



Wachiska
Audubon Society

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

The Babbling Brook

Our 51st Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2024

FEBRUARY 2024

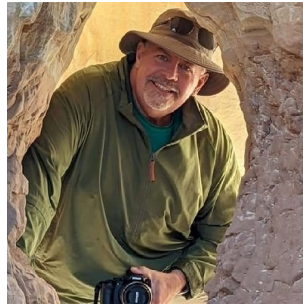
Volume 33 - Issue 2

Wachiska Program and General Meeting — Thursday, February 8, 7:00 p.m., Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, and also via YouTube link: https://youtube.com/live/9XYODkw_Q-8?feature=share

OneHealth Student Training in a Contaminated Landscape

by Dr. Larkin Powell, Director and Professor
School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska

Significant population declines of diverse bird species in the U.S. and Europe have been linked to neonicotinoid pesticides in the environment. “Neonics” are heavily used in crop, aquaculture, forestry, and livestock production. While these pesticides have the potential to kill some animals acutely when treated crop seeds are ingested, larger long-term impacts can occur at the population level due to direct exposure to non-lethal levels of pesticide or indirectly through decreased insect prey availability. Thus, effects of neonics have the potential to ripple through food webs to diverse wildlife including amphibians, birds, and small mammals.



Dr. Larkin Powell

were left exposed, and over time dust and storm runoff redistributed the pesticide residues in the local area leading to potential exposure to people, domestic animals, and wildlife.

The University of Nebraska created a program to monitor the broad consequences of the contamination across soil, water, food webs, wildlife populations, and humans. Within this program, Dr. Judy Wu Smart and Dr. Liz VanWormer created an opportunity for student training in OneHealth research methods. OneHealth emphasizes linkages among human, animal, plant, and ecosystem health. For the past three summers, students in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources have monitored birds and amphibians in the landscape contaminated near the AltEn biofuels plant. I have supported work to investigate possible impacts on red-winged blackbirds.

This presentation will provide some background on the contamination event and the planning that led to the student training and monitoring program. I will describe the methods our team has used to sample eggs and feathers of red-winged blackbirds with images and video, so you can experience a morning of research with our team! We have some preliminary results on a portion of our sample, and I will describe the trends that we see in our results.

Larkin Powell grew up in southern Iowa and has worked the last 22 years as a wildlife professor in the School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska. In August of 2023, Dr. Powell began serving as Director for the School. In his leisure time, he plays the piano and enjoys photography, angling, and poetry.

Join Wachiska on **Thursday, February 8, at 7:00 p.m.** at Lincoln’s Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, to learn more about this grave environmental concern in our region. This free, public, in-person talk will also be live-streamed on YouTube at

https://youtube.com/live/9XYODkw_Q-8?feature=share.

No registration is needed. This program can also be viewed at a later time. Check Wachiska’s website for links to past programs.

Calendar

February

- 8 General Meeting, “OneHealth Student Training in a Contaminated Landscape,” by Larkin Powell, 7:00 p.m., in-person meeting at the Unitarian Church and also live streamed; no registration needed (see link above)
- 12 Conservation Committee via Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 17 Bird EnCOUNTER, Walt Library, 10:30 - 1:00 p.m. (page 2)
- 20 Board Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

March 15 - 16 Spring Birdseed Sale (pages 3-4)

Executive Director's Message

by Mark Brohman

Winter finally hit Nebraska hard last month. After a fairly mild fall and early winter, we got hit with several full-fledged blizzards. Remember our feathered friends and other wildlife in these severe weather events. By keeping your bird feeders full and providing a heated water source, you are helping greatly.



I saw a photo from early January where two whooping cranes were still hanging around on the central Platte River, and I wonder why they didn't take off for Texas's Aransas National Wildlife Refuge to be with their friends. Let's hope they survive the winter if they choose to stay.

We had some technical problems with the monthly presentation by Monica Macoubrie from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission on January 11. You can now go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ArN8HKYxHCY> and watch the presentation or log on from Wachiska's website. Monica had a great program entitled "Forgotten Flyers: Unveiling the Beauty of Underappreciated Birds."

I attended Tom Labeledz's retirement last month at Morrill Hall. I want to congratulate Tom on his long and industrious career as the collections manager at the University of Nebraska's State Museum. Someone noted at the retirement that he has cataloged thousands of specimens of plants, mammals, insects, fish, and any other type of critter you can think of. Much of the university's collection has his name on the specimen tag; in 100 years there will be folks wondering who this T. Labeledz was that was responsible for so many specimens. I first met Tom in the mid-1980s while taking Dr. Freeman's mammalogy class in graduate school. Tom provided many specimens for our use. It was good to see Dr. Freeman at the retirement.

Wachiska has been chosen to be Open Harvest's SEED recipient for the month of March. The SEED program allows customers to "round-up" their grocery bill for local organizations that "share a commitment to a healthy community, sustainable food system, and strong local economy." Look for more information in next month's newsletter.

As 2024 gets underway, I hope many of you will participate in our monthly meetings, attend or participate at Bird EnCOUNTER, Nature Nights, Prairie Discovery Days, Tour the Wild Side, seed collections, tree cutting events, or some of our other worthwhile activities. I know some members can't physically get out or may have conflicts, but by being a member and making donations, you are helping us carry out our mission, and we appreciate your support through volunteering and donating.

Bird EnCOUNTER 2024

by Patty Spitzer

Join Wachiska on **Saturday, February 17**, from **10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** at **Gere Library**, 56th Street and Normal Boulevard, for our annual Bird EnCOUNTER event.

This year we are delighted to collaborate with Spring Creek Prairie to bring in new activities and celebrate birds during the worldwide Great Backyard Bird Count February 16-19. Raptor Conservation Alliance will again regale us with live birds and their stories. There will be Indigenous storytelling, live music, and numerous hands-on activities such as making pine-cone bird feeders, bird banding, "build a bird," and much more.

Call or email your contact information to Arlys in the Wachiska office, 402-486-4846, or office@wachiskaaudubon.org if you are interested in volunteering. There is no admission fee

Spring 2024 Birdseed Sale this Month

Live On-Line and Mail-in Orders

Plan to order your spring birdseed from Wachiska by March 7. Check out the Wachiska Audubon website at <https://www.wachiskaaudubon.org> which provides the ordering information, order form, seed descriptions, mailing deadline, and pick up dates. This event is a major fundraiser which began 36 years ago to provide nourishment for our feathered friends.

On-line orders go live on February 1 and continue through March 7. Printed mail-in orders must be postmarked by March 7. Pick up dates are Friday and Saturday, March 15-16. If you can help on these dates, please contact Jeff Meyer at 402-483-2757 or the Wachiska office, 402-486-4846.

Change in seed pick up location. There is a change in location to pick up your seed. The new location is the Wachiska Audubon office at 4547 Calvert Street. Details next month.

Spring Creek Prairie Upcoming Programs

Great Backyard Bird Count Bird Outing
Friday, February 16, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Join an experienced birder and fellow birders for an outing along the trails counting species and numbers of birds seen for the GBBC. Free admission, registration preferred.

Great Backyard Bird Count Open House
Sunday, February 18, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Celebrate birds and the new year with live music, homemade treats, and bird-themed crafts throughout the afternoon. Fun for the whole family and for our feathered friends. Free admission.

Registration information on these and other programs can be found on our website, <https://springcreek.audubon.org/events>. Questions to 402-797-2301; scp@audubon.org.



Wachiska Audubon Spring 2024 Birdseed Sale Order Form

	Bag Size	Bag Code	Price Each	Quantity	Total Cost
ALL PRICES INCLUDE SALES TAX					
FEED MIXES	Standard Audubon Mix	40 lb bag	ST40	\$ 49.00	\$
	Classic Audubon Mix	20 lb bag	CL20	\$ 34.00	\$
		40 lb bag	CL40	\$ 50.00	\$
	Attraction Audubon Mix	35 lb bag	AT35	\$ 67.00	\$
	Woodpecker Gourmet	20 lb bag	WO20	\$ 45.00	\$
	Bushy Tail Treat	20 lb bag	BT20	\$ 38.00	\$
SEEDS	Millet, White (98%)	50 lb bag	MI50	\$ 48.00	\$
	Peanuts, shelled rejects	20 lb bag	PR20	\$ 40.00	\$
	Safflower Seed	20 lb bag	SA20	\$ 40.00	\$
		50 lb bag	SA50	\$ 92.00	\$
	Safflower Seed, Nutra Saff	20 lb bag		\$ 40.00	\$
	Sunflower Hearts, coarse	20 lb bag	HC20	\$ 55.00	\$
		50 lb bag	HC50	\$ 110.00	\$
Sunflower Hearts, fine	20 lb bag	HF20	\$ 57.00	\$	
Sunflower Seed, black oil	25 lb bag	SB25	\$ 32.00	\$	
SUET CAKES	High Energy Treat, 11.75 oz. cake		EN-C	\$ 2.00	\$
	Berry Treat, 11 oz. cake		BT-C	\$ 2.00	\$
Total number of bags and cost (All prices INCLUDE sales tax)					\$
Tax Deductible Donation to support Wachiska's education & conservation activities					\$
Total Enclosed. Make check payable to Wachiska Audubon Society					\$

Name (Print) _____ Email address _____ Phone Number (required) _____

Mailing Address _____

This form and your check must be postmarked by Thursday, March 7, 2024
 Mail to: Wachiska Audubon Society Birdseed Sale - 4547 Calvert St, Suite 10,
 Lincoln NE 68506-5643

ORDER PICK UP DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

PLEASE—Plan to pick up your order during one of these times

Friday, March 15
3:00 -6:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 16
9:00 -11:00 a.m.

Note: stay in car; we will bring the seed to you.

Pick up location: Wachiska Audubon Office, 4547 Calvert Street (garage located south)

Are you interested in volunteering for the birdseed pick up Yes (check box)

Wachiska Audubon Spring 2024 Birdseed Sale & Fundraiser

Wachiska's Birdseed Sales are an important part of our fundraising and offer you a great deal on birdseed! **Our prices are very competitive.** The great majority of Wachiska's budget for education and conservation programs comes from donations and fundraising, and our twice-a-year birdseed sales are two of our major fundraisers. If you feed birds regularly, or want to give it a try, please buy from Wachiska. Our new convenient pick up location in SW Lincoln makes it easier than ever to get your birdseed. We depend on your purchases, and so do our feathered friends! Thank you!

FEED MIXES

Standard Audubon Mix – white millet, sunflower seed, cracked corn, peanuts, oat groats

Classic Audubon Mix – sunflower seed and hearts, white millet, cracked corn, safflower seed, peanuts, oat groats

Attraction Audubon Mix –sunflower seed and hearts, safflower seed, peanuts, raisins, protein pellets

Woodpecker Gourmet – 75% nuts (almonds, peanuts, walnuts), pumpkin seed, corn, black oil sunflower seed and hearts, safflower seed

Bushy Tail Treat – peanuts, sunflower seed, whole corn, raisins, pumpkin seed, feed pellets. Treat your favorite backyard squirrels and keep them away from the bird feeders!

SUET CAKES

High Energy Treat – sunflower seeds, millet, cracked corn; enjoyed by most wild birds

NEW! Berry Treat – a wonderful winter treat

SEEDS

White Millet (98%) – popular with cardinals, mourning doves, house finches, juncos, sparrows

Peanuts (shelled) – attractive for woodpeckers and blue jays

Safflower Seed – good for house finches, chickadees, cardinals, wood peckers – NOT FAVORED by squirrels and grackles.

Nutra Saff Seed is without the hard, outer shell.

Sunflower Hearts – highly prized by birds and leave less mess—use coarse hearts for feeders with large openings that might allow fine hearts to drop out

Black Oil Sunflower Seed – favored by most seed-eating birds; high oil content for more energy

Additional copies of this flyer and the order form are available on our website:

www.WachiskaAudubon.org.

ORDER PICK UP DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

New Location for
pick up:
Wachiska Audubon
Office, 4547 Calvert
Street, Lincoln.

Look for Signs

Reminder: stay in your car; we will bring the seed to you.

Friday, March 15
3:00 -6:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 16
9:00-11:00 a.m.

PLEASE—Plan to pick up your order during one of these times.

Orders that are not picked up cause a lot of extra work for our volunteers whose help we greatly appreciate! If it is totally impossible for you to pick up your seed, please email Arlys at office@wachiskaaudubon.org to make alternate pick up arrangements.

If anyone is interested in volunteering to assist, please contact Jeffrey Meyer, 402/483-2757.

Lincoln's 2023 Christmas Bird Count

by Jason "the Birdnerd" St. Sauver

It was a bit of a soggy and gray Saturday, December 16, 2023, for Lincoln's 85th Christmas Bird Count, part of the 124th season and longest-running community science project around. Overall bird numbers continue to be in decline, especially with ongoing drought this past year and continued pressures from habitat loss and climate change. An accessible birding station was held as part of the count, led by our Nebraska Birdability Captain, Cassandra Dean. Our partners at Pioneers Park Nature Center helped kids and families experience the count around the Ager building and feeders there. Overall, 79 counters of all kinds, ages, and abilities helped check in on Lincoln's local birds.

Seventy-six species of birds were spotted over the count day, a nice sign of biodiversity, with Canada goose again being the most numerous. Some rare highlights this year were a hermit thrush, a red-shouldered hawk, and an orange-crowned warbler. It was also a great year for northern flickers remaining with the milder temps and no snow in December. For more on comparing data from past counts or other regions, check out [Audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count](https://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count).

The full list of species and numbers seen is below. A huge THANK YOU to all the amazing volunteers who helped to make the CBC a success. *Special thanks – in their 50th year – to Wachiska Audubon Society and its many members who count and support this effort annually.*

2023 LINCOLN CBC - BIRD COUNT SUMMARY					
Species	Tally	Species	Tally	Species	Tally
Snow Goose	5	Rock (Feral) Pigeon	1212	European Starling	2907
Cackling Goose	30	Eurasian Collared-Dove	338	Cedar Waxwing	23
Canada Goose	2985	Mourning Dove	157	Spotted Towhee	3
Wood Duck	1	Barred Owl	2	American Tree Sparrow	614
American Wigeon	6	Great Horned Owl	7	Field Sparrow	3
Gadwall	18	Belted Kingfisher	12	Song Sparrow	58
Mallard	722	Red-bellied Woodpecker	93	Fox Sparrow	6
Northern Shoveler	246	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	Swamp Sparrow	6
Green-winged Teal	67	Downy Woodpecker	121	White-throated Sparrow	25
Common Goldeneye	32	Hairy Woodpecker	28	White-crowned Sparrow	18
Common Merganser	31	Northern Flicker	96	Harris's Sparrow	52
Northern Bobwhite	7	Northern Shrike	1	Dark-eyed Junco	941
Ring-necked Pheasant	21	Blue Jay	523	Northern Cardinal	210
Wild Turkey	86	American Crow	97	Red-winged Blackbird	2124
Pied-billed Grebe	1	Horned Lark	4	Meadowlark spp.	14
Great Blue Heron	2	Black-capped Chickadee	156	Common Grackle	2
Bald Eagle	17	Tufted Titmouse	2	Red Crossbill	17
Northern Harrier	3	Red-breasted Nuthatch	10	House Finch	195
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4	White-breasted Nuthatch	93	Pine Siskin	21
Cooper's Hawk	9	Brown Creeper	15	American Goldfinch	469
Red-tailed Hawk	47	Carolina Wren	6	House Sparrow	848
American Kestrel	9	Winter Wren	2	Hermit Thrush	1
Merlin	3	Golden-crowned Kinglet	5	Red-shouldered Hawk	1
American Coot	15	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	Orange-crowned Warbler	1
Ring-billed Gull	568	Eastern Bluebird	9		
Herring Gull	31	American Robin	235		
Total # of Species	76				

Climate Change Update

Marilyn McNabb

When I go to the National Audubon website, I like to click on “Audubon Near You” and find our Wachiska chapter, one of 450 local chapters and the Spring Creek Center, one of 41 Centers. That tells me that when we are unified, we have a solid chance of making a nationwide difference in this time of great risk and opportunity. Our chances are only improved by the fact that the energy that moves us is love of the natural world and its future.

You probably have noticed the ongoing debate in the climate movement between thinkers like Bill McKibben and Greta Thunberg who warn of the dangers of inaction and those like Katherine Hayhoe who stress the importance of communicating hope. Another voice has been added—not, she says, to replace other messages—but to speak to the people the others do not reach. That voice is from a 31-year-old Scottish data scientist, Hannah Ritchie. Her new book is *Not the End of the World*. In an interview in *New York Times Magazine* (12/31/23) she makes an interesting point: “Look at the data in the U.S. on which states are deploying solar and wind the quickest. The top states that have the biggest share of wind in their electricity mix are all Republican.” She counts Texas, the biggest; Iowa; Oklahoma; and Kansas. She also points to the falling cost and rising adoption of clean energy. She reminds us of the much anticipated “comeback” for coal that never happened.

Earlier studies have tried to test whether fear or hope is a more effective framework for public communication but experienced marketing expert, John Marshall, took a different approach. Reported in the *Washington Post* newsletter “Climate Coach” 1/11/24, Marshall’s company tested 60,000 people in 23 countries. On average, Marshall’s investigation found that 77 percent of people agreed with the sentence, “It is essential that our government does whatever it takes to limit the effects of climate change.” Only 10 percent disagreed. The most effective argument across age groups, levels of education, income, political affiliation, and family status was this statement: “It is the responsibility of this generation to solve climate change and leave a thriving world for our children and grandchildren.” What explains these results? Marshall’s answer is that “what tends to motivate people is when they think someone they love is threatened. . . You act because you care about someone you love.” Some of us might include wildlife.

National Audubon’s report “Birds and Transmission: Building their Grid Birds Need” <https://media.audubon.org/2023-08/BirdsAndTransmissionReport.pdf> stressed the urgent need to better move wind and solar energy from generation sites to cities and industries where it is used. “Permitting reform” is the label for this discussion in Congress. It’s complicated, and

it will require bipartisan agreement. So, if you’re willing to take on a subject that promises no immediate gratification but is really important, please contact Rep. Mike Flood and both our U.S. senators and ask for action to upgrade our national electric transmission system. The need to better connect the power grid will produce greater reliability for consumers and businesses, and that means more economic growth and less damage from unpredictable weather. It will also reduce risks to birds, as Audubon’s report points out. I suggest you also ask all of our Republican Washington officials to work across the aisle to get agreement to address this urgent national problem. A starting point could be a bill supported by Audubon, introduced in September, the BIG WIRES Act (Building Integrated Grids with Interregional Energy Supply Act). See “New Big Wires Act Would Help Achieve Clean Energy Future for Birds and People” on the National Audubon website.

2024 Nebraska Legislative Session

by Mark Brohman

The 2024 legislative session is underway. This is a short 60-day session ending mid-April. There were 597 new bills introduced this session and 820 were introduced last year in the longer 90-day session. There have been 13 legislative resolutions introduced so far, with 11 being constitutional amendments. New bills can only be introduced the first ten days of the session, but legislative resolutions can be introduced after that time.

Wachiska is tracking several bills ranging from LB1335 exempting government entities from the Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act to LB1243 adopting the Wildland Fire Response Act. Several bills dealing with drinking water, noxious weeds, transferring cash funds from agencies like the Game and Parks Commission, public power changes, solar and wind production, honeybees, livestock waste facilities, weatherization grants, and use of eminent domain have been introduced.

This session started off debating the changing of long-standing rules and is now in the process of holding hearings for each of the 597 bills. One of the few rule changes made will cap the number of bills a senator can introduce in a session to 20. A long debate was held on making voting for committee chairs every two years an open vote instead of the secret ballot that has been used since the beginning of the Legislature. The body did not vote for the change so that vote will continue to be a secret ballot. The legislature also decided not to bar the media from executive session of committees that the public is not allowed to attend. There were several other changes proposed, but the body chose to end discussions on rule changes for this session.

If you have any questions about legislation, contact me at the Wachiska office, 402-486-4846.

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 Deb Fischer

1248 O St Ste 1111, 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>

Senator Pete Ricketts

1248 O St Ste 1000, 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://ricketts.senate.gov>

Congressman Mike Flood

301 S 13th St Ste 100, Lincoln NE 68508 (1st District)
Lincoln phone: 402-438-1598
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-4806 Fax: 202-225-5686
E-mail at website: <http://flood.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 Jim Pillen

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: councilpacket@lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln Journal Star

Letters to the editor, 21st and N 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 _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

- ___ \$25 Individual/Friend
- ___ \$35 Family Friend
- ___ \$50 Black-capped Chickadee Friend
- ___ \$100 Northern Cardinal Friend
- ___ \$250 Western Meadowlark Friend
- ___ \$500 Bald Eagle Friend
- ___ \$1,000 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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Wachiska Audubon Society, 4547 Calvert St Ste 10
Lincoln NE 68506-5643



The Babbling Brook is printed on recycled and recyclable paper.



Wachiska means “stream” or “creek” in the languages of Indigenous people of eastern Nebraska, the Omaha and Ponca.

The environmental stewardship efforts of the Wachiska Audubon Society take place on the past, present, and future homelands of the Pawnee, Ponca, Otoe-Missouria, and Omaha Peoples, as well as those of the relocated Ho-Chunk, Sac and Fox, and Ioway. We humbly join our efforts with theirs in honoring and stewarding this land of prairies, rivers, and streams.

Wachiska will continue to collect 2024 calendars until further notice if they are dropped off at the office.

Cookie donors are needed for general meetings.

Wachiska Audubon Society
4547 Calvert St Ste 10
Lincoln NE 68506-5643

402-486-4846
 office@WachiskaAudubon.org
 www.WachiskaAudubon.org

If you missed a monthly program or want to view one again, Wachiska Audubon’s monthly programs are available on YouTube via the homepage at www.WachiskaAudubon.org.



Wachiska is participating with Give Nebraska. Through a payroll deduction system, your donations will be automatically withdrawn from your paycheck. There are 75 nonprofit agencies that are beneficiaries, and more than 100 worksites participate. You can give a little each paycheck, and your contributions can add up. Your donations through Give Nebraska are tax deductible. Check with your employer to see if they are part of Give Nebraska.

WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2024

Executive Director Mark Brohman
 Office Administrator..... Arlys Reitan

OFFICERS

President *Theresa Pella
 Vice President *Andrea Faas
 Secretary *April Stevenson
 Treasurer/Finance..... *Carol Bodeen

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large *Dakota Altman
 Director at Large *Ann Briggs
 Director at Large *Doug Campbell
 Director at Large *Ethan Freese
 Director at Large *Stu Lutlich
 Director at Large *Tom Lynch
 Director at Large *Mercy Manzanares
 Director at Large *Kris Powers
 Conservation *Ross Scott
 Education/Outreach..... *Tim Knott
 Membership..... Linda Brown

*Denotes voting Board member

For contact information of officers and committee chairs, call or email the Wachiska office.

Wachiska Audubon Society’s financial records are available for examination in the office.

Mission Statement of the Wachiska Audubon Society

The mission of the Wachiska Audubon Society is to bring people together to preserve and restore tallgrass prairies and other natural ecosystems, promote birding, support native wildlife, provide nature education, and advocate for the sustainability of our natural community.

A Gift to the Future

A bequest to Wachiska Audubon Society is a gift to future generations, enabling our natural heritage to continue. For wills, trusts, and gifts, our legal name is **Wachiska Audubon Society**. Our Federal Tax ID number is **51-0229888**.

