



Nov 2016-Jan 2017

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> CONNECT

WESTERN CUYAHOGA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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Help Western Cuyahoga Audubon End Ohio's Clean Energy Freeze!

Tom Romito, President Emeritus, Western Cuyahoga Audubon

"Properly-sited wind turbines, rooftop solar photovoltaic panels, and solar photovoltaic plants could supply all of our energy needs within decades."

Audubon scientists have found that climate change threatens the survival of nearly half the bird species in North America. Renewable energy and energy efficiency are crucial to stopping the worst effects of climate change, growing the economy in Ohio, creating jobs, and protecting public health and the environment.

In 2008, the Ohio General Assembly responded to Ohioans' demand for renewable energy sources by passing a clean energy portfolio with a near unanimous vote. As a result of this law, the clean energy industry grew to employ 89,000 people in 7,900 business establishments.

Ohio's alternative energy portfolio standard supported grassroots movements and protected our interests by creating an environment conducive to strong growth in the clean energy sector. As a result, Ohio has great potential to become a leader in the clean energy industry.

Properly-sited wind turbines, rooftop solar photovoltaic panels, and solar photovoltaic plants could supply all of our energy needs within decades. This would drive new job growth, healthier communities, and a cleaner environment.

In 2014, Ohio bowed to pressure from oil and gas industry and dragged us backwards, giving us the dubious distinction of becoming the only state in the country to destroy our own advances in the clean energy industry. Senate Bill 310 froze the standards for clean energy we had adopted for our state, halted our job growth, harmed our environment, and put our communities in jeopardy. In 2015, a General Assembly committee did an even greater disservice to Ohio by recommending... *Continued on Pg.2*



Photo: Whole View by Alice Merkel. Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve, Cleveland, Ohio.

(Help Western Cuyahoga Audubon End Ohio's Clean Energy Freeze! continued from Pg. 1)

the continued freeze on our alternative and renewable energy standards. These energy standards must be put back into effect in order to continue to create sustainable jobs, attract business investment, provide a clean environment, and protect the health communities that we deserve. Stopping Ohio's progress on energy efficiency and renewable energy has negatively impacted job growth and our Ohio's ability to be a leader in innovation.

We want and deserve a clean energy future. We want good jobs, economic security, clean air, clean water, and action on climate change. Western Cuyahoga Audubon members and friends can help to get Ohio to lift the clean energy freeze and bring back clean energy to Ohio. [Sign the Bring Clean Energy Back to Ohio Petition!](#)

FIELD TRIPS >>>



Above: November Birders, December Birders, Pileated Woodpecker, and Feeding the Chickadees © Penny O'Connor

Second Saturday Bird Walks at Rocky River Nature Center

UPCOMING DATES: [November 12, 2016](#) / [December 10, 2016](#) / [January 14, 2017](#)

Ken Gober, Dave Graskemper and Bill Deiningner lead walks on the second Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. on trails around the Rocky River Reservation, home of the Rocky River Important Bird Area. New to birding? Grab some binoculars and join us. You'll be amazed how fast you can learn birds by sight and sound. Walks begin at the Rocky River Nature Center parking lot, 24000 Valley Pkwy, North Olmsted, OH 44070. Watch: [Second Saturday Bird Walk](#)



Photo: Huntington Gulls © Dave Lewis

Saturday, November 26, 9:00 a.m. - Noon >

Field Trip to Huntington Beach, Bay Village

Date: Saturday, November 26, 2016 at 9 a.m.

Location: 28648 Lake Rd, Bay Village, OH 44140 [Map](#)

Trip Leader: Erik Bruder

Target Species: Waterfowl and Gulls

The Lake Erie Shore is a great place to see waterfowl and gulls. We will bird Huntington and then move to other areas along the lake shore, according to recent sightings. Use the parking lot off Lake Road, Bay Village, entrance by the corner of Porter Creek Road and Lake Road. Meet by the water tower (a.k.a. ice cream stand).

[Read Online](#)

Friday, December 30, all day >

117th Annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count-Lakewood Circle 2016

Date & Time: Friday, December 30, 2016 All Day

Place: Lakewood, Ohio vicinity and Rocky River Reservation trails, or "Lakewood Circle"

Targeted Species: Winter Residents

Compiler: Nancy Howell

"Lakewood" count circle includes western areas of Cuyahoga County, from Lake Erie south into Berea and Olmsted Falls, and Lakewood and Cleveland Zoo too.

Read the related story on page 4 and see the map on page 5. [Read Online](#)



Above: Plate 111 depicts the Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) from the book, *The Birds of America* by John James Audubon, naturalist and painter. Learn more at National Audubon [here](#).

Saturday, January 28, 9:00 a.m. >

Field Trip to Edgewater Park & Wendy Park

Event: Western Cuyahoga Audubon and Kirtland Bird Club

Date: Saturday, January 28, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Edgewater Park, 6500 Cleveland Memorial Shoreway, Cleveland, OH 44102 [Directions](#)

Leader: Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr.

Target Species: Gulls

We'll meet at Edgewater Park in Cleveland, lower beach area by the fishing pier. As road conditions permit we'll bird Edgewater then to Wendy Park. Look for a variety of gull species! Wear lots of layers. [Read Online](#)

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 2016!

By Nancy Howell, compiler for the Lakewood Christmas Bird Count

"Lakewood" count circle includes western areas of Cuyahoga County, from Lake Erie south into Berea and Olmsted Falls, and Lakewood and Cleveland Zoo too.

Do you like birding? How about watching birds at your feeder? Would you like to be a "citizen scientist" and add to data about the birds you have seen? If any or all of these are something you like to do or would like to know more about, then consider helping with the Lakewood Christmas Bird Count - 2016. The Lakewood Christmas Bird Count, with its center point of the count circle located in Lakewood, OH, will take place on Friday, December 30, 2016. For those unfamiliar with the Christmas Bird Counts, they are the longest running "citizen science" projects with over 100 years of collected data. Information from the count goes to the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's database. The Lakewood count circle covers a large portion of the Lake Erie shoreline west of the city, south to the northern Strongsville border, east to the Tri-C West campus in Parma/Parma Hts and western Cleveland neighborhoods, west into Lorain County just beyond the Cuyahoga County line (North Ridgeville, Avon and Avon Lake). For a map, video and details, click the "Christmas Bird Count" button on our website Homepage (scroll down) [here](#).

Participants tally all bird species and numbers of birds, yes Rock Pigeons, European Starlings and House Sparrows are included. Birders may go out in groups or individually as long as the tallies are in the count circle. We'd love to have as much of the count circle covered as possible which means neighborhoods, parks, cemeteries and any green space are fair game. Weather is not a deterrent so participants go out in whatever the weather condition is at the time. Some people spend time early in morning, or late in the evening doing some owling as long as it takes place on that December 30th date. For those not wishing to be outdoors, feeder watching is another part of the count as long as the feeder being observed is in the count circle.

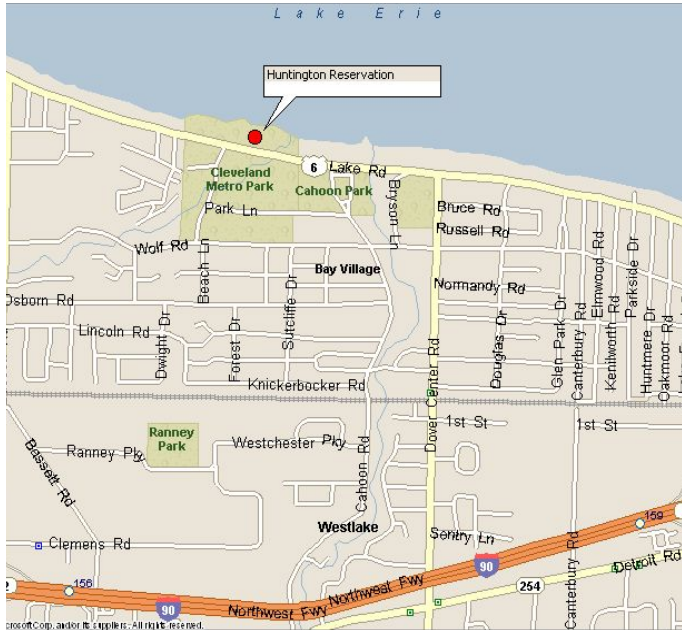
One of the nice aspects of the day is the "thank you" dinner held at the Rocky River Nature Center on Friday, December 30 at 6:00 p.m. Participants dine and gather with their list of species sighted. Species are tallied with everyone anticipating what has been found that day. Recruit new friends, families and young folks, the more eyes, the better! Contact me if you'd like to add areas in the count circle that have not been covered, or if you know of areas needing coverage, or would like to join a group planning to go out. This is a terrific way to get out during the holiday season and enjoy the birds around us. For questions and information, send your email to rhowell@wcaudubon.org or you can reach me at 440-891-1710. Thanks in advance for your participation! [Read Online](#)

Thank You Western Cuyahoga Audubon Members and Volunteers

Thanks to volunteers Madison Thomas, National Audubon Society, Ohio Outreach Coordinator and Megan Taylor for greeting visitors, collecting signatures for the Audubon Clean Energy Petition for Ohio, and hosting a bird identification game for youth at the Backyard Biodiversity Bash, August 27, Watershed Stewardship Center, West Creek Reservation, 2277 West Ridgewood Dr in Parma, Ohio. [Read Online](#)

The documentary, The Messenger, shown at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History on September 28 attracted a nice crowd who viewed the film and had the opportunity to speak with 22 organization representatives sharing action steps to protect migratory songbirds. Thanks to members Terry and Joanne Gorges and volunteer Megan Taylor for staffing the Western Cuyahoga Audubon display, connecting with exhibiting organizations, and getting the word out about Chapter programs to film audiences! [Read Online](#)

MAPS AND DIRECTIONS >>>



HUNTINGTON RESERVATION (left)

Directions: From Cleveland, take Rt 6 (Lake Rd) west to Bay Village. Or take I-90 west to Columbia Rd. Take Columbia Rd north to Lake Rd. Turn left (west) on Lake Rd. The main parking lot for Huntington is on the north side of Lake Rd. Bird walks generally meet in this lot. Address: 28648 Lake Rd, Bay Village, OH 44140. [See Map](#)

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT (below)

The "Lakewood" count circle includes western areas of Cuyahoga County, from Lake Erie south into Berea and Olmsted Falls, Lakewood, and the Cleveland Zoo too. Birding is in and around the Lakewood, Ohio vicinity and Rocky River Reservation trails from the Rocky River Nature Center, 24000 Valley Pkwy, North Olmsted, OH 44070. [See Map](#)



EDGEWATER PARK & WENDY PARK

Take Cleveland Memorial Shoreway (Route 2) to West 73rd Street exit. Go north toward Lake Erie. Continue north until you can turn left (west) along the shore. Look for the fishing pier. [Read Online](#)

PROGRAMS >>>

All Western Cuyahoga Audubon programs are free & open to the public. Our monthly programs are held the first Tuesday of each month, September through May, at the Rocky River Nature Center, Rocky River Reservation, 24000 Valley Pkwy, North Olmsted, OH 44070. Guests are welcome to programs and invited to learn about the Audubon mission. For a map and directions, [go here](#).



Tues Nov 1, 7:30 PM >

Acacia Reservation: From Fairways to Forests

Presenter: Wendy Weirich, Director of Outdoor Experiences, Cleveland Metroparks
Date: Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

In the fall of 2012, Cleveland Metroparks received the generous gift of 155 acre Acacia Country Club with the specific requirement to return the land to forests. Cleveland Metroparks has been nudging nature ever since to turn this urban green space into a premier oasis for flora and fauna. We'll take a closer look at the dramatically changing land of Acacia. [Read Online](#)



Tues Dec 6, 7:30 PM >

Living a Biocentric Lifestyle and How to Get More People Connected to Nature

Presenter: Stefanie Spear, Founder & CEO, EcoWatch
Special Event: Annual Potluck Dinner & Silent Auction
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

EcoWatch engages millions of readers each month on their journey from a humanistic viewpoint to a

biocentric one. As a publisher of environmental news for more than 25 years, Stefanie is dedicated to motivating readers to become engaged in their community, adopt sustainable practices and support strong environmental policy to protect human health and the environment. [Read Online](#)

For the Silent Auction, bring your gently-used or new nature-themed items. Bring a few bucks at the same time, and take home some treasures for yourself or for holiday gifts. Proceeds benefit our Chapter. *For the potluck*, bring a tasty appetizer, side dish or dessert to share.



Tues Jan 3, 7:30 PM >

Recent Advances in Ornithology

Presenter: Dr. Andy Jones, Director of Science, Director of Science and the William A. and Nancy R. Klamm Endowed Chair of Ornithology, Curator and Head of Ornithology, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History
Date: Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

There are thousands of academic papers published every year on the biology of birds. New discoveries are sometimes highlighted in the media and on your Facebook feed, but many simply don't get the public attention they deserve. Dr. Jones will highlight taxonomic changes and exciting aspects of bird biology that birders will want to know about, as well as other discoveries that will simply make you a more observant and more informed birder. [Read Online](#)

NEWS >>>

Carbon Offset Project Total Update: \$259.00

Money generated through this project goes to habitat preservation & restoration in the Rocky River IBA or other area within the range of Western Cuyahoga Audubon. Consider contributing to the Carbon Offset Project when you take a birding trip. Information and how to [calculate donation amounts here](#).

War on Zika: Outrage ensues after controversial spray tactic kills millions of bees

By Amanda Schmidt, AccuWeather Staff Writer. September 25, 2016; 1:51 AM ET. The war on Zika continues and with it comes casualties. This time, honeybees fell victim. Millions of honeybees at Flowertown Bee Farm and Supplies killed as a result of the aerial spraying on Aug. 28. Millions of honeybees were killed in South Carolina as a result of a controversial aerial spray targeting Zika-carrying mosquitoes, *Aedes aegypti*. The result of the insecticide release may best be described as a massacre. Flowertown Bee Farm and Supplies in Summerville was one of the hardest hit by the attack; losing 46 beehives that totaled about 2.5 million bees. "[The farm] looks like it's been nuked," Co-owner and Manager of Flowertown Bee Farm and Supplies Juanita Stanley told the Associated Press. Aftermath of aerial spraying at Flowertown Bee Farm and Supplies. Mosquito control programs in South Carolina are not uncommon. There are often trucks driving around towns spraying pesticides in order to destroy mosquito larvae. The South Carolina Health Department (DHEC) warned South Carolina residents about the mosquito outbreak and the risk of Zika, and urged all local governments to enhance their current mosquito control programs. [Read Online](#)



Ohio Young Birders Club
FOUNDED IN 2006 BY BLACK SWAMP BIRD OBSERVATORY

10th Annual Ohio Young Birders Conference

Date: Saturday, November 5, 2016
Time: 8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Location: Toledo Zoo, 2700 Broadway St, Toledo, OH 43609

This conference features morning behind-the-scenes Zoo & Aquarium Tours, reports and presentations by Young Birders, Door Prizes and Raffle, Kaufman Bird ID Quiz, Sunday Extension Field Trip, Bird Banding Demo. You don't have to be an OYBC member to participate and adults are encouraged to attend. Contact: Black Swamp Bird Observatory, 13551 W State Route 2, Oak Harbor, OH 43449 Ph: 419-898-4070. [Register](#)

Welcome New Members! Barbara Buser, John Canter, Todd Cartner, Bill Grant, Carol Hall, Jody Kraner, Melanie Lesar, Matthew McDonnell, Ronald Morgan & Gail Habecker, Patrick and Barbara O'Connor, Steven Springer, Madison Thomas, and Geryl Wesley.

[Purchase Membership online safely and securely here.](#)

The Western Cuyahoga Audubon Chapter Newsletter is published four times per year in February, May, August and November.

Western Cuyahoga Audubon programs are free and open to the public. Donations are appreciated. Consult the calendar for dates www.wcaudubon.org/calendar

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