

# Sycamore Warbler

Volume 38, Issue 3 Fall 2013

## Smoked Turkey Drumstick, Anyone?

They are delicious and popular, any even better, by selling them at the Feast of the Hunter's Moon, SAS raises the money needed for it's basic services such as this newsletter. But the drumsticks don't cook or serve themselves: it takes 20-25 volunteers to do it every year. Volunteers are asked to spend 4 hours at the booth over the two days of the feast. This year's feast is October 5 and 6.



Serving turkey legs at the feast

In addition to the grateful thanks of the Society, all the volunteers get a button that gives them free admission to the feast on both days. PLEASE contact Susan Ulrich or Chuck Tuttle (see p 7) if you are interested so you can be fit into the schedule. Volunteers need to wear suitable costumes but SAS has extra items and can usually supply what volunteers need. In addition to the smoked turkey drumsticks, SAS sells mulled and cold cider along with bottled water.



Chief cook Chuck Tuttle

## Grills/Smokers & Medium to Large Coolers Needed too.

**Charcoal grills are always in short supply.** If you have a grill SAS can borrow or an extra smoker please let Chuck Tuttle know (see p 7). One of the two smokers used last year is no longer with us. The smokers help defrost and preheat the turkey pieces before they are put on the grills. Multiple coolers are also needed to hold the turkey legs at approved temperatures before cooking.

## Ross Hills Park Invasive Brush Removal Underway

SAS and the West Central chapter of the Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society (INPAWS) have begun removing bush honeysuckle at Ross Hills County Park. The first workday was September 7. There will be regular workdays on Thursdays in October thru November 21 from 3-5 p.m., & one on Sunday, Nov 10 at 1 p.m. If you know a group that would like to arrange a volunteer workday, email Susan Ulrich (p. 7) to set it up. Extra tools and gloves are available but bring your own if you have them. The park is a 20 minute drive from the US231 x SR26 interchange in West Lafayette. Take US231 south. At the second traffic light continue straight on South River/ Divison Road. The road eventually goes up a hill. Turn left on the next road. The park is just around the next corner.

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**Don't Miss the First SAS Meeting and the annual Carry-in Dinner**

**September 12  
Lilly Nature Center,  
Celery Bog Park**

**Dinner at 6 p.m.  
Program at 7:15.**

**See page 3 for  
details**

# CHAPTER NEWS

## WELCOME to a NEW YEAR of Activities

SAS's calendar is to the right and there are lots of things planned. Hope you can join us for some of them..

### Still Needed—

are **several new board members**. Bird expertise not needed, just a willingness to help out. Contact Chuck Tuttle (p 7). Currently the board meets about 10 times a year for an hour to an hour and a quarter starting at 7 p.m. on the first (or second) Monday of the month. Attending by Skype is an option for people living further away or not liking to drive at night.

Mary Ann McGill, standing & Karen Griggs. Two of SAS's bake & plant sale volunteers.



## Minnnows, Cookies, Swifts, Conference, & Plants

An unlikely combination, but three of the five are benefitting from the other two. SAS's Fall Bake & Plant Sale is October 18 –20. Funds are supporting the purchase of the Black-headed minnows released at Celery Bog (see p 6) and the Indiana Young Birders Annual Conference. The remainder will be added to SAS's Chimney Swift Tower Fund. SAS hopes to get the first tower built this coming year.

**New volunteers are really needed** as two regular cashiers have moved away. Contact Susan Ulrich to volunteer or if you have any questions (see p. 7). And of course, donations of

### ATTENTION BIRDERS:

Landon Neumann wants to start a CBC in Cass County and is looking for people who might participate. The 15-mile count will be in the NW part of Cass Co. including France Park, Georgetown Rd, and Highway 17 Marshes. People can contact him at [Landonneumann@comcast.net](mailto:Landonneumann@comcast.net).

baked goods, food items, and plants are needed. FYI this year there will be a number of native plants available and ready to plant now for next year's blooms. The sale is in the West Lafayette Public Library during their big book sale. Hours are Friday evening, October 19 from 6:30—8:30, and continue Saturday 10 to 5, and Sunday 1-5.

## Sept. Program & Potluck

We encourage all of you to come and, bring some pictures to share. Or bring a friend who has pictures or would enjoy seeing some. It's a great way to share experiences and meet new people.

Don't forget the 6 p.m. **potluck**. No time to cook or shop? There's always plenty to eat so don't let that stop you from coming

## Junior Nature Club

The first meeting of the Junior Audubon Nature Club in August was a big success. Zonda Bryant had 49 children sign up, meaning it once again doubled in size. Parents also took extra forms home to share with friends and neighbors they thought would enjoy the club. Some additional children won't be able to start until the second or third meeting.

Zonda has one intern so far and hopes to get 5 more. She was happy to see the enthusiasm from the children AND the parents. If you would like to help out, contact Zonda (see p. 7).

## Audubon Adventures

School has started and SAS is looking for 4-6 grade classrooms whose teachers would like to get **Audubon Adventures**, National Audubon Society's Environmental Education Program. There is no charge to the school as SAS pays for the programs. If you are a teacher or know a teacher interested in this program contact Ning Wu (p. 7). You can sponsor a classroom by sending a check for \$45 to SAS. This can be a specific class or one of the classrooms that has already requested **Audubon Adventures**.

## SAS Letter Supports 'Children's Forest'

There is a small woods owned by the City of Lafayette that Zonda wants to turn into the **Children's Forest** which can be used to teach about the environment and nature. She has contacted the mayor who is interested in the idea and SAS has written him and the city council a letter supporting and endorsing the project. Contact Zonda (p.7) if you would like more information.

## Binocular Lessons

This July Rick Read helped Cindy Isom with one of her summer parks programs. Rick gave binocular lessons, followed by a walk to see the new bird nest boxes in Monticello's Park. The children had fun learning to use binoculars and got to see House Wrens in two boxes.

# Fall-Winter Sycamore Audubon Calendar

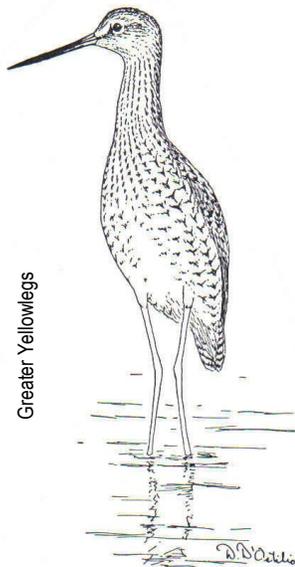
**Save the Dates!** Programs are held on the 2nd Thursday at 7:15 PM in the Lilly Nature Center in West Lafayette. People are invited to come for "Dinner and Conversation" starting at 6:00 PM at the MCL Cafeteria (West Lafayette).

- 
- Sept 4 & each Thursday **Early Bird Hikes.** Celery Bog Nature Park, WL. 8 a.m. first gravel parking lot. A chance to get out and see what's new and old before heading to work.
- September 12 Thursday **CARRY in Dinner & Members & Friends Invitational Program.** Dinner at 6 p.m. SAS provides beverages and utensils/plates/etc. Bring a dish to share. The program follows at 7:15 p.m. The program is YOU! People are invited to bring 1-7 minutes of slides, PowerPoint, etc. to share. See what other's have been up this year or what they have seen or found. Lilly Nature Center, Celery Bog Park, WL. Free parking and refreshments.
- September 28 Saturday **Eunice Bryan Woods,** Clinton County, north of Frankfort. This is a morning trip to visit a state nature preserve featuring mature and old-growth oaks, hickory, beech and basswood trees. We want to see the woods in its fall colors, but may also see a good number of fall migrants, as research by SAS member Diane Packett showed that isolated woodlots such as this can be heavily used by migrating birds. Return in time to avoid the traffic of the Purdue football game. Meet at the gravel parking lot of Celery Bog at 8 am.
- October 5-6 **FEAST OF THE HUNTERS MOON. See page 1.**
- October 10 Thursday **Program: Ecological Ethics Forum.** Barny Dunning, Bob Easter, Michael Homoya, Michael Jenkins, Derek Luchik, and Gus Nyberg. A lively discussion among some of Indiana's most prominent and up-and-coming conservationists. Join moderator Wes Homoya as he asks the panel to share their personal land ethics, and spark debate on best management practices for conservation in the 21st century and beyond. 7:15 p.m. Lilly Nature Center, Celery Bog Park, WL.
- Oct 12 Saturday **Waterfowl field trip.** Meet at the gravel parking lot at Celery Bog at 8 am. We will check the Bog, Pine Creek, and other local sites for migrating waterfowl. Half-day trip with a return timed to avoid football traffic.
- October 18-20 Fri-Sun **Bake & Plant Sale.** Friday night through Sunday. Funds are going to several local conservation causes including SAS's Swift Tower Fund. See details on page 2. **YES, Volunteers needed!**
- November 10 Sunday **Honeysuckle Removal at Ross Hills Park.** Ross Hills Park at 1 p.m., first road to left. Help with the assault on honeysuckles invading Tippecanoe County's largest park. Bring gloves and cutting tools if possible, but extras will be available. Email Susan Ulrich (p.7) for info.
- November 14 Thursday **Program: Kestrels and You: The American Kestrel Project.** Jeff Canada. Indiana Audubon Society. THERE WILL BE A **LIVE KESTREL** AT THIS PRESENTATION! This treat accompanies an informative talk on an exciting new citizen science program that seeks to better understand and reverse the current decline of North America's smallest and most colorful falcon. 7:15 p.m. Lilly Nature Center, Celery Bog Park, WL. Free Parking and refreshments.
- November 16 Saturday **Annual Lake Michigan trip.** Meet at 6:30 am to carpool up to the lakeshore. We will spend the day looking for loons, grebes, gulls, late fall migrants and other birds more commonly found at the lakeshore than here in the Lafayette area. This is a full day trip which we usually end with a stop at Jasper-Pulaski State Wildlife Management Area to see Sandhill Cranes.
- December 12 Thursday **Program: Birds and Bombs on the Base: A Citizen's Tour in Iraq.** Dr. Carl Voglewede will present the work he did with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service on the Joint Base Balad in Iraq where he worked to solve human/wildlife conflicts with their Flight Safety Program. This is the talk he was unable to give last December because of illness in the family. 7:15 p.m. Lilly Nature Center, Celery Bog Park, WL. Free parking and refreshments.
- December 14 Sunday **Lafayette Christmas Bird Count (CBC).** Day-long bird count. Help is always needed and appreciated. More in the next newsletter but mark your calendar now so you are free to participate.
- December ?? January 1 **Cass Count CBC.** Contact Landon Neumann. Potential new count No date yet. See page 2  
**Willow Slough-Iroquois Preserves CBC.** Ed Hopkins, compiler. More in next newsletter.

## Nature Notes & News

- Ed Hopkins noticed much of Carroll County had minimal bird records. He decided to visit various areas in July to survey what was there. One spot yielded a **Blue Grosbeak**. After several visits he commented: "It is nice to know that **Dickcissels** are able to transition to soybean fields once the bean plants get over a foot in height in the later part of the breeding season."
- Landon Neumann & Bud Dodrill birded a few Cass county spots July 2nd. The best find was a **Eurasian Collared Dove** in Royal Center
- On July 3rd John Skene found 55 species of birds at Celery Bog. The highlights were a **Marsh Wren** & a **Hooded Merganser**
- Temple Pearson was delighted to hear a **Wood Thrush** singing in Happy Hollow Park, W Lafayette on July 16th. It had been at least 10 years since she'd seen one there and she had missed its beautiful song.
- On July 26th Shirley Needham (who gave a talk on **Chimney Swifts** to SAS a few years back) released 4 young swifts she had nursed after their nest had come down. Connie and Steve Doud described the event: "She [Shirley] placed the cage on the back of her truck and waited until Swifts were noticed around the... old brick buildings in Akron. As the younger ones began to communicate with birds in the air, she removed them from the cage and placed them on her and Steve's shoulders. Two took off pretty quickly, one a lot later and one finally took off but couldn't get lift. They pumped wings hard for 10 minutes or more until they figured the flap, soar business. It was neat to watch them and neat to see the interplay from the established birds. In all, we counted at least 25,"

- Starting in late July Sue and Ted Ulrich began hearing **Screech Owls** around their yard in Warren County. The calls are still continuing, both during the day as well as at night.
- Russ Allison has had good luck finding **Sedge Wrens** at Prophets-town State park. He wasn't disappointed on his visit there August 2nd: there were four singing wrens on the sides of the bike trail. This is the 4th year he's found the wrens at that spot. Lots of butterflies, too.
- Connie Brown located two **Blue Grosbeaks** at the Celery Bog the morning of August 7th. They were singing near the meadow by Lilly Nature Cent.
- Landon Neumann went looking for shorebirds Aug 20 but found little habitat. He did locate a **Spotted** and a **Solitary Sandpiper** along with a



Greater Yellowlegs

- Henslow's Sparrow**. On the 23rd he found a **Greater Yellowlegs** at France Park.
- Barny Dunning noticed a pair of small gulls with full dark heads and buoyant flight cross over the John Meyers pedestrian bridge on the Wabash Aug 25 while he attended **Beers Across the Wabash**. He wrote, "It seems awfully early to have **Bonaparte's Gulls** cruising the Wabash, but I am reasonably sure they were not a product of the beer(s)."
- A **Yellow Throated Warbler** delighted Joan Mohr Samuels Aug 29th when it hung around her feeders—even eating from the one with Nyjer seed. She wrote, "What a treat. It was the first time to have

this warbler show up at my feeders at my property near Battle Ground."

- That same day Harry Potter reports seeing a **Black Vulture** fly over his property in western Tippecanoe Co. Then in early September he suddenly had a flock of **Yellow-headed Black-birds** arrive.
  - Barny's report of the Aug 30 field trip follows: "Six people gathered for a SAS field trip to Celery Bog this morning. It was billed as an "early migrant" field trip, but the only potential migrant was a female-plumaged **American Redstart**. The highlight of the morning was having four heron/egret species in one scope view, including an adult **Black-crowned Night-Heron**.
  - **Swift Night Out** was held in Monticello at 8 pm, Friday, September 6. Fourteen attendees watched as **220 Chimney Swifts** entered the roost chimney in the Odd Fellows building at Main and Broadway. Another flock was seen near the Post Office chimney, another roost site. A count was not attempted there. The birdwatchers were mesmerized watching the swifts gather overhead in a large flock and then start tumbling into the chimney. Within 10 minutes, they were all in.
  - A reminder about **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds**. Keep feeding birds as long as any are around (and leave one up even after that in case there is a late migrant). Hummingbirds will migrate whether there is food or not but need to build up a lot of fat before they go. Adult males usually leave by early September, followed during the next month by the adult females and more developed young. Those that are still around are the young of the year in need of fattening up. Many are young birds from second nestlings (Ruby-throated often raise two broods).
- Check late season hummingbirds closely, this is the time unusual species from the west show up. The most common is the **Rufous Hummingbird**. Males are unmistakable, females and young can be identified by the Rufous color at the base of the tail feathers.

# CONSERVATION NEWS

## Going, Going, Not yet Gone

The Gunnison Sage-Grouse has been identified by National Audubon as one of the ten most endangered birds in the country. With fewer than 5,000 individuals left, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service recently proposed to list the species as *endangered* under the Endangered Species Act. Unfortunately—even with dramatically shrinking populations—growing political opposition is threatening the science-based plan to ensure the survival of the Gunnison Sage-Grouse.

The 2009 *State of the Birds* report found that western deserts and grasslands—home to Gunnison Sage-Grouse and other sensitive wildlife—are among the most degraded habitats in all of North America. While Gunnison Sage-Grouse used to occupy portions of Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona, today they are found only in seven small, isolated populations in southwestern Colorado and Utah—all of which are very vulnerable to extinction.

According to John Fitzpatrick, Director of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, "we are entering our last possible period in which emergency actions could save this species."

Unfortunately it is too late to send in public comments but it never hurts to contact your legislator and let him know you think extinction is an important issue and that listing of the Gunnison Sage-Grouse and other species be based on science, not politics.

## Celery Bog Minnow Release

— **Dan Dunten**, WL Parks & Recreation

On Saturday September 7 at 11:00 a.m. the WL Parks and Recreation Department released 1000 black-head minnows into the Celery Bog wetlands. To keep away from football traffic and get closer to the water, the release was held at the north end of the wetlands on Cumberland, across from the White Horse Christian Center.

The extremely dry conditions of last summer greatly reduced the number of fish for the resident water birds and for the migratory birds we will be seeing soon, as well as other predators in the bog. By releasing these fish now, they will go through another spawning cycle and provide food for the other wildlife. The extra minnows will also take some of the pressure off the bluegill and other fish that are trying to multiply and re-stock the wetlands.

We thank the Sycamore Audubon Society for paying to have these fish delivered and released. They are a great supporter of the Celery Bog Nature Area.

## Loggerhead Shrikes' Breeding Status in Indiana

Information from **Amy Kerns, IDNR**

Since the population is in steep decline, Amy Kerns, a Non-game wildlife biologist and others with the Indiana Division of Natural Resources, have been monitoring Loggerhead Shrike nests for a number of years. On 30 July Amy checked in on the Daviess County Loggerhead Shrikes and found shrikes present in one territory out of 3: "A pair of adult shrikes were in Montgomery, foraging from barbed wire and perching together at the top of a Multiflora rose bush. One of the birds caught and consumed an insect, while the other flew to a small impaled snake about 5-6" long and swallowed it head first, all in one go."

The IDNR only found six nesting territories (or breeding pairs) in Indiana this year. Three of the territories were in Daviess County and 3 were in Orange County. An adult in Gibson County near Monty's Station appeared to be solitary with no breeding evidence observed. All breeding territories were on or adjacent to Amish farms having permanent short grass livestock pastures, miles of barbed wire fences, along with a selection of isolated bushes for shrike nests. Of the eight nesting attempts observed, only 3 fledged young. Five nests failed, one apparently due to severe storms when the nest blew out of the tree, and 4 (50%) apparently due to nest predation. "Apparently" because no evidence of nest predation was seen other than an empty nest when there should have been eggs or nestlings. Snakes likely played a role in the failures and domestic cats were often noted in the territories, but what really happened is a guessing game.

In two territories, Amy observed a pair of shrikes build two nests only to have both fail. One of those territories (Orange Co) had successfully fledged young last year. A nest of Blue Groseaks—built just feet from one of the failed shrike nests—managed to fledge young later in the season. The IDNR banded 10 shrike nestlings. Seven young were seen again after fledging (6 observed alive more than one month later). Most of the nests (5) were in Multiflora rose, 1 in red cedar, and 1 in a mulberry tree. All the nests found were in fence-rows. Three were in fencerows away from the road, and 4 of them were in roadside fencerows.

## National Audubon Gets Together Again and Grows

What a resounding success! Audubon held its first national convention in 15 years and more than 500 leaders from across Audubon came together to celebrate its achievements and its network, as well as to learn from like-minded conservation leaders.

One hundred and forty two chapter leaders attended from across the flyways. There were 127 Audubon staff members from 27 states, as well as sponsors, donors and international partners. One announcement at the conference was the big new partnership with Esri -- a mapping software company that provides seat licenses to all of NAS's chapters and international partners. And, even more important, Audubon signed up 70 new chapters at the convention alone.

There were many difficult topics to discuss and everyone came away energized and empowered to take on the next big challenges. At the closing session folks were asked what their biggest takeaway was from the convention. One

of our chapter leaders said, "I've learned that if it can't be done, someone in Audubon has probably already done it." It's hard not to love that spirit.

The programming was thoughtful and comprehensive. The entire event was inclusive and warm. It felt right; it looked like progress. Special thanks go to Lynn Tennefoss and the convention steering committee for heading up this impressive effort. The hard work, long hours and commitment helped reunite Audubon and position the network for the future.

For those of you interested in getting copies of the strategic plan, Flyway specific copies of the Strategic Plan Executive Summaries can be downloaded from Audubon's website. Print versions are also available.

## IAS Fall Festival back at the Dunes, Oct 4-6

This year's Indiana Audubon Society's Fall Festival is being held at the Indiana Dunes from October 4-6. Come and enjoy the meetings against the fall splendor of Lake Michigan's lakefront with the backdrop of the beautiful dunes and swales of north-west Indiana. Here in Indiana, fall comes first in the dunes: prepare for cold biting winds or sunny hill sides of color-changing sassafras. No matter the weather, there are always plenty of birds to be found.

This year's keynote presentation is entitled: **Connecting the Conservation Dots**. The speaker, Dr. Drew Lanham, will focus on how birders can maximize efforts to conserve birds and their habitats. His talk is well worth the trip, but there are loads of additional field trips and other programs going on too. Go to [indianaudubon.org](http://indianaudubon.org) to see the whole lineup. Registrations are already being accepted. At last note, there were still a few rooms left in the IAS block at Chesterton's Best Western Indian Oaks (219-926-2200). Mention the group name "DNR" to get the special rate.



Some areas had an outbreak of 17-year cicadas this year.

## Don't forget the \$2 for \$1 Match

Just a reminder that you have an opportunity to triple the value of a donation to the NICHES Endowment Foundation thanks to a very generous offer by SAS member Harry Potter.

Harry is willing to donate up to \$50,000 to the Foundation, giving \$2 for each \$1 donated between now and April 15, 2014. NICHES Endowment Foundation is a not-for-profit supporting organization for NICHES Land Trust. Donations, which are tax deductible, become part of the endowment which is invested to provide income used to support NICHES Land Trust, and **ONLY** NICHES Land Trust.

Currently NICHES Endowment Foundation has three funds: the General Fund; the William Lovell Fly Fishers Fund for projects protecting local waterways and water quality; and the Stewardship Fund which is used for stewardship of existing NICHES properties from physical maintenance to improving and maintaining their ecological health.

To contribute to the Harry Potter 2:1 match, send a check to NICHES Endowment Foundation, PO Box 2, Lafayette, IN 47902-0002 and mark it "for the Harry Potter match". Unless otherwise requested, donations will be put into the General Fund.

**If you want your newsletter sent via email/website rather than as a paper copy, contact [sueandtedulrich@msn.com](mailto:sueandtedulrich@msn.com).**

**Join Sycamore Audubon Society!**

You can support Sycamore Audubon Society's local educational programs and field trips by becoming or renewing as a Friend of SAS. Friends become chapter members of the Sycamore Audubon Society and receive our quarterly newsletter, *The Sycamore Warbler*.

You can support national conservation efforts by joining the National Audubon Society (NAS). When you join NAS, you will receive *Audubon* magazine **along with automatic chapter membership in SAS**. Since NAS dues primarily support national projects, we encourage national members to ALSO become Friends of SAS. As a Friend, you contribute directly to our local chapter and its projects.

**Membership Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Friend of the Sycamore Audubon Society</b>	<b>\$15/year x ___ year(s)</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
<i>Note: SAS's membership year runs September 1 through August 31.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> New member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal		
<b><i>I would prefer to receive the chapter newsletter</i></b>		
<b><i>by:</i></b> <input type="checkbox"/> e-mail   or <input type="checkbox"/> paper copy.		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>National Audubon Society membership</b>	<b>\$20 for first year</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
Special introductory offer for new members (renewals are \$35/year)		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Additional contribution to SAS</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>
For _____ (if specific purpose)		
<b>Total enclosed</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

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**Thank a Bird**

The next time you brew your morning joe, thank a bird. Overwintering songbirds control pests in the Jamaican coffee plantations. Other birds are a boon for humans too. Asian vultures dispose of disease-carrying carrion and in western America, the Clark's Nutcracker is the sole disperser of Whitebark pine seeds. Whitebark Pine provides habitat for deer, elk, and many raptors—as well as protecting fragile watersheds. Scientists have even put a price tag on the value of the "ecosystem services" the nutcracker provides: about \$10 billion. And that's just one of the approximately 10,000 bird species out there.

**And Birders Mean Business!**

A new report by Southwick Associates calculates the economic effect from 2011 watchable wildlife activities in Arizona to be \$1.4 billion (\$1.1 billion by residents and \$314.6 million by visitors). In SE Arizona, watchable wildlife recreation has an economic impact of \$330 million which supports about 3,000 jobs in Pima, Santa Cruz, and Cochise counties.

**Tidbits**

- ◆ Did you know there are more living organisms in a handful of soil than human beings on earth? Completely familiar but largely unknown, soils help sustain virtually every form of life on earth. See the Smithsonian Institution's website for an exhibit about soil, [www.forces.si.edu/soils](http://www.forces.si.edu/soils).
- ◆ Cliff Swallows have evolved shorter wings to better survive living under the highway overpasses where they now nest.
- ◆ Hypothyroidism in newborns on the US west coast increased by 28% following the arrival of fallout from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster in Japan.
- ◆ A beaver dam prevented 27,500 gallons of Chevron diesel oil from contaminating Willard Bay, a 10,000 acre reservoir in Utah. The family of six beaver suffered burned skin and eyes from the fuel and were treated at a wildlife rehabilitation center.



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A subscription is included with membership in National Audubon or Sycamore Audubon Society.

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## Wednesdays In the Wild Programs

- Sept 11 1-3 p.m. **A Walk in the Woods** with Lenny Farley, Prof of Forestry. Martell Forest. Learn hands on forest management techniques and try out forester's tools.
- Sept 18 1-3 p.m. **Yoga for nature.** Debra Steinhauer. A walk at Celery Bog incorporating simple and fun yoga postures.
- Sept 25 1-3 p.m. **Renewal at Prophetstown.** Tom Swinford, IDNR biologist. Meet at the Coneflower Shelter in Prophetstown State Park. A hike focusing on wetland restoration and ecology, and plant identification.
- Oct 2 1-3 **Dying for Fall Colors.** At Brier Nature Center, Battle Ground . Lynn Layden, master gardener, & Sally Weeks, dendrologist, dye sample of fabrics using natural plants such as goldenrod, black walnut and pokeberry.
- Oct 9 1-3 p.m. **Fall Waterfowl & More.** Susan Ulrich, SAS. Fall migrant ID show followed by a walk at LNC Celery Bog.
- Oct 16 1-3 p.m. **Fall Colors of Clegg Gardens.** Jim Peterson, manger & Sally Weeks, dendrologist will lead a hike and talk about the history of the site and the plants encountered. Meet at Clegg Gardens.
- Oct 23 1-3 p.m. **Effects of Recreational Disturbance on Karner Blue Butterflies.** LNC. Vanessa Quinn, Assistant Prof of Biology discusses results of her field study on this federally endangered butterfly found in the Indiana Dunes.
- Oct 30. 1-3 p.m. **The Science of Weather Forecasting.** Chad Evans, WLF meteorologist. Indoor, LNC. Factors that are involved with predicting weather and how slight changes can effect the forecast.
- Nov 6 7-9 p.m. **A virtual Tour of the Natural History of Glacier National Park.** Dan Shepardson, Professor Earth, Atmospheric & Planetary Sciences. Indoor, LNC. Explore this iconic wilderness landscape through pictures and words.
- Nov 13 1-3 p.m. **Overview of NICHES Properties.** Gus Nyberg, Executive Director. Indoor, LNC. A visual tour of NICHES' numerous properties and what you can find on them.
- Nov 20 1-3 p.m. **Let's Talk Turkey.** Wildlife Biologist Mick Weeks discusses the biology of wild turkeys and demonstrates their calls while master gardener and cook, Lynn Layden, describes the development of the domestic bird and its preparation, and then serves fresh-from-the-oven roast turkey for all to taste. Indoors, Brier Nature Center, Battle Ground.