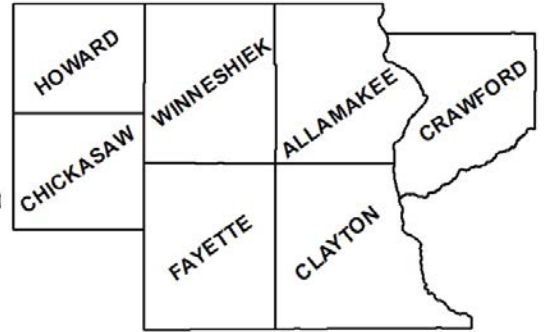


UPPER IOWA AUDUBON



Not just for the birds

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UIA Board Members:

- Connie Hvitved, President
- Kat Busse, Vice President
- Lilly Jensen, Secretary
- Jeremy Leitz, Treasurer
- Ellen Bell
- Marlene Michel
- Dean Peterson
- Gene Dale
- Sharon Rossman
- Rachel Sandhorst
- Paul Skrade
- Jon Stravers
- Ric Zarwell
- Emily Neal, Newsletter Editor

Count birds in your
backyard, local park,
or wherever you spot a
bird, and submit your
observations online.

birdcount.org

Red-headed Woodpecker.
Photo: Manny Salas/Macaulay Library



Great Backyard Bird Count

26th Annual • Feb 17-20, 2023



Feb. 17 - 20, 2023



FROM THE NEST: CERULEAN WARBLER AND RED- SHOULDERED HAWK SURVEYS

A special thanks to Upper Iowa Audubon for continuing support of our ongoing surveys for Cerulean Warblers and Red-shouldered Hawks in Northeast Iowa. We plan to continue our work on both of these projects in 2023.

In 2022, we found that most of the Red-shouldered Hawk territories along Paint Creek and Yellow River were active. On the other hand, we found that again in 2022 all of the Red-shoulder territories in Pool 10 of the Mississippi River in the Sny Magill Complex were inactive. This is disconcerting since these territories all had a long history of occupation from 1983-2017.

We have several theories as to the cause of this territory abandonment and we feel the extended flooding that we have experienced on the Mississippi River during the past decade may be a critical factor. We still need to keep our monitoring going to establish if these territories will come back on line. For those of you interested in obtaining copies of our yearly reports on Red-shouldered Hawks and Cerulean Warblers you can visit our website at; www.driftlessareabirdconservation.com.

A special thanks to Kathy Carlyle for her work on report and data editing, and to Dr. Paul Skrade for his advice and field assistance. Thanks also to board member Kat Busse who contributed valuable observations on Ceruleans in Pikes Peak State Park and Effigy Mounds National Monument. If you have any questions about our work on these species of special concern please contact me at hawk@acegroup.cc.
Jon Stravers

Birds and Brew: Saturday, March 11

Annie Fangman with Bird Friendly Iowa and Red-Tail Planning and Design will present about the Bird Friendly Iowa Program and how to create landscapes that benefit birds.

Learn how to get your community Bird Friendly certified which can amplify conservation advocacy, boost birding tourism, and help secure grant funding.

You will also discover ways to help birds in your own backyard by planting a “natural bird feeder” and providing vital wildlife habitat. Examples of county and city programs that promote native landscaping will also be presented. Head over to Decorah to enjoy the lovely scenery, stop and see the famous nesting eagles, and treat yourself to some local beverages while learning and sharing about birds with fellow enthusiasts!

birds + cider
Convergence CiderWorks | 302 Washington Street | Decorah, IA
Saturday, March 11, 2023 | 3pm - 4pm

Making Our Communities Welcoming to Birds
public and private partnerships

UPPER IOWA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Bird Friendly Iowa
Pride in town's communities for maintaining healthy ecosystems for ourselves and our birds.
BIRD FRIENDLY IOWA

- Learn how to create landscapes that benefit birds.
- Learn how to get your community Bird Friendly certified
- Discover ways to help birds in your own backyard by planting a “natural bird feeder”

No entry fee

CONVERGENCE
CiderWorks



April:

Sat. April 15th, 1:00 pm, Driftless Education Center

Barn Owl Program:

Join Upper Iowa Audubon for a view into the world of the Barn Owl. Mr. Brian Preston, Executive Director of Dubuque County Conservation, will present a program on the life history, habitat, and presence of this endangered species in Iowa.

The program will be held at the Driftless Education and Visitor Center in Lansing, Iowa. The Center is located south of Lansing at 1944 Columbus Rd./ The Great River Road.

For those interested, there will be a birding hike earlier in the morning at 9:00



May:

Sat. May 6, at 9 am, Yellow River State Forest

Bird and Flora Walk:

Join UIA Board Members Dean Peterson and Ric Zarwell to enjoy the spring migrants and spring flora. All ages are welcome. Meet at the Big Paint Trail. All UIA programs are free and open to the public.

Directions:

From Waukon: travel 13 miles south on Hwy 76 to State Forest Rd/B25, turn left, go about 2 ¼ miles to the Big Paint wayside. From Lansing, take Lansing Harpers Rd. about 12 miles, turn Rt. on State Forest Rd/B25, and travel about 3 ½ miles to Big Paint wayside.

Sun. May 7, 10 am, Cardinal Marsh

Warbler Walk:

Join Upper Iowa Audubon members for a Warbler walk at Cardinal Marsh Sunday, May 7 at 10 am. Meet at the Madison Road parking area.

Sat. May 13, 1 pm Pleasant Ridge Bird Sanctuary

Bobolink Hike and Art Installation:

Join Phil Specht for a bird hike at the Sanctuary, meet at Gate on B45. Following the walk, there will be a "Save the Bloody Run" art installation by Christine Curry with entertainment provided by Sophia Landis at 4 PM at the Driftless Area Wetlands Centre, Marquette, IA.

From Monona: Go east out of Monona on Pleasant Ridge Road (County Road B45) for 7.5 miles. Phil's farm is on the right.

From Marquette : Drive west on US Hwy 18 for approximately 0.5 miles. Turn right (north) on Pleasant Ridge Road (County Road B45) and drive 5 miles.

Sat. May 13, Effigy Mounds

World Migratory Bird Day

Every day is bird day and this year's theme is water. Come celebrate birds by going on a bird walk conducted by Audubon member Dennis Kirschbaum.

La Rivière Park in Prairie du Chien, WI, at 8 a.m.
Effigy Mounds National Monument, at 10 a.m.

Spring Programs



Timerberdoodle Dance, TBD

Timberdoodle (woodcock) dance activities in LaRivière Park in late April on some evenings. Contact Dennis Kirschbaum at (608) 326-2718 for more info or contact the Chamber office via email at infoprairieduchien.org.



Area Nature Center Contacts

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Crawford County, WI
www.prairieduchien.org

UPPER IOWA AUDUBON

605 Washington St.
Fayette, IA. 52142



Bald Eagle Appreciation Days

Sat. February 25

Live Bald Eagle and raptor program, exhibits, birding experts on hand, outdoor viewing of Bald Eagles through spotting scopes, life-sized Bald Eagle nest, and activities for children.

Saturday programs from 9 am-3 pm and are held at Hoffman Hall, Prairie du Chien. For details on the event call 800-732-1673 or visit prairieduchien.org

The event is co-sponsored by Effigy Mounds National Monument and the Prairie du Chien Tourism Council.

Christmas Bird Count

Decorah:

Total Birds: 84989

Total Species: 56

Bridgeport Report:

Total Birds: 4877

Total Species: 52

Yellow River Report:

Total Birds: 3892

Total Species: 56

