



Wild River Audubon Current

Vol. 29 No. 2

Oct 2008

President's Column

It's October. The maples are red and small birds are skulking in my woods, replenishing their calories as they pass through on their way south.

October is the month of our one and only fundraiser, the Birdseed Sale. On October 25th, we will be selling seed at two locations—in downtown Lindstrom, and at Peterson's North Branch Mill in North Branch. We need volunteers at each site, and if you wish to help, please call me! We'd love to have you.

Wild River Audubon's membership is incredibly generous. It always amazes me that so many people volunteer—to be on the Executive Board, to cleanup the roadside, to participate in the Christmas Bird Count, to donate money when our funds are low. With the Birdseed Sale, you can "kill two birds" (figuratively speaking, *of course!*) with one stone—you buy fresh, nutritious seed for our winter birds, and you help the chapter in its endeavors.

The executive board has great plans for funds that will be raised by the sale. We hope to bring a live raptor demonstration from the Audubon Camp of the Northwoods in Sandstone down for several shows in the Chisago Lakes Area. We anticipate paying mileage and sometimes speaker fees for the monthly meetings through May. And we'd like to be able to place ads in our local papers for each meeting.

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Helping the Red-headed Woodpecker

The Red-headed Woodpecker once was the most common woodpecker in Chisago County, but their numbers have plummeted in the last thirty years. Last year, a new organization, Redheaded Woodpecker Recovery

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Upcoming Events

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Oct 21 | Red-headed Woodpecker
Jerry Bahls from RWRP |
| Oct 25 | Bird Seed Sale
Lindstrom– Corner of Hwys 20 & 8
at the stop light
North Branch– Peterson Mill |
| Nov 11 | Winter Migrants
Mark Martell from Audubon MN |
| Dec 20 | Christmas Bird Count |

**All programs are
free and open to the public
Chisago Lakes Library, Chisago City**

President's Message *continued from page 1*

We've found that with a little publicity, we attract many non-members to our programs.

So please, mark Oct. 25th on your calendar, and stock up on Audubon seed. And if you're inclined to hoist a few sacks of black oils, dial me up: 651-257-6044!

Sue



Annual Bird Seed Sale & Family Birding Day! October 25th

The Lindstrom Sale will remain unchanged and will be at the corner of Hwys 20 and 8 from 9 –12 a.m..

The North Branch Sale will be combined with a new FAMILY BIRDING DAY sponsored by Peterson's Country Mill and our Wild River chapter. After nearly three decades of braving the weather, we're moving inside to Peterson Home and Garden store! We will get a percentage of the profit on ALL of the seed sales for the entire day!

The morning sessions will have birding scavenger hunts in the store, and build a basic feeder for kids under 14. Each feeder will come with some free seed provided by Petersons.

The Audubon Center of the Northwoods will present 'Raptors by Family,' a talk which includes a Great Horned Owl, a Red-tailed Hawk, and an American Kestrel. This session will start at 1 p.m. with Q & A, and photos with the birds ending at 3 p.m.

Peterson's Mill has sent out 50,000 (yep! 4 zeros) newsletters with an eye-catching photo of the Great Horned Owl. Many of the people that stopped at our booth at Fall Harvest Days had seen the flyer and were planning on attending!

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Wild River Audubon Society Officers

President: Sue Leaf 651 257-6044

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Christmas Bird Count

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Birdseed Sale

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www.wildriveraudubon.org

Vote Yes

This November, you have the opportunity to Vote Yes for Minnesota – dedicating funds to preserve clean water, protect game, fish and wildlife habitat, arts and parks and trails. This is a once in a lifetime chance to make an investment in protecting Minnesota's quality of life and preserving it for future generations.

We need clean water for drinking, fishing and swimming, for the benefit of ourselves, our children and future generations. This initiative will protect our drinking water and provide funding for clean-up of our rivers, lakes and streams. Nothing is more important than having clean water.

The amendment will offer tremendous help to protect our environment. The outdoor fund will preserve our many forests, prairies and natural areas that both Minnesotans and our tourists enjoy so much. Protecting our lands for game habitat, wildlife, fishing, hunting, and hiking is critical at this time and passing this amendment now is the right thing to do for our state's future.

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Seed Sale & Family Birding Day

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Volunteers to help kids building their bird feeders and with the scavenger hunt stations will certainly be needed! This can be our chance to promote bird watching, environmentalism, and our Wild River Audubon Chapter to a whole new group! Wouldn't it be great to have some new families with the next generation of birders at our meetings?

Please contact Joe Sausen to volunteer or more info:
Phone: Home 651-674-8119, Cell 651-210-4368



Redheaded Woodpecker

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(RhWR,) was formed to address the decline and to attempt to rebuild the decimated population.

On October 21st at 7:00 p.m., at the Chisago Lakes Library, Jerry Bahls, a founding member of RhWR, the current editor of its newsletter, *The Redhead* and the president of the Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis will speak to our chapter on the activities of the recovery efforts, its successes and failures this summer, and what they've learned in the past year.

Come find out how you can help this beleaguered bird. Learn how you can become a member of the RhWR for only \$5! Share information on sightings of this uncommon woodpecker from the summer. There's been a number of birds spotted, more than in the last several years—ponder what we've been doing right, and join the effort to bring them back!



Vote Yes

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Minnesota has also been blessed with one of the strongest arts communities in the country. Passage of this amendment will help provide kids from all corners of the state access to arts education. This amendment is a long-term investment in Minnesota's future generations.

Lastly, this amendment will support and enhance our parks and trails system. While we enjoy ample opportunities for outdoor recreation, this will ensure that we upgrade existing facilities and expand our current network of parks and trails.

This November 4th, you have a once in a lifetime chance to make a long-term investment in Minnesota. Vote Yes on The Clean Water, Land and Legacy amendment and protect the Minnesota you love for future generations.

Make sure you have your own voice heard. Voters who leave this question blank on their ballot will be counted as NO votes. Make sure you have your choice heard, fill in the question and be counted!

If you would like to volunteer with our campaign to protect the Minnesota you love, please contact Yes for Minnesota by phone at (651) 644-2088, or by email at info@yesformn.org.

Charlie Poster
Communications Director
Vote Yes Minnesota
The Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment
651-644-2088

www.wildriveraudubon.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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