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#### The *Cardinal* Newsletter

is a bi-monthly publication of the Indiana Audubon Society. Its purpose is to share stories and conversations so that members and the birding community beyond can stay meaningfully connected both to birds and to the people dedicated to their protection.



On the cover: Purple Finch by Ryan Sanderson

## JOIN OR RENEW TODAY



MEMBERSHIP

Access to bi-monthly & quarterly newsletters	$\checkmark$							
Mailed printed copies of bi-monthly & quarterly newsletters			$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
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Discounted Field Trips & Programs	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Special Access to Mary Gray Birding Sanctuary	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
15% discount on all IAS online store merchandise				$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$			
Register a friend to any IAS field trip at member rate				$\checkmark$				

Be a part of Indiana Audubon Society! Sign up at: Indianaaudubon.org/membership

# **UPCOMING** TRIPS & EVENTS

The Indiana Audubon Field Trips Committee is continuing field trips, while adhering to the most up-to-date health and safety recommendations. To comply

with CDC guidelines, all field trips will follow the following restrictions:

- All IAS trip participants must register in advance for upcoming field trips.
- All participants should utilize facial covering and/or social distancing during the field trip if not vaccinated against COVID-19. Social distancing is also encouraged among vaccinated participants.
- All participants should plan on traveling separately rather than carpooling during trips featuring multiple locations.

DECEMBER 14- JANUARY 5: Audubon Christmas Bird Counts [Statewide] JANUARY 8-9: IAS Board of Directors Retreat [Fort Harrison State Park] JANUARY 22: Winter Eagle Field Trip [Salamonie Lake] JANUARY 29-30: Bird Banding at the Eagles in Flight Weekend [Turkey Run State Park] FEBRUARY 4-6: Winter UP Snowy Owl Tour- full [St. Ignace, MI] FEBRUARY 18-21: Winter Sax-Zim Bog Owl Tour- full [Duluth, MN] FEBRUARY 28- MARCH 10: Costa Rica Birding Tour- full [Costa Rica] MARCH 12: Summit Lake Waterfowl Trip [Summit Lake State Park]

Visit the Indiana Audubon Events Page at **WWW.INDIANAAUDUBON.ORG/EVENTS** to see all the field trips and events now posted for registration. These trips will fill fast!

# NEWS INDIANA AUDUBON SOCIETY

### **INDIANA DUNES BIRDING FESTIVAL RETURNS!**



Don't let the pandemic get you down! The Indiana Dunes Birding Festival is back for 2022. Begin making plans to join us in the Indiana Dunes May 12-15, for the Indiana Dunes Birding Festival. The festival committee is hard at working creating an interactive and safe festival for birders from all over the country. Both carpool field trips and guided van trips will be available, as well as the return of popular events like outdoor Birds and Brews, the annual bird calling competition, and more.

2022 Festival Keynote: David Lindo, "the Urban Birder" Urban Birding: A Gateway to Nature Saturday May 14 5:30pm – 9:30pm / Sand Creek Country Club, Chesterton, IN Sand Creek Country Club, Chesterton, IN

Join us for an evening with David Lindo, the Urban Birder. David has gained the reputation of being a playfully entertaining, though very professional, passionate, and informative

speaker. David is broadcaster, writer, speaker, tour leader, and educator with a mission to connect city folk around the world with the environment through the medium of birds. He is author of The Urban Birder, Tales from Concrete Jungles, and more. He was also recently named as the 7th most influential person in wildlife by BBC Wildlife Magazine. Take part in a great evening looking at David's worldwide travels, his take on birding, and prepare to be delighted and inspired to look for nature and bird life in every corner of our world.

## For the most current information and schedule of the festival, visit WWW.INDUNESBIRDINGFESTIVAL.COM

# A MESSAGE FROM LIBBY KEYES: MARY GRAY'S NEW OPERATIONS MANAGER!

Hi! I'm Libby Keyes, and I'm the new Operations Manager at Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary. I'm so excited to step into this new (old!) role! I grew up in Tinley Park, Illinois, catching frogs and snakes, volunteering at a local farm, and raising tadpoles and chickens in the backyard (shout out to my tolerant parents!) It was only logical to go into the sciences. I went to undergrad and continued to my masters at Governors State University in Illinois in Environmental Biology. I had always been knee-deep in nature, but college is where I started to focus on birds after taking an ornithology class and helping to start our college's bird banding station.

You may have seen me around before, maybe on an IAS bird walk, at the Indiana Dunes birding festival, out in a kayak in a marsh performing bird surveys, or at a bird banding event! In the past few years I've worked



with Audubon Great Lakes as a marsh bird survey technician and volunteer coordinator in the spring, and enjoyed early mornings spent out in the marshes of Northwest Indiana. In the fall, I try my best to swap my early mornings for late nights and volunteer with the Project Owlnet Saw-whet banding in the Dunes.

Between the two, I think it will be a while before I stop hearing Sora and Saw-whet calls in my dreams!

In the past few years I've worked with a lot of different organizations on many different projects, but I'm looking forward now to focusing on work with Indiana Audubon Society, and it's fantastic board and members. I'm so excited to be able to continue and grow the work Carl and Amy have done at the Sanctuary, from outreach and research projects to planning events and expanding sustainability efforts. I look forward to learning the trails and woods intimately. Tasks and projects are already accumulating (and I haven't moved yet!) but I consider this my first real assignment: learn the land. So many of you reading this are already old friends with the trails and I look forward to seeing you out there!

I'M SO EXCITED TO BE JOINING THE INDIANA AUDUBON TEAM. PLEASE STOP BY AND SAY HI SOME TIME IN THE NEW YEAR OR REACH OUT TO ME AT LKEYES@INDIANAAUDUBON.ORG.

### DEC 2021 - JAN 2022



# NEWS INDIANA AUDUBON SOCIETY

### IAS COVID VACCINATION UPDATE

In the October meeting of the Indiana Audubon Board of Directors, an IAS COVID-19 Vaccination Policy was adopted, effective December 1. This policy aims to take measures to protect our staff, volunteers, guides, and participants at our various activities and events. This policy requires COVID-19 vaccination for staff, volunteers, and participants of IAS events and programs. Negative testing and other alternate safeguards are available on an event-by-event basis, as determined by Indiana Audubon.

To learn more about this policy and how it's being implemented, visit WWW.INDIANAAUDUBON.ORG/HOME-UPDATES



### INDIANA AUDUBON RECEIVES EFROYMSON FAMILY FUND GRANT FOR 2022

Indiana Audubon has received a \$18,000 challenge grant from the Efroymson Family Fund in support of the Society's initiatives centered around combining technology with research into migratory bird movement and nesting behavior in Indiana at select bird diversity hotspots.

The grant award will allow Indiana Audubon to expand upon the collaborative marsh bird survey program that began in 2018. In addition to monitoring for secretive marsh birds and analyzing habitat preferences for these species, an innovative new aspect



will record nocturnal bird sounds with automated recording units throughout The Nature Conservancy's Kankakee Sands prairies and wetlands in 2022. Research will be focusing on the Black Rail, who's numbers have decreased to the point of being threatened with extinction.

Additionally, work will continue with the Motus project of tagging songbirds at the Society's Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary and tracking Saw-whet Owl and Eastern Whippoor-will movement in the Indiana Dunes.

In 1998, Dan and Lori Efroymson established the Efroymson Family Fund. The fund

continues a long legacy of charitable commitment by the Efroymson family in Indiana. Since Dan's passing in 1999, Lori Efroymson-Aguilera and their two children, Jeremy and Elissa, have continued the family's philanthropic legacy in Indianapolis and across the United States by providing financial support to a diverse range of issues, including arts and culture, historic preservation, the

environment, and helping those in need. To date, the Efroymson Family Fund has awarded more than \$100 million in grants.

"Indiana Audubon Society is pleased to be a 2021 grant recipient," said Brad Bumgardner, IAS Executive Director. "This funding propels the current and planned projects Indiana Audubon Society is working on to gain a better appreciation for bird migration and the habitats they need to survive. We look forward to expanding our efforts in both conservation and education with the Efroymson Family Fund's assistance."

Photos: Rusty Blackbird (top) by Jeff Timmons , Northern Saw-whet Owl banding (left), and Eastern Whip-poor-will (right)

# NEWS INDIANA AUDUBON SOCIETY

### **2021 IAS EARL BROOKS AWARD WINNER**

At the IAS annual membership meeting at McCormick's Creek State Park in October, Indiana Audubon presented the Earl Brooks Award. The Brooks Award recognizes IAS members who have advanced the conservation of natural resources in service to the Society.

This year's award was presented to Dr. John B. "Barny" Dunning for his contributions to the Indiana's ornithological knowledge. His reach goes beyond his own contributions, through the many students he has inspired and mentored over his years as an associated professor at Purdue University in the College of Agriculture. During the academic year, Barny helps guide students in designing and conducting research for both masters and doctorate degree programs. Barny also teaches students each year at the Summer Practicum, a 6-week forestry and wildlife student summer program required of all Forestry & Natural Resources graduates. During the practicum, held near Iron River, Michigan, Barny teaches bird banding, sound ID, and other ornithology topics.



For Indiana Audubon, Barny has held a spot on the Indiana Bird Records Committee for about as long as anyone who has served on it. Barny often hosts the committee's annual meetings, and allows for the storage of IBRC records on the Purdue campus when needed.

For all of this and more, Barny Dunning is deserving of the Indiana Audubon's Earl Brooks Award. His contributions to the state have benefited Hoosier birders for decades, and will continue to do so into the foreseeable future.

#### THANK YOU, BARNY, FOR YOU TREMENDOUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO INDIANA AUDUBON AND BIRDS ACROSS THE STATE!

### **GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT**

The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the fourday event and report their sightings online at birdcount.org. Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts, and you can participate from your backyard or anywhere in the world. **The 25th annual GBBC will be held Friday, February 18 through Monday, February 21, 2022.** 

Each checklist submitted during the GBBC helps researchers at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society learn more about how birds are doing, and how to protect them and the environment we share. Last year, more than 160,000 participants submitted their bird observations online, creating the largest instantaneous snapshot of global bird populations ever recorded.



For more information and the latest educational resources, visit WWW.BIRDCOUNT.ORG

### THE MUMFORD AND KELLER GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

2021 IAS COMMITTEE REPORT



The Mumford and Keller Grant/Scholarship Program is used to award funds to individuals and organizations seeking funding for activities related to Indiana's natural resources, particularly those related to Indiana's avifauna, that promote the Indiana Audubon Society's mission. This program was created in 2010, and receives annual funding from the Indiana Audubon Society annual budget as well as proceeds from the Indiana Dunes Birding Festival and Fall Festival silent auctions and raffles.

Russell Mumford and Charles Keller published the large coffee table book, The Birds of Indiana. The book is a collection of decades of field work and data collected for almost 400 species of birds. This award was named in their honor.

Indiana Audubon made a \$1,250.00 "Johnny Appleseed" investment award to the Terra Project for their work in development of the Terra device – a small,



weatherproof audio receiver which will allow users to listen to and identify birds and nature around them while building a massive new conservation network. Terra will revolutionize the way we connect to and conserve nature by creating one of the largest community science projects of all time. Terra expects to be

online and delivering devices by June 2022, and Indiana Audubon will be receiving 10 complimentary units as part of our investment.

A grant of \$2,100.00 was awarded to Nicole Harmon for *Humane Indiana Wildlife, for assisting injured birds.* This project, Oxygen Therapy for Native Birds Injured in the Wild, will allow for injured birds to recover four times faster than they would without it. In 2020, 2,985 animals were admitted to Humane Indiana's rehabilitation center, with just over half of those admissions being birds. This year, they are well on our way to surpassing 3,000 patients.

While the majority of bird patients admitted to the center are brought in as orphans, the remaining

admissions are primarily due to trauma caused by domestic pets, or striking vehicles, windows, or buildings. Oxygen therapy has proven to increase the chances of survival in such patients. It is well known that window strikes cause the death of millions of birds each year, by providing funding for an oxygenator, IAS can further assist Humane Indiana Wildlife in giving a second chance at a wild life to those who fall victim to the top perils our bird species face.

Our third award, in the amount of \$2592.80, goes to Lina Rifai of IU Kokomo, for a bird banding project to study demographic parameters as well as habitat effect on avian population trends during breeding seasons (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship, aka M.A.P.S.) and non-breeding seasons (including migration). The aim of this bird banding project is 1) to add to the collection of key demographic data regarding avian populations at their breeding as well as non-breeding grounds, and 2) to study how different habitats affect these parameters. The two main sites that will be used to monitor bird populations are the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary (MGBS) and the IU Kokomo campus. Data gathered from this project will continue the long-term IAS project of data collection at MGBS, therefore adding to the knowledge about key population parameters of birds to further help education and conservation efforts.

Our final award, in the amount of \$500.00, goes to **The Dunes-Calumet Audubon Society, which will collaborate with Indiana Audubon during its annual fall saw-whet owl banding program**. DCAS will provide special nights during the owl banding season, where attendees can acquire copies of the Owl Education Guide, and enjoy up-close owl experiences with live demonstrations by Humane Indiana Wildlife.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!**





## Q

### TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF. WHERE ARE YOU FROM? FAMILY?

I am a native of Mississippi and grew up on the banks of the Mississippi River. I had thousands of acres to roam on between the levee and the river. A great place to learn about all the outdoors. My family and I have been in Greenfield, Indiana now for 26 years. My wife, Gaye and I have two grown children. Gaye is a history teacher at Hamilton Southeastern High School and I work in new build Hotels installing low voltage systems like cameras, wifi, speakers, phones and TV.

#### WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN BIRDS AND BIRDING?

My interest in the outdoors led me to pursue an Environmental Science degree at Delta State University. My major professor was a birder and that was the initial spark for bird watching. So for 30 some years I was a bird watcher and as Gaye and I reached the empty nest stage decided to pursue the addiction further. My real downfall came on an IAS trip to Michigan City where I met Bill Sharkey. He and I hit it off immediately and our synergy has pushed us booth into hot pursuit of any bird in Indiana.

#### ALONG WITH BEING AN IAS BOARD MEMBER, YOU ALSO LEAD FIELD TRIPS AND GUIDE AT IDBF. WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING A BIRDING GUIDE? FAVORITE STORY?

I get as much pleasure out of sharing a bird as finding one. I love being able to show someone a lifer bird. On guided trips, I try to include everyone in the conversation, especially those that seem disinterested. I try to give them that spark that I found 40 years ago. A favorite story comes from a trip I like to call Bill and Richard's Excellent Adventure at Goose Pond. As a group of 15 we were headed to a spot to be there just before dark. I was leading about 6 vehicles down a gravel road when I saw a heron standing by the road in front of us. Because of the size and surrounding habitat I realized it could well be a Yellow Crowned Night Heron. I sped up to get there and the bird flew into a large Sycamore tree just off the road. It was a beautiful adult and we were able to get everyone on it before it flew.



### WINTER FINCHES IN INDIANA: WHAT TO EXPECT THIS YEAR

BY: KIM EHN

Taking In Indiana, up to 10 species in the Fringillidae family of "true finches" can be found in a given year – either annually or making a periodic winter appearance. Tyler Hoar, forecaster for the Finch Research Network, predicts the irruption of finches from Canada to adjacent northern US states using data on the status of tree seeds & berries and spruce & pine cone crops from Ontario field observers. What will Indiana birders see this winter?

The male **EVENING GROSBEAK** (Coccothraustes vespertinus) is a conspicuous yellow-green color with a large head and bill, black wings with white secondaries, and a yellow eyebrow on a dark gray head. Females and immatures are grayer overall and lack the yellow on the head.

During the Indiana winter, they can be found in small flocks, especially in box elder trees. Russell Mumford and Charles Keller, in Birds of Indiana, described watching grosbeaks "maneuver about in the trees, snipping off samaras and then separating the seeds from the winged portions." The highest count in Indiana occurred in November 2020, when John Kendall totaled 246 individuals, including flocks of 75 and 93 birds, at the Indiana Dunes State Park Observation Tower.

Hoar expects some Evening Grosbeaks to move south out of the boreal forest to look for box elder, maple and ash trees still holding seeds as well as platform feeders with plenty of blackoil sunflower seeds. Since this species has been noted to return to the same wintering area for several years, last year's lucky birders may see them again.

The **PINE GROSBEAK** (Pinicola enucleator) has a black bill and two white wing bars. The male boasts mostly pink overall with some gray. The female and immature male are mostly gray with olive yellow head and rump.

In December 1977, Michael Brown and Tim Keller were searching the neighborhoods near the Indiana Dunes State Park for reported flocks of Pine Grosbeaks when they were rewarded with a group of 10 and a group of 15. "We got to see both females with gray breasts and males with pink breasts," they commented.

Sporadic reports of Pine Grosbeak in Indiana include 1977 in Tippecanoe County, and more recently, 2014 in Lake County and a late November 2020 bird in Porter County. In his forecast, Hoar has noted that, "Drought has most impacted mountain ash and other berry crops west of Lake Superior, with many berries shriveling on the stem." This indicates that northern Indiana may see flocks of hungry Pine Grosbeaks searching for fruiting ornamental trees and feeders full of black-oil sunflower seeds. Or not.

Critical factors in identifying a **HOUSE FINCH** (Haemorhous mexicanus) compared to a Purple Finch are defined by the sex of each. Male House Finches have red to orange-colored feathers on the eyebrow, throat, chest, and rump, and blurry brown streaking on the rest of the body including some underneath the tail. Female House Finches have a plain brown face and blurry streaking on the rest of the body including underneath the tail.

The first House Finch observed in Indiana was at Eagle Creek Park in 1975. Dr. Kenneth Brock writes in Birds of the Indiana Dunes that "by 1985 several territorial pairs (of House Finch) were established at locations in Michigan City and Chesterton."

Critical factors in identifying a **PURPLE FINCH** (Haemorhous purpureus) compared to a House Finch are again defined by the sex of each. Male Purple Finches have red to raspberrycolored feathers on the entire head, throat, chest, and this color washes over the brownish back also. There is no streaking

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Photos (from left to right): Purple Finch, Evening Grosbeak, Common Redpoll, Female Pine Grosbeak, and Male Pine Grosbeak by Shari MccCollough under the tail. Female Purple Finches have a bold white eyebrow and a dark whisker, along with the overall blurry streaking underneath. Noah Strycker has written about these identification differences (1).

From September through May, the Purple Finch can be seen sporadically throughout the state. This species still spends June through July breeding in the conifer forests of Canada.

The **COMMON REDPOLL** (Acanthis flammea) is a small, brown finch which has bright red from forehead to crown, a black chin "bib," a small yellow bill, and a notched tail.

While Redpolls prefer to feed on birches, alders and spruce (cones) in Canada, the weather has impacted these trees. Hoar indicates Redpolls will move south in late October/November, with movement northward again in February/March.

Mumford and Keller write that the largest two flocks ever recorded in the US may have been the 4,000 that David Esterla reported in LaPorte County in 1972 and Michael Brown had in 1978 at the same location. In February 2021, Sam Plew observed a flock of 300 in La Grange County.

The **HOARY REDPOLL** (Acanthis hornemanni) is a paler, brown finch which has a more frosted look than the Common Redpoll and is paler pink on the chest. It has been suggested that 1 out of every 5 Common Redpolls may actually be a Hoary Redpoll. Certainly, photos allow an easier comparison. Some birders have used a scoring system to determine the identification. The amount of streaking on undertail coverts, flanks, and rump is calculated with the total determining Common or Hoary Redpoll (2).

There are also subspecies that have been researched. Acanthis hornemanni exilipes was identified in Feb 2015 at Wolf Lake (IL side) and photographed by Matthew Cvetas. For more reading on the subtle variations of the subspecies, see Matthew Young's article on the Finch Research Network (3).

Distinctive crossed mandibles leads the identification of the **RED CROSSBILL** (Loxia curvirostra) with males generally having a brick-red and females a gray-greenish body plumage. Immatures have more streaking on the body. They mainly feed on pine, spruce, and hemlock cone seeds, and move around when local supplies are depleted. Large flocks came south in January 2021, so we may see a slighter movement this winter.

There are 11 call types that are documented with Red Crossbills. Research is focused on audio documentation as it relates to geographic and ecological study. Hoar suggests that Type 2 and maybe a few Type 4 Red Crossbills should be slightly more common in Indiana again. More information on call types can be found on numerous sites (4,5).

Two white wing bars will identify the **WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL** (Loxia leucoptera) from the Red Crossbill, with males having a pinkish-red body and females a gray-green plumage. Immatures have streaking on the body and white wing bars. "Crossbills remaining in the boreal forest will move around in search of food, and thus, some movements may be seen this fall/winter into areas like the upper Midwest states as they look for suitable cone crops. The crossbills in areas with good spruce crops are likely breeding this winter so expect to encounter streaked juveniles in the flocks," according to Hoar.

Small flocks and individuals have been observed in Indiana almost annually with more checklists in 2018 from southern counties and 2021 (January) from northern counties. Two birds hung out in a Newton County residential neighborhood from January to February 2021.

The small, brown, streaked **PINE SISKIN** (Spinus pinus) has a thin, pointed bill, and yellow edgings in the wings and tail. Historically, large flocks have been observed in weedy fields in Porter County. Pine Siskins may also be seen with goldfinches at nyjer feeders. Mumford & Keller wrote that "in some winters it appears that most of the wintering population is sustained mainly by feeders."

Checklists on eBird suggest that Pine Siskins are now seen yearround at various location in Indiana, with larger numbers when there is a southeastward movement from the boreal forest as the birds search for food, as also reported by Hoar.

Most of these winter finches are considered erratic or irregular transients by Brock as they are migrating from northern breeding habitats. Invasions of these visitants gives us records of observation that are noteworthy and forecasts of winter birding fun.





#### WHAT BIRDS WILL YOU SEE THIS WINTER?

#### REFERENCES

1. WWW.AUDUBON.ORG/NEWS/HOUSE-FINCH-OR-PURPLE-FINCH-HERES-HOW-TELL-THEM-APART

2. WWW.SIBLEYGUIDES.COM/2008/01/A-CHARACTER-INDEX-FOR-RED-POLL-IDENTIFICATION/

- 3. WWW.FINCHNETWORK.ORG/NORTH-AMERICAN-REDPOLLS
- 4. WWW.FINCHNETWORK.ORG/SPECIES/CROSSBILLS/RED-CROSS-BILL-LOXIA

5. WWW.EBIRD.ORG/NEWS/CROSSBILLS-OF-NORTH-AMERICA-SPECIES-AND-RED-CROSSBILL-CALL-TYPES/



We get a lot of questions about whether birds will be around for the winter. Should we stop feeding? Do all the birds go away when it gets cold here? What type of birds will be here for the winter?

Winter is probably the most important time to feed the birds. Most of our regular backyard birds will still be here for the winter. We will also get some special "winter visitors" such as Pine Siskins, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Dark-eyed Juncos, Winter Wrens and White-crowned & White-throated Sparrows. Their access to natural food sources diminishes quickly as the colder weather arrives. The birds will have limited access to the water, bugs and berries that they're used to having available. And since you already enjoy watching them during the warmer months, why shouldn't you continue that hobby throughout the colder months?

Now is a great time to introduce a suet feeder if you haven't already done so. This is a good resource for the insect-eating birds and offers high fat and protein to provide energy for the winter. Suet can be offered year-round, but is especially important during the winter months.

There are different types of seed and seed blends you can use. Consider using a blend that has seed for the ground-feeding birds like the juncos and doves. A blend with millet, cracked corn and/or sunflower hearts is a good choice.

If filling the feeder often is a deterrent, consider using a seed cylinder. It also known as the "vacation feeder" because it is an easy, convenient way to feed the birds and will last longer than loose seed blends. Specialty cylinders such as a woodpecker blend or nut and berry are great for attracting your favorite birds. Other types offer a winter blend with a high calorie/high fat seed content to help give birds extra energy needed for colder months.

#### Some things to consider when feeding over the winter:

Make sure your feeder is covered to protect from the snow as much as possible.
This keeps it clear for the birds to find the food easily and protect the food from getting wet. Wet food can result in mold.



Use a larger capacity feeder so that you won't need to fill as often.

- Fly-through feeders are especially good because they provide cover. If using a tray feeder, you will need to empty it daily.
- Regular cleaning and sanitizing feeders are a must! Because your feeder will become a popular source for food, you may have a lot of activity.



Photos: White-breasted Nuthatch (top) and Pileated Woodpecker (bottom) by Joni James

### 281 new members in

2021, totalling over

**930** IAS memberships

## 2021 Highlights

The Indiana Audubon Society has had an incredible year, despite the ongoing pandemic. We expanded our membership, our staff team, and our research and conservation programs. Thank you for being part of that! The birds appreciate you!

Organized and collaborated on multiple research and conservation projects, such as...

### \$5.000

awarded to local conservation projects for a combined

### \$25,000

in the past 5 years of the IDBF Stewardship Fund

The Indiana Birding Trail expanded to

### 66 sites

introducing a new generation to the best Hoosier birding!

Tagging Eastern Whip-poorwills and installing towers





Peregrine Falcons Nest box surveys and banding

**Project Owlnet** 

Northern Saw-whet Owl

#### Provided over

40 hours of programming, reaching more than

### 1500 people



Help us make 2022 even bigger and better! www.indianaaudubon.org/donate

## Diversity

**Surveys** at Richardson Preserve



### Shrubs for Shrikes

Loggerhead Shrike habitat management and banding program, where over

10

140 shrikes have been adopted!

DEC 2021 - JAN 2022



### Joyous Wild HUMMINGBIRD PACKAGE

### SHARE JOY

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Each package includes a donation on the recipient's behalf to fund conservation work that benefits hummingbirds.

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