



Wachiska
Audubon Society

Wachiska Audubon Society's vision: To share the experience
and love of nature—that life may flourish in all its natural diversity

The Babbling Brook

Our 48th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2021

MAY 2021

Volume 30 - Issue 5

Wachiska Program — Thursday, May 13, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom web conference (registration required)
Link to register: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEqc-yqqDstGNGMSetbFkMv7IUlpUfbEjX9>

Raptor Conservation Alliance

by Dave Titterington

In 1976, National Audubon encouraged Audubon chapters around the country to find a special project to mark the bicentennial. Betsy Finch, a founder of Wachiska Audubon in 1973, took on this charge to care for injured birds of prey in Nebraska. Since 1976, injured and orphaned raptors in Nebraska have been cared for by a statewide network of dedicated volunteers who recovered injured and orphaned birds of prey and transported them to the raptor hospital in Lincoln. In the beginning, they were the Nebraska Raptor Center and later became the well-known Raptor Recovery Nebraska.



In 1999, the raptor hospital under Raptor Recovery Nebraska was relocated near Elmwood on a rural homestead. Numerous buildings were revamped with additional buildings constructed. A new raptor hospital facility was erected. Two large flight pens were put up where, prior to release, recovering raptors could exercise their wings, build up muscle mass, and regain the agility needed to roam the skies freely once again.

It can be heartbreaking recovering these magnificent birds since many are in such traumatic condition they can't be saved. But if there is any possible way to repair broken wings, stitch up

lacerations, and repair fractured legs, these birds are given every opportunity to heal to the point where they can be released. Other birds are brought to the raptor hospital suffering from lead poisoning, West Nile virus, or any number of other issues. Through medications and 24-hour care, many of these birds survive, thanks to the dedicated people at the raptor center.

Raptors in the wild face numerous threats from human activity as do many of our birds. Habitat loss is a major factor in declining bird populations, but many acute injuries and illnesses are caused by the direct impact of human activity such as collisions with automobiles and trains, gunshot wounds, and collisions with windows and buildings. Some birds contract lead poisoning from inadvertently consuming prey that had ingested lead buckshot shot from area lakes. Pesticide poisoning, humans' misuse of rodent baits and traps, and bites from feral cats are often fatal. These birds face many perils, but the raptor hospital is prepared to address these and many other medical issues that raptors suffer in the wild.



Betsy Finch

(continued on page 5)

Calendar

May

- 8 - 9 33rd Annual Birdathon birding weekend (page 2)
- 10 Conservation Committee via Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Finance Committee Quarterly Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 General Meeting via Zoom, "Raptor Conservation Alliance," 7:00 p.m. (*NOTE required registration*)
- 15 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 18 Board Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
- 25 GIVE TO LINCOLN DAY (page 2)
- 27 Legislation Committee via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

August 21 - 22 Tour the Wild Side (page 3)

Join Wachiska Audubon for this Zoom presentation at 7:00 p.m. on **Thursday, May 13**. This free public program is available to those who register at <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEqc-yqqDstGNGMSetbFkMv7IUlpUfbEjX9>. Copy and paste this link into your browser or go to Wachiska's website after May 1 and click on the link directly from the notice to register. You will then receive a confirmation with the meeting number and password. Keep that email, and a few minutes before the program is to begin, click on that confirmation, and you'll be invited into the meeting. Urge others to take part as well.

Calling All Birders for Birdathon

by John Carlini, Field Trip Committee

No one could have imagined that COVID-19 would have kept us from enjoying restaurants, travel, and social get-togethers for over a year but, fortunately, birding is one cherished activity that we haven't had to give up. Wachiska's annual Birdathon fundraiser will take place on Mother's Day weekend, May 8-9 this year, and all eyes and ears are again needed to collectively tally the maximum number of species on individual excursions. We will again be foregoing field trips and group birding this spring due to the pandemic.



Cedar Waxwing

If you're out birding in Wachiska's region of Southeast Nebraska on the weekend of May 8-9, you can add your bird sightings to the number of species on the group list from which pledged donations will be based. Submit your species list via email to the Wachiska office at office@wachiskaaudubon.org by May 15 to have them included in the count. It doesn't matter whether you bird your backyard, your favorite loop around a marsh or lake, or a new place where no birder has gone before, in May you're bound to find good birds!

Wachiska continues to be a local beacon of light for promoting conservation for our regional ecosystems and issues, so please consider sustaining this wonderful resource by donating to Wachiska Audubon's annual Birdathon fundraiser. This can be done online through Give To Lincoln Day on Tuesday, May 25, by mail with the Birdathon letter mailed last month, or now also online via the Wachiska website. Of course, checks sent directly to the office are always welcome, too. Thank you!

(Editor's Note: The image above of the cedar waxwing was taken by John Carlini.)

Second Saturday Seeds

by Beth Coufal, Conservation Committee

Announcing "Second Saturday Seeds." Join me on the second Saturday of the month from June through October for wildflower walks on Wachiska's beautiful prairies. We will meet at one of our prairies for a walk followed by seed collecting if any suitable species are found at the proper stage of ripeness. Everyone is welcome for either or both activities. Outings on June 12 and September 11 will be at Knott Prairie by Yutan where we should see spiderwort, gray-headed coneflower, Illinois bundleflower, and many other species. Then on July 10, August 14, and October 9 we will visit Dieken Prairie near Unadilla. This lovely prairie commonly has two species of gayfeather, New Jersey tea, prairie-clover, gentians, and ladies' tresses. Come dressed for walking in tall grasses and bring gloves, clippers, and a bucket if you plan to stay for seed collecting. Let's start at 9:00 a.m. Feel free to call or text me at 402-417-3928 if you have questions or need directions. We will cancel if it is raining.

May Is Wachiska's Birdathon and Give to Lincoln Day

by Tim Knott, Birdathon Committee

Our chapter's most important fundraising months each year are April and May when Birdathon is in full swing and our members have an opportunity to contribute to the success of our chapter. It is essential that we receive many donations during these months, so we can reach our fundraising goal for the year and pay for such things as our office space and office manager, chapter insurance, presence at the state legislature, and some of our *Babbling Brook* printing and mailing costs. So please remember how important the Birdathon is for Wachiska and donate using the return envelope in your Birdathon letter.

In addition to the checks we receive from our members and friends, Wachiska participates in the annual Give to Lincoln Day event during May. You can support Wachiska and participate in Give to Lincoln Day by contributing online at any time between May 1 and May 25 (Tuesday, May 25, is the actual event). To contribute, go online, look for the Give to Lincoln Day website, find Wachiska Audubon, and donate using your credit card. We will receive an additional amount of matching money from a special fund at the Lincoln Community Foundation.

You can even contribute by bringing your check or cash to our office by 2:00 p.m. on May 25 before we deliver them to the Lincoln Community Foundation that day. Just make sure checks are made payable to the Lincoln Community Foundation and put Wachiska Audubon on the memo line.

Wachiska is planning a number of events this year including a newly organized backyard tour on August 21 and 22. We are calling it "Tour the Wild Side." With some luck, we will be holding our Prairie Discovery Days for fourth grade students in September and creating a new birding and wildlife habitat area at Walt Library. Please make a generous contribution to Wachiska's Birdathon. Thank you for your continued support and interest in your Audubon chapter!

Nebraska Birding Trails

by Olivia DaRugna, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

As the Watchable Wildlife biologist with Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, I am working with a small team including Kristal Stoner at Audubon Nebraska to update the Nebraska Birding Trails website. We are in the initial planning phase and are hoping to hear from bird watchers in Nebraska about what information they would find useful on the updated website. I have developed the brief Google survey link below to collect this information. It would be helpful if you birders could share your thoughts on this topic. Use this link to the short survey: <https://forms.gle/3D44gTE6Y9hKkUws8>. Email is the best way to get ahold of me as I am still working from home. Email me at olivia.darugna@nebraska.gov or leave a voicemail message at 402-471-5631, and I will return calls as soon as possible. Please let me know if you have any questions. Check out Nebraska Watchable Wildlife on Facebook.

“Tour the Wild Side” Using Native Plants in Your Landscape

(learn more the weekend of August 21 and 22)

by Theresa Pella

Wachiska Audubon Society’s long-standing Father’s Day habitat tour is taking a new twist this year! With much in the news about the benefits of connecting the right plants with various birds and pollinators, a shift to an educational event seems like perfect timing.

On Saturday, August 21, and Sunday, August 22, you will have the opportunity to visit several private and public locations in varying stages of native plant growth. Some will show what a transition to using native plants may look like the first year, others will exhibit progress that two-three years of growth brings, and you can walk through other landscapes that could be considered prairies. Along the way, visit with the owners about challenges they’ve faced and their successes; talk to plant, insect, and bird experts; and visit with commercial businesses that offer native plants.

Wachiska is partnering with Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center and other organizations to bring a wealth of expertise together for this weekend. Plan to take advantage of the opportunity to ask those lingering questions about a particular plant you’ve been considering, how to plant something, what types of birds and insects you could expect to benefit, etc.

Details are still in the works, but family activities are also being planned for some of the locations. If you have an interest in helping, please email Theresa Pella at pella_t@yahoo.com.

May Programs at Spring Creek Prairie

by Kevin Poague, SCPAC Operations Manager

Third Tuesday Bird Walk — Tuesday, May 18

Join fellow birders for a guided bird walk along the prairie trails. (Free; registration required)

Super Bird Saturday — Saturday, May 22

A morning of family-fun entertainment all about our feathered friends, focusing on female birds. Come celebrate BIRD MONTH in Nebraska in a safe and socially distant manner. Enjoy bird crafts, bird walks, bird yoga, and a live bird demonstration.

8:30 - 9:45 a.m. – Bird banding and Birding By Ear workshop (\$10/person; registration required)

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon – Free Family Bird Fair

10:30 a.m. – Bird yoga for kids and families

11:30 a.m. – Live bird demonstration with Raptor Conservation Alliance

Masks will be required for all events. Check for more information on our website at <https://springcreek.audubon.org/events>. Questions to 402-797-2301; scp@audubon.org.

Cicadas

by Richard Peterson

There are 170 species of cicadas north of Mexico. Twenty-four species have been recorded in Nebraska. Cicadas are in the insect order Hemiptera (true bugs) and have piercing-sucking mouthparts. We'll discuss two Nebraska species—one is quite common, the other is only seen periodically.



Bush Cicada

All cicadas lay eggs on the twigs of trees and shrubs. Eggs hatch in about six weeks and the newly hatched nymphs fall to the ground and burrow down until they find tender roots where they feed on the plant's xylem. They develop underground until it is time to re-surface and they climb up on whatever they bump into, usually a tree or shrub, to complete their transformation into adults. The adult leaves behind a cast skin, and the adult search for a mate begins. Each species has a unique “song” for which only the males are responsible. Males aggregate into chorus centers to compete and attract suitable mates. Cicadas do not sting and don't normally bite. The cicada's proboscis, however, can pierce human skin and can be painful. They are not venomous, and there is no evidence that they transmit disease.

The dog-day cicada, *Tibicen canicularis*, also called the silver-bellied cicada or harvest fly, is one species of annual cicada. Generations overlap so some adults emerge every year. Adults are mostly black with green markings on the body. Their wings are interlaced with green veins, more noticeable at their base. They live in mixed and deciduous wooded areas including residential neighborhoods. Their “song” is a loud, high-pitched whine much like a power saw cutting wood; others refer to it as a rasping buzz.

The 17-year cicada, *Magicicada septendecim*, is one of seven species of periodical cicadas in the eastern U.S. Adults have red eyes and a black dorsal thorax, and the wings have orange veins. These cicadas are grouped into geographic broods based on the calendar year when they emerge. In 1898, entomologist C. L. Marlatt assigned Roman numerals to 30 different broods; 17 broods with a 17-year life cycle (Broods I-XVII) and 13 broods for those with a 13-year cycle (Broods XVIII-XXX). Within a brood, the population is synchronized to emerge at the same time. Although now outdated, the Marlatt system has been retained for convenience. Today, only 15 broods still exist. Brood X, the great eastern brood, emerges this year, 2021, from New York to North Carolina and west to Michigan.

In Nebraska, only Brood IV, the Kansan brood, is found in areas bordering the Missouri River or areas containing eastern hardwood forests, such as those found in the southeastern counties of Douglas, Sarpy, Cass, Otoe, Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee, and Richardson. They made their last appearance in 2015 and will not return until 2032.

Quarter Century in Our Original Office

by Linda R. Brown

April 15, 1996 — Wachiska opened our office doors for the first time. On April 15 this year, Arlys Reitan celebrated her 25th anniversary as the chapter's office administrator. When asked how Audubon had influenced her life, Arlys said that Wachiska did not just define her work life—the conservation principles of Audubon guided a way of living for Arlys and her husband, Ken.



Arlys Reitan

They schedule tasks in order to use one car. They are dedicated recyclers. She turns off lights on a regular basis and their thermostat rarely gets above 66 degrees in the winter. Arlys has organized the Wachiska office to recycle donated paper. She loads this paper into the printers to remind us that we don't need a fresh sheet of paper for our every need.

Arlys came to her paid position in 1996 with prior Audubon experience. She served as chair of the Nebraska Audubon Council from 1993-1994, at a time when Nebraska had six Audubon chapters. In 1995, when National Audubon was given a \$1 million grant to fund a national strategic planning process, then Regional Vice President Ron Klataske pointed out that the planners were only staff and national board people. He insisted that chapter representatives be included and recommended Arlys, based on her organizing and writing skills and willingness to facilitate connections with others. She accepted the invitation as the only chapter representative on the team, making seven trips to New York City and other destinations over the next four months. As part of that effort, she interviewed Audubon people across the nation, scrutinized the goals and content of *Audubon* magazine, called upon other conservation organizations, and addressed the ongoing issues of the membership department. This experience was a highlight of her life she recalls.

One of the missions of the national strategic plan was to develop a state office. Arlys made it her mission to have Nebraska be the first to establish a state presence “from scratch” rather than merely turning a sanctuary or nature center into a statewide presence as several states were doing. This was accomplished. Next came an office for the Wachiska chapter.

During her years of employment with Wachiska, Arlys has arranged most of the general meeting programs. Many of her early national contacts agreed to be our speakers. Through the years, whenever our chapter had an issue, she emailed or picked up the phone and consulted. Through writing the monthly newsletter she has been able to reach out to many as resources on environmental matters.

Arlys is passionate in her belief that maintaining the office is a major piece in what makes Wachiska a credible environmental presence in Southeast Nebraska. We agree and thank her for running the office well for 25 years.

Hear the Birds Sing

At the following website you can click on each bird picture and hear it sing! Go to https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/mcvmagazine/bird_songs_interactive/index.html.



Illustration courtesy of Bill Reynolds. All recordings courtesy of The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, All About Birds

Remembering BC

One of Wachiska's prairie enthusiasts, BC Lavelle, passed away in April. She was extremely passionate about native prairie preservation, assisted with prescribed burns, took part in plant inventories, led field trips for children and adults, and volunteered



BC Lavelle

at Spring Creek Prairie. Longtime Auduboners will recall that BC rescued the native plants at the Highway 77 rest area on Hickman Road just before the area was cleared for road construction. She thrilled at finding a delicate prairie orchid or brilliant blue downy gentian in the tall grass. This love of prairie was portrayed in her hand-built Nebraska clay pottery and oil paintings which were displayed at Lincoln galleries and area shows. BC received joy observing the antics of birds in the backyard that provided entertainment, especially orioles and hummingbirds.

Both BC and her sister, Carole Closter (past president), have volunteered and participated in many Wachiska activities over the years.

Wildflower Week in May

by Ross Scott, Conservation Committee Chair



Celebrate Wildflower Week during May 30 - June 5 with the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum's First Thursday Plant Talk. On June 3, the program will be "Wildflowers of Wachiska's Prairies." From the prairie violets and pussytoes of spring to the ladies' tresses and asters of autumn and colorful surprises in between, enjoy a virtual tour of Wachiska Audubon Society's Prairies of Southeast Nebraska. Ross Scott, chair of Wachiska's conservation committee

will guide viewers by describing what wildflowers can be found where and when to expect them to be blooming. Join me on Thursday, June 3, at 12:00 noon on Facebook for an hour of informative wildflower fun. Follow the link: <https://plantnebraska.org/connect/events/plant-talks.html>. Check the website for the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum for information.

Salt Creek Levee Flooding Risk

by Linda R. Brown

The Lincoln City Council approved the 2021-2027 Climate Action Plan on March 22, 2021. Thank you to Wachiska members who contacted the City Council asking for support of the plan. We know from reading the Climate Action Plan that Lincoln faces the risk of flooding along the Salt Creek levee that drains south to north from Van Dorn to Superior streets. Most of the Salt Creek levee system in the City of Lincoln is vulnerable to overtopping during the two percent annual chance (50-year) flood event of 6 - 6.4 inches. FEMA only provides guidance for accrediting levees designed to provide flood protection during the one percent annual chance (100-year) flood event of 6.68 - 7.33 inches; therefore, as currently constructed, the levees do not meet the requirements for accreditation. See more in the excellent comprehensive Salt Creek Floodplain Resiliency Study, Olsson Project No. 019-0175, dated August 15, 2020.

To bring this all home, read the Lincoln *Journal Star* article urging voluntary evacuations in the North and South Bottoms (*LJS*, May 7, 2015). Be sure to click through the arrows on the first picture to view the two associated maps to see if you, too, would be "at risk." If you are, consider buying renter's insurance or flood insurance and make an evacuation plan. Go to https://journalstar.com/news/local/voluntary-evacuations-in-north-south-bottoms-water-nears-top-of-levee/article_161629be-c38b-5e0a-a362-2aaf9e47baca.html.

"The single raindrop never feels responsible for the flood."

— Douglas Adams

"Floods are 'acts of God,' but flood losses are largely acts of man."

— Gilbert F. White

Raptor Conservation Alliance

(continued from page 1)

For example, with the expansion of habitat across Nebraska, bald eagles are nesting at record numbers; however, seven of the last 10 bald eagles brought to the raptor hospital suffered from lead poisoning. It is an expensive process but, through medications and experienced care, many of the eagles recover and are returned to the wild.



Carri Honz

When releasing rehabilitated raptors, consideration is given to releasing them in the area where they were recovered and may have mates or offspring or in the location where they may have nested and hunted for years. Every spring orphaned birds are recovered and brought to the raptor hospital where they are cared for until they can be released back in the area of the nesting adults.

Since 1976, raptors have been rehabilitated and released by the former Raptor Recovery Nebraska, recently renamed the Raptor Conservation Alliance (RCA). Just to feed the high number of raptors that pass through the hospital is costly. The medications can be expensive along with the treatment of those birds that require veterinarian intervention.

The RCA website is under development and will be launching soon. There you will be able to meet the raptors that have become the ambassadors for the work of the RCA. These birds are non-releasable due to injuries but remain healthy and vibrant, providing educational opportunities at public events.

For a nominal fee you can schedule a live raptor presentation of owls, falcons, and hawks since the Elmwood raptor facility is closed to the public. We ask for your support of the Raptor Conservation Alliance. The RCA receives no state or federal funding. It is an established 501(c)(3) nonprofit, so all donations are tax-deductible. Corporate sponsors are also welcome and may contact the RCA for information on corporate sponsorships. Please donate so our raptors can continue to fly healthy and free. Donations can be sent to Raptor Conservation Alliance, 27320 Adams St, Elmwood NE 68349.

RCA currently has two Facebook accounts—one is private and set up for volunteers and transporters only; the second one is open to the public. A recent PayPal account was established, so donations can be made more easily; although cash, checks, and money orders can still be mailed to the Elmwood address.

"The great law of culture is: Let each become all that it was created capable of being."

— Thomas Carlyle

Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

The City of Lincoln now has adopted goals and policies addressing climate change as part of its Comprehensive Plan. Here is a lightly edited statement Wachiska made to the City Council recently:

“Why do bird lovers care about climate change? National Audubon has done its own peer-reviewed study of the effects of climate change on North American birds. It found that climate change puts 384 species on the brink of extinction. Adopting and meeting the goals in the Climate Action Plan will contribute to the survival of birds and whole species of birds.

“Birds are also directly benefitted by a series of initiatives in the plan which call for the use of native plants and trees. Young birds need caterpillars their parents bring home—caterpillars available only on native plants and trees. Also, Wachiska has put a lot of effort into prairie preservation, starting with the work of Ernie Rousek to preserve Nine-Mile Prairie. We are pleased to see that prairie restoration is supported in these recommendations.

“A word about politics. Audubon doesn’t support candidates or participate in political campaigns. We’re bipartisan. Audubon’s 1.9 million members are 53 percent progressive and 47 percent moderate or conservative; 75 percent of all Audubon members, including a majority of moderate and conservative members, rank climate change as one of their top concerns among all issues facing America today. Audubon members across the political spectrum are committed to durable climate solutions. The birds are telling us there is no time to lose.”

Meanwhile, UNL students have been questioning the wisdom of their institution’s holding ownership of fossil fuel companies. At their April 9 meeting, Nebraska Board of Regents unanimously agreed to amend their policy on investments. The new policy would publish the list of holdings and require consideration of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) policies and practices of companies held by the university’s Fund N. Previously, the only criterion was maximizing returns according to an explanation reported by UNL’s Central Administration. President of the NU system, Ted Carter, said the change represents a key step toward NU’s ultimate vision that by 2025, the university’s Fund N will have no investments in energy companies that do not have a meaningful clean energy plan in place. The Lincoln *Journal Star* quoted senior fisheries and wildlife major, Brittini McGuire’s response: a fossil fuel company with a sustainability plan is “the definition of greenwashing.” Fund N is said to have less than two percent of its holdings in energy companies. Doane University in 2019 and Creighton University this year have adopted total divestment goals.

At the request of the New York City teachers and public employees’ retirement funds, the largest investment company in the world, BlackRock, analyzed whether divestment from fossil fuels would damage financial performance. BlackRock’s answer was that “no investors found negative performance from divestment.” (Bill McKibben, *The New Yorker*, 4/4/21)

A study by the International Energy Agency and Imperial College London reported that a global portfolio of renewable power companies posted an annual average return of 18 percent in the decade to December 2020, compared with 4.7 percent for fossil-fuel stocks (Bloomberg 3/19/21).

In April, on the first day BlackRock’s new ESG exchange traded fund (ETF) was offered, it raised a record \$1.25 billion. Two years ago, ESG ETF assets stood at \$10 billion; now they are at \$74.8 billion (Bloomberg 4/9/21). These funds select companies thought to prosper in the transition to a low-carbon world.

Garage Sale Early Next Month

by Elizabeth Nelson

Wachiska’s spring garage sale will be held in the garages of a commercial building located on the northwest corner of 14th and Arapahoe streets in Lincoln’s Indian



Village neighborhood. This is the same location where we have been distributing seed at our birdseed sales. The sale will be held from **9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 12**. Please email Elizabeth Nelson with a brief description of items you are able to donate along with photos of larger items which we will use in our promotions before the sale. Plan on dropping off your items on Friday, June 11, between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m., or arrange a different time with Elizabeth. All unsold items will be donated to local charities unless you make prior arrangements to pick them up at the end of the sale on Saturday. Sorry, but unsold items cannot be held for later pick up.

Things that sell well: bicycles, garden and household tools, small furniture, camping and sporting equipment, picture frames, kitchen items. Please do not bring anything that is not in good working condition—no clothes, nothing that is too heavy or large to load into a car trunk.

If you can help on the sale day, please email me at enelson555@gmail.com. This is a fundraiser for Wachiska, so pass the word and come out to see what our members are offering—remember to reduce, reuse, recycle.

Public Officials

President Joe Biden

1600 Pennsylvania Av NW, Washington DC 20500-0001
Comment line: 202-456-1111
Phone: 202-456-1414 Fax: 202-456-2461
E-mail at website: <http://whitehouse.gov/contact>

Senator Ben Sasse

1128 Lincoln Mall Ste 305, Lincoln NE 68508
Lincoln phone: 402-476-1400 Fax: 402-476-0605
Wash. DC phone: 202-224-4224 Fax: 202-224-5213
E-mail at website: <http://sasse.senate.gov>

Senator Deb Fischer

440 N 8th St Ste 120, Lincoln NE 68508
Lincoln phone: 402-441-4600 Fax: 402-476-8753
Wash. DC phone: 202-224-6551 Fax: 202-228-0012
E-mail at website: <http://fischer.senate.gov>

Congressman Jeff Fortenberry (1st District)

301 S 13th St Ste 100, Lincoln NE 68508-2537
Lincoln phone: 402-438-1598
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-4806 Fax: 202-225-5686
E-mail at website: <http://fortenberry.house.gov>

Congressman Don Bacon (2nd District)

13906 Gold Cir Ste 101, Omaha NE 68144
Omaha phone: 888-221-7452
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-4155 Fax: 202-226-5452
E-mail at website: <https://bacon.house.gov>

Congressman Adrian Smith (3rd District)

416 Valley View Dr Ste 600, Scottsbluff NE 69361
Scottsbluff phone: 308-633-6333 Fax: 308-633-6335
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-6435 Fax: 202-225-0207
E-mail at website: <http://adriansmith.house.gov>

Capitol Hill Switchboard

888-436-8427 or 202-224-3121

Governor Pete Ricketts

Capitol Bldg, PO Box 94848, Lincoln NE 68509-4848
Phone: 402-471-2244 Fax: 402-471-6031
E-mail at website: <http://governor.nebraska.gov>

State Senator _____

District ____ State Capitol, PO Box 94604, Lincoln, NE 68509-4604

State Capitol Switchboard

402-471-2311

Lancaster County Commissioners

County-City Bldg, 555 S 10th St Rm 110, Lincoln NE 68508
Phone: 402-441-7447 Fax: 402-441-6301
E-mail: commish@lancaster.ne.gov

Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird

County-City Bldg, 555 S 10th St Rm 301, Lincoln NE 68508-2828
Phone: 402-441-7511 Fax: 402-441-7120
E-mail: mayor@lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln City Council

402-441-7515
E-mail: council@lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln Journal Star

Letters to the editor, 926 P St, Lincoln NE 68508
E-mail: oped@journalstar.com

Join now! Become a Friend of Wachiska Audubon Society!

This local chapter membership provides you with voting privileges and access to all our events, programs, and committees, **plus 100 percent of your membership donation goes directly to the Wachiska chapter. In addition, Friend members receive our monthly newsletter, *The Babbling Brook*, in their choice of print or electronic form.**

Friends of Wachiska (local membership)

Name _____

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City _____ County _____ State _____ Zip _____

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E-mail _____

- ___ \$25 Individual/Friend
- ___ \$35 Family Friend
- ___ \$50 Black-capped Chickadee Friend
- ___ \$100 Northern Cardinal Friend
- ___ \$250 Western Meadowlark Friend
- ___ \$500 Bald Eagle Friend
- ___ \$1000 Peregrine Falcon Friend

Select the level of support that is right for you and make your check payable to **Wachiska Audubon Society**. All funds will remain with our local chapter and are tax deductible. Mail to:

Wachiska Audubon Society
Attention: Membership Committee
4547 Calvert St Ste 10
Lincoln NE 68506-5643



American Goldfinches

___ **I prefer to receive my newsletter by email.**

Please note: If you are already a member of National Audubon Society (NAS) you automatically become a member of Wachiska, but not a Wachiska Friend member. Only Wachiska Friends receive the printed newsletter each month. If you wish to join NAS or receive *Audubon* magazine, please contact the National Audubon Society directly.

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