

BULLETIN

WINTER 2021



In this issue: We've broken ground on the new Babcock Nature Center at Buffalo Creek Nature Park!

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BULLETIN

WINTER 2021

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2020 has been out-of-the-ordinary for many reasons—including for birds. We've seen an eruption locally of Evening Grosbeaks. These birds aren't usually seen in large numbers here—but this year is an exception.



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This Audubon View

Construction has begun on the Babcock Nature Center. After years of planning and fundraising, numerous design and permitting challenges, higher than expected initial construction bids, and yes—even a pandemic—construction on our new center in Sarver has finally begun!

Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania is creating a new Environmental Education and Nature Center to serve as the public hub for our Todd Nature Reserve and our conservation work throughout the Buffalo Creek Watershed. This center will continue our commitment to this ecologically diverse region that began in 1942, when ASWP was donated the first parcel of property that became the core of Todd Nature Reserve.

This center has been a long time in coming. Dreamed of decades ago, with real work starting almost 10 years ago, it has been a labor of love for many of us at ASWP. Todd Nature Reserve, and the entire Buffalo Creek Valley, is a magical place and one of the most important ecological regions of western Pennsylvania. During the 10 years we have been working on the project, our original plans and cost estimates have been refined and construction costs have (naturally) gone up.

Making this new nature center possible is a **\$500,000 gift from the Babcock Charitable Trust**. ASWP had raised \$1.0 million for the project through our Centennial Campaign, but site conditions and escalating construction costs resulted in a project budget closer to \$1.5 million. Babcock Charitable Trust's very generous support enables us to bring this dream to fruition. We are pleased to name the environmental education and nature center building in their honor.

Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania sincerely thanks the Babcock Charitable Trust, the Babcock family, and everybody that is helping to make the new center and park a reality.

Stay well,

—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 Park: 154 Monroe 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 Evolution of BUFFALO CREEK NATURE PARK

Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania has long sought to have a nature center connected with Todd Nature Reserve through which we could further our mission of connecting people to birds and nature. With our long-term commitment to the health and stewardship of the Buffalo Creek Watershed, it would also serve as our conservation and engagement hub.

In 2008, a 6-acre parcel of property near Todd Nature Reserve came on the market. Nestled between Little Buffalo Creek and the Butler-Freeport Community Trail, (a very popular 22-mile long former railroad path that links Butler City with Freeport), the former Oregon Club Hunting and Fishing Club property is an ideal setting for a community park.

Both Audubon and Buffalo Township were interested in the property, and instead of competing, agreed to partner in acquiring the property. In addition to the proximity to the hiking trail and being closer to the main roads of Buffalo Township, placing the nature center at this location ensured that Todd Nature Reserve could continue as a “low-impact” reserve.

It took four years to complete the acquisition, with ASWP assisting Buffalo Township in securing state funding. During that time, it became apparent that the Township would not have the resources to fully develop their portion of the property, so ASWP and the Township entered into a long-term joint operating agreement that has Audubon assume the management and development responsibilities for the entire park.

Although it is a beautiful site, it is also a challenging site to develop. Being adjacent to a high-quality designated stream, federal, state, and local permitting requirements are significant. Additionally, past activities on the site have left some of the soils unsuitable for building without significant corrective measures.

ASWP and its consultants designed, redesigned, and redesigned (again) the park layout and building to meet all permitting and engineering requirements. The extra design work and development requirements, combined with the length of time that has passed since the budget was first conceived, resulted in a project budget of \$1.5 million. Although greater than the \$1.0 million we initially estimated for the project almost 10 years ago, we know that it is a good value and a good investment in the future of the Buffalo Creek Valley.

PARK DETAILS

The Buffalo Creek Nature Park site will include the 2,500 sq ft. Babcock Nature Center with a modern classroom, nature store, multiple restrooms, and other visitor amenities. Connected to the center building will be a 1,200 sq ft. pavilion for presentations and public use. Adjacent to the center building will be a nature play area, where young children can engage in unstructured play and begin their life-long connection to the natural world. ADA parking, permeable pavers, and an EV charging station will be included, as will an accessible trail to connect the center to the Butler-Freeport Community Trail.

We are excited to see this project come to life. Please continue to follow the construction with us!



SITE PLAN



BUILDING INTERIOR

ABOUT THE BABCOCK CHARITABLE TRUST

The Babcock name has a long history in the Pittsburgh region, starting in the late 1800s when Edward and Fred Babcock founded E.V. Babcock and Company—which evolved into Babcock Lumber Company. In 1897, Oscar Babcock joined the company following the purchase of 6,900 acres of land in Somerset County. Babcock Lumber also acquired land in West Virginia and in Tennessee, near the Tellico River.

The removal of trees in these areas, particularly in West Virginia, left large areas of land unforested and resulted in land erosion and even fires. In the early 1930s, the majority of the land near the Tellico River was either deeded to the US government or sold to the US Forest Service to become parts of Great Smokey National Park and the Cherokee National Forest.

Edward went into politics, first serving on Pittsburgh City Council in 1911, then as Mayor of Pittsburgh from 1918-1922. He went on to become an Allegheny County Commissioner in 1927. He personally paid for more than 4,000 acres of land that would eventually become Allegheny County's North and South Parks.

In the 1960s, members of the Babcock family created a charitable trust aimed at supporting education initiatives and projects to help the environment reclaim areas that had been logged. The Babcock Charitable Trust has supported numerous local environmental and educational projects over the years—most recently supporting Allegheny County Parks and helping to fund the Riverview Children's Center in Verona.

Winter

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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

Events take place at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve (BFNR), Succop Nature Park (SNP), or Buffalo Creek Nature Park (BCNP).

BFNR: 614 Dorseyville Road, Fox Chapel, Allegheny County
SNP: 185 W. Airport Road, Penn Township, Butler County
BCNP: 154 Monroe Road, Sarver, Butler County

Masks must be worn at all events and social distancing protocols remain in place. Given the unpredictable nature of the pandemic, this schedule is subject to change—including cancellations, dates, times, and capacities. We will add programs as appropriate if conditions change. Please check our website, aswp.org, for the latest information.

Many of our programs may be scheduled as private sessions. Call us at (412) 963-6100 for more information.

Special Events

SOUTH BUTLER CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

January 2 / Includes Succop Nature Park

Join us in the world's longest running Community Science events as we count birds for science! Now in its 121st year, Audubon's Christmas Bird Count is a fun way to get outside and winter and help us keep tabs on local bird populations. No experience necessary as we will pair you (socially distanced, of course!) with an experienced birder. Contact Chris Kubiak at ckubiak@aswp.org or (412) 963-6100 for more details. Free.

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT WALK

February 12, 9–11am / BCNP

February 13, 10am–12pm / BFNR and SNP

Join the ASWP naturalists for our annual Great Backyard Bird Count walk on Audubon's trails. Launched in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, the Great Backyard Bird Count was the first online community-science project to collect data on wild birds and to display results in near real-time. Free.

Natural History Virtual Series

ALEXANDER WILSON: AMERICA'S FIRST ORNITHOLOGIST

January 14, 7pm / Zoom

Most people know America's most famous bird artist and observer John James Audubon, but few people know Alexander Wilson. Ever wonder why we have birds named after states? Or who painted American birds before Audubon? Wilson's impact on early American ornithology is striking; he preceded and influenced Audubon almost a decade before John James landed in Pennsylvania and paved the way for the famed artist. A fascinating portrait an individual who named many of the species we know today and who's lasting impact on American birds continues to this day. \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember.

BATS OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

February 18, 7pm / Zoom

Bats are one of Western Pennsylvania's most interesting flying mammals, but many have been suffering steep declines from disease the past decade. This virtual program discusses the different bat species found in Western PA, their ecologies and life histories, as well as their steep declines from White-nose Syndrome. We will also discuss ways to help bats by creating bat boxes and bat-friendly habitats in your own backyard. \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember.

THE SCIENCE AND HISTORY OF MAPLE SUGAR

March 18, 7pm / Zoom

Ever wonder how maple syrup goes from a tree to your pancakes? This program will explore how people learned to get sugar from trees. We will begin with Native American techniques and continue onto the latest maple sugar extraction technologies and why Western PA is such a good place for maple sugaring. You will be able to identify local maple species and understand the science of how/why these trees make sugar. \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember.

Native Plants

WINTER BERRIES FOR BIRDS

January 23, 10am–12pm / Zoom

When winter sets in birds depend on plant resources to provide critical nutrients as insects become scarce. We will discuss specific native plants that help sustain birds during the harsh winter months and how to incorporate them in your own yards and landscapes. \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember.

CREATING A MEADOW IN ANY SPACE

February 20, 10am–12pm / Zoom

What makes a meadow a meadow and how can I create one in my own space? These questions and more will be explored as we examine these unique ecosystems, local native plants, as well as techniques for creating meadows in any space. \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember.

INVASIVE SPECIES ID & MANAGEMENT

March 20, 10am–12pm / Zoom

Invasive plants are overrunning our local ecosystems and causing serious damage to our environment. This program helps participants be able to understand why invasive species are a challenge in Western PA, how to identify, and manage these invaders. This program will also discuss the best techniques for invasive species management. \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember.

Kids & Preschool Programs

FLEDGLINGS PRESCHOOL ACTIVITIES: AGES 3–5

January 14, February 11, March 11 / BFNR

January 12, February 9, March 9 / SNP

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.

January: Who Gives a Hoot—Meet a special guest, a live screech owl!

February: Run for Cover—Help us find the secret hideouts of animals in winter.

March: Down the Maple Trail—Learn how we make a tasty treat, Maple Syrup!

KIDS' CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

January 2, 10am–12pm / SNP

Kids and parents are invited to participate in a family-friendly version of the Christmas Bird Count, no experience required. Our naturalist will guide you at Succop Nature Park. This event is appropriate for school-age and up. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Advance registration is required. Free.

BEECHWOOD AFTER-SCHOOL SERIES

January 13 & 27, February 10 & 24, March 10 & 24, 4:30–6pm / BFNR

Want to get your child or student outside into nature this winter? This after-school program at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve serves as the perfect respite from an overload of screen time. Winter at Beechwood has its own unique features and fascinating encounters with nature. Explore our meadows, forests and ecosystems for animals and their homes with an Audubon educator all the while having fun! Ages K-3rd grade. \$10 per student.

HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

January 29, February 26 & March 26, 10am–1pm / SNP

Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania is pleased to announce a series of classes at Succop Nature Park designed specifically for homeschooled students. These classes run from 10am–1pm with a mid-point lunch break. Families are free to sign up for scheduled classes, or they can choose a topic of their choice and schedule it at their convenience with our environmental educator. Many of the classes can be expanded to multiple sessions if requested. These classes are for K–12 with mixed grade levels welcome. \$10 per student.

Audubon at Night

FULL MOON HIKE FOR ADULTS

January 29, 7–8:30pm / BFNR & SNP

Enjoy a naturalist-led adults-only winter hike under the light of the moon. We will end with a hot cup of cocoa. \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

NIGHT CAMPFIRE AND HIKE FOR FAMILIES

February 20, 7–8:30pm / BFNR & SNP

Cooped up all winter and looking for a fun, outdoor nature activity for the whole family? Enjoy a warm campfire, a story or two, and a hike under the stars. \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

AMPHIBIANS AND FROG HIKE

March 25, 7–8:30pm / BFNR & SNP

Spring means warmer weather and a rebirth of nature after a long cold winter. Come join us as we discuss how amphibians like frogs survive the winter cold, ecology, and their importance in our local wetland ecosystems. Then join us on an outdoor hike to our reserves ponds as we search for frogs and amphibians! \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

Check out our YouTube Channel for everything from virtual hikes to DIY crafts! Find it by searching "ASWP YouTube."

Hands-On Learning

AUDUBON VOLUNTEER NATURALIST TRAINING

Six Mondays, March 15–April 27, 9:30am–2:30pm / BFNR

Audubon Volunteer Naturalists lead small groups of school students on field trips on the trails at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve, primarily spring and fall. This training will provide teaching techniques and basic natural history. This class will meet every Monday for six weeks March 23 through April 27. Sign up for the first session, March 23, to register for the series. Contact Scott, sdetwiler@aswp.org, for complete details about the Audubon Volunteer Naturalist program.

Birding & Nature Hikes

BIRDS & MORE NATURALIST LED MORNING WALKS

BFNR: Every Wednesday at 9am; Free

SNP: Every Thursday 9am; Free

BCNP (Butler/Freeport Trail): Every Friday in February and March at 9am; Free

VOLANT STRIPS

January 16, 8am–12pm / Lawrence County

The Volant Strips are located in Lawrence County, near the town of Volant. Join us as we bird near Volant and the open country near Black Swamp as we look for overwintering Sandhill Cranes, Snow Buntings, Horned Larks, American Kestrels, Northern Harriers, and many more winter birds. Bring your optics, water, and a snack and dress for the weather. Registration required. Meet at the Grove City Premium Outlets outside of Starbucks. Email Chris Kubiak at ckubiak@aswp.org for more details. \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember.

MORAIN STATE PARK BIRD WALK

February 13, 9am–12pm / Moraine State Park

Join us at Moraine State Park as we bird during the height of winter. We will focus on overwintering species, residents and other interesting birds. We will meet in the parking lot at McDaniel's Boat Launch and bird several locations at Moraine. Bring your optics, water, and a snack and dress for the weather. Registration required. Email Chris Kubiak at ckubiak@aswp.org for more details. \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember.

PYMATUNING BIRD OUTING

March 27, 8am–12pm / Pymatuning State Park

Pymatuning State Park represents one of the best places in Pennsylvania to observe migrating waterfowl and raptors like Bald Eagles. Participants will meet at the Wildlife Learning Center, spillway parking lot, on the Linesville side of the park, just up from the spillway. Contact Chris Kubiak at ckubiak@aswp.org for more information. Registration required. \$6 per member; \$10 per nonmember.

Expand Your Bird Knowledge

BIRDS OF PREY: IDENTIFYING THE HAWKS

January 9, 10am–12pm / BFNR

January 10, 10am–12pm / SNP

Ever wonder how to better identify hawks found here in Western Pennsylvania? From the soaring hawks to the ambush predators, this program discusses strategies how to understand field markings and ecologies of the hawks found in our region. \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

WINTER BIRDS OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

February 6, 10am–12pm / BFNR

February 7, 10am–12pm / SNP

How do birds survive the cold of winter? What birds hang around all winter? What do they eat? How can we identify key species? Come explore with our naturalists and observe what species of birds are to be discovered and some of their strategies of survival. \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

MASTER BIRDER PROGRAM

Spring 2021 (schedule TBD)

Audubon's Master Birder Program is for the intermediate birder who would like to take his or her birding knowledge to another level. Outings are designed to reinforce class subject matter and to get firsthand experience with the breadth of birds that occur in Western Pennsylvania. Graduates will have a detailed understanding of local habitat, bird identification, and behavior along with the desire to share their learning through an ongoing volunteer commitment to the ASWP. Cost is \$400 for members, \$475 for nonmembers. Email Chris Kubiak at ckubiak@aswp.org for more details.

Outdoors 101

WINTER TREE ID

January 9, 10am–12pm / BFNR & SNP

On this hike, we will discover ways to identify common trees without their leaves. By using branching patterns, bark texture, buds, and other clues, you can take this knowledge back to your favorite natural areas and identify what you see. We will also locate and identify common invasive trees to assist you in making ecological choices for your landscaping plans. Free.

WINTER WALKABOUT: SIGNS OF LIFE

February 8, 10am–12pm / BFNR & SNP

Even in the midst of winter the forest is teeming with life! Join a naturalist for the subtle and not-so-subtle signs of animal activity on the Reserve. Program is outside. Adults and families. Free.

ANIMAL SURVIVAL IN WINTER

February 27, 10am–12pm / BFNR & SNP

There is much to be learned about keeping yourself warm and safe in winter survival scenarios by observing animals. On this hike, we will locate dens, burrows, and dreys and see how these structures provide shelter. Then we will build a suitable survival shelter based on what nature has shown us. This is a fun, family friendly activity for all ages! Free.

Scout Programs

MAPLE SCOUTS

March 13, 10am–12pm / BFNR & SNP

Experience the science and history of Maple Sugaring. Groups or individuals welcome; advance registration is required. Contact Scott Detwiler at (412) 963-6100 or sdetwiler@aswp.org to make your reservation. \$7.50 per scout.

Product Spotlight: SQUIRREL BUSTER FEEDERS

One of the most frequent questions we get is, “how can I keep the squirrels from eating all of my bird seed?” The answer is simple—switch to a Squirrel Buster feeder.

These feeders are designed to prevent squirrels from accessing your seed, leaving it available for the birds! Audubon Nature Store has a number of Squirrel Buster feeders in stock—give us a call or stop in to learn more about the feeders and how they work. The feeders come with a lifetime care warranty, meaning they’ll provide years of enjoyment for you and the birds.

BEECHWOOD FARMS NATURE RESERVE

Store Hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 9am–5pm
614 Dorseyville Road in Fox Chapel

SUCCOP NATURE PARK

Store Hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 12–5pm
185 W. Airport Road in Butler

Phone: (412) 963-6100

PS – don’t forget about our curbside pickup for bird seed!





PREDATORY BEETLES RELEASED TO CONTROL HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID

Eastern and Carolina Hemlock trees play an important ecological role the 500+ acre of the Buffalo Creek Watershed—which includes Todd Nature Reserve and Buffalo Creek Nature Park. These beautiful trees are being impacted by the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA), aphid-like tiny insects that reproduce in large numbers.

An infestation of HWA causes “death by a thousand cuts” when the minuscule nymphs use penetrating mouthparts to suck sap from the base of each hemlock needle. The sheer numbers gradually overwhelm the tree, leading to weakness and death. The entire process typically takes several years from first appearance on tree to morbidity. Stressed trees may succumb within three years; healthy mature trees might last nine.

To combat HWA, Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania is utilizing a biological control—predatory beetles. It’s hoped that these beetles, native to Japan, will reduce the HWA population in the watershed.

In preparation for the beetle release, Audubon surveyed Hemlock trees across 54 acres in the Buffalo Creek Watershed to determine how many had HWA infestation. Using protocols developed by the US Department of Agriculture and the US Forest Service, Audubon found HWA at low to moderate levels on 12 acres.

While HWA may be controlled by insecticides, the Buffalo Creek Watershed property qualified for predatory beetle release due to its location on the leading edge of the infestation. Insecticidal treatment generally involves the use of a horticultural soap, oil, or insecticide via spray on small trees. Insecticide may also be applied via root drench or injection on larger trees. (For more information on insecticide treatments, please reach out to your local Penn State Extension office.)

The predatory beetles were released by DCNR staff in October 2020 and Audubon continues to monitor the properties with a goal to work alongside DCNR to incorporate best management practices.

Audubon chose to address this invasive species swiftly because Hemlocks are vital in keeping streams cool while providing nesting habitat for birds—in fact, some warbler species only nest in hemlocks. We will continue to keep you updated on the progress of our work and encourage you to check your Hemlock trees for evidence of this invasive species.

DID YOU GET ENGAGED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON? LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT LOCATION TO HOLD YOUR SHOWER OR WEDDING?

Contact us at events@aswp.org to discuss beautiful outdoor options for your upcoming events. Our spaces at Succop Nature Park and Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve are the perfect backdrop for your big day!

Ask the NATURALIST



HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID Q&A

WHERE DID HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID (HWA) COME FROM?

HWA, an aphid, was introduced to the eastern United States from Japan in the early 1950s. There, it coexists with Japanese species of hemlocks where it is controlled by natural predators—and a natural resistance among the native tree. In the US, HWA numbers have increased dramatically in the past 20 years. Cold winters slow it down, but our recent winters have been mostly mild.

HOW DO I RECOGNIZE IT?

The aphids shelter inside of waxy, tiny “cotton balls,” attached in neat rows along the base of each needle on a hemlock twig. Impacted trees may be identified at a distance by a change in color; such trees get a gray cast to the needles instead of the normal deep green. Twig dieback eventually gives the tree a thinned appearance as the infestation progresses.

WHAT CAN I DO?

In large forests where the infestation is widespread, DCNR has a program to release biological control insects, such as a predatory black beetle from HWA's native ecosystem. This has also been done on a portion of ASWP's property. However, for homeowners with small stands or individual trees, this is not practical; there isn't enough food to sustain the beetle population.

When adults overwinter in a tree, they lay eggs that by spring will hatch into nymphs—thus, the most effective time to manage this pest with insecticides is late September through October to kill the overwintering adults. There is no advantage to use these products until you have an actual infestation, so monitor your trees and contact your local Penn State Extension office with questions.

SEARCHING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT?

Give the Gift of Nature – Give a Gift of Audubon

We've got your covered! In our book, the perfect gift should come in all sizes, be easy to buy, and need no wrapping. It should also fit any occasion. What is this perfect gift? It's the Gift of Audubon. Whether it's for the holidays, a birthday, anniversary, Mother's or Father's Day, or 'just because', the gift of Audubon shares the magic of birds and nature with the people you care about.

IT'S A GREAT FIT FOR:

- **Outdoor Enthusiasts:** A commemorative brick, bench, or tree honors a person who enjoys our nature reserves—and they'll get to see it every time they visit.
- **Bird Watchers:** A gift certificate to Audubon Nature Store allows a nature-lover to pick up something new (and fun) from stores located on our properties.
- **Friends:** An ASWP membership will introduce your friends to an organization you enjoy and support.
- **Grandparents:** An in-person or virtual program can brighten the day of a parent or grandparent residing in a senior care facility. It will also bring a smile to their friends' faces!

Still not sure what someone may want, or want something unique? Give us a call and we will help you out!

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

551

In-Person Programs

7,823 Youth Participants
5,188 Adult Participants
13,011 Total

33

Virtual Programs

1,725 Youth Participants
198 Adult Participants
1,923 Total

61

Videos on YouTube

4,260 Total Views

645 Total Programs

19,194 Total Participants

BACKYARD HABITAT PROGRAM

407

Total Enrollment

233

Total Certified

85 Certified Guardians
93 Certified Champions
55 Certified Heroes

512.2

Total Certified Acreage

ASWP'S YEAR AT A GLANCE

Although the Covid-19 pandemic wreaked havoc on many things in 2020, it did not keep Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania from having another successful year.

Much of what we do is hard to quantify—how do you measure the joy a child feels when watching a butterfly emerge from a chrysalis? Is it possible to graph the excitement of viewing a new 'life bird'? We do understand that numbers and charts are important, and we're proud to share some of them from this past year.

In particular, I want to thank all of the volunteers that continue to assist our staff every day and in all areas of our operations.

I'm also grateful for the many individuals, foundations, organizations, and government agencies that have helped to make our work possible. With over 2,400 supporting members and thousands of people attending our programs every year, ASWP is one of the largest and busiest Audubon Chapters in the country. I'm also proud to share that in 2020, we received our third consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator.

Thank you for helping us to be a success,

Jim Bonner
Executive Director

RESERVES AND PARKS

BEECHWOOD FARMS NATURE RESERVE

Acreage: 131 Total (5 Owned, 126 Managed)

Miles of Trails: 3.5

SUCCOP NATURE PARK

Acreage: 50 Total (Owned)

Miles of Trails: 2.5

TODD NATURE RESERVE

Acreage: 511.5 Total (375.5 Owned, 130 Easement, 6 Managed)

Miles of Trails: 5.5

ZELOYLE SANCTUARY (BUFFALO TOWNSHIP)

Acreage: 73.5 Total (Owned)

PALOVCAK PARCEL (HARMAR)

Acreage: 2.5 Total (Owned)

768.5 Total Acres • 11.5 Total Miles of Trails

2019–2020 INCOME

(JULY 1, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020)

Contributions and Grants	949,480
Net Nature Store Sales and Rental Income	353,713
Education and Programming Fees	172,468
Interest and Investment Distribution	47,367

Total Operating Income **\$1,523,028**

Money Spent from Multi-year Support \$74,029

2019–2020 EXPENSES

Reserves and Facilities	611,830
Education and Programs	383,816
Conservation and Advocacy	196,178

Total Program Expenses **\$1,191,824**

Management and General Administration	113,454
Fundraising and Member Support	88,634

Total Operating Expenses **\$1,393,912**

Money Reserved for Multi-year Programs \$273,598

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (AS OF JUNE 30, 2020)

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	390,921
Accounts Receivable	311,950
Inventories	100,980
Investments	825,195
Land, Buildings, and Equipment	7,396,107

Total Assets **\$9,025,153**

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	29,785
Accrued Expenses	3,109
Deferred Revenue	65,548
Paycheck Protection Program Loan*	220,165

Total Liabilities **\$318,607**

NET ASSETS

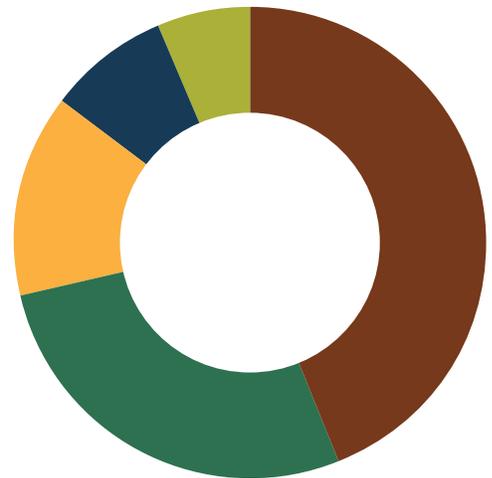
Unrestricted - Undesignated (Land and Property)	6,892,457
Board Designated Land Acquisition and Projects	30,454
Unrestricted Board Designated Reserves	190,656
Temporarily Restricted for Projects	936,563
Permanently Restricted Endowment	656,416

Total Net Assets **\$8,706,546**

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **\$9,025,153**

*We anticipate Paycheck Protection Program Loan forgiveness in 2020-21. View our full financial statements, as well as previous years' statements, at aswp.org.

EXPENSES



44%

Reserves and Facilities

28%

Education and Programs

14%

Conservation and Advocacy

8%

Management and General Administration

6%

Fundraising and Member Support

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Board and Administration

16 Volunteers · 1,505 Hours

Education

53 Volunteers · 1,029 Hours

Native Plant Center

41 Volunteers · 1,787 Hours

Conservation

75 Volunteers · 351 Hours

Nature Store

7 Volunteers · 673 Hours

192 Total Volunteers

5,345 Total Hours

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This list includes contributors who have supported ASWP between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

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