



Forsyth Audubon Monthly Newsletter

October 2025

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October Monthly Chapter Meeting



Tuesday, October 28, 2025, 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Please join us at the [Highland Presbyterian Church Activity Center](#) for a wonderful talk from Pam DeNeve entitled "Won't You Be My Neighbor? How Landlord of the Uplands Helps 365 Species Survive, Including many Birds."

You may not expect a talk on gopher tortoises at an Audubon chapter meeting, but these sweet, docile creatures share their burrows with many of our avian friends. Come learn about how tortoises benefit their entire ecosystem, and why their conservation is so important.

Pam is a rockstar volunteer (clocking in over 1000 hours for the Polk County Parks and Natural Resources Division!) with over ten years of gopher tortoise research under her belt, including GT radio telemetry, game camera monitoring, burrow surveys, and biometrics on the tortoises. She is instrumental in organizing field trips for our local Forsyth Audubon chapter.

September Chapter Meeting



Our September chapter meeting was a convivial gathering of over 100 attendees! Jim Martin gave a warm and moving tribute to the life of Royce Hough, sharing photos and stories of his legacy. We would like to thank the Hough family for their attendance.

Dave Collins kept us laughing and engaged as he regaled us with his Alaskan adventures. You can watch a full recording of the meeting [here](#).

Forsyth Audubon's Annual Impact Report

We are excited to share our new *Annual Impact Report*, summarizing the impactful achievements delivered by Forsyth Audubon during fiscal year 2024-2025. Forsyth Audubon's mission to protect birds and wildlife habitat was successfully carried forward through our numerous education, conservation, advocacy, and outreach projects. More than 1,500 children and adults attended Forsyth Audubon events in the past year, and our volunteers donated over 3,000 hours of their time in service to our community.

Please take the time to review the Annual Impact Report that is posted on our website and can be accessed using this link: <https://forsythaudubon.org/about/2024-2025-annual-report/>. Our members, volunteers, and financial supporters are making a difference. We are proud of the many positive impacts that Forsyth Audubon is making in our communities.

Miller Park Invasive Species

Join us at Miller Park this **Saturday, Oct 4th at 9 AM** for invasive plant removal. This particular event is in conjunction with the city's Big Sweep. Sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/big-sweep-invasive-plant-removal-miller-park-tickets-1734107655679?aff=oddtcreator>

We will meet by the parking lot on **Queen Street at Shelter #5**, this is up the hill to the right a bit if you're looking into the park from the parking lot. The address listed in the event is for the Community Center as the parking lot doesn't have a proper address, but here is a pin for our exact meet up location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/p86sTwkKB71fysbt5>

Even if you can only join for a little bit, we'd love to have you! With all this rain the ivy should come up with a satisfying ease! Feel free to contact [Melody](#) or [Katherine](#) with any questions.

Birding Basics for Millennials

Have you "heard the call" but don't know how to get started on your birding journey? Join Rob Rogers on **Saturday, October 4th from 10-11:30 AM** at the [Southside Library](#) for a fun and informative workshop on all the technology, skills, and resources you'll need to have your first successful bird outing. We'll conclude the workshop with a short bird walk through the woods on the library grounds, where you will have a chance to apply your newfound expertise.

Bird Watching 101: An Introduction to Backyard Birds

On **Monday, October 6th, from 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM**, Rob Rogers, one of our top local birders, will be leading a Birding 101 workshop in collaboration with the [Paul J. Ciener Botanical Gardens](#) in Kernersville. We'll explore the basics of birdwatching, learn to identify some of our most common backyard birds, discover how to use a field guide and share tips for attracting feathered friends right to your yard. Perfect for kids, families, and anyone who's curious about the birds around us!

Limited to 12 participants - please sign up [here](#) to reserve your spot.

Advanced eBird

There are still a few spots left for Rob Rogers's Advanced Birding class, **Thursday, October 9 at 7 PM!** This is an advanced program for those already using eBird. You'll learn to color counties, chase birds, explore new areas, navigate hotspots, and personal locations. The location will be sent to participants.

Only 12 spaces are available, so [sign-up](#) to reserve your spot today! <https://www.mobilize.us/audubon-chapters/event/840450/>

The Big Sit

In lieu of our Second Saturday bird walk, we are encouraging birders of all ages and skill levels to join us for The Big Sit!

Location: **Bethabara Trail, 2147 Bethabara Rd. Winston-Salem, NC 27106**

Date: **Saturday, October 11th, 2025**

Time: **8:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

We will be setting up our birding sit circle along the Bethabara Trail that runs along the Monarcas creek, behind the historic Palisade fort. The goal is to sit as a group within our 17ft diameter circle and try to count and identify as many birds as possible. We will record all the birds we see throughout the day, and send our counts to the New Haven Bird Club coordinators, who will compile results from across the country!

SIGN UP to join us for 2 hours, or all day:

For Forsyth Audubon volunteer updates: <https://www.mobilize.us/audubon-chapters/event/837660/>

For updates from the organizer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F44AEA92AABFD0-58143298-2025>

Don't forget to bring a chair or blanket to sit on, and any binoculars, scopes, or cameras you may wish to use.

Mindful Birding

Join us on **Sunday, October 12th from 8:30-9:45 AM** for a peaceful and reflective morning at Historic Bethabara Park, where we will blend birdwatching with mindfulness practices to deepen our connection to nature. Whether you're an experienced birder or a curious beginner, this event invites you to slow down, tune in, and engage fully with the natural world.

Meet in the paved parking lot behind Historic Bethabara Park Visitors Center,

[2147 Bethabara Rd.](#)

All ages and experience levels with birding and mindfulness are welcome. We will walk a short distance through grass to our sit spot location. You can expect an introduction on mindfulness, a slow, guided walk, time for reflection in nature, and space to share your experiences with others. Wear comfortable clothes for the weather and walking shoes. Option to bring your own portable chair. Blankets to sit on and binoculars will be available to borrow.

Space is limited to 15 participants. Please register on [Mobilize](#) to reserve your spot.

October Birds & Beers

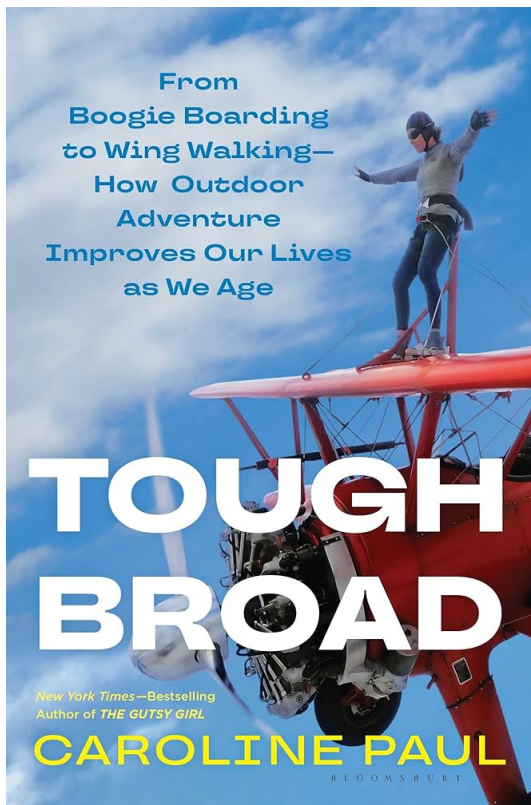
We will meet at **6:00 PM on Tuesday, October 14th**, at River Birch Lodge on Robinhood Road, <https://riverbirchlodge.com>. Our group reservation will be under Forsyth Audubon.

There is no formal program, just a fun get together to share conversation about birds, nature, conservation or anything else that comes up. Come for a drink and/or a meal. There is a full menu of appetizers, sandwiches and dinner entrees.

Please let us know right away if you plan to attend. You can submit your RSVP using the following link: <https://forsythaudubon.org/dinner-reservations/>
If you need to cancel, you can use that same link to update your RSVP.

To be fair to the restaurant, we will release tables that are not occupied at 6:30pm, so please arrive promptly. All are welcome. We hope to see familiar faces, new birders, family and friends again.

Book Club



Tuesday, October 21
6 – 7:30 PM

Join us for the revival of the Forsyth Audubon Book Club! Our first book will be *Tough Broad* by Caroline Paul, with focus on the chapter about Virginia Rose, founder of [Birdability](#). Mention our book club by name at Bookmarks for a **20% discount**.

The book club will meet in the [Forsyth County Central Library](#) - the **Dudley Room on the 3rd floor**. Participants can take the elevator or steps. Elevator accessible parking is available under the library.

Here is the mobilize link for sign up.

<https://www.mobilize.us/audubon-chapters/event/846319/>

October Young Birders Walk



Sunday, October 26
10 AM

The October Young Birder's Walk will be at Jamison Park and the Muddy Creek Greenway! We will meet at the [parking lot](#) near the playground.

We suggest closed-toe shoes, snacks and beverages. Sunscreen and/or other sun protection strategies are a good idea. Bring binoculars if you have them, but we will have some loaner pairs available to borrow. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Although we gear the walks to the younger set, folks of all ages are welcome to attend!

Questions? Email Chris Marsh at cmarshlci@gmail.com.

Fourth Monday Bird Walk

October 27, 8:30 AM

The 4th Monday bird walk will be at [Long Creek Park](#). Join trip leader, Doug DeNeve, at 8:30 AM to search for fall migrants or early wintering species. Long Creek Park was an old golf course so the terrain is quite hilly with some steep slopes. Parts of the trail are paved cart paths. The grass can be very wet so waterproof footwear is a good idea. Bring water, snacks, hat, sun protection.

Bird Friendly Habitat Certification Program Making Home Visits Until Thanksgiving!



Need some help selecting just the right native shrubs, trees and perennials to bring more bird species to your yard? Our team can help! Fall & winter are the best times to plant them. And don't forget to **keep** your precious autumn leaves this year... they're nature's best mulch and fertilizer.

Our September visits included three residential properties and the historic Nissen House in Lewisville. BFHC also agreed to partner with Piedmont Environmental Alliance as a sponsor of the 2026 Green Home Tour, a perfect way to showcase the Bird Friendly Habitat gardens of our participants with the wider public.

Request a personalized property visit @ forsythaudubon.org/habitat-certification-program/

Lights Out for Migrating Birds!

Dim the Lights For Birds at Night



Fall migration is well underway! From now to November 30 millions of birds will flock to their wintering grounds, with many passing through North Carolina. Helping them during this important time is as simple as **turning off the lights at night**. You can learn more [here](#).

Mark Your Calendar!

Saturday, October 4 - 9 AM - Miller Park Invasives Removal - [Miller Park Shelter #5](#)

Saturday, October 4 - 10-11:30 AM - Birding Basics for Millennials - South Side Branch Library - 3185 Buchanan St, Winston-Salem, NC 27127

Monday, October 6 - 8:30-10:30 AM - Birdwatching 101 - Paul J. Ciener Botanical Gardens - 215 S Main St, Kernersville, NC 27284

Thursday, October 9 - 7 PM - Advanced Birding - Private Location

Saturday, October 11 - 8 AM - 4 PM - The Big Sit - Historic Bethabara Park - 2147 Bethabara Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Sunday, October 12 - 8:30-9:45 AM - Mindful Birding - Historic Bethabara Park - 2147 Bethabara Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Tuesday, October 14 - 6 PM - Birds & Beers - River Birch Lodge - 3324 Robinhood Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Tuesday, October 21 - 6-7 PM - Book Club - Forsyth Central Library - 660 W 5th St, Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Sunday, October 26 - 10 AM - Young Birders Walk - Muddy Creek Greenway - 285 Meadowlark Dr, Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Monday, October 27 - 8:30 AM - Fourth Monday Bird Walk - Long Creek Park - 5801 Bethania Tobaccoville Rd, Pfafftown, NC 27040

Tuesday, October 28 - 6:30-8 AM - October Chapter Meeting - Highland Presbyterian Activity Building - 2381 Cloverdale Ave NW, Winston-Salem, NC 27103



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