

Upper Midwest Audubon Conference: SATURDAY, OCT. 14, 2006 - WORKSHOPS

AM	TRACK 1 HABITAT	TRACK 2 BIRDS	TRACK 3 CITIZEN SCIENCE & ADVOCACY	TRACK 4 CHAPTERS & ORGANIZATION	TRACK 5 OTHER
Sat. 9:00	Birdscaping in the Midwest Mariette Nowak	Statewide Bird Conservation Initiatives: Wisconsin and Minnesota Ron Windingstad Karen Etter Hale	Tools and Resources for Starting a Lights Out Program in Your City Judy Pollock Joanna Eckles	What's New at Audubon? Q&A about National Audubon Programs and Activities Lynn Tennefoss Roger Still	Optics Workshop Kate Fitzmier Eagle Optics
	Learn how to increase the number and variety of birds in your yard by creating a natural habitat attractive to birds. Discover how your yard can become a year-long smorgasbord for birds by planting native Midwestern plants that offer a variety of berries and seeds through the season. The latest research revealing the importance of native plants for birds and the problems with invasive non-native plant species will also be discussed.	Partnerships from federal, state and local government agencies, conservation groups, academic communities, business, industry, and private individuals in Minnesota and Wisconsin are working to conserve birds and their habitats. Bird Conservation Minnesota (BCM) with more than 70 partners, is the newest of the Midwest initiatives. The Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative (WBCI), formed in 2002 boasts 154 partners.	Lights atop Chicago skyscrapers caused significant bird mortality. Now, virtually every tall building participates in the Lights Out program, a partnership of Audubon, the City of Chicago, and the Building Owners and Managers of Chicago, and mortality is greatly reduced. Judy Pollock introduces those from cities with similar problems to the tools and resources needed to set up a Lights Out program. Joanna Eckles, inspired by the Toronto group FLAP, has just begun studying bird collisions with human structures in Minnesota and monitoring in the Twin Cities this fall. Hear what she has learned and what she plans for the future.	Have any questions about current Audubon conservation programs or priorities? Want to learn what's new for Chapters organization-wide? Join Roger Still, vice president for Mississippi River Programs and Lynn Tennefoss, vice president for State Programs and Chapter Services at Audubon for a lively question and answer session.	Avid birder and experienced raptor bander Kate Fitzmier of Eagle Optics answers your questions about selecting birdwatching optics. On Saturday only, Eagle Optics will have a sales table with special offers on some select models of binoculars.
Sat. 10:00	Audubon's Mississippi River Campaign Roger Still	Important Bird Areas: The Challenges of Multi-state Bird Conservation Mark Martell	How to Be an Effective Advocate for Your Issues Karen Orenstein Taldi Walter	Connecting Children (and Parents) to Nature with Wildlife Field Trips Randy Korb	Impacts with Tall Structures and Declining Bird Populations Al Manville
	In the spring of 2006 Audubon expanded its work on the Mississippi River to include the entire river, headwaters to gulf. This new initiative for habitat restoration, education and public policy provides opportunities for members and chapters to be directly involved in restoring this great river.	IBA Coordinators Mark Martell (MN), Judy Pollock (IL), Yoyi Steele (WI) and Ric Zarwell (IA) discuss the opportunities and challenges of achieving bird conservation across state boundaries. Although birds and habitats do not recognize our political boundaries, the reality of funding, coordinating, and working on multi-state projects presents special challenges. This is an opportunity to address our needs and work toward common goals.	Whether your issue is local, state or national, learn how to increase the effectiveness of your advocacy skills. Discover more about hot national issues from your DC National Audubon policy staff, including compelling challenges and opportunities facing some of Alaska's natural treasures - such as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and Tongass National Forest.	In "Last Child in the Woods," Richard Louv links a lack of nature in our children's lives --nature deficit--to increases in obesity, diabetes, depression, ADD and other disturbing childhood trends. He also states, "If environmental organizations wish to pass on their heritage and ongoing care of the earth, they cannot ignore children's need to explore, get their hands dirty and feet wet." Learn how to select, organize and present a variety of wildlife field trips that appeal to children and parents and discover how to bring these young families into your chapter as new members.	During migration, birds face a gauntlet of obstacles such as tall buildings, transmission towers, electric transmission wires and wind turbines. Al Manville, wildlife biologist with the Division of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Arlington, VA, describes federal efforts on issues related to anthropocentric causes of bird mortality. This workshop is especially of interest if you were unable to attend the Friday conference and dinner talk.
Sat. 11:00	Forest Certification and the Leopold Pines Don Arnosti	Important Bird Areas: Grassroots Bird Conservation Mark Martell	Involving Citizens in Bluebird Production Kent D. Hall	How to Develop Multi-State, Multimedia Wildlife Education Programs Dan and Cindy Bertalan	Confusing Bird Songs John Feith
	Learn about the unique process of harvesting pine trees planted by Aldo Leopold himself to improve the health of the forest and create the Aldo Leopold Legacy Center. The forest is FSC-certified through the Community Forestry Resource Center.	An update on the status of the Important Bird Areas program in the 4-state region. Participants discuss opportunities for chapters and members to do monitoring and conservation on Important Bird Areas.	For 5 years, the Aldo Leopold Audubon Society has sponsored an Eastern Bluebird Trail in central Wisconsin. During that time, the trail has become the second most productive in Wisconsin. Such success has been made possible by dozens of monitors. This talk will discuss increased production techniques and how monitors have helped implement them.	Stretch your dollar while expanding your outreach. See how organizations can develop electronic based wildlife education materials that can be adapted for state-specific applications through interagency cooperation and nonprofit partnerships. Topics include content logistics, multi-state funding, controversial wildlife issues, and the how-to of developing and using multimedia in today's communities and classrooms.	Learning how to recognize bird songs often involves comparing songs to other similar sounds. We will listen to many similar-sounding songs that often confuse listeners with hopes of improving our bird song ID skills.

Upper Midwest Audubon Conference: SUNDAY, OCT. 15, 2006 - WORKSHOPS

AM	TRACK 1 HABITAT	TRACK 2 BIRDS	TRACK 3 CITIZEN SCIENCE & ADVOCACY	TRACK 4 CHAPTERS & ORGANIZATION	TRACK 5 OTHER
Sun. 9:15	Ecosystem Restoration: National Priorities in Your Back Yard Karen Orenstein	Birds at Risk: Conservation Strategies for Midwestern Birds Greg Butcher	How to Be an Effective Advocate for Your Issues Taldi Walter	Characteristics of Healthy Chapters Storme Nelson Lynn Tennefoss	Bird Conservation Mentor Program Barbara Duerksen
	Mississippi River and Great Lakes restoration are national priorities for Audubon. Learn what's going on, and how you can help to restore two of America's greatest treasures.	Follow-on from plenary presentation by National Audubon Society's director of bird conservation. Continue discussions on topic raised in the talk, such as birds at risk, vulnerable common birds, important bird areas, and landscape level conservation.	Session repeated. See Saturday, 10:00 a.m. for description.	Why don't chapters get new members, or candidates for officer positions, or good attendance at meetings and events? Learn about common mistakes and how to "fix" them. Check your own behavior patterns and personal attitude and develop some techniques to help make your Chapter more effective.	The Bird Conservation Mentor Program is a project of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology and the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative education committee to help youth and others learn about birds and conservation. Bird kits contain a CD of common Wisconsin Birds and educational materials for use by volunteers in classrooms, plus binoculars, scope and field guides for field trips. See demonstrations of some of the educational materials and kit contents. Several Wisconsin chapters have purchased kits, funded with "collaborative" dollars from National Audubon Society. Anyone interested in the project is welcome to attend.
Sun. 10:15	Roundtable - To be announced	Bring Back the Whoopers! Joan Garland	Milwaukee County Avian Migration Monitoring Partnership: Avian Migrants in Wisconsin's Largest Metro Area Bill Mueller	Chapter Leadership Lynn Tennefoss Storme Nelson	Wisconsin eBird: Harnessing the Power of Birders for Conservation Andy Paulios
		The International Crane Foundation's role in successful Whooping Crane conservation, with an update on the two chicks hatched June 22, 2006 at the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, Wisconsin. This historic event marked the first time in over 100 years that a Whooping Crane has hatched in the wild in the Midwest.	The Milwaukee County Avian Migration Monitoring Partnership is measuring birds' use of 12 habitat patches in an urban matrix. Each patch represents varying degrees of vegetative disturbance and distance from the Lake Michigan shoreline. Transect counts and mist-netting are used to determine avian species richness, timing of migration, and abundance, and blood-sampling and plasma metabolite analysis to assess relative habitat quality for refueling. University students and volunteers help with training for transect counts, banding, vegetation analysis, and data recording.	Continuation of 9:15 session.	Wisconsin eBird is a recent partnership between Cornell Lab of Ornithology, WI DNR, the WI Bird Conservation Initiative and the WI Society for Ornithology to better engage birders across the state in citizen science efforts. eBird has become a very popular way for birders to input their sightings into a common database for all to use in conservation efforts. Wisconsin eBird builds on that success, providing Wisconsin birders with information on new survey efforts, identification articles, interesting new birding places that need inventory work, etc. The goal is to create a website that informs all birders about citizen science, tools and opportunities to contribute to our ornithological knowledge.