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Forsyth Audubon Monthly Newsletter

October 2024

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Forsyth Audubon Monthly Chapter Meeting

Come join us on Tuesday, October 22nd for the October Chapter Meeting!

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

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

Hannah Pursley, North Carolina Audubon Forests Program Manager, will speak on "Urban Forestry and Birds".



"North Carolina is losing trees in urban and suburban areas at a faster rate than anywhere else. North Carolina Audubon is working to change that". (NC Audubon) Hannah grew up in a small town south of Charlotte and attended the University of North Carolina Wilmington where she received a BS in Environmental Science. After graduation she worked as a certified arborist in Wilmington for several years before joining Audubon North Carolina as Urban Forestry Program Manager. Conserving birds and the places they need through community engagement, local advocacy, and on-the-ground management is central to Hannah's urban forestry work in North Carolina. With her life-long passion for environmental conservation, Hannah hopes to create an environment where both people and birds can thrive in our state. <https://nc.audubon.org/news/why-audubon-launching-urban-forestry-program-nc#:~:text=The%20order%2C%20announced%20in%20February,areas%20by%20the%20year%202040>.

Do you want to learn ways to enhance your property to support birds & wildlife? Our BFHC site visit team still has openings through the end of October! See article below....

Did you know that our Chapter has its own Bird Friendly Habitat Certification Program? Started in late 2022 as a pilot program, we're "official" as of April 2024 with [7+ pages of bird friendly habitat content](#) on our [new FA website](#), and a small but growing team of volunteers (Lydia Hastings, Jean Chamberlain, and Susan Andrews) trained to make on-site visits to help you enhance your own property's habitat.

Native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants are a big part of the habitat equation, as well as removing high threat non-native invasive plants. But, there's more to quality habitat than plants alone. Making your property both "safe and friendly" for birds and other wildlife is extremely important!

For a tax-deductible \$50 donation to Forsyth Audubon, a team of two volunteers will survey your property (big or small) for all native plants and high threat invasive plants, review "safe and friendly" practices, and make recommendations based on our findings. You'll receive one of two signs to recognize your efforts, either "Under Construction" or "Certified", and an emailed copy of our formal Report after the visit.

The team has made 49 property visits as of July 31. Want to find out how you can improve your property's habitat for birds and all wildlife? Request a certification visit on our [Bird Friendly Habitat Certification Program webpage](#).



2024 Big Sweep!

Join in on the fun and satisfaction of cleaning up the area around Bethabara Wetlands on Friday, October 11th 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Meet at the Walgreens parking lot on Reynolda Road, across from Childcare Network (where we used to meet). Keep Winston Salem Beautiful provides bags for trash and recycling, gloves, hand sanitizer, and maybe snacks. Bring your own water please. Bring your own pick-up stick if you have one. Please let [<gabaliga@gmail.com>](mailto:gabaliga@gmail.com) know if you plan to come. Our feathered friends are usually there to cheer us up and thank us!

Come See Forsyth Audubon at Elderberry Creek Farm

On October 12, Forsyth Audubon will have a display at the Garden Celebration at Elderberry Creek Farm and Nursery, 4524 River Ridge Road Pfafftown, NC from 11am-4pm. For more details go to [2024 Fall Garden Celebration](#) and to volunteer call or text Shari Burrell, 336-575-6989.

Master Naturalist Program



The mission of the Northwest Piedmont Master Naturalist Program is to train volunteers and environmental professionals to better understand how to preserve and enrich our local ecosystems. Through hands-on training and volunteer engagement, the program aims to create a network of citizen scientists and environmental educators devoted to promoting environmental awareness, sustainable practices, and a profound appreciation of the diverse landscapes that define our region. The program is led by Piedmont Land Conservancy, Forsyth Audubon, N.C. Cooperative Extension, and Reynolda Gardens.

Classes are open to residents over the age of 18 in the following counties: Alamance, Caswell, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin.

Applications open on Tuesday, October 1, 2024. For more information and to apply visit: <http://northwestpiedmontmasternaturalist.org>.



Unless you live totally off the grid, which of course means you probably wouldn't even be receiving this newsletter, there can be NO WAY that you could have missed that this is an election year! Right??!!

What you might not know, however, is that many people who truly care about the environment often do not vote! But voting can be a powerful and very effective way to stand up and speak out for the birds (and people) we love! Environmentally positive change (including safer and more extensive habitat for birds and other wildlife) often requires new or amended legislation and other actions by elected officials at all levels of government – local, state, and national.

So, we're promoting the "I Bird, I Vote" program being spearheaded this year by National Audubon Society. Learn more and take the "I Bird, I Vote" pledge at <https://audubon.stagecoachdigital.com/web-view/1680578?emci=4888a5e2-7b66-ef11-991a-6045bdd9e096&emdi=2ce36dfd-416a-ef11-991a-6045bdd9e096&ceid=499092>! Research each candidate's position on the environment and then take the time to make a difference and vote for those candidates who care about the environment.

In Forsyth County, early voting begins October 17th and continues daily through November 2nd. Election Day is November 5th! Birds can't vote, but we sure can! Let's stand up for the birds we love! It's free, and it's powerful!

Mount Rogers Fall Naturalist Rally

October 11-12, 2024

Please see the below link for information regarding the Mount Rogers Fall Naturalist Rally! This event hosts multiple field trips with plenty of opportunities

Mark Your Calendar

October 8 - 6:15 PM - Monthly Dinner - River Birch Lodge - 3324 Robinhood Rd. Winston-Salem, NC

October 11 - 9:00 AM - Big Sweep at Bethabara Wetlands - meet at Walgreens parking lot on Reynolda Road - 3634 Reynolda Rd, Winston-Salem, NC

October 12 - 8:00 AM - Second Saturday Bird Outing - Washington Park baseball field parking lots - 1490 S. Broad St., Winston-Salem, NC

October 22 - 6:30 PM - Monthly Chapter Meeting - Highland Presbyterian Activity Building - 2381 Cloverdale Avenue, Winston-Salem, 27103

October 26 - 10:00 AM - Young Birders Outing - Tanglewood Park Yadkin Nature Trail - Meet at gravel parking lot near BMX Track entrance

October 28 - 9:00 AM - Monday Bird Outing - Salem Lake Marina - Meet at the parking lot near marina.



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