



# OAK LEAF

Volume 35; Issue 3

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SHENANDOAH AUDUBON!!

## Sept/Oct 2011

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### Get Outdoors! Visit our State Parks



**Public Invited!**  
**Audubon Members,**  
**Please Join In!**

**Sept. 11th - A Day of Service at Sky Meadows State Park, Paris, VA. 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.** Invasive Species Removal Day! Join the park's Natural History Interpreter, meet near the Visitor Center at the Historic Mount Bleak House at 10:00 am for instruction. All Public Service Officers & their families get into the park for free with appropriate ID (Fire Fighters, Police Officers, and Military personal). Children allowed. Call Park (540) 592-3556, email: [skymeadows@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:skymeadows@dcr.virginia.gov)

**Sept. 24th - National Public Lands Day Seed Collection at Shenandoah River State Park, Bentonville, VA. 9:00 to 10:00 am.** Meet at the Visitor Center. Join in collecting native tree seeds around the Visitor Center. These seeds will be donated to the Department of Forestry for cultivation. Children allowed. Call: (540) 622-6840, email: [shenandoahriver@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:shenandoahriver@dcr.virginia.gov)

**Oct. 8th - Bird Walk at Sky Meadows State Park, Paris, VA. Walk will focus on the habitat of the Red-headed Woodpecker & park wildlife.** Look for the Red-headed Woodpeckers as they claim their territorial trees to make food caches for the winter. VA Master Naturalist Margaret Wester will give a short talk about the birds and their behavior, and the group will walk and observe them, as well as other birds in the area. The park is famous for this species, and we are sure to view many! Meet at the Visitor Center parking lot. **Walk begins at 9:00 am sharp.** Trails include Woodpecker Lane. Please RSVP if interested!! Send email to us with "Field Trip" in the subject line.

**ArborFest Oct. 8th & 9th - at The State Arboretum of VA at Blandy Farm, Boyce, VA. 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Stop by our tent at the fair and say hello! We will have bird houses for sale, and information on conservation issues and birding in our service area.**



### 4th Annual Fall Birding Festival BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV. SEPT. 16-18

Most of the Festival's events will be free and everyone is invited to attend. The Festival is timed to coincide with the annual fall bird migration, which should be in full swing at that time. It will include Friday and Saturday evening programs at the Country Inn in Berkeley Springs, bird walks and workshops during the day Saturday, and a bird walk Sunday morning.

The Potomac Valley Audubon Society is the lead festival sponsor. This year's **featured presenter will be Sharon Stiteler, a Minnesota naturalist who authors the popular "Birdchick.com" blog.** Her blog has been recognized in the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, and on NBC Nightly News. She is known as a very engaging and entertaining speaker.

For more details, see the Potomac Valley Audubon website at [www.potomacaudubon.org](http://www.potomacaudubon.org).

### HAWK WATCH at SNICKERS GAP Saturday, September 24th 11:00 am



Join Jim Smith and the official counters of the North American Hawk Migration Association for the yearly fall Hawk migration viewing. Viewers meet at Snickers Gap at 11:00 AM in the parking lot on Rt. 7 and Blue Ridge Mountain Road to start observing the kettles of raptors as they migrate.

We then hike to the Bear's Den Following that, at approximately 12:00pm, Jim will lead a hike to Bears' Den overlook via the AT to look for woodland birds, Ravens, and more Raptors. This is a moderate hike - somewhat hilly with rocks climbing up the trail to Bears' Den. Bring a bagged lunch if you wish. Be prepared with good hiking shoes, water, binoculars, clothing appropriate to the weather that day, field guides and a folding chair if you wish. This event is open to all. Please come and enjoy any or all of it.

Contact Jim Smith for more information: 540-662-5033

### NATURE WALKS - WINCHESTER CITY through Abrams Creek Wetlands Preserve



**Saturdays as follows:**  
**September - 24th**  
**October - 8th & 22nd**  
**Walks begin at 8:00 am**

**Public Invited!**  
**Audubon Members,**  
**Please Join In!**

Join Jim Smith on a moderate walk through the Abrams Creek Wetlands. **Discover fall flowers and migrating birds!** The group will meet in the Children of America parking lot off W. Jubal Early Dr., approx. ½ mile west of Valley Ave. Park at the west end by the woods. **The walk will last approximately 2 hours and is non-strenuous.** Bring binoculars, spotting scopes, and/or your camera. Participants are also encouraged to bring water and dress for the weather.

Visit our website for up-to-date information on our events and projects!

[www.audubon-nsvas.org](http://www.audubon-nsvas.org)

## ☞ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ☞

### Going Forward

You're out there ...I've talked with you ...and you have expressed to me your true interest in the conservation of natural areas, the promotion of recycling and sustainable energy, and humane wildlife management policies. These things can and do happen in Virginia. You just need to remember, you are the voice of the planet.

In order for our future generations to enjoy the diversity of species and the beautiful, critical ecosystems that currently exist, we must be responsible for our actions now. There is much you can easily do, such as recycle as much of your trash as you can, do not (and encourage others not to) litter, and let your voice be known to keep our natural areas from being cemented over, built upon and compromised forever. Join in clean up & recycle days and Important Bird Area invasive species removal events.

As always, we very much appreciate your feedback. Please contact us if you are at all interested in getting involved. We have a list of a variety of opportunities - please lend a hand. Thanks again for all the continued support for this Audubon Chapter!

- Diane Greco, SA President

### Do you have a few free hours a week?

*Teachers, park employees, retirees,  
Scouts & students are encouraged to lend a hand!!*

**Get involved in your community! Here's a partial list of our current Audubon Chapter needs in the Northern Shenandoah Valley service area. Contact us TODAY and join one or more of our Chapter steering committees:**

- ☞ **Field Trips / Programs:** Present your ecological or ornithological expertise at a public program, lead a walk (we need birders and naturalists!), or help coordinate an upcoming function.
- ☞ **Conservation:** Build or donate bird houses, bird feeders, and or bat boxes for us to sell at fundraising events. Help monitor Blue Bird Trail boxes. Distribute Audubon literature at events.
- ☞ **Public Relations/ Newsletter:** write articles for the Chapter newsletter. Edit, publish & distribute our newsletter. Maintain Chapter email addresses & compile eNewsletter (SA Feeder).
- ☞ **Membership & Public Relations:** Contact members & media about fundraising and membership drives.
- ☞ **Programs & Public Relations:** Help plan, schedule & promote our events.
- ☞ **Finance & Board of Directors:** oversee and report on financial transactions for the Chapter, help make decisions about how yearly budget is allocated, attend meetings with National Audubon and other Audubon Chapter representatives.

### **It takes only minutes to make a difference!**

**We will be accepting nominations for Board of Director positions for 2012-2014. Contact us with names, along with qualifications, for the offices of Chapter Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President & President.**

**\*\*You do not need to be a current Audubon member to be nominated for Board of Directors positions.\*\***



**Please send all correspondence to:** NSVAS, PO Box 2693  
Winchester, VA 22604

**Email:** shenandoahaudubon@yahoo.com

**Headquarters:** The State Arboretum of VA  
400 Blandly Farm Rd, Boyce, VA

[www.audubon-nsvas.org](http://www.audubon-nsvas.org)

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society (NSVAS), dba Shenandoah Audubon, is a chapter of the National Audubon Society (NAS) and a member of the Virginia Audubon Council (VAC) and of the Virginia Environmental Network (VEN). This newsletter belongs to the NSVAS membership. **Chapter Code: X-54.**

## 2010-2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

**President:** Diane Greco  
**1st Vice President:** Cynthia Fenton  
**2nd Vice President:** *vacant*  
**Secretary:** Jeannie Senter  
**Treasurer:** Christine Harden



### Steering Committee Chairs

**Conservation:** Kaycee Lichliter  
**Education:** *To Be Appointed*  
**Field Trips:** Margaret Wester  
**Finance:** Christine Harden  
**Membership:** Lee Bowen  
**Programs:** Rosemary Rogers  
**Public Relations:** Jason Shaffer, contact  
at [nsvaudubonpr@gmail.com](mailto:nsvaudubonpr@gmail.com)



### Contact us for information about SPECIAL PROJECTS:

**Audubon Arboretum at Jim Barnett Park; Annual Bird Counts:** Calmes Neck area & N. Shenandoah area; **Bluebird Trail at Blandly Farm & Andy Guest State Park; Hawk Watch at Snicker's Gap** (Sept.).

**Newsletter Editor (Interim):** Cynthia Fenton  
Contact us if you'd like to help out!  
**Web Page Coordinator:** Cynthia Fenton

- ~ **All members are encouraged to attend Membership meetings and Public programs.**
- ~ **All members are welcome to observe Board Meetings, join committees, and help plan activities.**
- ~ **Can you can donate an hour or more of your time to help us keep our Chapter going? Contact us today!**

### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you, contributors! The *Oak Leaf* is distributed in March, May, September, and November. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about this publication.

- Cynthia Fenton, Interim Editor



**Can you type, use MS Word & ClipArt well? Do you have access to a computer with Internet? Do you have a few hours every few months to work with our Board and edit and layout articles that help spread the word about the importance of conservation and environmental responsibility?**

We are looking for reliable help four times a year with our newsletter. You don't have to be a member to help. Newsletter tasks: Compile articles and event information from submissions; edit copy for grammatical errors and insert information into a pre-formatted newsletter template; work with the Shenandoah Audubon Board to review draft for inaccuracies. Must have excellent grammar and be able to meet deadlines. Retirees & students are encouraged to help.

**News since spring...Important Bird Area Program information, new Board Members and more...**

We thank all donors, members, and especially our volunteers - you are the heart and soul of this Chapter. We also want to welcome new Board of Directors appointees, Rosemary Rogers - Programs Chair, and Jason Shaffer - Public Relations Chair. For those of you who did not receive them, below are excerpts from Rosemary's and Jason's introductory emails to Chapter Members.

**Rosemary Rogers, Programs Chair**

*"Dear Friend of Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society, ... I would like to thank ... Mary Elfner, for her [IBA] presentation and wonderful materials, and to our host, Shenandoah University, for their support and auditorium space. The next steps for our Chapter are to decide if we would like to adopt and support an IBA. A future Chapter meeting will discuss this topic, consider all factors and make a recommendation. We count on you, our friends and supporters, to assist in making this important conservation decision. Clearly this would have a significant impact on preserving habitat for the birds of Virginia and those birds who winter or migrate through our great state.*

*We shall be sending out information on future meetings on this important decision very soon. Also, we are actively confirming exciting speakers for our upcoming series of presentations for our members, friends and the community. If you have any comments or recommendations on future speakers or the adoption of an IBA, please contact me. I look forward to working with you all in the coming year."*

**Jason Shaffer, Public Relations Chair**

*"Dear NSVAS Members, I would like to formally introduce myself as your Public Relations Chair. I was very happy to talk with Diane and Cynthia about the organization and ultimately offer my time and ideas to help support and promote the NSVAS. I will not be taking my role lightly and I have many ideas for the future. Currently I am in the middle of planning my wedding, which will be happening on October 9th of this year. Once I am past that event my emails and other communications will take on a more steady rate.*

*This is an exciting time for our organization, and we are planning a lot of fun and educational events in the immediate and distant future. A critical aspect of success is communication and a strong, positive image. ... Ms. Rogers has a lot of exciting events planned and we want to be able to promote them with confidence. At the conclusion of this email I have included a link. It is an article which outlines in greater detail the need to have a web presence and some examples of what we will eventually be able to accomplish once we can afford to have some of the more extravagant amenities.*

**If you have questions, comments, or concerns please email them to me at [nsवादubonpr@gmail.com](mailto:nsवादubonpr@gmail.com). As the subject line, please write "Question" "Comment" or "Concern." Also include in the email whether you want me to reply publicly or privately. I will return all emails within twenty-four hours."**

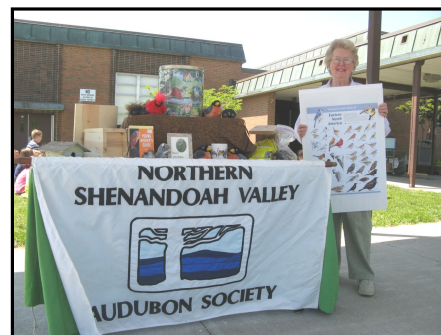
<http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2009/05/14/non-profit-website-design-examples-and-best-practices/>



**Photo 1**



**Photo 2**



**Photo 3**

**Shenandoah Audubon volunteers shown at our spring events: the 2011 Garden Fair at Blandy and the annual Frederick County Middle School Conservation Day program's Bird Talks. Look for a write up in our next issue and on our website soon!!**

**Photo 1:** Jill Butler (volunteer) and Diane Greco (President) chat in front of the Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society's tent at the Garden Fair at Blandy.

**Photo 2:** Patsy Gochenour and Rosemary Rogers (volunteers) at James Wood Middle School's Conservation Day event.

**Photo 3:** Patsy Gochenour (volunteer) at Robert E. Aylor Middle School's Conservation Day event.

**THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED PLAN AND ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED FOR THESE EVENTS!!**

**Visit our website to see up-to-date information on our events and projects!**

**[www.audubon-nsvas.org](http://www.audubon-nsvas.org)**





## Virginia Important Bird Areas Conservation News

### Focus on Team Warbler, the Atlantic Flyway Initiative and Saltmarsh Habitat and Avian Research Project (SHARP)

Submitted by Mary Elfner, Audubon's Virginia Important Bird Areas Coordinator, August 1, 2011

Audubon in Virginia has several conservation projects to highlight during this season: one of our most exciting is an international partnership between Richmond Audubon Society, Panama Audubon Society, National Audubon Society, and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) called: *Team Warbler -- From Chesapeake Bay to Panama Bay and Back -- Cross Cultural Connections Supporting Sustainable Communities*. Working under a Community Engagement grant from VCU, championed by Cathy Viverette, VCU Life Sciences Research Associate, this project seeks to connect students, researchers and Richmond Audubon in the Chesapeake Bay watershed to Panama Audubon in the Panama Bay watershed to raise awareness of and better understand the Prothonotary Warbler.

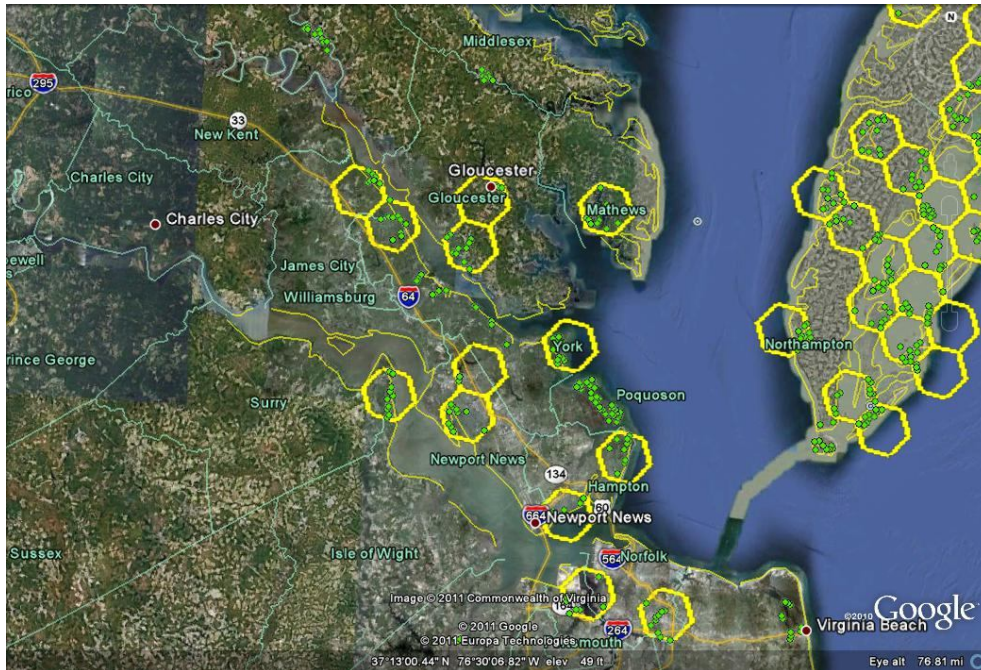
Here is an account from Dr. Lesley Bulluck, VCU Biology Professor, who led a team of VCU students and associated researchers to Panama in early January: "The VCU college class arrived on the afternoon of January 6 and drove to Gamboa where we would stay for the entire trip. The house we stayed in was owned by our guide Guido Berguido and was tucked nicely up to the rainforest edge. This prime location allowed us to wake that first morning to see numerous new tropical bird and mammal species at the feeders – red-legged honeycreepers, blue-crowned motmot, and tamarind monkeys were just a few highlights. We spent most of the day on January 7 training the students on field methods and visiting two of our field sites. On January 8 and through January 13 we collected data in each of these six sites twice; we split up into two groups and the students alternated each day between banding in the mangroves and taking data on density and foraging rates in the mudflats of Panama Bay. On January 12, a group of middle school students from San Carlos came to our banding station in Playa Bonita to observe and learn about what we were doing. They were an enthusiastic group who were ready to get muddy and make observations of birds and mammals during the long trek to the station. In the mangroves, we captured a total of 160 individual birds of 25 different species and banded most of individuals that are Nearctic-Neotropical migrants. We conducted most of our 2 minute foraging observations on 6 species and ~280 individuals across the three mudflat sites. We were happy to catch 26 of our target species, the Prothonotary Warbler, which we have been studying long-term here in Virginia."



- Photo by Laura Cottingham, National Audubon Society



Another exciting on-the-ground conservation project in Virginia is our involvement with Maryland/DC Audubon and associated researchers on the Saltmarsh Habitat and Avian Research Project (SHARP), which benefits marshland species such as Seaside Sparrow, Saltmarsh Sparrow, Nelson's Sparrow, Willet, American Black Duck and Clapper Rail. The overall project objective is to identify important regions for tidal marsh birds along the non-barrier-island Atlantic States (Bird Conservation Region 30) and to identify which regions and species within this area may be most sensitive to land and seascape change (e.g. sea-level rise, coastal or upland/watershed development, and fresh or marine water quality degradation). This survey helps Audubon in our regional conservation initiative, the Atlantic Flyway Initiative (AFI), which exists to bring together Audubon programs in eastern seaboard states. The AFI saltmarsh working group works to identify threats to salt marshes and the habitat they provide to high priority species. We will be conducting surveys mid-April to the end of June of this year. To learn more about this exciting conservation project, please visit: [www.tidalmarshbirds.org](http://www.tidalmarshbirds.org). And many thanks to the Virginia Society of Ornithology Conservation Committee for their conservation grant to support part of the field work of this critical conservation project in Virginia IBAs in marshlands of the Chesapeake Bay.



Map generated by the SHARP Team of the University of Delaware

**Where Are We?**

**NSVAS is a non-profit conservation organization which serves:**

**the City of Winchester**

**and the Counties of**  
**Frederick**  
**Clarke**  
**Warren**  
**Shenandoah**

**plus portions of**  
**Loudoun Co.**  
**Fauquier Co.**  
**Rappahannock Co.**

**Shenandoah Audubon is where you are!**

Thank you to all who attended and facilitated the Important Bird Areas of Virginia presentation by Mary Elfner at Shenandoah University on June 16th. Thank you to Woody Bousquet and Shenandoah University for co-sponsoring the IBA presentation!

## Rare Bird Sighting Confirmed!



During the last Calmes Neck Christmas Bird Count, Board Member Margaret Wester saw and reported a Boreal Chickadee (*Poecile hudsonicus*) to the Virginia Avian Records Committee (VARCOM) of the Virginia Society of Ornithology. It has been reviewed and confirmed, taking many months and going through several committees as it is a rare bird sighting. VARCOM, as stated on the VSO website, was "formed in 1989 to increase knowledge of Virginia birds, to evaluate and to archive records of vagrants and rare nesting species in the state, and to encourage high standards of observation, recording, and reporting in the birding community. Since then, VARCOM has evaluated more than 650 records of rare species, unseasonal occurrences, and unusual breeding attempts." - from [www.varcom.org](http://www.varcom.org). The Boreal Chickadee range is almost exclusively in the Canada's Boreal Forest and some in small bits of the northern US, and they are there year-round, meaning they are not inclined to migrate. The bird differs from our indigenous Carolina Chickadee with a brownish cap, brown back, and rufous flanks.

## Virginia Audubon Council (VAC) by Caroline Coe, NAS Board Member

Now more than ever it is important that we build a stronger Audubon presence in Virginia, and the **Virginia Audubon Council (VAC)** is the best way to do that. VAC is a coalition of the 6 Audubon Chapters in Virginia. Three times a year, in January, June and October, VAC meets at locations around the state. Currently VAC's focus is **Virginia's Important Bird Area Program** and providing a platform for sharing of Chapter successes and best practices.

Under the leadership of new CEO David Yarnold, **National Audubon** is undergoing the process of strategic planning for Audubon. Of great significance, David Yarnold has included Chapter leaders in the vision and planning process and truly understands the importance of Chapters and grassroots strength to Audubon. Your Chapter can help VAC consider how to best expand Audubon's wingspan in Virginia. (Note: the following link will provide more information on Audubon's strategic planning process: <http://chapterservices.audubon.org/news-announcements>)

VAC will next meet on Saturday, October 22 at the VCU Rice Center. Mary Elfner, VA's Important Bird Area Coordinator, will share with VAC Audubon's vision and help us find ways to implement it here. And if you haven't been to the Rice Center, it is an amazing facility on the James River in the Lower James River Important Bird Area. The building is Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified at the Platinum Level – the highest rating. The bird life is superb. You can find out more about the Rice Center at <http://www.vcu.edu/rice/>.

Need more information? Talk to your Chapter VAC representative or contact VAC President John Coe, [johnwcoe@verizon.net](mailto:johnwcoe@verizon.net) to learn more about the Council and the upcoming meeting and how you might get involved.

### VAC Chapter Contacts:

Audubon Society of Northern VA: Bill Brown, [billbr50@msn.com](mailto:billbr50@msn.com)  
Cape Henry Audubon Society: Candi Delnore, [candie.delnore@cox.net](mailto:candie.delnore@cox.net)  
N. Neck Audubon S: Rick Skelton or Maggie Gerdts, [maggiurbanna@hotmail.com](mailto:maggiurbanna@hotmail.com)  
Northern Shenandoah Audubon Society: Diane Greco, [dianesours@yahoo.com](mailto:dianesours@yahoo.com)  
Richmond Audubon Society: Margaret O'Bryan, [catbird329@comcast.net](mailto:catbird329@comcast.net)  
VA Beach Audubon: Steve Coari, [sp1nner@cox.net](mailto:sp1nner@cox.net)



## Reprint from **Audubon IBAs (Important Bird Areas) of Virginia News** **IBA In Focus - Upper Blue Ridge Mountains**, by David Bryan, April 2011

The Upper Blue Ridge Mountains Important Bird Area, an IBA that follows the spine of the mountain range, is critical to Virginia's birds. Hosting over 200 species of breeding, migrating and wintering birds, this IBA has been recognized by the National Audubon Society as being of global importance, and is most well known for being a critical flyway for thousands of passerines and raptors. In the breeding season, this IBA hosts one of the largest Cerulean Warbler populations in the Commonwealth, as well as other threatened warblers and thrushes such as Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush and Wood Thrush.

While relatively isolated and undeveloped in comparison to the Shenandoah Valley or eastern Virginia, the Upper Blue Ridge Mountains IBA still faces critical threats, the greatest of which is invasive species, such as Autumn olive, Multiflora rose and Garlic mustard, which grow rapidly outside of their native habitats, outcompeting native vegetation and thus reducing habitat diversity and quality for birds and other wildlife. Fortunately, much of the land within this IBA is publically owned (largely by the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service) and work is being done to fight these species throughout their range.

James Akerson of the National Park Service in the Blue Ridge Mountains has this to say: "Audubon in Virginia has helped us to establish our restoration program along the Trail. They sometimes help us to hold special events in spring and fall to attract the general public. Volunteers are helping us protect the IBA by making a difference against invasive species."

**Watch for springtime invasive species clean-up events...pitch in and make a difference!**

Follow IBA issues on social media:

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/VirginiaImportantBirdAreas](https://www.facebook.com/VirginiaImportantBirdAreas) <<http://www.facebook.com/VirginiaImportantBirdAreas>>  
on **Twitter:** <http://twitter.com/VirginiaIBA/> on **Flickr:** <http://www.flickr.com/groups/vaimportantbirdareas/>



"RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED"

PO BOX 2693  
Winchester, VA 22604

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NON-PROFIT



Please recycle this newsletter!

**SHENANDOAH AUDUBON CALENDAR OF EVENTS** *No Membership Meetings in Jan., Jul., Aug., or Dec.*  
(Events subject to cancellation due to low participation or bad weather). *Dates and locations subject to change.*

<b>DATE &amp; PLACE</b>	<b>EVENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>
<b>Sept. 14 6:00pm Front Royal</b>	<b>BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING</b> Meet at the Samuels Library. Room TBA. Members are welcome to observe.	<b>Diane Greco</b> <b>shenandoahaudubon@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Sept. 14 7:00pm Front Royal</b>	<b>Membership Meeting</b> Meet at the Samuels Library. Room TBA. Follow up meeting to the IBA Program, information on the Boreal Chickadee from Margaret Wester, and other Chapter business. Public welcome!	<b>Rosemary Rogers</b> <b>shenandoahaudubon@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Sept. 24 8:00 am Winchester</b>	<b>Nature Walk with Jim Smith</b> Join naturalist Jim Smith for an easy walk through the Abrams Creek Wetlands!	<b>Jim Smith</b> <b>540-667-0504</b>
<b>Sept. 24 11:00 am Snickers Gap Route 7</b>	<b>HAWK WATCH with Jim Smith</b> Join naturalist Jim Smith & the official counters of the North American Hawk Migration Association in counting migratory hawks. Bring binoculars, spotting scopes, or a telephoto lens as these raptors sail high above the mountain!	<b>Jim Smith</b> <b>540-667-0504</b>
<b>Oct. 8 8:00 am Winchester</b>	<b>Nature Walk with Jim Smith</b> Join naturalist Jim Smith for an easy walk through the Abrams Creek Wetlands!	<b>Jim Smith</b> <b>540-667-0504</b>
<b>Oct. 8 10:00 am Paris, VA</b>	<b>Red-headed Woodpecker Walk</b> Guided walk at Sky Meadows State Park with Naturalist Margaret Wester. Join us in finding and watching the Red-headed Woodpeckers that call this State Park their home!	<b>shenandoahaudubon@yahoo.com</b> <b>Please RSVP w/ "Field Trips" in the subject line.</b>
<b>Oct. 12 Time TBA Location TBA</b>	<b>Membership Meeting &amp; Free Public Program</b> Guest speaker Michael Neese will present the following topics at our Chapter meeting: <i>the Seed Exchange Program, Composting, Community Gardens in Winchester, Landfill - harnessing methane for power, the Adopt-a-Stream Initiative.</i> General Public Welcome. More details soon!!	<b>Rosemary Rogers</b> <b>shenandoahaudubon@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Oct. 22 8:00 am Winchester</b>	<b>Nature Walk with Jim Smith</b> Join naturalist Jim Smith for an easy walk through the Abrams Creek Wetlands!	<b>Jim Smith</b> <b>540-667-0504</b>
<b>Nov. 5 8:00 am Winchester</b>	<b>Nature Walk with Jim Smith</b> Join naturalist Jim Smith for an easy walk through the Abrams Creek Wetlands!	<b>Jim Smith</b> <b>540-667-0504</b>
<b>Dec. 10 9:00 am Paris, VA</b>	<b>Guided walk at Sky Meadows State Park</b> Meet Naturalist Margaret Wester at the bridge trail parking lot, walk starts at 9:00 AM and follows the Shermans Mill trail to view resident winter woodland birds, such as chickadees, titmice, woodpeckers and others. Hear about the habitat that attracts these species, including which species do not migrate.	<b>shenandoahaudubon@yahoo.com</b> <b>Please RSVP w/ "Field Trips" in the subject line.</b>