



Columbus Audubon Song Sparrow

Special Edition

January 2006 announcements, and events

Announcements

Volunteer opportunities

Please consider helping out with one of our current volunteer opportunities.

•Southside Settlement House Program

Help kids learn about birds and conduct classroom FeederWatch observation. Columbus Audubon is helping students in the Southside Settlement House after-school program participate in the Cornell University FeederWatch program. The students will learn to identify birds that come to the feeders as well as skills of observation, scientific notation, reporting and more. Volunteers are needed on some Mondays from 4 to 5:15 p.m. beginning in mid-January. Training will be provided. The Southside Settlement House is near Whittier and Green Lawn Cemetery on Innis. Please contact Susan Setterlin at 614-457-8130.

•Columbus Audubon Nature Center

Audubon Ohio seeks volunteers to help with organizational activities for the Columbus Audubon Nature Center. Volunteers need to go in to the office on High Street in the Short North to help with information collection and input. Help collect curriculum ideas and plan for the 2006 Urban Conservation Crew program; update marketing and business plan; collect and organize information to be posted on the Web site (DOES NOT require Web or programming knowledge). Any

number of hours per week appreciated, but looking for an ongoing commitment. Please contact Center Director Heather Starck at 614-224-3303.

Columbus Audubon Adopts Greenlawn IBA

Columbus Audubon has adopted the Scioto River-Greenlawn Important Bird Area as a part of a stewardship plan for the IBA. This IBA extends along the Scioto River north from the southern terminus of Berliner Park to the I-70/71 overpass, includes the Green Lawn Cemetery, and encompasses the Whittier Peninsula, the future home of the Columbus Audubon Center.

CA will conduct regular bird walks for the public, as well as develop a system of monitoring the bird species that use the corridor. Look for a workshop to be held in spring to gather and train interested volunteers for the projects.

E-Newsletter

Receive the Song Sparrow as a PDF in your e-mail inbox! It will arrive before the first of the month, help us save money for our education and conservation programs, and conserve resources. Send an e-mail to membership@columbusaudubon.org and ask to be added to the electronic newsletter distribution list.

Coming up

Field trips

New Year's Day bird walk at Blackhand Gorge

Sunday, January 1, 1 p.m.

Leader: Mike Flynn

We will hike the trail and see what's out and about as we start our 2006 bird list. Winter species will keep us company and we will be close to water, field and woods on our hike. The geology of the winter landscape tree silhouettes will be a wonderful way to usher in a new year of bird watching. Wear layers, good footwear and bring food and water. Meet at the Worthington Mall shopping center parking lot in front of the Kroger, just south of I-270 on U.S. 23 in north Worthington. Carpooling is available. For more information, contact Mike Flynn at (614) 882-9493.

Monthly Walks at Whittier

Wednesday, January 4, 8 a.m.

Leaders: Paul Gledhill and Heather Raymond

Join Paul and Heather for a short walk around Whittier Peninsula to view wildlife as well as to watch the latest developments of the park and nature center. Meet at Lower Scioto Park in the boat ramp parking lot. For more information, contact Paul Gledhill at (614) 848-7666 or

gledhillpaul@yahoo.com, or Heather Raymond at (614) 785-0342 or heather.raymond@epa.state.oh.us.

Monthly Walks at the Columbus Zoo

Sunday, January 22, 2 p.m.

Leader: Barbara Revard

Meet in front of the Columbus Zoo's Business Office located at 5220 Powell Road for the monthly bird/nature walk. We will visit the new Water's Edge area to look for birds along the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir. We may also drive to several spots along the river below the dam to look for waterfowl. Dress appropriately and wear sturdy boots as we may be hiking off-trail. For more information, contact Barbara Revard, Director of Program Planning, at (614) 645-3448 or barbara.revard@columbuszoo.org.

Work trip

Connecting the Ridges

Saturday, January 7, 7:45 a.m.

Leader: Jeff Johnson

Assist Jeff Johnson, South Central Preserve Manager at Rhododen-

Continued on back

Coming up

Continued from front

dron State Nature Preserve in Fairfield County. Various tasks will create a connector to the back portion of the horseshoe ridge trail traversing the valley from the existing entrance site. Large fern covered sandstone slump blocks dot the winding hillside trail. Hidden spaces shelter delicate species. Virginia pine & mountain laurel (hardier species) populate the ridge. Remember to call Roger Barber (Researcher & DNA&P worktrip coordinator) by noon January 3 (614) 265-6467 to sign up, reserve space for transportation and determining tool requirements. Bring lunch and cup or water bottle for drinking. Meet in the parking lot inside the gate house at Ohio Department Natural Resources Complex, 2045 Morse Road, in northeast Columbus. *For more information, call Sharon Treaster at (614) 292-1395.*

Avid Birders

The Avid Birders January field trip will be on January 7. Meet at 5:30 a.m. We will be going to the Lake Erie shore for gulls, waterfowl and other winter birds. Unless otherwise noted, participants should meet at the southwest corner of the Worthington Mall parking lot at the designated time. *Go to www.columbusaudubon.org and click on the "Avid Birders" button for more information.*

Monthly program

Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas II

Tuesday, January 24, 7 p.m.

Place: Innis House at Inniswood Metro Gardens

Speakers: Dr. Paul Rodewald and Aaron Boone

It has been nearly 20 years since the completion of fieldwork on the first breeding bird atlas in Ohio. Dr. Paul Rodewald and Aaron Boone

of The Ohio State University will discuss ongoing preparations for the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas II, which will begin in spring 2006. OBBA II will generate immense amounts of new information needed for the effective conservation and management of birds in Ohio. The program will provide a great opportunity to learn about the upcoming atlas and sign up as a volunteer for OBBA II.

Save the date!

What: Columbus Audubon's annual meeting & potluck

When: Tuesday February 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Clintonville Woman's Club

Ken Kaufman will be the featured speaker. Look for more information in the February-March *Song Sparrow!*

Planning for Spring seminars

Marc Apfelstadt and Toni Stahl, Habitat Ambassadors for the National Wildlife Federation, will share pictures, videos, and lessons learned from converting their postage-stamp-sized, conventional city yard into a sanctuary for colorful birds. It doesn't matter where you live or how much space you have, you can easily turn your yard into an educational, beautiful sanctuary for your enjoyment.

By creating a native forest edge in their backyard, the number of species of birds jumped from 9 to 30 including 12 different bird groups and a stopover by an Ovenbird in October.

Their no-cost presentations include free planning handouts and native plant sale information to get you on your way to certification by the National Wildlife Federation:

• January 14, 10am, Innis House, Inniswoods Metro Gardens 940 S. Hempstead Rd, Westerville;

• February 18, 10am, Division of Wildlife District 1, 1500 Dublin Rd., Columbus.

Columbus Audubon
Founded 1913
740-549-0333
www.columbusaudubon.org

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Avid Birders:
<http://www.columbusaudubon.org/avids/avids.html>

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