

LAKELAND AUDUBON SOCIETY



The Chat



October 2022

CHAPTER MEETING

Tuesday, October 25

7:00 PM

Lions Field House - 270 Elkhorn Road (Hwy 67), Williams Bay, WI

The event is free and open to the public.

Attracting Birds to Your Yard

By Larry and Emily Scheunemann

Larry and Emily have been attracting birds and wildlife to their yard for 32 Years in their present home. 141 different species of birds have been sighted on their property. Learn what seed to provide for a particular species of bird. Different types of feeders will be discussed, and a display of Larry's photographs will illustrate the best conditions that attract birds. Also included, will be the topics of providing water, cover and feeding hummingbirds. Handouts telling what birds like what seeds and what you need to provide to create a bird paradise will be available.



Larry and Emily Scheunemann



Trail Report

By Jim Killian

Brief birding report at Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy, as of October 11, 2022:

- Flocking bluebirds mostly observed in the prairie area located east of the small woodlands east of the tower and west of the large woodlands, also in the northeast rolling prairie.
- Numerous goldfinches consuming all of the seedbeds they can find on the various Silphium species (cup plant, compass plant, rosinweed and prairie dock).
- Various warblers passing through along Southwick Creek; best observed along the Southwick Creek trail leading north from the main entrance shelter.
- Overhead small to medium size flocks of sandhill cranes, beginning to gather for migration. A few resident Sandhills remain in Kishwauketoe. You will generally hear them before you see them.

Woolly Bear Caterpillar Myth?

By Kevin Dickey



Woolly Bear Caterpillar 10/12/2022

Although it is mostly folklore from earlier times, it's still fun to speculate whenever you find one of these critters in the fall. In the photo on the left, the caterpillar's color bands predict that a moderate winter lies ahead. It should be noted however, that I found another caterpillar that had much different color bands at the same location on the same day.



SNACKS FOR BIRDERS

Power Bites

By Janice Bain

Ingredients

Banana, Peanut butter, Bob's Red Mill muesli, Vanilla

Optional: chia seed, flax seed. cacao, mini choc chips, nuts, sunflower seeds, oatmeal, coconut, raisins etc

Preparation

- Smash 1 banana to puree. Add $\frac{3}{4}$ cup peanut butter. Mix it up until it is a smooth mixture (in large bowl)
- Add 1 tsp vanilla and
- Add 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ c Bob's Red Mill muesli
- Combine in any other ingredients you want - for ex. 1 Tbsp chia seeds, 1 Tbsp flax seed, cacao powder, mini chocolate chips, nuts, seeds etc.
- Refrigerate for 30 min
- Form into balls
- Store in airtight container

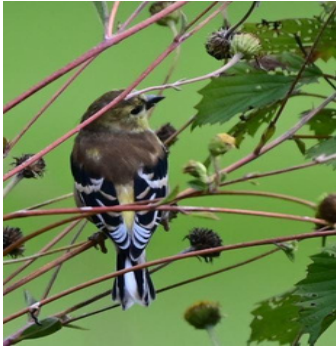
Tips

I like to freeze mine and take a couple when I hike. I love that the ingredient list is flexible, I add in what I have.



Leopold Shack - Baraboo, WI 10/18/2022

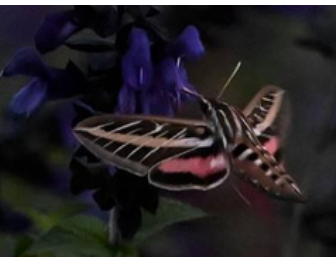
A good time was had by all who attended our chapter's field trip to the Aldo Leopold Foundation Center. It was a lovely fall day and we got to try some of Janice's homemade Power Bites.



Fall Tips

by Janice Bain

It's October 9th, I strolled around my gardens to see what I could find. Happily I discovered that the natives, planted in the spring, are supporting a wide variety of pollinators, bees, butterflies, beetles, wasps and flies. They are enjoying late-blooming perennials such as Asters and goldenrods. The ruby-throated hummingbird and sphinx moths are still enjoying nectar from blooms. Goldfinches, dressed in fall plumage, are lurking among a variety of flowers. They seek seeds from the coneflowers, sunflowers, sneezeweed, blanket flower and rosinweed. I'm excited to see the life that natives have brought to my yard – but now what???



My journey to become a pollinator steward began when I exchanged lawn for native plants. Guess what? This is a year-round commitment. Birds and some butterflies will head south for the winter but many pollinators will stay right here in my backyard. How I “put my gardens to bed” is an important key to successful stewardship.



Here are some tips:

Rather than clearing all the dead plants, picking up all the twigs and raking up and disposing of the leaves, leave them in place. Pollinators prefer a “messy” yard and garden. Leaves left behind provide shelter for caterpillars, butterflies and native bees that overwinter. They may seek shelter among the leaves or burrow deep into the ground. This leaf litter also insulates the soil, preserves moisture, suppresses weeds and returns nutrients to the soil.

Holes in logs and snags and the logs themselves provide burrowing chambers for many pollinators including ladybugs. Snags and logs are also attractive to wintering birds.

Do you have any bare, mulch-free soil? If so, keep it – ground-nesting pollinators, such as bumblebees, will be happy to call it home. Solitary bees and other insects need nesting sites. Stems and twigs provide these sites so hold off on pruning and snipping until late spring.

Evaluate your plant choices, aim for early and late blooming native plants. This will help ensure that pollinators will have food when food is scarce. Did you know that it is wise to plant in clusters? It helps pollinators find their chosen plant and helps them to conserve energy as they gather food.

Chapter Field Trip

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Adam Bird Conservancy - 1636 Findlay Road, Whitewater, WI

Free

Join us as we visit the Adam Bird Conservancy. This field trip will consist of a fair amount of walking, standing and sitting outdoors. We will meet in the main parking lot on the Southwest corner of the property shortly before 11:00 AM. If you are interested in going, please contact us.

[Contact – Lakeland Audubon Society](#) - Call or Text: (262) 729-9702

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Bird Walks

Thursdays: Big Foot Beach State Park

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

N1550 S Lakeshore Drive, Lake Geneva, WI

Meet in the main parking area to the right of the entrance station a little before 11:00 AM. A state park sticker (\$28, \$13 if age 65 or older) or daily pass (\$8, \$3 if age 65 or older) is required to enter Big Foot Beach State Park.

Please contact us to let us know you are interested in attending a walk.

<https://lakelandaudubon.com/contact>

Call or Text: (262) 729-9702



Squirrel Larder (found this fall)

The Chat is the newsletter of the Lakeland Audubon Chapter of the National Audubon Society, P.O. Box 473, Elkhorn, WI 53121. Subscription is \$15 per year for printed copies sent by US mail.