

# Flight Patterns

## West-Central Ohio Birding Community

Tri-Moraine Audubon Society

P.O. Box 5648 Lima, OH 45802-5648

Serving Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, Shelby, Van Wert



### IMPORTANT DATES

- July 7 - Summer Picnic!
- July 27 - Board Meeting
- Sept 8 - Program Meeting

### President's Pen

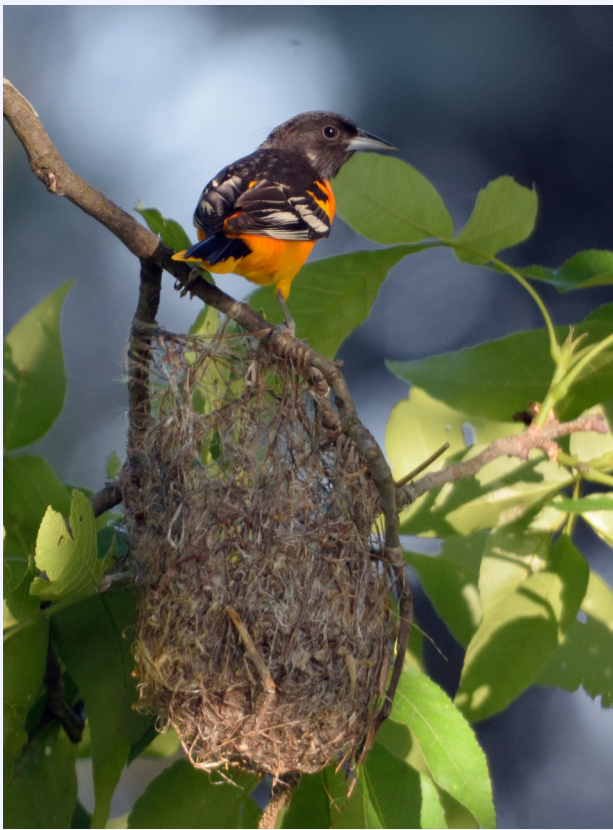
I know why the wild bird sings.

House wrens and Sandhill Cranes can make sounds that can be heard at significant distances. Downy Woodpeckers are a welcome sight at feeders and make some interesting sounds. Most of us recognize the call of the American Crow, the American Robin, and the Blue Jay.

As you support Tri-Moraine Audubon Society, you support birds in more ways than you may realize. It is true that our programs teach us about birds, and all are welcome to attend and bring friends. In addition, we donate to causes supporting wildlife habitat, preservation of our natural world, cleaning up our world, and planting native species. We sponsor field trips for further enjoyment of our natural environment. We are now branching out into preserving nature at local schools, partnering with educators and local businesses to help support environmentally conscious projects.

As we each look to renew our membership in Tri-Moraine Audubon Society, know that your membership works together with memberships of others, and we all work together towards a goal we share.... preserving our natural world and the precious birds that help it function. I know why the wild bird sings. It is to say "thank you" for your continued involvement and support.

**Nancy Risner**



# Summer Picnic

Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 6:30 pm

- Kendrick Woods -

Join us for our annual summer picnic! With family friendly activities and engaging education, this is a great opportunity to enjoy our community and share our love of birds! Fried chicken will be provided, members should bring a dish to share, their own table service and beverages.

Kendrick Woods, one of the metro parks as well as a state nature preserve, is an incredible natural area and a wonderful setting for a picnic. The park playground is available, as well as places to play in the yard (bring a frisbee, corn hole, or bocce ball!) and the restroom facility will be open. Bring a friend!

EDUCATION



## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Biodiversity Project

A project-based & highly engaging curriculum, Symbiotic Schoolyard is a multi-week unit covering middle school science standards centered on supporting biodiversity in our living spaces.

Students take on the role of restoration ecologists to figure out how to increase the biodiversity of their own schoolyard. Through hands-on lessons they figure out that planting native plants restores a complex food web.

This year (2025-26) we are excited to have supported South Science and Technology Magnet with this curriculum as part of our ongoing effort to bring bird focused education and conservation to our community. This was their pilot year and we look forward to communicating their progress in future Flight Plans.

Reach out to Dan Hodges to learn more about this tremendous program!

### Tri-Moraine Audubon Society

#### Board of Trustees

- President - Nancy Risner - Program Chair
  - nrisner@netscape.net
- Vice-President - Vacant
- Treasurer - Eric Broughton
  - broughtonerich@yahoo.com
- Secretary - Marie Walton - Myeerah Mgmt Group
  - mswalton804@gmail.com
- Judy Jacomet - COCA Representative
  - judyj@accoa.org
- Jamie Cunningham - Member at Large
  - jmc200903@yahoo.com
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- Zach Walton - Media Archives
  - zwalton804@gmail.com
- David Gratz - Membership
  - davgratz@gmail.com
- Michael Wildermuth - Elec. Communications
  - Tri-MoraineWebmaster@outlook.com

#### Committee Chairs

- Ottawa River Coal. Rep. - Dr. Leslie Riley
- Myeerah Mgmt & EEW Chair - Don Rosenbeck
- Audubon Adventures - Jennifer Waltz
- Executive Director - Dan Hodges
  - hodgesdan90@gmail.com



# Breeding Bird Survey

Our Birding Community is excited to support the North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS). Routh 66025, starting in Kalida and heading south, was vacant for a number of years and we picked it up in 2025.

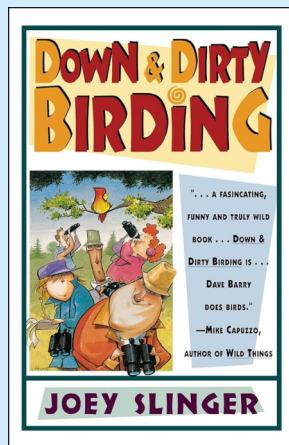
The BBS is a long-term, large-scale, international avian monitoring program initiated in 1966 to track the status and trends of North American bird populations.

Although most concerns over pesticide use (the impetus for beginning the survey) have lessened in recent decades, bird populations continue to be subjected to numerous widespread threats including habitat loss, habitat fragmentation, land-use changes, and other chemical contaminants. Today, the BBS continues to monitor bird populations across North America and informs researchers and wildlife managers of significant changes in bird population levels. If significant declines are detected, their causes can then be identified and appropriate actions taken to reverse them before populations reach critically low levels.

Each year during the height of the avian breeding season (June), participants skilled in avian identification collect bird population data along roadside survey routes. Each survey route is approximately 24.5 miles long with stops situated ideally 0.5-mile apart. At each stop, a 3-minute point count is conducted. During the count, every bird seen within a 0.25-mile radius or heard is recorded. Over 4100 survey routes are located across the continental U.S. and Canada.

To learn more about this effort, visit <https://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/about/>

CONSERVATION



## Birdy Books

David Gratz

At a recent Tri-Moraine Audubon Society meeting I was fortunate to receive a door prize and selected “Down & Dirty Birding” by Joey Slinger.

The back cover of the book says it best. “Beginners, armchair birders, and even professional ornithologists will delight in this irreverent guide to looking, acting, and talking like a knowledgeable expert on avian life.” It combines useful, accurate information with hilarious advice for a hardened bird-watcher or a novice like myself.

I found the book informative and a joy to read. I recommend it highly!

### - Become a Member -

To join or renew your membership please visit our website or email [davgratz@gmail.com](mailto:davgratz@gmail.com). Memberships are from July 1st of the current year to June 30th the following year. Membership forms are available at monthly meetings.

### - Donate to TMAS -

To donate to Tri-Moraine Audubon Society please visit our website. Donations help support programs and projects listed on our website. TMAS is a 501(c)(3) organization

[www.tri-moraineaudubon.org](http://www.tri-moraineaudubon.org)

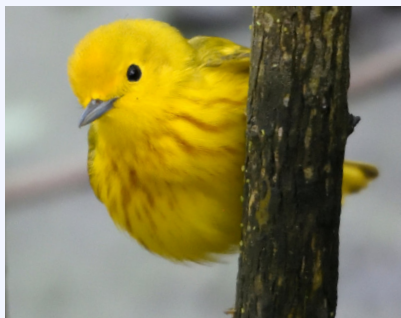
# Big Birding Day

On Saturday, May 16th, 6 intrepid birders ventured to northern Ohio to get our taste of spring migration! We started at Magee Marsh Boardwalk (very busy!) and got great looks at a variety of species including Prothonotary Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Bay-breasted Warbler, Bald Eagle, Wilsons Warbler, Green Heron, among many others. After lunch we toured Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, where we added a number of birds to our list, including Sedge Wren, Eastern Screech Owl, Trumpeter Swan, , Dunlin, and more. We visited Howard Marsh Metropark, where we got great looks at a Black-necked Stilt and Caspian Tern, and added few more to the list. We finished up at Pearson Metropark enjoying the Window on Wildlife. For the day we managed 71 bird species on the list this year. See below for the complete list. Please join us next year and help us get to 100 birds!

NW Ohio  
May 16, 2026

Canada Goose  
Trumpeter Swan  
Wood Duck  
Blue-winged Teal  
Mallard  
Mourning Dove  
Yellow-billed Cuckoo  
Virginia Rail  
Black-necked Stilt  
Killdeer  
Dunlin  
Ring-billed Gull  
Caspian Tern  
Common Tern  
Double-crested Cormorant  
Green Heron  
Great Egret  
Great Blue Heron  
American White Pelican  
Turkey Vulture  
Osprey  
Bald Eagle  
Eastern Screech-Owl  
Red-bellied Woodpecker  
Eastern Wood-Pewee  
Least Flycatcher  
Eastern Warbling Vireo  
Red-eyed Vireo  
Blue Jay  
Black-capped Chickadee  
Bank Swallow  
Tree Swallow  
Purple Martin  
N. Rough-winged Swallow  
Barn Swallow  
White-breasted Nuthatch  
Northern House Wren  
Sedge Wren  
Marsh Wren  
Carolina Wren  
European Starling

Gray Catbird  
Swainson's Thrush  
American Robin  
House Sparrow  
American Goldfinch  
Chipping Sparrow  
Song Sparrow  
Baltimore Oriole  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Brown-headed Cowbird  
Common Grackle  
Ovenbird  
Black-and-white Warbler  
Prothonotary Warbler  
Tennessee Warbler  
Common Yellowthroat  
American Redstart  
Cape May Warbler  
Northern Parula  
Magnolia Warbler  
Bay-breasted Warbler  
Blackburnian Warbler  
Northern Yellow Warbler  
Chestnut-sided Warbler  
Blackpoll Warbler  
Black-throated Blue Warbler  
Black-throated Green Warbler  
Wilson's Warbler  
Northern Cardinal  
Rose-breasted Grosbeak



# Myeerah Field Trip

Eight people participated in the field trip this year, led by long-time friend and birder, Troy Shivley. The group identified 63 species of birds via visual & audio means. There were two species that had not been seen in prior years - the sandhill crane and pine warbler. The temperature ranged between 39 to 49 degrees F. Wind speed ranged from 5 to 10 MPH.

Myeerah Nature Preserve  
May 2, 2026

8 Canada Goose  
2 Mallard  
1 Mourning Dove  
1 Sandhill Crane  
2 Killdeer  
3 Double-crested Cormorant  
6 Turkey Vulture  
3 Bald Eagle

2 White-breasted Nuthatch  
1 Red-breasted Nuthatch  
2 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher  
5 Northern House Wren  
3 Carolina Wren  
4 European Starling  
3 Gray Catbird  
2 Brown Thrasher  
2 Eastern Bluebird  
1 Wood Thrush  
4 American Robin  
3 House Sparrow  
4 American Goldfinch  
6 Chipping Sparrow  
6 Field Sparrow  
1 White-crowned Sparrow  
23 White-throated Sparrow  
4 Song Sparrow  
3 Eastern Towhee  
1 Orchard Oriole  
2 Baltimore Oriole  
6 Red-winged Blackbird  
8 Brown-headed Cowbird  
1 Common Grackle  
3 Blue-winged Warbler  
2 Nashville Warbler  
5 Common Yellowthroat  
2 Northern Parula  
5 Northern Yellow Warbler  
1 Pine Warbler  
4 Yellow-rumped Warbler  
1 Yellow-throated Warbler  
5 Northern Cardinal

*Troy Shivley*

## EXPERIENCES

1 Broad-winged Hawk  
1 Red-shouldered Hawk  
1 Red-tailed Hawk  
3 Red-bellied Woodpecker  
2 Downy Woodpecker  
1 Hairy Woodpecker  
2 Northern Flicker  
1 Least Flycatcher  
2 Eastern Phoebe  
1 Eastern Kingbird  
3 White-eyed Vireo  
1 Yellow-throated Vireo  
1 Blue-headed Vireo  
3 Red-eyed Vireo  
8 Blue Jay  
5 American Crow  
2 Carolina Chickadee  
3 Tufted Titmouse  
2 Tree Swallow  
6 Purple Martin  
1 Northern Rough-winged Swallow  
1 Barn Swallow

# BIRDS BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER

[www.tri-moraineaudubon.org](http://www.tri-moraineaudubon.org)





# Tri-Moraine Audubon Society

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

P.O. Box 5648 Lima, Ohio 45802-5648

Serving Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Logan  
Mercer, Shelby, and Van Wert Counties in Ohio

[www.tri-moraineaudubon.org](http://www.tri-moraineaudubon.org)

## YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED -- IT IS TIME TO RENEW

This is the only renewal notice you will receive.

Thank you for your support of our chapter. Your dues fund local activities including program meetings, conservation projects, and Audubon Adventures, a nature education program in grades 4-6 in participating school districts in Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Logan Mercer, Shelby, and Van Wert Counties. You receive *Flight Patterns*, the chapter's bi-monthly newsletter, to keep you up-to-date about program offerings, field trips, bird counts, and other activities.

### Tri-Moraine Audubon Society Supporting Membership Application

**Annual memberships run from July 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year to June 30<sup>th</sup> the following year.**

A chapter Supporting Membership in the Society, a nonprofit 501 (C)(3) organization, shows your support of the chapter's mission and its local programs, projects, and activities throughout its 8-county service area.

New       Renewal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street / PO Box / Apt. No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

Individual (18 and over)      \$10

Couple      \$15

Family:      \$20  
Parents & children under 18 OR  
Grandparent(s) & grandchildren under 18

Student (through HS)      \$5

Do not share name with National Audubon

Contact about volunteer opportunities

Newsletter format (newsletter links will be  
emailed unless a mailed copy is preferred)

I prefer a mailed copy

Do not send *Flight Patterns*

Contribution of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Donation may be tax deductible)  
My check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Make check payable to TRI-MORaine AUDUBON  
SOCIETY and mail to:

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