

By 1972, Congress added an additional 32 families of birds, including eagles, hawks, owls, and corvids to the MBTA. Even more species have been added since in the following years, bringing the total number to 1,026—almost every native species in the United States.

The MBTA is credited with saving numerous other species from extinction, including the Snowy Egret, Wood Ducks, Trumpeter Swan, and the Sandhill Crane. And with many more facing increasing challenges, the MBTA serves as a foundation to conserve these threatened species. *It is, along with the Endangered Species Act, one of the most important bird conservation laws ever passed.* And now it faces threats of its own. We need your help to ensure its survival and ability to help protect birds.

Currently, the MBTA provides a critical tool for accountability through enforcement of the law by issuing penalties and offering incentives to implement safe practices in the first place. This prevents or holds responsible industries that have failed to adopt common sense practices that lead to bird deaths. If these proposed changes pass, only purposeful takes—shooting a Great Egret rather than incidental poisoning from an oil spill—would be prosecuted under the law. Under these new rules, British Petroleum (BP) would never have been liable for killing almost a million birds during the Deepwater Horizon disaster.

Please contact your representatives and let them know that you oppose the passage of HR4239 Bird-Killer Amendment and support the 100 year-old Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Spring/ Summer

PROGRAM SCHEDULE



REGISTER FOR PROGRAMS ONLINE AT ASWP.ORG
OR BY CALLING (412) 963-6100.

Special Events

VOLUNTEER TREE PLANTING DAY

May 5, 9am–12pm / 148 Thompson Road in Sarver

Join us to plant trees to make Sarver even more beautiful! No experience is needed and tools will be provided. Groups and all ages are welcome! Please call (412) 963-6100 or visit aswp.org to register and let us know you're coming.

NATIVE PLANT NURSERY OPENING DAY

May 12, 9am–3pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Native plants attract birds and butterflies to your garden—this year we're offering plant bundles to attract hummingbirds and Monarch Butterflies! On opening day, all plants will be 10% off. Can't make it on May 12? You can buy native plants anytime at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve.

PICNICS IN THE PARK

July 19, August 16, 6:30–8:30pm / Succop Nature Park

Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy free live music at Succop Nature Park. See a list of bands that will be performing at www.aswp.org.

Birding & Nature Hikes

BIRDS & MORE NATURALIST-LED MORNING WALKS

Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve: Every Wednesday at 9am; Free

Succop Nature Park: Every Thursday at 9am; Free

Todd Nature Reserve: Every Friday at 9am; Free

HARRISON HILLS BIRD WALK

May 5, 8am–12pm / Harrison Hills Park

Harrison Hills Park offers one of the regions more popular places to bird. We will meet in the parking lot at the Environmental Learning Center and bird some of the surrounding trails. We will be looking for migrant warblers, vireos, orioles, thrushes, and more! Free.

**SIGN UP FOR SUMMER CAMPS TODAY!
REGISTER AT ASWP.ORG.**

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY CELEBRATION

Birding at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve, Succop Nature Park and Todd Nature Reserve on May 12 and 13, 8–10 am.

Birding at Magee Marsh Trip May 12 and 13. Please contact Chris Kubiak at ckubiak@aswp.org for more information.

International Migratory Bird Day is celebrated each spring across the United States and Canada. This special event recognizes the movement of nearly 350 species of birds from their wintering grounds in South America, Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean to nesting habitats in North America. Come learn about the importance of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act that has helped conserve birds as well as their life cycles that span borders. We will take a special trip to Magee Marsh as well as having bird walk at our three reserves.

THE SINGING LIVES OF BIRDS

June 9, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Ever wonder why birds sing, and what they are trying to communicate? Come learn about how, why, and where birds sing and the beauty that is birdsong. \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

CHIMNEY SWIFTS: LIFE ON THE WING

August 21, 7pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

September 1, 10am–12pm / Succop Nature Park

September 1, 12–2 pm / Todd Nature Store at Yellow Jacket Square

A bird best identified by what looks like a cigar with wings, the smudge-gray Chimney Swift nimbly maneuvers over rooftops, fields, and rivers to catch insects. Learn about the life history of this enigmatic little bird that spends almost its entire life airborne, as well as ASWP's Swift conservation efforts across the region. Free.

CHIMNEY SWIFT WATCHES

September 7, 7pm / Church Brew Works

September 8, 7pm / Freeport Area High School

Like a reverse tornado descending to the chimneys at dusk, come watch one of nature's most amazing spectacles as migrating Chimney Swifts roost for the night in one of our local swift hot spots. Free. Church Brew Works is located at 3525 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh. We will meet at the corner of 36th Street and Liberty Avenue. Freeport Area High School is located at 625 S Pike Road, Sarver. We will meet in the parking lot.

FALL MIGRATORY HIKES

August 25 and September 1 / All locations

Fall is coming and the birds know it. Join us for a naturalist-led hike where we'll be looking for birds that are ready to make their way south for the winter. Free.

Audubon at Night

EVENING WITH THE FROGS

May 18, 7–9pm / Beechwood Farms & Succop Nature Park

Frogs and toads play an important role, serving as both prey and predator, in wetland ecosystems and are considered indicators of environmental health. Come learn about our fascinating local frog species and their sounds, then head down to the pond after sunset to listen. \$4 per member; \$6 per nonmember.

ROUND THE CAMPFIRE

June 23, 7–9pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

June 30, 7–9pm / Succop Nature Park

Firecraft is serious business; success or failure can mean life or death in an emergency. We will go over locally available tinder and learn about unconventional ways to light a fire. Fuel selection and preparation are crucial to success. Fire by friction, charcloth, tinder bundles, and heat reflection will be covered. \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

FAMILY NIGHT HIKE

August 17, 8–10pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Come and enjoy a hike on Beechwood's trails in the twilight of summer. Participants will get to walk in the darkness while using your senses to experience nature in a uniquely different way. \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

Preschool Programs

FLEDGLINGS: AGES 3-5

Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve: May 10, June 14, July 12, August 2, and September 13; 10–11:15am

Succop Nature Park: May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, and September 11; 10–11:15am

Todd Nature Store at Yellow Jacket Square: May 9, June 13, July 11, August 15, September 12; 10–11:15am

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. \$4 per member; \$6 per nonmember.

May: The Dandelion Seed **August:** Terrific Trees

June: Swimmy the Fish **September:** Meadow Meander

July: Lost Ladybug

BABES IN THE WOODS

June 7, July 5, August 2, Sept. 6, 10–11am / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

June 5, July 3, August 7, Sept. 4, 10–11am / Succop Nature Park

Bring your toddler to our DiscoverGround for a special nature play session. A naturalist will be on hand with age-appropriate nature activities and touchables to encourage exploration at your child's pace. Ages 0–2 with caregiver present; siblings welcome to help. Beechwood: Meet in DiscoverGround. Succop: Meet at the Chimney Swift Tower in the parking lot. Free.

Hands-on Programs

CHILDREN'S CRAFT AND NATURE STORY PROGRAM

May 19, 12–1pm / Todd Nature Store at Yellow Jacket Square

Children will enjoy a fun nature story, and then make a nature themed craft. \$4 member; \$6 nonmember.

FIREFLY WATCH

June 9, 8:30–10pm / Succop Nature Park

June 22, 8:30–10pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

June 22, 8:30–10pm / Buffalo Creek Park

Learn about our local fireflies and how to count them. We will start with a presentation on fireflies, then go outside observing and counting them as night falls. This is a Citizen Science project suitable for all ages. You'll learn how to take this program home to continue in your own backyard. Free.

MONARCH LARVA MONITORING

July 20, 7–8:30 pm / Beechwood Farms & Succop Nature Park

July 21, 12–1:30pm / Todd Nature Store at Yellow Jacket Square

The Monarch Larva Monitoring Project is a long term study of the distribution, breeding and mortality rates of monarch butterflies as they have gone in steep decline. Participants learn how this Citizen Science project engages people in observing and studying the milkweed habitat, and identify all life stages of the Monarch butterfly in the field.

PROJECT BUDBURST

September 22, 10–12pm / Beechwood Farms & Succop Nature Park

September 22, 12–2pm / Todd Store at Yellow Jack Square

Project BudBurst participants make careful observations of the timing of leafing, flowering, and fruiting phases of plants (plant phenophases) throughout the year. Spring, summer, fall, and winter phases are all valuable. Learn how scientists and educators can use the data to learn more about how plant species respond to changes in climate locally, regionally, and nationally. Free.

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

Native Plant Programs

ORGANIC GARDEN SOLUTIONS

May 26, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

This workshop will focus on techniques that create functional, thriving garden spaces. We will explore native plants that work with nature to increase beneficial insects and birds. Attendees will also learn various techniques to reduce or eliminate the need for synthetic chemicals in the landscape. Participants will tour Beechwood's eco-friendly garden features to see applications of the concepts presented in class. This event, underwritten by the Fox Chapel Garden Club (FCGC), is free for ASWP members and Fox Chapel Garden Club members and \$4 for non-members.

FLOWERS AND FEATHERS: CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PLANTS AND BIRDS

June 23, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

Discover the numerous benefits native plants provide our most beloved birds. Uncover the amazing connections that plants have with birds to entice pollination, disperse seed, and control pests. Participants will plant native seedlings to bring home. This event, underwritten by the Fox Chapel Garden Club (FCGC), is free for ASWP members and Fox Chapel Garden Club members and \$4 for non-members.

GARDENING FOR POLLINATORS AND BUTTERFLIES

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

Butterflies are always a welcome guest in the garden. Join us to better understand the keys to a successful butterfly garden in western PA and ways we can use our gardens to help our local native bee species. Using native plants and eco-friendly landscape practices provide essential elements that insects need to thrive. Participants will plant native seedlings to bring home to their butterfly garden. This event, underwritten by the Fox Chapel Garden Club (FCGC), is free for ASWP members and Fox Chapel Garden Club members and \$4 for non-members.

TREES AND SHRUBS & SUPPORTING WILDLIFE IN WINTER

September 22, 10am–12pm / Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

When winter sets in birds depend on plant resources to provide critical nutrients as insects become scarce. We will discuss how we can help sustain birds during the harsh winter months using bird-friendly native woody plants and ways to prepare your landscape at the end of the season to support resident birds through the winter. Participants will learn proper pruning and planting techniques to successfully establish trees and shrubs in a home landscape. This event, underwritten by the Fox Chapel Garden Club (FCGC), is free for ASWP members and Fox Chapel Garden Club members and \$4 for non-members.

AUDUBON NATURE STORE NEWS

Stop by for nature-inspired gifts!

We add new items frequently, so no visit is ever the same!

Corinthian Bell Wind Chimes are back in stock! Audubon Nature Store is proud to carry a lovely assortment of hand-tuned QMT wind chimes, made in America for over 30 years. We also have pure Pennsylvania maple syrup and honey in stock, as well as locally roasted shade grown coffee.

Check out our gardening section for all your garden needs, featured high performance Felco gardening tools, as well as great gifts for the gardeners in your life!

And get all of your outdoor gear at our nature store, including Bamboo Hiking Socks, Wide Brim Hats with full UV protection, Naked Bee Zinc Sunscreen, and hand-carved Walking Sticks.

Don't forget that the Nature Store is your local source for optics, proudly carrying Swarovski, Nikon, and Kowa Binoculars.

AUDUBON NATURE STORE AT BEECHWOOD

Address: 614 Dorseyville Road, Pittsburgh 15238

Telephone: (412) 963-6100

HOURS:

Tuesday–Saturday: 9am–5pm

Sunday: 1–5pm

AUDUBON NATURE STORE IN SARVER

Address: Yellow Jacket Square, Sarver 16065

Telephone: (724) 295-0019

HOURS:

Wednesday–Friday: 12–7pm

Saturday: 9am–5pm

See you there!

SPRING/SUMMER 2018 *Calendar of Events*

Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

MAY

- 2, 9 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 10 Fledglings
- 12 Native Plant Nursery Opening Day
- 12, 13 International Migratory Bird Day Walk
- 16 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 18 Evening with the Frogs
- 23 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 26 Organic Gardening Solutions
- 30 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

JUNE

- 6 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 7 Babes in the Woods
- 9 The Singing Lives of Birds
- 13 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 14 Fledglings
- 20 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 22 Firefly Watch
- 23 Flowers and Feathers: Connections Between Plants and Birds
- 23 'Round the Campfire
- 27 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

JULY

- 5 Babes in the Woods
- 11 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 12 Fledglings
- 18 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 20 Monarch Larva Monitoring
- 25 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 28 Gardening for Pollinators and Butterflies

AUGUST

- 1 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 2 Fledglings
- 2 Babes in the Woods
- 8, 15 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 17 Family Night Hike
- 21 Chimney Swifts: Life on the Wing
- 22 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 25 Fall Migratory Hike
- 29 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Fall Migratory Hike
- 5 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 6 Babes in the Woods
- 12 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

SEPTEMBER (CONTINUED)

- 13 Fledglings
- 19 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 22 Project Budburst
- 22 Trees and Shrubs & Supporting Wildlife in Winter
- 26 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

Succop Nature Park

MAY

- 3 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 8 Fledglings
- 10 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 12, 13 International Migratory Bird Day Walk
- 17 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 18 Evening with the Frogs
- 24, 31 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

JUNE

- 5 Babes in the Woods
- 7 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 9 Firefly Watch
- 12 Fledglings
- 14, 21, 28 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 30 'Round the Campfire

JULY

- 3 Babes in the Woods
- 5 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 10 Fledglings
- 12, 19 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 19 Picnic in the Park
- 20 Monarch Larva Monitoring
- 26 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

AUGUST

- 2 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 7 Babes in the Woods
- 9 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 14 Fledglings
- 16 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 16 Picnic in the Park
- 23 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 25 Fall Migratory Hike
- 30 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Chimney Swifts: Life on the Wing
- 1 Fall Migratory Hike

SEPTEMBER (CONTINUED)

- 4 Babes in the Woods
- 6 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 11 Fledglings
- 13, 20 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 22 Project Budburst
- 27 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

Todd Nature Reserve

MAY

- 4 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 9 Fledglings @ Nature Store
- 11 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 12, 13 International Migratory Bird Day Walk
- 18 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 19 Children's Craft and Nature Story Program @ Nature Store
- 25 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

JUNE

- 1, 8 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 13 Fledglings @ Nature Store
- 15, 22 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 22 Firefly Watch @ Buffalo Creek Nature Center
- 29 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

JULY

- 6 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 11 Fledglings @ Nature Store
- 13, 20 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 21 Monarch Larva Monitoring @ Nature Store
- 27 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

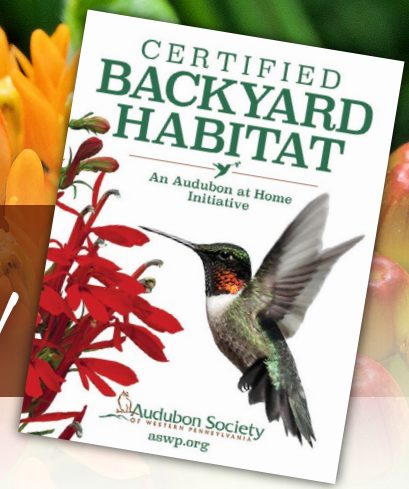
AUGUST

- 3, 10 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 15 Fledglings @ Nature Store
- 17, 24 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 25 Fall Migratory Hike
- 31 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Chimney Swifts: Life on the Wing @ Nature Store
- 1 Fall Migratory Hike
- 7 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 12 Fledglings @ Nature Store
- 14, 21 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk
- 22 Project Budburst @ Nature Store
- 28 Birds & More Naturalist Led Walk

CREATE A MINI WILDLIFE RESERVE *in Your Own Backyard!*



Audubon is pleased to announce an exciting new initiative—the *Backyard Habitat Program*. Your yard can serve as important habitat for birds, pollinators, and wildlife. ASWP's *Backyard Habitat Program* is designed to connect residents with easy but important ways to support biodiversity and improve our local environment. Together, these backyard habitats will function like a distributed network of miniature nature reserves—each providing food, shelter, habitat, and refuge for wildlife from an increasingly challenging landscape.

Backyard habitats can be created in small yards, large yards, or even on a patio or balcony. The program is centered around 5 focus areas:

- **Native Plants:** Landscape part of your property with native plants to provide important habitat.
- **Go Natural:** Reduce or eliminate use of non-organic chemical use.
- **Stewardship:** Support wildlife by having features such as a bird bath, bird or bat house, or bird feeder.
- **Clean Water:** Promote healthy watersheds with simple actions such as composting or properly disposing of household hazardous waste.
- **Cultivate:** Gain knowledge and stay engaged by participating in a workshop or volunteering in the Backyard Habitat Program.

The program has 3 certification levels—*Habitat Guardian*, *Habitat Champion*, and *Habitat Hero*. Each level includes the 5 focus areas listed above. You can expand the value of your backyard habitat even more by striving for the Habitat Champion and Habitat Hero levels.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

After enrolling in the program, ASWP staff will visit your property to conduct a site assessment. As part of the site assessment, they will identify any existing native plants, determine site conditions, and speak with you about your goals for the property. ASWP staff will then provide a custom report which includes plant recommendations and other steps to meet the desired certification level. Once you have completed the steps, staff will again visit your property to verify the steps have been completed and deliver your certification package. The certification package will include a Backyard Habitat sign and a pocket naturalist guide to the Backyard Life of Southwestern Pennsylvania.

The cost for the program is \$35 for members and \$50 for non-members. Want to learn more? Contact Sarah at skoenig@aswp.org or (412) 963-6100 x 26 for more information.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS



If you love Audubon's mission and want to get your hands dirty, we have volunteer opportunities for you! We're looking for people to help us with our weekly Native Plant Center work sessions and monthly Conservation work sessions. You may be planting seedlings, trees, or helping us to remove invasive species. All of our work will create healthy habitats for birds, bees, butterflies, beneficial insects, and animals.

Have a group that would like to volunteer? We can accommodate that! Interested? Please contact Sarah at skoenig@aswp.org or (412) 963-6100.

ASWP RECEIVES *Burke Grant Award* FOR NATIVE PLANTS

ASWP recently received a National Audubon Society Coleman and Susan Burke Center for Native Plants award to support our native plant initiatives.

We'll employ a multi-focal promotional effort to raise awareness of the importance of native plants and to reduce real and perceived barriers to their use.

This will be a comprehensive awareness campaign that capitalizes on National Audubon's Plants for Birds initiative, leverages other support and projects ASWP will be undertaking in 2018, and builds on our more than 30-year history of working with native plants. ASWP will work to increase awareness and use of native plants in our region through professional workshops, municipal presentations, advertising and the launch of its new Certified Backyard Habitat program.

ASWP has its own native plant nursery, opened in May 2000. The 1,200 square foot facility provides dedicated space for the propagation of and education about native plants. The green building features straw-bale insulation, radiant floor heating and full-spectrum glass skylights. In addition to the greenhouse, there is enough space behind the facility to raise 20,000 native plants.

ASWP's native plant nursery will be open for the season on May 12, 2018. This year, to make the use of native plants more convenient for gardeners, the nursery will feature bundled plants that attract Monarch Butterflies and hummingbirds.

Learn more about native plants on our website at www.aswp.org.

Memorials & Honors

Memorials

William D. Erving
Betsy Owens

William F. McCrady, Jr.
*William McCrady
Andrea McCrady*

Virginia Schatz
Janis & Jonas Johnson

Nancy Glenn Steimer
*Lisa Steimer &
Debbie Shearer*

Peg Morrison
Cathy Mall

Chip
*Ellen Philips &
Bard Ermentrout*

Tony Parker
Susan Parker

Albert "Hap" Humes
Elizabeth Owens

Marjorie Ellen Bakkila
*Merle & Jeff Felder
Betsy Owens
Michele & John Bender
Judith & Paul Spark
Betty & Larry Berner
Joanne & Ellsworth Bowser
Lori Swensson
Dorothy Baker*

Anne Schrinier
Robert Schrinier

Joyce Liebenguth
Charles Brebm

Clifton Highman
*Steel City Ukuleles
Marlene Parrish
Rosemary Highman
Denise & Joseph Winslow*

Ellis Lee Carter
Barbara & Robert Kendig

William Sauereisen
Elizabeth Owens

Fred Brown
Elizabeth Owens

Ardith Lorraine Downer
Linda & John Dudzik

Honors

Kenneth A. Epplinger
Mary Lawrence

Dr. Andrea McCrady
William McCrady

Doris Malter
Sean O'Neill

**Scott Detwiler and
Volunteer Naturalists**
Liz Spence

Kathy & Gwil Price
Ruth Ann & Jay Pastorius

Betsy Owens
Arlene & William Gordon

Leslie and Jim Bonner
Mary Phan-Gruber

Jo Ann & Tom Succop
*Karen and Tim Slevin
Amy, Michael, Craig &
Wills Millin*

Joy Borelli-Edwards
Sybil & Kevin McKeegan

**Betty Mae
Abbott Award**
Thorne Abbott

Jordan Love
Billie Maxim-Brenner

Jim Bonner
Elizabeth Owens

**Mary Bollman &
Jeff Nixon
(for Harmar Eagles)**
Beth Markbart

**Chris & Alex Scott,
Gregg Scott, Emily &
Dave Scott**
Lindsay Scott & Rik Rodefer

Alexis Rodefer
Lindsay Scott & Rik Rodefer



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