

# FRANKFORT CHAPTER - NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

<http://sites.google.com/site/frankfortaudubon/>  
P O BOX 1812, FRANKFORT KY 40602-1812

~ News and Notes ~

Winter 2015

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**Wednesday February 4; 6:30-7:30 pm Paul Sawyer Library**

**PREPARE FOR THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT!**

**INTRO to BACKYARD BIRDING PRESENTATION**

Jessi Miller of the Frankfort Audubon Society will be presenting an introduction to backyard birding at the Paul Sawyer Library, Community Room in Frankfort (319 Wapping Street) on Wednesday February 4, from 6:30-7:30 pm. There is no cost and all are welcome.

## **GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT**

**Friday, February 13, through Monday, February 16**

➔ These programs are free and open to all ages. ←

The worldwide 2015 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT (GBBC) will take place Friday, Feb. 13, through Monday, Feb. 16. Frankfort Audubon Society will host bird counts on Friday at Juniper Hill, Saturday at Cove Spring Park, and Sunday at Fantasy Forest

GBBC is an annual event organized by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time “snapshot” of where the birds are. Everyone is welcome - from beginning bird watchers to experts. It takes as little as 15 minutes on one day or count for as long as you wish each day of the event. It’s free, fun, and easy. You can do it from your home, or go to a nearby park.

Participants tally the number of individual birds of each species they see during their count period and enter the observations on the GBBC website, powered by eBird. Much more information is available about the Great Backyard Bird Count at the GBBC home page - [Hhttp://gbbc.birdcount.org/H](http://gbbc.birdcount.org/H)

Locally, bird watching and GBBC counting with a representative of Frankfort Audubon Society will be conducted each day at these locations in Frankfort

- **Friday 2/13 from 9-11am**, Juniper Hills and Berry Mansion .. meet at the Juniper Hills entrance on Louisville Road
- **Saturday 2/14 from 9-11am** Cove Spring wetland (meet at the wetland parking lot off US 127).
- **Sunday 2/15 from 2:30-3:30 pm** Fantasy Forest at the corner of E 2<sup>nd</sup> St and Logan St.

**Young Birders of the Bluegrass at Jacobson Park Saturday February 21.** The Young Birders of the Bluegrass will conduct a bird walk at Jacobson Park in Lexington on Feb. 21 at 9:00am. From the park's main entrance (4001 Athens-Boonesboro Road, Lexington) turn right and follow the road until you reach the first parking lot on the right. Email Tanner Shepard [shepardclantanner@hotmail.com](mailto:shepardclantanner@hotmail.com) if questions!

### *ON THE HORIZON...*

**Reforest Frankfort - Lakeview Park Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup>** Reforest Frankfort is a community-wide event to bring people together to learn about the benefits of trees and protecting our valuable natural resources. We plant trees, educate, celebrate Arbor Day and HAVE FUN! <https://www.facebook.com/ReForestFrankfort> will have more information in the spring.

**Spring Wildflower Walk Sunday April 12.** Join Frankfort Audubon Society for a guided walk to see "birds and blooms" at Don Stosberg's and Ida Palmer-Ball's farm on Devil's Hollow Road. This annual hike is one of our chapter's best attended outdoor activities. The spring newsletter will have details on location and time.

### *BIRDS OF WINTER*

#### **Christmas Bird Count Recap- December 14, 2014**

Twenty observers spent 20.5 hours on foot (18.75 miles) and 13.5 hours in car (for 102 miles) and saw a total of 52 species (total individuals: 3843)! A couple of species not often seen in the Frankfort area in the winter were spotted including a loggerhead shrike and two bald eagles. The most common bird observed was the European Starling. Five different hawk species and eight different sparrow species were also counted. Thanks to Peggy Gould for coordinating this!

➔ Mark your calendars for next winter ..the Frankfort Area Count is **TENTATIVELY scheduled for SATURDAY, December 19, 2015**

#### **Bird Site updates**

- Peter W. Pfeiffer State Fish Hatchery is now open. It is off Highway 127, 7.7 miles N of Cove Spring, right onto Hwy 2919, 1.8 miles. Over 30 hatchery ponds provide for ducks, geese and herons and when drained provide for shorebirds as well. This is a good spot to see bald eagles all winter.
- At Buckley Wildlife Sanctuary, the red and yellow trails are currently closed for cleanup. The ash trees have been hit by the emerald ash bore and are being removed from the property. The blue and white trails are still open, and most importantly for birders, the bird blind is open. This bird blind is frequented by White-crowned sparrows of different ages, so is a good spot to see the plumage variation. For more information about Buckley or Emerald Ash Borer Beetles go to <http://www.lifeadventurecenter.org/buckley.html>

**Is there a Snowy Owl in your future?** After the irruption of last year, Snowy Owls are again being reported in greater-than-usual numbers to eBird with observations in Ohio and Indiana. Is Kentucky next? [Check out Snowy Owl reports since November 2014 on eBird](#) For more information about eBird go to <http://ebird.org/>



**YOUR FRANKFORT AUDUBON CHAPTER 2015 TEAM LEADERS -**  
**Robin Antenucci, President; Don Stosberg, Treasurer; Peggy Gould, Christmas Bird Count Coordinator;**  
**Newsletter Editor: Gary Sprandel**  
**Additional Board Members – Venita Bright, Don Dampier, Scott Hankla, Jessi Miller, Shawchyi Vorisek**  
**Contact us via email : [FrankfortAudubonChapter@gmail.com](mailto:FrankfortAudubonChapter@gmail.com)**