



# THE FEATHERED FLYER

August 2021 - October 2021

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## Keeping Birds Healthy

By Nancy Howell, Board Member, WCAS

Recently some information from the Ohio Division of Wildlife, regarding dead or sick birds, was forwarded to Western Cuyahoga Audubon, and we thought it would be important to pass this information on to our members and those who view Western Cuyahoga Audubon's website. As we know, birds are important indicators of changes happening in the environment. Birds seem to be getting the "one, two punch" with everything from habitat loss, pesticide use, window and building collisions, predatory cats and now there are reports of an increase in dead or visibly diseased birds along the eastern seaboard and new reports are coming from Ohio and Indiana. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife is working closely with Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitators in Ohio and the National Wildlife Health Center to determine the cause of this disease and to document the geographic extent. At this time a causative factor has not been determined. Here are a couple of things that can be done to assist the Ohio Division of Wildlife:

◇ Report birds that exhibit symptoms such as crusty, bulging, or sunken eyes, neurological symptoms, or unusual observations of dead birds by contacting 1-800-WILDLIFE or at the ODNR website ['Bird Disease Reporting'](#). If sick birds are observed with these symptoms and or neurological issues (e.g. loss of balance, coordination), contact the nearest licensed wildlife rehabilitator at [Ohio Wildlife Rehabilitators Association](#).

◇ The species of birds that appear to be most affected are Blue Jay, American Robin, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal and European Starling. These may not be the only species affected but are noticed more frequently since they are common neighborhood species. Species in forest, grassland, wetland or other habitats may be more difficult to locate, hence not reported.

◇ While it is uncertain what is causing these conditions, feeders or bird baths could be ways the disease is spreading. Suggestions are to clean your feeders/bird baths more often or stop feeding altogether which could help prevent further spread and deaths (See recommendations below). There is plenty of natural food available during the summer, so feeding is not critical at this time.

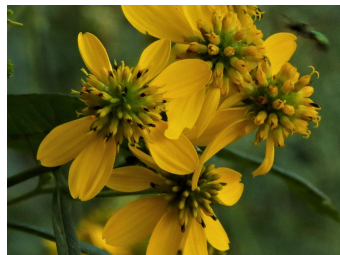
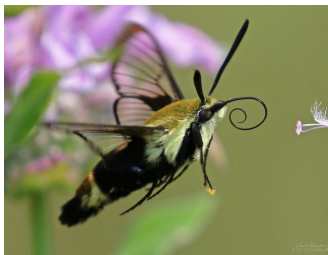
Bird Biologist, Laura Kerns, with the Ohio Division of Wildlife, has suggested some things you can do to help keep birds healthy here in Ohio.

■ During a disease outbreak observed at bird feeders, or when sick or dead birds are consistently turning up at a feeder, it's recommended feeders and bird baths be removed for 7 to 10 days. This will help prevent congregations of infected and non-infected birds at the feeding/bathing site. ■ Clean bird feeders and bird baths with a 10% household bleach solution (9 parts water:1 part bleach, i.e. 13 fluid ounces of bleach per gallon of water). Remove spilled and potentially contaminated feed from under feeders. (Continued, page 2...)

(Continued from page 1...) When cleaning the feeders, bird baths, or any items contaminated with bird droppings, clean them in an area that is not used for food preparation or bathing as some avian pathogens can cause sickness in people. ■ When cleaning feeders (seed and peanut feeders, suet holders, oriole and hummingbird feeders, and mealworm feeders) be sure to rinse thoroughly to remove soap or bleach solutions. Hummingbird feeders should be cleaned and sugar-water solution changed every couple of days since bacteria and molds grow rapidly in warm weather.

Indiana and Illinois have recommended removing all feeders and bird baths. We hope all of Ohio does not have to resort to this. While we love “our” birds, feeding is truly not necessary during summer months. Birds will forage for insects, nectar, and seeds on their own; feeding brings birds closer so we can watch and enjoy them. Please keep your eyes open for sick or dead birds and report your sightings. Loving the birds also means taking care that we, as humans, do not add problems for our avian friends.

## BIRD WALKS



Photos (left to right): Snowberry Clearwing (*Hemaris diffinis*) by Chuck Slusarczyk Jr.; Wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*) by Tom Fishburn; House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) by Michelle Brosius; Hotspot Birders November 2018 by Kaoru Tsubone.

Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society hosts bird walks and field trips at various locations and virtually online. Activities are free and open to the public. Current COVID safety guidelines: It's recommended guests who are not fully vaccinated wear a face covering. Learn more at the [News Blog](#).

**Second Saturday Bird Walks** - New to birding? Grab some binoculars and join us. You'll be amazed how quickly you can learn! Bird walks are the second Saturday of each month. Saturdays, August 14, September 11, and October 9, 2021 at 9:00 AM. Leaders: Bill Deininger, Ken Gober, Dave Graskemper. Where: Cleveland Metroparks, Rocky River Reservation, home of the Rocky River Important Bird Area. Meet at the Rocky River Nature Center parking lot, 24000 Valley Pkwy, North Olmsted, OH 44070.

**Evening Bird Walks** - Perhaps you need a nice walk to wind down from the day or you're not an early riser? Then these evening bird walks may be for you! Evening is a great time to look and listen as birds begin to settle for the night ... or for some, just begin to be active. Walks are the third Wednesday of each month.

- Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 7:00 PM. Where: Watershed Stewardship Center, West Creek Reservation, 2277 W Ridgewood Dr, Parma, OH 44134. Meeting place: Main parking lot. Leader: Nancy Howell, WCAS Board Member, and Guests. Target species: Belted Kingfisher, Eastern Bluebird, and American Goldfinch.
- Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM. Where: Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve, 8701 Lakeshore Blvd, Cleveland, OH 44108. Meeting place: Parking lot in front of the Ranger HQ. Leaders: Nancy Howell and Mary Anne Romito. Target species: Any bird feeding on berries.
- Wednesday, October 20 at 7:00 PM. Where: Cleveland Metroparks, Rocky River Reservation, Lagoon Picnic Area, Valley Pkwy, Brook Park, OH 44138. Meeting place: Picnic shelter parking lot. Leaders: Nancy Howell and Michelle Brosius. Target species: Birds using dead trees.

**Towpath Trail Tremont Bird Walks** - WCAS partners with Tremont West Community Development Corporation to host a series of bird walks the fourth Saturday every month on the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail along the Cuyahoga River. Dates: Saturdays, August 28, September 28, and October 23, 2021 at 9:00 AM. Leader: Nancy Howell and Guests. Where: Towpath Trail Tremont, OH 44109. Meeting place: Towpath Public Parking lot, Abbey Ave. adjacent the Ohio & Erie CanalWay. Target Species: Various.

# FIELD TRIPS

[Virtual Field Trips](#) is an option for engaging with nature and community. Participants independently visit pre-selected locations and contribute bird lists, journals, and photographs about the visit for a scrapbook shared in a virtual meetup the second Wednesday of each month, following the field trip month. Contact: [MichelleBrosius@wcaudubon.org](mailto:MichelleBrosius@wcaudubon.org) WCAS Board Member & Field Trip Co-Coordinator.

- August 1-31, 2021. Location: The Rookery, 10110 Cedar Rd, Chesterland, OH 44026. Featured Bird Species: Eastern Phoebe. *Notes:* The Rookery has a really interesting history including an old Interurban Railroad Junction, as well as a Great Blue Heron rookery, but please don't go looking for the Great Blue Heron nesting area unless you are with a park-led program. Restrooms and handicap accessible trails are identified on [The Rookery map](#).
- September 1-30, 2021. Location: Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve, 9601 Headlands Rd, Mentor, OH 44060. Featured Bird Species: Fall Warblers. *Notes:* The Ohio Ornithological Society says, "This legendary site is one of the best-birded sites in Ohio and is famous for its rarities and big fallouts of migrants." The preserve features 1 mile of hiking trail, a portion of which is wheelchair accessible. There is a boardwalk and also rough trails through the shrubby areas. Restrooms are located at Headlands Beach State Park to the west of the preserve which also has a wheelchair accessible path. Please feel free to bird both locations and submit bird lists, photos, journaling, etc.
- October 1-31, 2021. Location: Your favorite cemetery! Suggested cemeteries: \* Lake View Cemetery: 12316 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, OH 44106, website: [lakeviewcemetery.com](http://lakeviewcemetery.com) \* West Park Cemetery: 3942 Ridge Rd, Cleveland, OH 44144 \* Riverside Cemetery: 3607 Pearl Rd, Cleveland, OH 44109, website: [riversidecemeterycleveland.org](http://riversidecemeterycleveland.org) \* Erie Street Cemetery: 2254 E 9th St, Cleveland, OH 44115 \* Highland Park Cemetery: 21400 Chagrin Blvd, Cleveland, OH 44122. Featured Bird Species: Sparrows. *Notes:* It's the month of Halloween so let's explore the life that can be found in our cemeteries! Caution: roads may be in poor shape and the grassy areas between headstones/monuments can be uneven. Lake View Cemetery is better, but hilly in places.

## [Virtual Field Trip Report, March – May 2021](#)

By Michelle Brosius, WCAS Board Member & Field Trip Co-Coordinator

March's virtual field trip took place at the Cleveland Metroparks' North Chagrin Reservation in search of the Red-winged Blackbird. Two sites were suggested, Oxbow Lagoon and Sanctuary Marsh by the North Chagrin Nature Center, but participants were encouraged to explore as much of the reservation as desired. During the month, plenty of Red-winged Blackbirds were seen. Shaun Missig was able to get three lifers: House Finch, Sharp-shinned Hawk (juvenile), and Eastern Phoebe. I had seen and photographed a juvenile Cooper's Hawk and took the opportunity to highlight differences between the two very similar birds, mainly differences in the tail tips (rounded in Cooper's and squared in Sharpies) and belly streaking in juveniles (present in Sharpies but absent in Cooper's). Tom Fishburn shared a stunning image of an Eastern Phoebe and we welcomed new participant Lisa Gerbec, who also had stunning photos to share. Also during the month, Al Rand introduced us to the amphibian migrations, showing us photographs of salamanders and frogs at the reservation.

In April, four participants made the trip out to The Nature Conservancy's Lucia S. Nash Preserve in search of the Sandhill Crane and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Both target species were sighted. Tom Fishburn had fantastic luck by finally spotting a bird that has eluded him in the past, the Pine Warbler. He had only seen this bird twice before and neither time had offered him a good look. I also spotted an Eastern Phoebe maintaining a nest in the eaves of an old fishing/hunting lodge and used the opportunity to remind folks of proper nest etiquette and to keep a distance from nesting birds.

For May's virtual field trip participants visited the Western Reserve Land Conservancy's Oberlin Preserve, which had just opened last summer. The target species were spring warblers and the American Goldfinch. Target species were present as were a number of flycatcher species and woodpeckers. Nancy Howell saw the most bird species by tallying an impressive 74 species over two visits! The prairie habitat at Oberlin Preserve is still young, but features bluebird nesting boxes, courtesy of Black River Audubon, and a Chimney Swift tower provided by a Girl Scout troop. Also, be sure to explore the Ramsey Right of Way Trail on the east side of the preserve that extends all the way to Route 20 and passes through woodland and wetland habitats.

I invite you to watch the recordings or check out the scrapbooks of any of these virtual field trips, and to check out our upcoming virtual field trips, by visiting [wcaudubon.org](http://wcaudubon.org) and clicking on the Virtual Field Trips 2021 tile on the home page.

# PROJECTS

## Lewis Road Riding Ring Bluebird Project

By Kurt Miske, WCAS Board Member



As many WCAS members (and others!) know, we put up 5 bluebird boxes by the field by the Lewis Road Riding Ring. The hope was that bluebirds and tree swallows would use the nest boxes and raise at least 1 brood. The good news is 3-fold! \* We have not (and will not) raised any house sparrows, the non-native competitor for cavity-nesting birds, \* Box #2 is housing a family of bluebirds, with 4 nestlings who are taking shape and color \* Box #4 housed a family of tree swallows, with 6 babies who have fledged. It has been cleaned and is ready for a possible 2<sup>nd</sup> brood \* Box #5 is housing a family of tree swallows

with 4 freshly hatched nestlings. Not bad for the first year of operation with about 4-6 weeks left in the breeding season! Note – Because there are house sparrows in the area and they are quite capable of killing adult and nestling bluebirds and tree swallows, we put ‘sparrow spookers’ on the top of occupied nest boxes. Although there is a note on these boxes explaining the device and its purpose, we have had an instance of vandalism. Please do not disturb the devices; they help the families survive during this time when they are most vulnerable. Funded by Jean E. Miske Memorial Fund, WCAS is committed to the project. It’s success, continued interest, and availability of funds dictates the future of the program. If you’re interested in training as a monitor, contact Kurt Miske at [kurtsacct@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kurtsacct@sbcglobal.net). The Jean E. Miske Memorial Fund will match 1 for 1 every dollar donated up to \$500. Excess funds, if any, benefit WCAS. Please make a donation [to the Fund here](#).

Photos: (top) Box #2 Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*), 4 nestlings and (bottom) Box #4 fledgling Tree Swallows (*Tachycineta bicolor*) by Lisa Gerbec; (right) Walker Road Park Chimney Swift Tower by Amanda Sebrosky.

## Walker Road Park Chimney Swift Tower

By Amanda Sebrosky, Founder, NEO Chimney Swift Conservation Society



A Chimney Swift tower was placed in Walker Road Park in February of 2021. Thanks go out to the craftsmen in the City of Bay Village service department for building the tower and Bay Village City Council, Jonathan Liskovec, Director of Public Services and Properties and Dan Enovitch, Director of Parks and Recreation, who supported this project from the start. Walker Road Park is jointly owned by the cities of Bay Village and Avon Lake and is meant to be used for water retention and outside recreation. The tower is in a designated ‘Education’ area since this zone also features a large sign from ODNr describing the streams that drain Eastern Avon Lake and a flower garden with a wonderfully instructive plaque about the lifecycle and migration of Monarch butterflies. Large

stones and native flowers such as seedbox, cardinal flower, giant blue lobelia, beardtongue, senna, spiderwort and bidens have been placed around the base of the tower to keep people at a respectful distance. A large plaque on the tower explains it is for nesting of Chimney Swifts and describes why these ‘artificial chimneys’ are needed. It also talks about why everyone should love swifts -- individuals eat 1000 mosquitos a day or more if they are feeding a clutch of babies.

Often, it takes a while before the Chimney Swifts discover the new tower; however, recently I noticed that several swifts were flying in the vicinity of the tower!!! I am hopeful that they have chosen the new tower as a nesting site because two of the birds were in a mating flight. What’s a mating flight? Chimney swifts spend nearly every waking hour in flight. They don’t mate in flight but one of the courtship displays involves the mating pair flying close together, one following the other, both gliding with wings held up in V. This is the behavior I saw last week -- fingers crossed!

# VOLUNTEER

**WCAS Annual Membership** is September 1 through August 31. We invite your renewal or suggest you invite someone new to join!

**Welcome New Members!** Alison Ball, Joanna Benson, Judith Branch, James & Linda Brown, Julie Cohen, Charles Cooper, Rose Ann Forster, Margaret Glenn, Eileen Kinney, Kathryn Lad, Rochelle & Joel Marx, Lisle Merriman, Joan O'Malley, Antoinette Piechowski, Ryan Pulis, Linda Rosul, Joan Rubin, Catherine Shambaugh, Melissa Solon, Gina Swindell. **Welcome Families** Christa Jo Abood, Margaret Attenweiler, Sarah Dawson, Kathleen Hale. *Congratulations* to Spring Membership Campaign raffle prize winners!

**Bird Friendly Native Plant Sales** from April through June were a success. Thank you Everyone! We're planning to have a pre-sale online for planting this fall. Look for us at the Tremont Arts & Culture Festival, September 18th–19th, Saturday: 12pm–7pm Sunday: 12pm–5pm. We're recruiting volunteers for the festival. Make our community a bird friendly place and have fun together! Proceeds benefit WCAS. Contact [KaoruTsubone@wcaudubon.org](mailto:KaoruTsubone@wcaudubon.org)

**WCAS Partners with Tilth Soil**, product of Rust Belt Riders, is a worker-owned social enterprise founded in 2014 with the mission of feeding people, not landfills. Soils enrich locally grown, Ohio native plants and are NOP-compliant soils for beautiful gardens and interiors. Volunteers are needed to coordinate and deliver soil orders. Proceeds benefit WCAS. Contact [info@wcaudubon.org](mailto:info@wcaudubon.org)

**Guardians of Nature** provide feedback and suggestions to improve chapter activities and build conservation projects. Join us for meetings on the third and fourth Thursdays of the month at 7:00 PM. We are looking for people who want to make a difference in our community fighting for a better environment for all of the creatures of this planet. WCAS Board Members approved the mission/vision statement June 2021: "To promote an appreciation for and development of responsible stewardship for the animate world and inanimate world that supports at the local level as encouraged participation and cooperation by all sectors of society regardless of age, income, gender, social status, education, race, ethnicity, or political views. Animate and inanimate means living and non-living." We are looking for people who want to make a difference and want their voices and concerns heard. If you subscribe to the mission statement we want to hear from you. Volunteer opportunities include, organizing the launch of a volunteer and a board member recruitment schedule. Contact [BruceMissig@wcaudubon.org](mailto:BruceMissig@wcaudubon.org)

**Book Club** presents quarterly book and author programs. Volunteers are needed to help organize and select program topics, authors, and book titles. Contact [DrinaNemes@wcaudubon.org](mailto:DrinaNemes@wcaudubon.org)

**Bird of the Month Photo Contests** raise public awareness of bird species through photography excellence. Winners are announced at monthly member meetings. Prizes include a 1-year subscription to Bird Watcher's Digest and a copy of David Lindo's, *How to Be an Urban Birder*. Volunteers are needed to select species, themes, and recruit participants. Contact [info@wcaudubon.org](mailto:info@wcaudubon.org)

**Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters (COAC)** has exceeded its fundraising goal to help support bird banding stations in Nicaragua through The Institute for Bird Populations' (IBP) Monitoring Overwinter Survival Initiative (MoSI). Seven Ohio Chapters pledged funds for the Ometepe banding station located on an island in Lake Nicaragua. Additional funds will go toward assisting the Los Guatuzos National Park banding station. Funds will be used to purchase equipment and support the staff. Recall that most of the migrant songbirds we enjoy in our area in the spring and summer, spend the winter months in central or south America. Research on migrant wintering grounds is crucial for understanding the needs of birds during the non-breeding season. WCAS hosted 'Christmas in July' - a month-long raffle to fundraise for the project. **WCAS Representatives are Needed** to attend monthly, 1 hour virtual COAC meetings. Representatives report information from WCAS at the COAC monthly meeting and back to the WCAS Board on COAC meeting updates. Representation is also needed to attend Spring and Fall COAC Gatherings that take place in different parts of the state (post COVID). The Fall 2021 Gathering will take place in Columbus, OH. Contact [NancyHowell@wcaudubon.org](mailto:NancyHowell@wcaudubon.org)

**Thank You! Volunteers** Michelle Brosius, Wendy Clark, Allan Claybon, Tim Colborn, Mary Lou Czajka, Bill Deininger, Gloria Ferris, Tom Fishburn, Ken Gober, Dave Graskemper, Nancy Howell, Jo Ann Bastian Kubicki, Bruce Missig, Shaun Missig, Drina Nemes, Dr Heather Petrolla, Mary Anne Pfrogner, Lisa Ruppel, Amanda Sebrosky, Nathan Seggaard, Matthew Shumar, Chuck Slusarczyk Jr., and Kaoru Tsubone.

**Thank You! Partners** Birds & Beans, LLC, Redstart Birding, Bird Watcher's Digest, Cleveland Metroparks, Nodding Onion Gardens - Native Plant Nursery, Rust Belt Riders, Tilth Soil, The Rock Pile, Tremont West Development Corp., Urban Birding World, Wild Birds Unlimited, and YDH Consulting, LLC.

# PROGRAMS

## Member Meetings and Speaker Series

Programs are free and open to the public. Member Meeting at 7:30 PM and Speaker at 8:00 PM.



### [“Don’t Touch That Nest \(or can you?\)!”](#)

Presenter: Jim Tomko, Audubon Society of Gtr Cleveland

Date & Time: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 7:30 PM

Description: Late summer into autumn is a time when some birds are finishing up nesting and many birds are molting. Did you know that you may be breaking a federal law by disturbing nesting birds or possessing a feather or egg collection? Dr. Jim Tomko shares his knowledge of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1916, how it is intertwined with the beginning of the National Audubon Society, and how having feathers, nests or eggs may or may not be cause for concern.



Photos: (top) Green Heron Nest by Allan Claybon; (above) Sarah Winnicki, courtesy of Sarah Winnicki; (right) Signage by Betsey O’Hagan.

### [“Teaching the Scientific Process: Linking Hypotheses to Data Using Migratory Birds”](#)

Presenter: Sarah Winnicki (Ph.D in progress)

Date & Time: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7:30 PM

Description: Dr. Alice Boyle and I developed an activity for participants to “get their science on”. In this interactive workshop, participants hypothesize about the cause of avian migration and gather data about bird bill morphology, diet, and migratory tendencies. In the end, participants discuss and have questions answered about their data and revisit their hypotheses.



### [“Trash to Treasure: Rust Belt Riders Composting Program”](#)

Presenter: Daniel Brown, Co-Founder, Rust Belt Riders

Date & Time: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 7:30 PM

Description: What a story: Rust Belt Riders creating wonderful soil products from composted waste from homes and businesses! This Cleveland-based company started as a humble project collecting compostable material via bicycle, but has since grown and produces tons of beautiful soil products. Whether you compost at home or want to become part of this “trash to treasure” story, please join us for a story you will want to hear and a company you will want to support.

# BIRDING



Above: Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*) by Kaoru Tsubone.

## Birding in Japan

By Kaoru Tsubone, WCAS, Ambassador to Japan

While being in Japan this time, I had a couple of fun adventures. One is in Tokyo, which is the capital of Japan and the other is in Okinawa, which is the southern island of Japan. Many thanks to Naoki Hiranaka and Ryouji Shimada, from the Wild Bird Society of Japan TOKYO and Masakuni Yamashiro from the Wild Bird Society of Japan OKINAWA for taking me around the place for birding. Special thanks to Kaori Sunagawa from Okinawa International University for organizing the bird walk!

Meeting people, sharing memories and exchanging ideas about birds, birding and conservation activities are not only interesting but also important to take over all the beautiful things we have on the earth for future generations, I believe. Since I started birding in Ohio in 2017, I didn't have any birding friends in Japan even though I'm originally from Japan. After COVID-19 pandemic, I had a role as ambassador to Japan from WCAS. Thanks to this opportunity, I could connect with friends who are passionate about birds and even discuss how we can enjoy birding and have some fun for our members under this situation.

We went to several places in Tokyo, and in Kasai Rinkai Park, a bird I fell in love with is this Great Crested Grebe (*above*), coming and walking up to the bank closer to us. I had never seen grebe walking, which seemed like a penguin. As you can see in this picture, he was gorgeous with a crown in orange and black, on the other hand, his body was snow white. Such an attractive contrast he has! (*Continued, next column...*)

(Continued...) Great crested grebes are larger than the grebes we have in Ohio, a migratory bird in Japan from Eurasian continent. Sad to say, he shouldn't be in Japan at this time of the year, although I was definitely glad to encounter this noble grebe!

In Japan, June is generally the rainy season in Japan, and the day we went birding was cats and dogs. Fortunately, I could see Ryukyu swallows had just fledged and were perching closer to their nests. Those swallows didn't have nests around people like barn swallows, but they got used to it anyhow and the numbers of its species has increased, Masakuni Yamashiro said. I couldn't know this fact just by self birding. Connecting with people also leads you to discover something new! Trying to connect with new people and get into new communities could force you to break your comfort zone. This sometimes might make us feel nervous and overwhelmed. These experiences taught me there's always much more excitement waiting to happen for us.



Photos: (left) Naoki Hiranaka and Ryouji Shimada, Wild Bird Society of Japan TOKYO; (right) Kaoru Tsubone and Masakuni Yamashiro.

**The Western Cuyahoga Audubon Feathered Flyer** is published 4 times per year in Feb, May, Aug and Nov.

**Western Cuyahoga Audubon programs are open to the public. Donations are appreciated.**

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WCAS is currently Board run.

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### Field Trip Coordinators

Michelle Brosius, Tim Colborn, Kaoru Tsubone

### Ambassadors

Global Ambassador: David Lindo; Ambassador to Japan: Kaoru Tsubone.

### Web & Marketing

Betsey O'Hagan

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**Native Plant Sale Customer Feedback** "I recently purchased native plants from the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society. My goal was to add native plants to attract more birds and butterflies. Once established, native plants require less care than non-native plants. The cardinal flower, columbine and fire pink I planted will provide nectar and seeds for our local wildlife. I am very happy with the healthy plants I received. Ordering online was easy, and the plants were dropped off right at my house. I am looking forward to purchasing other native plants that will be offered. Thank you." - *Lisa Gerbec*.

"Great experience. I'm enjoying the blooms right now from the fire pink and wild columbine. Highly recommended. Thank you!" - *Barbara Shagawat*.

**Visit The Rock Pile Garden Center**, 900 Nagel Rd, Avon, OH 44011. Mention you're a member and WCAS gets a small contribution. Tell your cashier you want your donation to go to WCAS! [www.therockpile.com](http://www.therockpile.com)



Shop today at **AmazonSmile** and designate Western Cuyahoga Audubon as your charitable organization of choice. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) the AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to Western Cuyahoga Audubon.

