

## We're on social media!



amvohio



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We're happy to send you Audubon Miami Valley's (AMV) fall newsletter. AMV plans a full line-up of meetings and events this winter. Find the details both in this newsletter and at our website [amvohio.org](http://amvohio.org)

## Visit Our Website!

AMV is online and available on your computer, tablet or smartphone. Our website at [www.amvohio.org](http://www.amvohio.org) features details about programs, field trips, events, newsletter archives and an events calendar. You can also subscribe to our news blog from the AMV website. On [Facebook](#), you'll find activity posts and photos. Please "like" AMV and share our postings. Twitter users will find tweets with our activities and other Audubon interests at [@audubonmv](#). You can follow AMV and "retweet" to share our postings. See you online!

## AMV Scholars Have Exciting Summer Plans

AMV awards scholarships each year to local educators interested in furthering conservation and environmental education. This year, Talawanda High School Biology teacher Adriane Ruther and her daughter will spend a week at Audubon's Hog Island Camp in Maine birding and studying the ecosystem. AMV also provides two Rosie Bloom scholarships to assist with travel expenses for graduate students in Miami University's Project Dragonfly, a conservation and environmental education program. This year, Shara Clark will be studying great cat conservation at the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia as well as visiting Etosha National Park. Leah Goeke will be researching anthropogenic (human created) debris on the coast of Belize. She hopes to help her students further their understanding of this real-world issue and be part of the solution.

## Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative: Milkweed Seed Collection

The Butler County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) office has joined the annual Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative to help create beneficial habitats for pollinators by collecting milkweed seed. The milkweed seed collection site is at the SWCD office located at 1802 Princeton Road, Hamilton Ohio. Collection will be between 8:00am and 4:30pm Monday thru Friday from September 1<sup>st</sup> through October 30<sup>th</sup>. You may also drop off seeds at the LCNB National Bank (30 Park PL W., Oxford OH). Oxford Seniors (922 Tollgate DR, Oxford OH) will have a box for milkweed seed drop off as well. Deadline to drop off seed in Oxford is Monday, Oct. 26. For full detailed instructions about seed collection go to [www.butlerswcd.org/pollinators](http://www.butlerswcd.org/pollinators). It's very important that the seeds are brown when collected and put in a paper bag that is folded over and stapled shut. We don't want any seeds flying around the bank or senior center!



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## Fall Hike-A-Thon: Come Join the Fun

AMV will again participate in the Miami University Community Hike-A-Thon, September 28. This is a wonderful family event for all ages with different levels of hikes, activities, and displays from environmental groups. AMV will have binoculars for your use along with an experienced birder in the bird blind to help identify birds. There will be birding hikes beginning early in the morning through mid-morning. This year AMV will be giving away year old oak tree saplings from the very large oak tree by the children's garden at the Oxford Community Arts Center. The acorns were collected, potted, and repotted by L'Obel Nursery. Once planted, they will grow into large trees providing cooling shade in the summer, help clean the air around us, and provide many benefits for birds and other wildlife.

The Hike-A-Thon is Saturday, September 28th from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Parking is in the parking lot east of the horse stables on Rt. 73. Audubon's table will be just beyond the DeWitt cabin. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

[Click here to learn more](#)

## Volunteers Needed!

Get Involved!

# Invasive Removal Project



## Hueston Woods State Park

Saturday October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019      10am-4pm

Begin at the Nature Center | 6301 Park Office Rd. College Corner, OH 45003

The park staff is taking action against the Honeysuckle invasion  
Learn and be a part of the elimination process of this invasive species  
Help clear Main Loop Road, allowing space for native wildlife to reclaim it  
Water and snacks will be provided throughout the day

After a job well done-  
Enjoy a Dinner and  
Birds of Prey show back at the Nature Center

To make sure we have enough food and supplies  
We ask that you sign up on or before October 19<sup>th</sup>

Sign Up by Calling 513.524.4250 or emailing [Kathryn.Zeppernick@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Kathryn.Zeppernick@dnr.state.oh.us)





## Upcoming Field Trips

### **Cox Arboretum– Saturday, September 14, 2019**

Part of the Five Rivers Metropark system, Cox Arboretum is a 189-acre facility located on the south side of Dayton. The Arboretum offers 2.5 miles of trails through mature forests and colorful meadows. There is an excellent range of native wildflowers and mature trees at the rear of the Arboretum. 9 specialty gardens provide inspiration for gardeners wishing to make sustainable plant choices. Our leader for this trip will be experienced horticulturalist Dick Munson. The trip will leave at 7:30 a.m. from the TJ Maxx parking lot (on Locust Street across from McDonald's) for the one-hour drive to the Arboretum. Those wishing to do so may get together for lunch in the Dayton area before returning to Oxford in the afternoon.

### **Forest Run Metropark – Sunday, October 13, 2019**

Located in Ross Township, the Metropark includes a variety of natural landscapes across 342 acres. Our visit will include the Timberman Ridge and Wildlife Preserve Areas of Forest Run featuring 9.1 miles of natural trails and a spectacular scenic overlook with an observation deck. Wildlife expert Sam Fitton will lead our visit to Forest Run. We'll meet at 8:00 a.m. at the TJ Maxx parking lot (on Locust Street across from McDonald's) for the half-hour drive to Forest Run. Pack a picnic lunch or snacks if desired and bring binoculars if possible.

### **Elk Creek Metropark – Saturday, November 9, 2019**

At over 800 acres, Elk Creek Metropark in Madison Township is the largest park in Butler County. This beautiful natural setting provides views of the wooded hills and rolling meadows forming the walls of the creek valley. Hiking trails are routed throughout the woods and along Elk Creek, which runs the length of the park. Elk Creek was created in 2016 when a new 456.3-acre parcel of land known as Meadow Ridge was combined with the 352-acre Sebald Park, which had been owned and managed by Metroparks since 2014. We'll meet at 8:00 a.m. at the TJ Maxx parking lot (on Locust Street across from McDonald's) for the 35-minute drive to Elk Creek. Pack a picnic lunch or snacks if desired and bring binoculars if possible.

### **Brookville Lake Area – Saturday, December 7, 2019**

Ornithologist Dr. David Russell will again lead us on a birding tour of the Brookville Reservoir area between Liberty and Brookville, Indiana. We'll visit a number of good spots around Brookville Lake as well as Whitewater State Park, looking for migrating ducks, geese, gulls, sandhill cranes and other species. The group will meet at 7:30 a.m. at the west end of the Wal Mart parking lot (on US 27, north of Oxford). Pack food if desired and bring binoculars if possible.

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## Upcoming Audubon Miami Valley Programs

Audubon Miami Valley will meet the second Monday of September, October, November and December in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room of the Lebanon Citizens National Bank (LCNB) building, 30 West Park Place, Oxford, OH. Programs start at 7:30 pm. These meetings are free and open to the public.

### **September 9, 2019 Screening of the documentary "Bird of Prey"**

"Bird of Prey" is an award-winning documentary created by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. With fewer than 800 Great Philippine Eagles remaining on Earth, the film tells the moving tale of a small but devoted group of people who are determined to save these magnificent birds from extinction. This film weaves stunning natural history footage of the critically endangered Great Philippine Eagle with the remarkable story of wildlife cinematographer Neil Rettig and a small group of conservationists from the Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF) who work tirelessly to save the bird from extinction.

### **October 14, 2019 "Ornamentals Escaping into the Wild: The Story of the Callery Pear Tree" Presenter – Theresa Culley, Department of Biology, University of Cincinnati**

Known popularly as the 'Bradford', 'Aristocrat', or 'Cleveland Select' pear tree, the Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*) has been rapidly spreading across the US. We will explore the history of this popular ornamental tree, why it has been spreading, and what can be done now to slow its invasion. Theresa Culley is a Professor and Chair of Biological Sciences at University of Cincinnati. A native of California and a graduate of Ohio State, she chairs the Invasive Plant Assessment Committee of the Ohio Invasive Plants Council.



**\*\*Thursday, November 7, 2019 "A Hyena's Tale" Hefner Lecture Series Sponsored by AMV**

**Presenter – Dr. Kay Holekamp, Department of Integrative Biology, Michigan State University**

Each year, Audubon Miami Valley sponsors the Hefner lecture at The Hefner Museum of Natural History. This year will feature Dr. Kay Holekamp on November 7th, 2019 at 7:30pm in Benton Hall, room 102, followed by a reception at the Hefner Museum. Dr. Holekamp is the University Distinguished Professor of Integrative Biology and Director of Michigan State University's interdisciplinary program in Ecology, Evolutionary Biology & Behavior.

**November 11, 2019 "Worldwide Warming of Lakes: Will We Sink or Swim?"**

**Presenter – Craig Williamson, Department of Biology, Miami University**

Climate change is leading to a warmer and wetter world with more extreme events. What does this mean for the freshwater in lakes that is essential for life and yet threatened by human activity? Come hear a limnologist's tale of many lakes. Craig Williamson is the Ohio Eminent Scholar of Ecosystem Ecology at Miami University. He is a global change limnologist, and he loves lakes. He has studied lakes from Pennsylvania to Alaska and Patagonia, and likes nothing more than to share his insights into how lakes are changing in this world.

**December 9, 2019 "A Romp through Ohio's Flora and Fauna"**

**Presenter - Jim McCormac**

This program will be a pictorial adventure; a wander through Ohio's varied habitats with visits to flora and fauna great and small. We'll look at well-known plants and animals, and obscure species that few have heard of or encountered. Overarching all is the importance of ALL the cogs of the ecological wheel, and the need to protect everything. Jim worked for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for 31 years as a botanist, and later specializing in wildlife diversity projects, especially involving birds.





#### **OUR MISSION**

Audubon Miami Valley works to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.

The Audubon Miami Valley newsletter is published three times a year. Alexandria Horne is the editor. Bev Thomas is the proofreader. Caitlin Stone designed the AMV Meadowlark logo. The paper version of the newsletter is printed by Letterman Printing in Oxford on 100% recycled paper.

If you would like to contribute content to the newsletter, please send your content to [ahorne@amvohio.org](mailto:ahorne@amvohio.org) or to Newsletter, P.O. Box 556, Oxford, Ohio 45056. Contribution deadline for the Winter 2019-2020 newsletter is December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**We seek to shape a culture in which the violation of nature is socially, politically, and morally unacceptable.**

