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## Forsyth Audubon Monthly Newsletter

February 2025

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## Forsyth Audubon Monthly Chapter Meeting

**Tuesday, February 25 at 6:30 PM**

From our backyards to the NC state government, birds need strong advocates! Please join us at our monthly chapter meeting to hear from North Carolina

Zach sets NC Audubon's policy agenda and strategy to achieve bipartisan conservation and climate policy for birds.

Zach will update us on Audubon's 2025 policy goals at the General Assembly and how we can all work together to protect birds and their habitat.



We will meet at Highland Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall - 2381 Cloverdale Avenue, WS, NC 27103. Enter the building through the wide, white middle door that borders the parking lot; not the Cloverdale entrance that faces the church.

**This month's program will also be available for viewing via Zoom. Instructions on how to register to view this month's program live via Zoom will be sent out the week prior to the meeting.**

**Social time begins at 6:30, program begins at 7:00 PM**

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## Hog Island Camp for a Public School Teacher

Forsyth Audubon is proud to announce an opportunity for a local public school teacher to attend a week of field instruction about bird ecology at the Hog Island Audubon Society camp in coastal Maine. Located in scenic Maine, this

cost for the camp which includes food, lodging and instruction for the week. Travel expenses from Winston-Salem will also be covered. To learn more about the camp see: <https://hogisland.audubon.org/programs/prepforcamp>.

If interested, submit a short letter of application explaining why you are interested in attending and how your attendance will benefit your students in the classroom. The selected teacher will be expected to give a summary of their experience at an evening meeting of the Forsyth Audubon Society.

To apply, email your application to [mycocarex@hotmail.com](mailto:mycocarex@hotmail.com). Applications must be submitted by March 1. Please include name of school, grade (grades) and subjects taught. Forsyth Audubon will make its decision on who will be awarded the scholarship by March 10.

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## Advocacy Day Kickoff Webinar - February 10th!

Join Audubon North Carolina on February 10th to learn about policy priorities for the upcoming legislative session and how you can help address some of our biggest concerns for birds. From combatting threats to family land and wetlands to advocating for conservation funding and strong land-use rules, there is a lot we can do for birds this year. [Click here to get up-to-speed at this hour-long webinar](#). All are invited!

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## Tanglewood Park Bird Habitat Program

### Making a Difference: 15-years of Tanglewood Park Bird Habitat Preservation

Back in 2010, Forsyth Audubon leaders had a vision to plant warm season native grasses in a Tanglewood Park meadow to improve habitat for Eastern Meadowlark and other grassland birds. Ron Morris, Carol Gearhart and other members met with the Forsyth County Parks and Recreation Department to discuss this vision and set the foundation for years of collaboration with the county that continues today. Our Tanglewood accomplishments have included planting and maintenance of the bird sanctuary meadow, creation of the Yadkin

including removing invasive Black Locust trees from the meadow and supporting plans to improve trail accessibility.

Our members' leadership and volunteer efforts at Tanglewood are an inspiration as we venture forward with new city and county park habitat management opportunities. If you are interested in helping or learning more, please contact Dave Zimmer ([dtzimmer21@gmail.com](mailto:dtzimmer21@gmail.com)). We can use your help!

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## Annual Great Backyard Bird Count

### ATTENTION FEEDER WATCHERS!

Mark your calendars! It's time for the annual Great Backyard Bird Count! Here's a link that will give you all the information you need in order to participate by watching and recording the birds in your backyard sometime between February 14-17: <https://www.birdcount.org/>

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## No Mow March

What's Happening on the Advocacy Front?

The City of Winston Salem is working on a new conservation program that is growing in popularity around the southern portions of the country called "**No Mow March**". Everyone is encouraged to not mow in March, especially in areas where native vegetation would thrive if spared the blade. Special kudos to both the City and County for implementing this program in selected parks.

This is a great time for Audubon members to revisit their yards to see if they can replace sections of lawn with mulched areas and native plants. If you haven't already done so, check out our Chapter's Bird Friendly Habitat Program by going to the Forsyth Audubon website to learn more: <https://forsythaudubon.org/bird-friendly-habitat/>.

Also, with Spring migration quickly approaching, your Advocacy Committee is developing an outreach effort to meteorologists at local news stations to encourage promoting **Lights Out** initiatives in our area during their local

and forecasting techniques, this should be a good fit for use by local meteorologists. Anyone interested in joining in this outreach effort is welcome!

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## "Plirding" - Creek Week 2025

Forsyth Audubon will be participating in Creek Week 2025. Join us in "Plirding" (picking up trash while birding) on Saturday, March 22 at 9:00 AM. We will work to clean up at the Newell-Massey Greenway. Parking is available next to the Winston Waterwork Water Park at 3584 Winston Lake Rd.

To learn more about Creek Week, visit their website:

<https://www.forsythcreekweek.org/>

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## Mark Your Calendar

**February 11 - 6:00 PM** - Monthly Dinner - River Birch Lodge - 3324 Robinhood Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27106

**February 22** - Young Birders Outing - Quarry Park - 1790 Quarry Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27107

**February 24 - 9:00 AM** - Monday Bird Outing led by Ann Newsome - Bethabara Visitor Center - 2147 Bethabara Road Winston-Salem, NC 27106

**February 25 - 6:30 PM** - Monthly Chapter Meeting - Highland Presbyterian Activity Building - 2381 Cloverdale Avenue, Winston-Salem, 27103

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