

# *It's for the Birds!*

## **A Countywide Celebration of International Migratory Bird Day**

Hosted by the Western Great Lakes Bird & Bat Observatory

**Saturday, May 20, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Forest Beach Migratory Preserve, 4970 Country Club Rd., Port Washington, WI

**Featuring: Live Birds, Bird Banding, Native Plant Sale, Wildlife Experts, & More!  
FREE and Open to the Public!**

**Rain or Shine – Food Available**

### **Great Wisconsin Birdathon**

Just by showing up you become part of the Observatory's birdathon team to raise money to support the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin's Bird Protection Fund. What is a Birdathon? Think of a walk-a-thon with birds! We will collect pledges and donations for the birds seen with our team of experts at this free event, so don't forget to bring your binoculars!

### **All Day: Native Plant Sale**

Choose from hundreds of Wisconsin natives to beautify your yard and support the pollinators and insects that our favorite birds need to survive. There will also be free consultations with local experts, including "Prairie Doc" Mark Feider.

### **All Day: Ecological Rummage Sale**

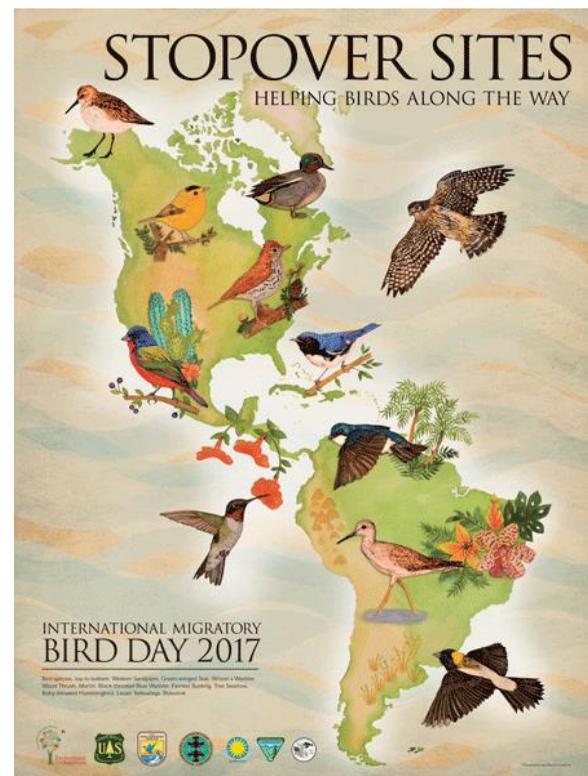
New and used bird houses, bird feeders, nature books, outdoor and gardening gear, and much more. All priced to move!

### **7:00 - 10:30 am – Bird Banding** (weather permitting)

Master bander Al Sherkow and his team will have mist nets set up at Forest Beach to band as many birds as possible. This is a rare opportunity to get up close and personal with the birds that make spring our favorite season. Don't miss it!

### **7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 9:15 am – The Birds of Forest Beach**

Guided bird hikes from the Clubhouse led by retired Fish & Wildlife Service biologist Joel Trick and the Observatory's Waterbird Watch ornithologist Calvin Brennan. The Observatory's director, Bill Mueller, will be at the clubhouse to answer bird-related questions and share the success of Forest Beach's Purple Martin colony. (DURATION: 60-75 minutes each. DIFFICULTY: Easy)



### **7:00 - 8:30 am – OFF-SITE Birding Hike at Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve**

Start your morning with Dan Panetti of Wild Birds Unlimited and Tina Kroening and Andrew Struck from the Milwaukee Audubon Society as they lead a guided bird hike at one of the last stretches of undeveloped bluff land along the Lake Michigan Shoreline. Stick around to help erect an American Kestrel nest box - Wisconsin's smallest falcon needs our help to counter a population decline.

### **9:00 – 11:00 am – Hot Spot Field Trip**

This carpool trip will be led by Wisconsin DNR biologists Rich and Amy Staffen and will depart from the Forest Beach parking lot. Stops include Harrington Beach State Park, the Ozaukee grasslands, and other area birding destinations.

### **10:00 – 11:00 am – Live Raptor Exhibit & Talk**

Pine View Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center admits birds of prey, reptiles, and predatory mammals. Jeannie Lord, executive director, will thrill you with live birds during her introduction to these amazing animals and the threats they face.

### **11:00 – 11:45 am – Nature Photography**

Naturalist Kate Redmond is a founding member of the Friends of the Cedarburg Bog, wrote the online field guide to the Mequon Nature Preserve and, as the Bug Lady, publishes weekly essays on insects and other invertebrates, complete with her photos. Join Kate for this beginner-level presentation aimed at helping you get the wildlife picture you want. Bring your camera and put your new skills to the test at beautiful Forest Beach!

### **12:00 – 12:45 pm – Pesticide Dangers**

US Fish and Wildlife Service ecotoxicologist Sarah Warner will bring us up to date on the impact of pesticides on birds, butterflies, and moths, conservation issues that were brought to the public's attention by Rachel Carson in the 1950s. The Fish and Wildlife Service, which was instrumental in establishing Forest Beach Migratory Preserve, maintains Carson's legacy through its continuing research into the effects of chemicals on wildlife.

### **12:45 – 1:30 pm – Dragonfly Walk**

Forest Beach was established as a migratory hot spot for birds, but it has turned out to be much more! Freda Van Den Broek will lead a walk to show you how Forest Beach has turned out to be a dragonfly hot spot as well.

### **1:30 – 2:00 pm – Bug Hotels**

Tom Kroeger, manager of Lakeshore State Park, will demonstrate the concept behind "bug hotels" and explain why you want one for your property (Hint: They are good for birds and help abate worldwide insect declines!).

### **2:00 – 3:00 pm – Bird Identification**

Join retired US Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Joel Trick and the Observatory's director Bill Mueller for tips on identifying the birds of spring as well as those who spend their whole year here.

**For more information contact the Western Great Lakes Bird & Bat Observatory  
at 414-416-3272 or visit us at [www.wqlbbo.org](http://www.wqlbbo.org)**

