

Eagles Day 2020

Saturday, January 18 8:30 a ~ 4:00 p

Free State High School 2700 Overland Drive, Lawrence

Help us boost attendance. Tell everybody you know about the free fun at Eagles Day:

- **★** Owl pellet dissection, crafts and other hands-on activities for all ages
- **★** Field trips to view wild Bald Eagles
- **★** Live raptors from Prairie Park
- **★** Presentations
- **★** Exhibitor displays galore

See the schedule on Page 2

Late Winter Bird Seed, Book & Feeder Sale

February 1, 2020 – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Senior Resource Center, 745 Vermont

Like chopping logs, winter bird feeding warms your heart twice: when you watch birds at your feeders, and when you support JAS by buying seed, books and feeders at our sales. Feb. 1st is our last sale of this feeding season, so best lay up supplies to carry your birds into spring.

Pre-ordering ensures you'll get the seed you prefer. Don't delay: pre-orders must be received by January 28th. The order form on pages 5 & 6 has instructions or contact Linda Lips: call/text: (785) 766-3567

You can also help the chapter by volunteering. Any amount of time you can give is welcome. Call or text Linda to get details. Eagles Day, Plants for Birds, & Learning About Nature Field Trips all benefit from your shopping and volunteering. THANK YOU! Monday, January 27th at 7:00 p.m.

Trailing Penguins in Patagonia

Join us to hear about nest monitoring in an Argentine penguin colony. In November, 2018, our speaker, Susan Iversen, joined an Earthwatch project studying the nesting success of Magellanic penguins on Patagonia's Atlantic coast. This penguin colony nests far from snow and ice in burrows, under bushes, and on bare ground from September to March, the Southern Hemisphere spring and summer. In November eggs are hatching so the team had the thrill of helping measure growing chicks, and, yes, they were as downy and vulnerable as you imagine.

Susan is retired from medical lab work at KU Medical Center and KU Student Health Center. Life has stayed interesting with grandkids, birding, and editing the JAS newsletter, plus Friends of the Library, bluebird trail monitoring, and digging up the



lawn to put in native plants. (See page 3 for more on why that's a good thing..)

We hope to see you 1/27 because penguins.

Joyce Wolf, Program Chair

BYO Dinner with Susan Iversen:

5:00 pm. HuHot. 2525 Iowa. RSVP to Joyce Wolf: <u>jarbwolf39@gmail.com</u> or 785-887-6019

Program: 7:00 pm. Baker Wetlands Discovery Center. 1365 N. 1250 Road, Lawrence

<u>Directions:</u> https://www.bakeru.edu/wetlands/

As Jayhawk Audubon Society

➤ Eagles Day Is January 18th 2020 <

Thanks to USD 497, our Eagles Day partner, for providing the spacious, well-lit Commons area at Free State HS for our gift to the community event.

Eagle Viewing Field Trips: 10:30 & 1:15

Bus rides for field trips available.

First come, first served.

Dress for the weather!

Presentations:

Live Eagles & Raptors ~ Marty Birrell 9:30-10:15 and 3:00-3:45

Kansas Nesting Bald Eagles ∼ Mike Watkins 12:15-1:00

Sponsors:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jayhawk Audubon, USD 497, Evergy Green Team, The Chickadee Checkoff, ICL, The Home Depot, City of Lawrence Public Works. *THANK YOU SPONSORS!!*

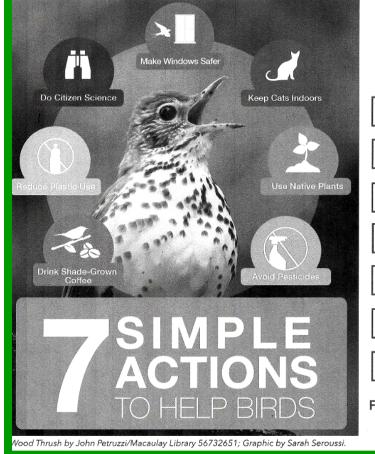
Eagles Day Planning Meeting:

There's still some work to be done so the Eagles Day Committee will meet again. Volunteers are still needed & welcome! Share laughs, ideas and delicious food.

Monday, December 30th at 6:30 pm Bunnie and Mike Watkins' home 1003 E 1200 Rd. Lawrence, KS

Contact Bunnie Watkins: ranger_rabbit@sbcglobal.net or 785-393-0984.

Check it out. We'd love to have you!



I'm Helping Birds!

Make Windows Safe

Keep Cats Indoors

Less Lawn, Plant Natives

Avoid Pesticides

Drink Bird-Friendly Coffee

Use Less Plastic

Watch Birds, Share What You See

Find out more: bit.ly/7-simple-actions

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Act Now

Bird numbers are bad, but we can't give in to despair and do nothing.

The wetlands meeting (page 3) was held not just to delve into the *Science* report, but also to alert us to personal and community choices that will help birds—like the list of actions to the left.

As an Audubon member, you may already be doing all these things. Yay!! Now work on your family, friends and neighbors to step up too. THANKS!



An Overview of the 2.9 Billion Decline in Birds: How You Can Help

By Jennifer Delisle

If you were alive in the year 1970, more than one in four birds in the U.S. and Canada has disappeared within your lifetime. According to research published online in September by the journal *Science*, wild bird populations in the continental U.S. and Canada have declined by almost 30% since 1970. https://science.sciencemag.org/content/366/6461/120

"We were astounded by this net loss across all birds on our continent, the loss of billions of birds," said Cornell Lab of Ornithology conservation scientist Ken Rosenberg, who led an international team of scientists from seven institutions in the analysis of population trends for 529 bird species. The study quantifies for the first time the total decline in bird populations in the continental U.S. and Canada, a loss of 2.9 billion breeding adult birds—with devastating losses among birds in every biome.

Rosenberg says these study results transcend the world of birds. "These bird losses are a strong signal

that our human-altered landscapes are losing their ability to support bird life," he said. "And that is an indicator of a coming collapse of the overall environment." https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/vanishing-1-in-4-birds-gone/

Grassland Birds

720
MILLION
GRASSLAND BIRDS
LOST SINCE 1970

POPULATION LOSS
IN GRASSLAND
BIRDS SINCE 1970

Application Loss
Sin Grassland
Birds Sin Grassla

Vanishing Eastern Meadowlarks Graphic: Cornell Lab of Ornithology

To bring local attention to this alarming report the Douglas County Conservation District sponsored "An overview of the 2.9 billion decline in birds: How you can help" at Baker Wetlands Discovery Center on 12/12. Mark Robbins, an ornithologist at KU's Biodiversity Institute, summarized report findings. Of special significance to Douglas County, once nearly 90% prairie, is that grassland bird populations have declined by more than 50% in the past 50 years. This includes birds once common on our tallgrass prairies like the Eastern Meadowlark and Grasshopper Sparrow. Whole groups of birds including blackbirds, finches, and sparrows also declined steeply. Dr. Robbins identified root causes including loss of habitat, city lighting, predation by domestic cats, pesticides, window strikes & tall towers.

Krystal Anton from Johnson County Community College revealed data she and her students have collected on bird collisions with campus windows.

Since 2017 Krystal has identified over 70 species killed by collisions with buildings on the JCCC campus. According to the American Bird Conservancy up to one billion birds die each year from collisions with buildings. She is now experimenting with "bird smart glass" that uses various designs of dot decals to break up reflections to create a visual barrier. This action has resulted in a significant reduction in strikes.

Lynn Byczynski and Jennifer Delisle encouraged everyone to combat habitat loss through Jayhawk Audubon's Plants for Birds program: https://www.jayhawkaudubon.org/plants-for-birds. The program's three tenets are

"Grow trees, shrubs, vines and flowers; Lots of them, Mostly native"

By growing native plants wherever we live – from a small city lot to a large farm – we all can provide the food, shelter, water, and nest sites that birds need to survive. Native plants are food for native insects, and insects are a crucial component of the diets of many bird species. Nestlings and fledglings are particularly dependent on insect food which comprises nearly their entire diets. Reducing the size of our lawns and filling those spaces with native plants is an easy way to do something for the birds. *Come spring we'll have info for you on local native plant sales* Also check out National Audubon's Bird-friendly Communities program to learn ways you can help sustain bird populations locally. https://www.audubon.org/conservation/bird-friendly-communities.

JS Jayhawk Audubon Society

An Interview With Angelou Ezeilo, Change Maker & Author

by Shirley Braunlich

I'm celebrating my newest shero, Angelou Ezeilo. The environmental advocate and author will speak in Lawrence on February 20, 2020. Everyone concerned about diversity in the environmental movement should attend: https://tinyurl.com/r9f46z7

As founder and CEO of Greening Youth Foundation, she is creating career pathways in environmental stewardship work for diverse youth. Angelou Ezeilo's new book is *Engage*, *Connect*, *Protect: Empowering Diverse Youth as Environmental Leaders*. Here's an excerpt from our interview:

SB: In the book, you shared an experience with someone yelling at you; it felt like a racist attack on you and a companion and you needed to travel back home to feel safe. Would you share some of your strategies to ensure the young people you send to remote or less diverse areas are safe?

AE: That incident you mentioned is why our organization implemented a buddy system. As most of the places we send interns across the country typically do not have a large constituency of diverse people, we send them in pairs so that they are not alone. As we know, difference often promotes fear which leads to ignorance and bigotry. When interviewing young adults for these positions we look for a strong character because we know they will be on the frontlines at some parks/forests/refuges and in many cases will be diversifying the site. Our project managers mentor the interns and make multiple site visits.

SB: Do you plan to visit any natural areas during your visit to our area? My recommendations:

We have a large area of restored wetlands in town, at Haskell Indian Nations University and the adjacent Baker Wetlands, with a high diversity of wildlife and plenty of walking trails that are fairly accessible. There is a 7-acre tallgrass prairie at Prairie Park Nature Center and other natural areas are within easy reach: http://www.naturalkansas.org/links.htm The Brown V. Board of Education National Historic Site is in Topeka with the Landon Nature Trail.

AE: I would love to! Your recommendations sound amazing.

Engage, Connect, Protect is Ezeilo's debut book. Read my full review: https://tinyurl.com/tkjwtqr

★ Positive Action on the Environment **★**

NATIONAL:

There are now bills in Congress to ban or restrict pesticide use. The Protect our Refuges Act (HR2854, S1856) and Saving America's Pollinators Act would restrict use of Neonicitonoid (neonic) pesticides (deadly to bees!). The Ban Toxic Pesticides Act of 2019 (HR230/S921) would ban chlorpyrifos. *Please* visit https://tinyurl.com/rztolhe to learn more and send letters to our reps and senators from there.

LOCAL:

On 12/18, after a presentation by Jasmin Moore, Director of the Sustainability Advisory Board, and public comments, Lawrence City Commission voted to adopt a policy recommendation from the SAB to move to 100% renewable energy!! The goal has phases: Use of renewables by the year 2025 for electricity in municipal operations, 2035 for electricity community-wide, 2040 for all energy sectors in municipal operations and 2050 for all energy sectors community-wide.

You can attend SAB meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the South Park Parks & Rec Building, 1141 Mass St. Jasmin Moore is at jamoore@lawrenceks.org or 785-331-9813. https://lawrenceks.org/board/sustainability-advisory-board/



Yellow Warbler. Migrating warblers are major victims of building collisions as they navigate unfamiliar territory, often exhausted and by night.

New York City has approved a policy requiring new buildings to meet bird-friendly standards that reduce collision risks to birds. The policy also covers major renovations that modify existing glass. "Bird-friendly building design should not be seen as an add-on or an extra," said Dr. Christine Sheppard, of the American Bird Conservancy. "Many strategies for controlling heat, light, and even security can be bird-friendly too."



Jayhawk Audubon Late Winter Bird Seed, Book & Feeder Sale Saturday, February 1, 2020 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Senior Resource Center, 745 Vermont St., Lawrence, KS

This is our last bird seed sale of the bird-feeding season. Stock up on Audubon bird seed and browse our curated selection of books, bird feeders, and birding field guides.

All proceeds of our bird seed, feeder and book sales support the educational and conservation projects of JAS.

Pre-Orders must be received by January 28th, 2020.

Return Form by Jan. 28, 2020 to Linda Lips, P. O. Box 1285, Lawrence, KS 66044-8285. Make check payable to: *Jayhawk Audubon Society*. Call or Text Linda at (785) 766-3567

Pick up your seed on Saturday, February 1, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Senior Resource Center, 745 Vermont Street. We can take check, cash or cards at the sale.

Wondering who eats what?? Here's a guide to birdy preferences:

Black Oil Sunflower Seeds are the favorite of wild birds. Over 40 different bird species are known to eat black oil sunflower seeds. The oil content (over 40%) makes this seed especially good food for birds. It should comprise at least 75% of the seeds you offer.

Premium Blend is our mixture of 45% black oil sunflower, 45% safflower, and 10% sunflower chips, popular with many bird species. **Economy Blend** is less expensive but still attracts plenty of species. It is our mixture of 20% black oil sunflower seed, 40% cracked corn, and 40% white millet.

Niger Thistle and **Sunflower Seed Chips** are both attractive to finches and pine siskins. Both are excellent for finch feeders.

Finch Mix is an option for finch feeders. It's 50% Niger thistle and 50% sunflower seed chips.

Safflower has become a popular bird food because it is excellent for cardinals, rose-breasted grosbeaks, mourning doves, chickadees, nuthatches, house finches and white-throated sparrows. House sparrows and starlings don't seem to like it though! Even squirrels usually turn down safflower.

White and Red Millet attract wild birds like bobwhites, doves, purple finches, juncos, towhees, and native sparrows (i.e. chipping, fox, song, tree, white-throated), and turkeys. Millet can be scattered on the ground or offered in tray feeders near the ground.

Suet is chopped or ground animal fat (generally beef) that may be mixed with birdseed and/or peanut butter. Woodpeckers, chickadees, brown creepers, and nuthatches particularly enjoy suet. Suet will melt and quickly turn rancid in temperatures above 70°F.

Peanuts are popular with many of the birds that eat black oil sunflower seeds. Special feeders may be required.

Cracked Corn is eaten by many birds, including "undesirable" house sparrows, brown-headed cowbirds, and starlings. It can be mixed with white millet and scattered during fall and spring for migrant sparrows, juncos and other ground-feeding birds.



By Catherine Clark. Birdwatchers General Store. http://birdwatchersgeneralstore.com/

Jayhawk Audubon Society Pre-order Form Late Winter Bird Seed, Book & Feeder Sale

The JAS Late Winter Bird Seed Sale is Saturday, February 1, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Senior Resource Center, 745 Vermont St., Lawrence, Kansas

SEED TYPE	SIZE	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL	
Black Oil Sunflower	10 lbs	\$ 8.00			
	25 lbs	\$16.00			
	50 lbs	\$28.00			
Premium Blend	10 lbs	\$11.00			
(45% black oil and 45% safflower	25 lbs	\$22.00			
& 10% sunflower chips)	50 lbs	\$36.00			
Economy Blend	10 lbs	\$ 6.00			
(20% black oil sunflower seed,	25 lbs	\$12.00			
40% cracked corn & 40% millet)	50 lbs	\$19.00			
Sunflower Chips	10 lbs	\$18.00			
	25 lbs	\$37.00			
Niger Thistle	10 lbs	\$21.00			
	25 lbs	\$46.00			
Finch Mix (50% sunflower chips	10 lbs	\$20.00			
& 50% Niger thistle)	25 lbs	\$39.00			
Safflower	10 lbs	\$ 11.00			
	25 lbs	\$23.00			
White Millet	10 lbs	\$ 5.00			Name:
	25 lbs	\$10.00			
	50 lbs	\$18.00			Address:
Red Millet	10 lbs	\$ 8.00			
	25 lbs	\$16.00			
	50 lbs	\$28.00			
Shelled Peanuts	10 lbs	\$16.00			
	25 lbs	\$36.00			Phone:
Ear Corn	Dozen	\$ 6.50			
Cracked Corn	25 lbs	\$ 11.00			Email:
	50 lbs	\$20.00			
Suet Cake	11 oz	\$ 1.50			

Please consider a donation to Jayhawk Audubon Society	
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (price includes sales tax)	



Birding Apps Reviewed

by Len Scotto and Roger Boyd

With people away/busy for Thanksgiving and an astonishing array of other events in town that night, some of you may have missed JAS' November program on birding apps. Since there is high interest in the topic, here's a summary of the advice and reviews.

As a beginning birder, Len Scotto found the Merlin ID app by Cornell Labs helped identify birds he was seeing. Song Sleuth marketed by Sibley Guides was not as helpful primarily due to the difficulty of recording birds you hear or describing their sounds.

Roger reviewed four of the most popular field guide apps. Peterson and Audubon are both free. Peterson uses Roger Tory Peterson paintings from his field guides. Audubon relies on good quality photographs. Both have range maps, descriptions, and some songs and calls. Peterson ranks 2.6 and Audubon 4.0 out of 5.0. The Sibley app costs \$19.99 and ranks 4.2 out of 5.0. It uses Sibley's artwork as well as descriptions and ID hints from his field guides. It also has range maps, the ability to compare species, and a nice array of songs and calls. iBird Pro uses tweaked or computer enhanced photos & has the same features as Sibley. It costs \$14.99 and ranks 4.5 out of 5.0. The previous 3 parallel the paper field guide versions. The latter is digital only so your preference may depend on what, if anything, you are used to.



Roger reviewed eBird, developed and managed by Cornell Lab. This software has probably done more to advance birdwatching and citizen scientist activities than anything since the first field guides. Many are familiar with the main eBird function – submitting a list of birds and numbers seen on a walk, short drive, or at a stationary location like Clinton Dam or your back yard. This is valuable data about presence of species, their relative abundance & general trends.

Birding apps continued in next column:

Cabin Fever Cures

Weds. 1/8: Winter Bird Census at Swope Park. 8 am. Burroughs Audubon Society. Details: https://burroughs.org/its-free/field-trips-programs/Contact stevenrjohnson89@gmail.com

Sat. 1/11: <u>Bird banding</u>. 11:00 am -2:00 pm. BAS Library & Sanctuary. Cancelled if stormy. https://burroughs.org/its-free/bird-banding/

Sat. 1/11: <u>Seed Cleaning Party</u>. 1-3 pm. Lawrence Public Library. Seeds will be planted in Grassland Heritage Foundation's Leadplant Prairie!



Northern Bobwhite have declined 85% over the last 50 years. They need grasslands!

Weds. 1/15: <u>Seed Cleaning Party.</u> 5-7 pm. Lawrence Public Library. Kaw Valley Native Plant Coalition. For the library's seed give-away.

Sun. 1/19: <u>Bird Wyandotte Co. Lake.</u> 8 am. Burroughs Aud. Contact Malcolm Gold: 608-807-6086 or <u>malcolmgold@gmail.com</u>. See link for 1/8.

Weds. 1/29: <u>Champion Trees Overland Park Arboretum</u>
1 pm. KS Native Plant Society.
Indoors lecture. \$3 entry fee to OPA.
http://www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org/events.php

Sat. 2/8: Bird Shawnee State Fishing Lake/Banner Creek 8:30 am. Topeka Audubon. Contact: Debbie McKee grmasmurf@gmail.com; 785-220-6515

Sat. 2/8: <u>Kaw Valley Seed Fair</u>. 9-3. Douglas Co. Fair Grounds. Share free seed; Exhibitors.

Birding apps continued:

eBird has other very useful features. You can explore the site by region, hotspot, or species, immediately learning what others are seeing and where. Searching by species allows you to determine the best or closest location to find a target species. Or you might plan a trip using 'explore species' to find the hotspots for your targets. Searches can be narrowed to a given month or season, just this year, or the past 2 or 10 years. If you are meticulous in submitting your sightings eBird will track your yard, county, state, country, or world lists.



Woodland Volunteer Opportunity:

Help eradicate invasive honeysuckle from Hidden Valley Camp. Work commences the first full week of January, and runs through April. To join the **Honeysuckle Warriors Crew**, email Durand Reiber, at durandi@sunflower.com.

There is no commitment to being on the list...you come when you can, for as long as you wish. Even if there is only a remote possibility you will make a work day, by all means get on the list! We work week days, noon to 4 pm or so. Wear durable, layered, warm clothing that you can remove as you heat up. Working around the fire, old cotton, flannel and wool clothing are best, as sparks do come out. Tie up long hair, and wear a cap. Wear durable, totally enclosed, stable footwear. Bring your own gloves—leather is best around the fire—also bring your own filled water bottle. You can refill at nearby hydrants. Tools (hand loppers, hand saws) are provided, but you are welcome to bring your own. Chainsaws and reciprocal saws are appreciated as well. We will be on uneven terrain, cutting and hauling large pieces of brush through the woods to the campfire to burn it down to biochar. For the most part, we work unless it is raining, heavily snowing, or extremely cold (i.e., teens and below), or there is ice and/ or deep snow to contend with. Come tap your inner warrior!! And if you can, please help us spread the word. We are always so appreciative of any and all help. ~Durand Reiber, Hidden Valley Camp Manager and Volunteer Coordinator

785-865-4657



Juvenile Bald Eagle By Jim Bresnahan. We'll have field trips To view wild Bald Eagles at Kaw Valley Eagles Day. 1/18/20.

Earth Care Forum Series — 2020. Public welcome. Sundays, 9:40-10:45 a.m. First Presbyterian Church, 2415 Clinton Parkwayk

- Jan. 5: **Plant a Tree for Your Heirs Air.** Ryan Rastok, Forest Entomologist, KS Forest Service. The many wonders of trees, bark beetles and an answer to "Kansas has a Forest Service?"
- Jan. 12: Weeds In Kansas: Introduced Plants in our Landscapes and the KS Noxious Weed Act. Craig Freeman, Senior Scientist with the KS Biological survey.
- Jan. 19: **100% Renewable Energy Plan for Lawrence.** Jackie Carroll, Chair of the Lawrence Sustainability Board. The strategy, rational and steps needed for the city to develop a plan to implement 100% renewable energy.
- Feb. 2: **Clean Water Programs in Kansas.** Trevor Flynn, General Manager of Environment, Health, and Science, Municipal Services and Operations Dept. City of Lawrence. How the

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Kaw Valley Eagles
Day
January 18, 2020

Become a Member: Just \$20 to join both National Audubon and Jayhawk Chapter.

National Audubon Society membership is \$20.00. Members receive four issues per year of the Audubon magazine and will be enlisted as members of their closest chapter. Members also receive 9 issues per year of the JAS newsletter and are entitled to discounts on the books and feeders we sell to raise funds to support education and conservation projects. (Make your check payable to National Audubon Society and mail to our JAS membership chair at the address below.) You may also join National Audubon online at https://secure.audubon.org/site/Donation2? https://secure.audubon.org/site/Donation2? https://secure.audubon.org/site/Donation2? https://secure.audubon.org/site/Donation2? https://secure.audubon.org/site/Donation2? https://secure.audubon.org/site/Donation2?

Chapter-only membership to Jayhawk Audubon Society is \$10.00. (Make check payable to Jayhawk Audubon Society.) You will not receive the Audubon magazine. Those with National Audubon memberships are encouraged to support the chapter by voluntarily paying these dues. Chapter membership expires annually in July. JAS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

____ **To join or donate to Audubon of Kansas** make check payable to AOK or use this online link - http://www.audubonofkansas.org/joindonate/.

Please send this completed form & your check to our JAS Membership Chair:

Wayne Kennedy, P.O. Box 44211 Name		S 66044.	E-mail contact: w.a.k	c.e.n.n.z@gmail.com
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Email address	·			
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