

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 5

# CHICAGO AUDUBON SOCIETY

5801-C N. Pulaski Road Chicago, IL 60646-6057

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Navigating the world of birds and nature

t's time for our yearly sale of **birdseed!** As you may know, the seed that you purchase through Chicago Audubon is much higher in quality than the seed available at grocery, pet, or discount stores. Also, forty percent of the total purchase price is tax deductible. This higher quality seed is excellent for the birds, and the proceeds from the Sale are a very important source of support for our ongoing educational efforts and projects. If you have never ordered seed this way before, please consider joining us this year — it's great for the birds!

How does this work? There are several ways to place your order. You can fill out the order form on this page (or print the form off of our website at www.chicagoaudubon.org), then mail the completed form to us at the address printed on the form. Please do not mail cash and be certain that all of your contact information is on the form whether you are enclosing a check or filling in your charge card information. Another option for ordering is to complete the entire order with your credit card online at our website, www.chicagoaudubon.org . In either case, be sure to indicate your pickup location preference so that we know where to have your seed delivered, and be sure to write in a contact phone number — which is also very important.

# Chicago Audubon's 2017 Annual Birdseed Sale

**ORDER DEADLINE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10** 

**ORDER PICKUP DATE:** SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

If you are mailing in your order, please make a copy of it first for your records as a precaution. If you prefer to phone in your order using a credit card instead of going online or filling out the form, please call our office at 773-539-6793. If you get the voice mail when you call, leave a message with your name White-breasted Nuthatch. and phone number (only) and the

Photo by Jerry Goldner.

Administrator will return your call as soon as possible. Also, please note that every year, as a courtesy to our purchasers, everyone who has placed an order will be called a few days in advance of the pickup date to remind you of the upcoming date and time. If you are unable to pick up your order on October 28, please make arrangements

for someone to pick it up for you and be sure that they know to be at your chosen pickup location before noon on October 28 — this is very important. Please be sure to give a copy of your order to that person. If you have any questions about the ordering procedure, please do not hesitate to call our office (773-539-6793). Thank

you very much! We look forward to seeing you there! Remember, the deadline for ordering is October 10.

**Volunteers!** We could not do this without volunteers helping us organize and distribute bags of birdseed on pickup day at both the Chicago and the River Forest locations. Volunteers are

welcome for all or part of the morning, beginning at 8:00 a.m. to noon (buyers arrive between 9:00 a.m. and noon). If you are able to help us out, please indicate your preference of hours and the location on the order form, or you can call our office by Friday, October 13 at 773-539-6793. You do not have to place an order to be a Volunteer. Remember, without our volunteers this wonderful sale would not be possible!

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017

The Chicago Audubon Society appreciates all of you who have been purchasing birdseed and volunteering with us over the years, and we look forward to having many newcomers this year. Thank you!

### **Pickup Locations:**

Nature House, 3100 West Grand Ave, Chicago. Nature House is one block north of Chicago Ave and one block east of Kedzie Ave. Go to the loading area behind the building. If you have problems locating this address, call Chris at 312-520-1266.

Good Earth Greenhouse & Café, 7900 West Madison, River Forest. If there is an emergency or you need directions, call Dave at 312-401-7317.

We wish to extend many, many thanks to both Good Earth and to Nature House for hosting our pickup days again this year.

# **BIRDSEED SALE 2017 ORDER FORM**

Qty	Description	Price	Total
	40 lb Chicago Audubon Premium	\$21.00	
	20 lb Chicago Audubon Premium	\$11.25	
	40 lb Regular Wild Bird Seed	\$15.75	
	20 lb Regular Wild Bird Seed	\$8.75	
	40 lb Black Sunflower	\$24.75	
	25 lb Black Sunflower	\$13.50	
	25 lb Cracked Corn	\$7.50	
	25 lb White Proso Millet	\$9.75	
	25 lb Medium Sunflower Chips	\$28.25	
	25 lb Safflower Seed	\$19.25	
	25 lb Nyjer Seed	\$32.50	
	10 lb Nyjer Seed per bag	\$14.00	
	Case Nyjer Seed (five 10 lb bags)	\$69.00	
	10 lb Peanut Pieces per bag	\$12.75	
	Case Peanut Pieces (five 10 lb bags)	\$63.00	
	Wild Bird Blend Suet Cake	\$1.25	
	Case Suet Cakes (12 cakes)	\$12.50	
	Sunflower Bell (15 oz)	\$3.25	
	Case Sunflower Bells (6 bells)	\$18.25	
		GRAND TOTAL	\$

<b>Order Deadline: T</b>	'uesday, Octo	ber 10, 2017
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I will pick up my order on OCTOBER 28 between 9 a.m. and noon at:

- Nature House/Erva Tool 3100 W Grand Ave, Chicago (Loading area behind building. If you are delayed by an emergency, call Chris at 312-520-1266.)
- Good Earth Greenhouse & Café 7900 W Madison St, River Forest (If there is an emergency or you need directions, call Dave at

312-401-7317.)

Your contact info (please fill out completely):

rease select your payment method at	ia complete the required information.
My check for \$	is enclosed.
Please charge my credit card (Visa, l	MasterCard, Discover).
Credit card number	

\_\_\_\_ Name on card \_ Expiration date \_\_\_ OR call office at 773-539-6793 to charge your order over the phone.

I would like to volunteer on Seed Pickup Day, October 28, at: Chicago from \_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ River Forest from \_

Please mail your completed seed order form (and your check if that is your selected payment method) to: Chicago Audubon Society, 5801-C North Pulaski Rd, Chicago, IL 60646

# Chicago Auduon Announces Seed Collection at Camp Pine Woods Forest Preserve

# **GLENVIEW/DES PLAINES SEPTEMBER 9 AND OCTOBER 7** AT 9:00 A.M. ON BOTH DATES

ven as it has survived many years of human history, the small prairie and shrubland in Camp Pine Woods forest preserve has mostly escaped Cook County Forest Preserve District notice as a restoration site. Now we have the chance to help it become an even better habitat for native plants and wildlife.

The Chicago Audubon Society (CAS) has approval to start collecting native seeds for redistributing on site. Join us Saturday,

September 9 when blazing star and other plants will be ripe, and on Saturday, October 7 for later maturing seed. Also, we expect to schedule our first buckthorn removal days by December. More site surveys, better maps, and a preliminary management plan will be under way.

One small pine tree stands along what was once the perimeter of the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) of Camp Pine. It is most unlikely the tree was there in the 1930's when the camp was built. I haven't found the source of the name or what projects the men worked on. We do know the site now is home to a diverse remnant prairie and shrub community that is prime habitat for breeding bird specialists. This spring and summer, CAS found Field Sparrows, Common Yellowthroats, Catbirds, Brown Thrashers, Bluewinged Warbler and Willow Flycatcher, along with many others. Past sightings



Bee Fly on Blazing Star. "Bee Fly" by Brett Whaley is licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0.

have included both Black- and Yellowbilled Cuckoos and Chats.

Two juvenile Barred Owls were a special treat on our July visit, even though they were in the woods, not in the remnant open areas where CAS will soon take the first steps to site management and restoration.

The CCC built a military style camp with barracks, mess hall, and associated structures. That made it a logical choice to house German P.O.W.'s in 1943 when Ft. Sheridan's capacity was exceeded. After the War ended, the area served Girl Scout campers until at least the late 1960s. (A CAS board member is a veteran of that camp.)

Camp Pine's history offers another intriguing puzzle. A 1938 aerial photo shows the structures and roads, the extent easily identified today. Adjacent to the east, along the current Des Plaines River Trail is the diverse

remnant. Growing within the footprint are big bluestem grass and other natives. How did they get there? Were they survivors within the activity area? Seed from nearby plants? There are notes in forest preserve files about girl scouts collecting and spreading prairie seed during the period it was a scout camp — did they help?

Our fall seed collecting days promise a great start to CAS efforts to enhance this special habitat. Additionally, a "long walk" has been

scheduled for Sunday, October 8 and will include the oak woods east of our seed collection work site. (The walk begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Beck Lake parking lot on Central at East River Road, Des Plaines. For further information about the October 8 CAS walk, see the Calendar on Page 3.) Camp Pine Woods is on Euclid/Lake Avenue between Des Plaines and Glenview. just east of the Des Plaines River. Enter from east bound, no left turn from west bound. Come join us for seed collection days at Camp Pine!

> John Elliott Conservation Committee Chicago Audubon

If you are interested in joining us for seed collection, contact John Elliott at johnelliott4@gmail.com.

You do not need to be a member of Chicago Audubon to join any of our events.

# COMPASS

# CHICAGO AUDUBON SOCIETY

5801-C North Pulaski Road Chicago, Illinois 60646-6057 www.chicagoaudubon.org 773-539-6793



Editor: Skipper Joy Wolters

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Report sightings to: 773-539-6793

Report injured birds to Chicago Bird Collision Monitors: 773-988-1867

Website: www.chicagoaudubon.org

Office Administrator: Skipper Wolters, 773-539-6793, cas@chicagoaudubon.org

 ${\bf Office\ hours}{:}\ Monday-Thursday$ 10:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. Closed Fridays and holidays

## **OFFICERS**

President: Dave Willard, 312-665-7731, dwillard@fieldmuseum.org

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Secretary: Annette Prince, 630-841-7110, aprincecbcm2@msn.com

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Editorial: Skipper Joy Wolters, 773-539-6793, cas@chicagoaudubon.org







Long-billed Curlew. Photo by Dalia Heller, age 13. Badlands of South Dakota, June 2017.



American Kestrels on downtown Chicago rooftop. Photo by Karsten Reis.

# **Important Notice to Our Members**

As we announced in the last issue, we will be going digital with this newsletter sometime this year. If you have never sent us your email address and wish to receive a link to each new issue by email, please send your email address to our office at: cas@chicagoaudubon.org.





You do not need to be a member of Chicago Audubon to attend our programs or join any of our walks. They are all free and open to the public. Everyone is welcome! For current updates on dates and times, please keep checking our website, chicagoaudubon.org.

Every Saturday All Year (8:00 a.m.). Bird Walks, Wooded Island, Jackson Park. These wonderful walks continue throughout the year, weather permitting. Bring binoculars, field guides, and dress for the weather. Many species are seen. Meet at Clarence Darrow Bridge, just south of Museum of Science and Industry. For details and directions, contact Pat Durkin at pat.durkin@comcast.net.

Every Second Saturday All Year (10:00 a.m.). Skokie Lagoons Workdays. These workdays are sponsored by Chicago Audubon. Activities include buckthorn cutting, brush pile burning and other management endeavors. Meet at the Tower Road parking lot, east of the lagoon bridge, in Winnetka. For further information, please call Dave Kosnik at 847-456-6368.



House Finches. Photo by Jerry Goldner.

### **FALL BIRD WALKS**

(Please keep checking our website for any updates at chicagoaudubon.org):

Every Saturday in both September and October (8:00 a.m.). Chicago Audubon Bird Walks at North Park Village Nature Center, 5801 North Pulaski Road, Building D. Come join us for migration time to see many birds and walk through the beautiful autumn woods surrounding the Nature Center. All levels of birders are encouraged to attend. The walk leaders always welcome questions. For information or if you need directions, call the Chicago Audubon office at 773-539-6793. You do not need to be a member of Chicago Audubon to participate. Everyone is welcome. Bring family and friends!

Wednesday, September 6 (8:00 a.m.). Chicago Audubon Birding Trip to Bemis Woods North, Westchester. Fall migrants, especially warblers, thrushes, vireos. Leader: Douglas Stotz (dfstotz@gmail.com). Meet at Wolf Road between 31st and Ogden, at easternmost part of parking lot, Westchester.

Saturday, September 9 (9:00 a.m.). Chicago Audubon Seed Collecting at Camp Pine Woods Forest Preserve, Glenview/Des Plaines. Come join the chance to help a prairie and shrubland become an even better habitat for native plants and wildlife. Help collect native seeds for redistributing on site. Camp Pine Woods is on Euclid/Lake Avenue



Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Photo by Jerry Goldner.

between Des Plaines and Glenview, just east of the Des Plaines River. Enter from east bound; no left turn from west bound. Contact John Elliott at johnelliott4@gmail.com.

Tuesday, September 19 (7:00 a.m.). Skokie Lagoons Bird Walk, Erickson Woods, Winnetka. Should be the heart of fall warbler migration. Leader: David Willard (dwillard@fieldmuseum.org). Meet at 1651 Willow Road (Willow Road and I-94, Erickson Woods Parking Lot), Winnetka.

Saturday, September 30 (10:00 a.m.). Bioblitz at the Big Marsh. All are welcome to join in the Big Marsh Bioblitz sponsored by the the Chicago Park District and the Chicago Geographic Society. Participants will team up with educators and experts using the free iNaturalist app to document for the first time the species of flora and fauna at Big Marsh. The vision for Big Marsh is to provide a new type of recreation in Chicago that marries habitat restoration with public use. Contact Jay Lyon at the Geographic Society of Chicago at 773-529-1212 (office@geographicsociety.org) or to register online, go to: tinyurl.com/bioblitzbigmarsh.



Slate-colored Junco. Photo by Jerry Goldner.

# OCTOBER IS "BIG MONTH" FOR BIRD WALKS

During the month of October, the Forest Preserves of Cook County and Chicago Audubon are hosting a "Big Month" birding competition as part of the Bird the Preserves program to follow up on its successful 2016 Big Year. Teams will take to the woods, wetlands and grasslands of the forest preserves to see how many birds they can spot. As was the case for the 2016 Big Year, teams will adopt a preserve and compete against other preserves. Visit www.fpdcc.com/big-month for complete details.

Tuesday, October 3 (7:00 a.m.). "Big Month" Birding Trip to Skokie Lagoons, Erickson Woods, Winnetka. Join a "Big Month" outing to find some late warblers and lots of sparrows. Leader: David Willard (dwillard @fieldmuseum.org). Meet at 1651 Willow Road (Willow Road and I-94, Erickson Woods Parking Lot), Winnetka.

Saturday, October 7 (7:30 a.m.). Chicago Audubon Fall Migration Bird Walk, Trailside Museum, River Forest. Warblers and more along the Des Plaines River. Leader: John Elliott (johnelliott4@gmail.com). Meet at 734 Thatcher Ave (at Chicago Ave), River Forest.

Saturday, October 7 (9:00 a.m.). Chicago Audubon Seed Collecting at Camp Pine Woods Forest Preserve, Glenview/Des Plaines. Come join the chance to help a prairie and shrubland become an even better habitat for native plants and wildlife. Help collect native seeds for redistributing on site. Camp Pine Woods is on Euclid/Lake Avenue between Des Plaines and Glenview, just east of the Des Plaines River. Enter from east bound; no left turn from west bound. Contact John Elliott at johnelliott4@gmail.com.



Pine Siskin. Photo by Jerry Goldner.

Sunday, October 8 (7:30 a.m.). "Big Month" Beck Lake to Camp Pine bird walk, Beck Lake Forest Preserve, Des Plaines. Three-mile round trip walk past lake, oak woods, shrubland, grassland. A one-way option can be arranged. Leader: John Elliott (johnelliott4@gmail.com). Meet at Boat Ramp, 1000 N East River Road, Des Plaines.

Thursday, October 12 (8:00 a.m.). Field Museum "Big Month" Birding Trip to Eggers Grove Forest Preserve, Chicago. Fall migrants, including diversity of waterfowl. Leaders: Josh Engel (jengel2@fieldmuseum.org), and John Bates. Meet at 11201 S Ave B, Chicago, in parking lot by caretakers' building.

Tuesday, October 17 (7:00 a.m.). Chicago Audubon "Big Month" Birding Trip to Skokie Lagoons, Winnetka. Should be the height of waterfowl migration. Leader: David Willard (dwillard@fieldmuseum.org). Meet at 1651 Willow Road (Erickson Woods Parking Lot & I-94), Winnetka.

Saturday, October 21 (8:00 a.m.). Field Museum "Big Month" Birding Trip to Eggers Grove Forest Preserve, Chicago. Fall migrants, including diversity of waterfowl. Leaders: Josh Engel (jengel2@fieldmuseum.org), and John Bates. Meet at 11201 S Ave B, Chicago, in parking lot by caretakers' building.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird and bee.
Photo by Jerry Goldner.

Thursday, October 26 (8:00 a.m.). Field Museum "Big Month" Birding trip to Eggers Grove Forest Preserve, Chicago. Fall migrants, including diversity of waterfowl. Leaders: Josh Engel (jengel2@fieldmuseum.org), and John Bates. Meet at 11201 S Ave B, Chicago, in parking lot by caretakers' building.

Wednesday, November 22 (8:00 a.m.). Chicago Audubon Birding Trip to Bemis Woods North, Westchester. Late fall migrants, sparrows, kinglets, creepers, etc. Leader: Douglas Stotz (dfstotz@gmail.com). Meet at Wolf Road between 31st and Ogden, at easternmost part of parking lot, Westchester.



# Join a Chicago Audubon Field Trip **During #birdthepreserves Big October!**

his year, the Forest Preserves of Cook County are partnering with local birding organizations for a Big Month competition. On September 30, teams will adopt preserves to compete for which team enters the greatest number of eBird checklists, sees the greatest number of birds, and sees the highest percentage of the preserve's eBird list. Chicago Audubon will again have a number of teams—Skokie Lagoons, Camp Pine, Bemis/Salt Creek, Eggers Woods and Penny Road Pond. Check our event listings on page 3 in this issue and on our website (chicagoaudubon.org), or go to the #birdthepreserves website at fpdcc.com/birding.

With your help, our teams did very well last year. In the contest for greater number of species, we captured 3rd through 6th and 12th places (out of 21 teams). In addition, the Bemis team had the second greatest number of new birder visits, and Skokie Lagoons had the third highest.

Place	No. of species	Team
1	199	Busse Buffleheads
2	194	Orland Meadowlarks
3	179	Spring Creek-Penny Road Pond
4	174	The Paul Douglas Birdocrats
5	173	Salt Creek/Bemis Woods
6	171	<b>Creatures from the Skokie Lagoons</b>
12	156	Miller Meadow

Join the fun this October! New birders always welcome. Let the trip leader know if you need to borrow a pair of binoculars.

# A Tribute to Henry David Thoreau Born July 12, 1817



Barred Owl. Photo by Jerry Goldner.

enry David Thoreau was born one hundred years ago. He was a naturalist and essayist whose writings describing his deep love of all things of nature have influenced generations. His best known book, Walden; or, Life in the Woods, was published in 1854 and describes his observations of nature during the two years he lived in a tiny cabin on Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts. To this day it remains one of the best known and most beloved books of its kind.

> "There are day owls and there are night owls, and each is beautiful and even musical while about its business."

> > Henry David Thoreau











Bright lights from buildings, along with reflective or transparent window and lobby glass, are hazards for birds migrating through Chicago.

Each year Chicago Bird Collision Monitors recover more than 5000 birds that have suffered collisions in the downtown area.

With your participation our rescue and prevention efforts can be expanded and more birds can be saved.

## YOU CAN HELP:

Join a morning rescue team. Monitor a building where you live or work. **Transport birds** to wildlife rehabilitation centers. Support collision prevention work. Assist in public outreach and awareness programs.

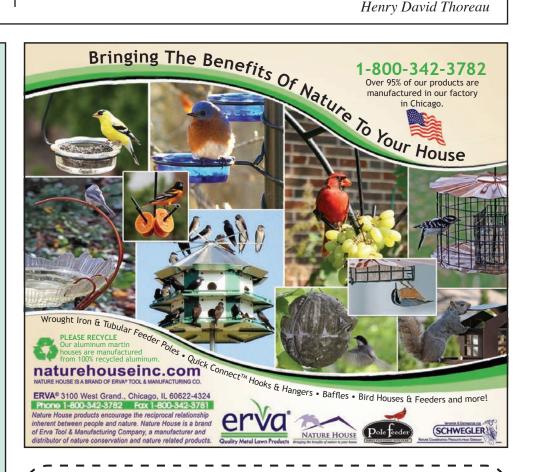
> For more information: www.birdmonitors.net 773-988-1867

## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO OUR READERS

There has been some confusion about the difference between a National Audubon membership and a Chicago Chapter membership. A National membership by itself does not financially support the Chicago Audubon Chapter. National Audubon and the Chicago Chapter (and all other chapters) have entirely separate budgets (except for a small yearly stipend from National). In other words, the Chicago Chapter has always carried the burden of all costs of producing and mailing this newsletter and other types of mailings that we have been sending to both the Chapter members and the National members in this area. Because

of this separation in budgets and because we need local support, we are asking that you consider becoming a Chapter member at this time. Chapter membership will not only help with our immediate need to reduce costs related to the newsletter, it will give direct financial assistance to our local programs and goals and enrich the energy and support of the Chapter membership base. If you would like to become a Chicago Audubon Chapter member or renew your existing membership, please fill out the form to the right and send it to our office, or you may join online at our website (chicagoaudubon.org).

Chicago Audubon Society does not rent, lease, trade, or otherwise disclose any membership information whatsoever.



# Chicago Audubon Membership Form

If you wish to become a new member or to renew an existing membership, you may either mail in this form with a check or your credit card information or charge your membership online (chicagoaudubon.org). You may also make a straight donation with this form or online. If you prefer, you may call the office with your credit card information (773-539-6793).

Your name			
Street address			
City	St	ate	Zip code
Phone number	Email		
	hip: \$25. At \$65 o		_
Minimum yearly membersl	hip: \$25. At \$65 o		_
Minimum yearly membersh Membership renewal inclu	nip: \$25. At \$65 o des an official Ch		_

ail your completed form with check or credit card information to: Chicago Audubon Society • 5801-C North Pulaski Rd • Chicago, IL 60646

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