

Dubuque Audubon Society

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Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Dubuque, IA 52001
Permit # 459



The mission of Dubuque Audubon Society is to provide educational opportunities to the people of the tri-state area and to preserve the natural habitat of birds and other wildlife.

September 2014 EDITION

Published Monthly
Except January,
July & August

Volume XL11 - Number 6

PRESIDENT'S CORNER
By Craig Kruse

I was recently at Green Island doing a bit of birding. At the small pond just east of the main parking lot, we saw what must have been 500 Great Egrets stopping over on their migration south for the winter. Some of them paid us no mind as we pulled up and some took to the sky to avoid us. Everywhere you looked you could see were these big beautiful white birds. They were in the water, in the trees and they were in the air around us. It was truly an awe inspiring sight.

August brings about the start of fall migration but it also brings about the start of another year for Dubuque Audubon. Earlier this month our board members got together to discuss our plans for the coming year. We brought all sorts of exciting this to the table, and I don't just mean the good food we were eating while we talked. Together we came up with ideas for fun new field trips and lots of new learning opportunities and field trips. We want to teach people about birds and their environment and then get them out doors to see the real thing. I'd tell you a little more but I don't want to ruin any surprises.... But it is going to be a very fun year. We're going to start the year out with a Potluck at the Dubuque Arboretum on

September 11th. It'll be a fun chance to get together and tell stories about our summer adventures. Check out the calendar section of the newsletter for details.

Lastly, I plan to take Jeff and Josh (a couple of my co-workers) for a hike in the next week or so. If I'm lucky, maybe I'll show them a few species I know, and maybe, just maybe, they'll get the birding bug. So the last thing I'm going to do here is leave you with a challenge. In the next month take a friend of yours out for a walk or hike and point out a few species of birds to them that they may not know. Hopefully, you'll make them a little curious about what else is out there.

**REAP Anniversary
25 Years**

By Jenny Ammon

Whitewater Canyon will be the site of REAP's 25th Anniversary Celebration on September 20 and 21, 2014. Spend the day at one of the country's most beautiful locations. We will be doing wagon rides, walking tours, and kids activities throughout the weekend. Wagon rides are scheduled for 10am & 1:30pm on Saturday and 1:30pm on Sunday. Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist, Chris Hiher, will be interpreting habitat projects on the wagon rides, and Jackson and Jones County Naturalists

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DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you are a member of National Audubon Society, you are automatically a member of the local Audubon Society and do not need to sign-up separately.

Do NOT use this form to renew a membership in National Audubon Society. Use the form mailed to you by the National Audubon. There are two categories of memberships in the Dubuque Audubon Society

CATEGORY A: This category includes membership in National Audubon Society and the local chapter. You will receive 6 issues of Audubon Magazine and 9 issues of the local chapter newsletter, Pileated Drumming.
 National Audubon Society Free Membership **INTRODUCTORY ONLY – FIRST TIME MEMBERS ONLY**

CATEGORY B: This category of membership is local chapter only. You will receive 9 issues of the local chapter newsletter, Pileated Drumming. All funds will remain with the local chapter. Membership year is from July to June.
 Local Chapter Dues \$10.00

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**Dubuque Audubon Society
PO Box 3174**

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Dubuque, IA 52004-3174



will hike and provide kids' activities. You can sign up for the wagon tours by calling 556.6745; these will be sure to fill up fast so please plan ahead. We would like to encourage those UNABLE to walk or get around easily to call and reserve their spot on the wagons. If you are able-bodied, we would love you to join us on a walking tour.

Wildlife Advocates Score a Win at Cape Hatteras

By Chelsea Harvey

There's been a victory for birds--and, in fact, all wildlife--at Cape Hatteras National Seashore. A law limiting off-road vehicle (ORV) access to the beach will remain in place, thanks to a June ruling by the Eastern District Court of North Carolina. The law is part of an effort to protect the vulnerable wildlife that make their home on the coast, though it had been challenged by a group of ORV enthusiasts hoping to get back on the beach.

The law has been hotly contested since its inception more than two years ago. Plans to better protect the shore began when the Southern Environmental Law Center filed a lawsuit on behalf of the Audubon Society and Defenders of Wildlife in order to preserve the local wildlife. The suit targeted ORVs on beaches, because these vehicles often crush eggs, confuse turtle hatchlings, and drive wildlife from the shore. In February 2012, the National Park Service implemented a new plan, which limited ORV access at certain locations and times, much to the chagrin of the off-roading community, which has vocally opposed the regulations.

The off-roaders quickly mobilized, creating the Cape Hatteras Access Preservation Alliance, and within the month filed a lawsuit to overturn the law. The court process lasted two years, culminating in the resolution to deny the lawsuit this June.

Some opponents of the law have argued that it could suppress tourism at the beach, but Walker Golder, deputy director of Audubon North Carolina, says the economy is looking good. "There's been economic benefit from having a balanced plan in place," he says, explaining that visitation to the seashore has actually been up since the plan was enacted. Audubon North Carolina has previously estimated that only 2 percent of seashore visitors drive ORVs.

Still, Golder believes the conversation will be ongoing. "This is an important step, but the off-road vehicle advocates have stated clearly that they will continue to fight it," he says.

For now, the ruling is at least a temporary victory for Cape Hatteras, which is an essential habitat for nesting birds, turtles, and other wildlife.

"The National Parks and Seashores in the U.S. are some of the finest in the world, and they've been set aside to protect some of the most significant places in the country," Golder says. "They are, if you will, symbols of what this country is all about, and they need to be protected for everything they offer to everyone."

Chelsea Harvey is a freelance writer with a special interest in wildlife conservation. Follow her on Twitter @chelseaharvey91.

Free Paint Available from the Regional Collection Center for Household Hazardous Materials

The Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency's Regional Collection Center (RCC) for household hazardous materials has several shelves of paint available for fall fix-up projects. This is paint that was dropped off from homeowners and is available to residents in Dubuque and Delaware counties.

When making the trip, if you have hazardous materials you cannot use, give away, or safely manage at home, bring them with for proper disposal. **This drop-off service is FREE to Dubuque and Delaware county households and farms anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays through October 31st.** The RCC is located at the Dubuque Metro Landfill along U.S. Highway 20 on Dubuque's west side. It can be contacted at (563) 557-8220. Businesses should call ahead for more information and to make an appointment.



OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

- If you have any questions or comments, please contact us!
- President: Craig Kruse 563-582-7215
 - V-Pres.: Nick Courtney
 - Secretary: Nick Courtney
 - Treasurer: Maggie O'Connell 563-923-4308
 - At-Large Board Members:
 - Jenny Ammon Lalith Jayawickrama
 - Terri Stanton Ruth Scharnau
 - Gretel Winterwood Michele Zuercher
 - Field Trips: Terri Stanton
 - Membership: Joe Tollari 563-583-2077
 - Newsletter: Michele Zuercher
 - Conservation: Charlie Winterwood 563-588-2783
 - Programs: Lalith Jayawickrama
 - Iowa Audubon Liaison: Joe Tollari 563-583-2077
 - Web Master: Jan Friedman: Janfrdmn@yahoo.com



DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Every Saturday in September	MONARCH TAGGING	1:00 pm at Hurstville Interpretive Center 18670 63rd Street Maquoketa, Iowa. Learn about the monarch butterfly's journey south for the winter. Be a part of the research by catching and tagging this year's migrants. All ages welcome.
September 7th Sunday	MONARCH TAGGING	12:00 pm. Swiss Valley Nature Center, 13606 Swiss Valley Rd., Peosta. The Friends of DCCB are hosting a monarch tagging program at noon with an Ice Cream Social to follow. Join the naturalist for an educational program at noon. Then learn more about all the great things the friends do for the DCCB at the Ice Cream Social.
September 11th Thursday	DUBUQUE AUDUBON POTLUCK	5:30 pm at Visitor Center Porch, Dubuque Arboretum, Marshall Park, Dubuque, IA. Bring your own beverage, table service, and a dish to share. Come early to walk the nearby trails or sit in the bird observation room.
September 20th - 21st Saturday, Sunday	REAP 25th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION	Saturday, Sept. 20: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Sunday, Sept. 21: 1:30pm to 4:00pm. Whitewater Canyon - Directions: navigate to the junction of US 151 South and Sundown Road. Continue on US 151 S. Take the first left onto Curoe Road. There is a brown sign identifying the turn to Whitewater Canyon. In about 1 mile, Curoe Road jogs to the right. When the pavement ends, turn right onto the lane leading to Whitewater Canyon parking lot.
October 5th Sunday	DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY HAWK WATCH	11:00 am Meet at the Balltown Ridge overlook in Balltown, IA. Bring binoculars, a hat, sunscreen, and water. This is your chance to see locally rare hawks like the red-shouldered and broad-winged as they pass through our area on their annual fall migration to southern wintering grounds. Members of the Dubuque Audubon Society will help identify birds and provide insight about hawk habits. Call 588-2783 for details or in case of foul weather. Breitbach's Country Dining is a short walk away.
October 9th Thursday	DUBUQUE AUDUON PROGRAM	EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque, IA 5:30 pm – Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 7:00 pm – Program: TBA
October 12th Sunday	HURSTVILLE PRESENTATION	2:00 pm at Hurstville Interpretive Center 18670 63rd Street Maquoketa, Iowa. Flight of the Passenger Pigeon.
	E-Newsletter Available 	In an effort to control costs and save resources, Dubuque Audubon Society is offering an electronic version of this newsletter to our members. You can receive the Newsletter as an e-mail attachment or as a prompt to go to the Dubuque Audubon Web-Site to view the Newsletter. E-Mail your request to be added to this program to: audubondubuque@gmail.com