

THE CT AUDUBON'S FAIRFIELD REGION
FIELD NOTES
ROOTED IN COMMUNITY



We are proud to announce that the Nature Center's Bird of Prey compound renovation project is complete and open to the public! This project was made possible through generous donors, including the Town of Fairfield. The compound provides a sanctuary for non-releasable birds that are unable to survive in the wild. Each one serves as an ambassador for its species and our educational programs, helping teach people about their natural habitats and conservation threats.
Open: Monday-Saturday, 10am-3pm.

As we step into a new season, we thank all of you who sent your kids to our summer camps at both the Nature Center and Birdcraft. We loved seeing hundreds of kids enjoy time outside exploring and having fun in nature! Also in this issue, we highlight some of the volunteers who have dedicated their efforts to improving our centers. We are grateful and inspired by the hard work and financial support of so many individuals who help us further our mission.



IMPROVEMENTS TO
OUR FACILITIES



INSPIRED STUDENTS
GIVE BACK



DISCOVER ARTS &
CULTURE AT BIRDCRAFT

Fairfield Nature Center

2325 BURR ST. FAIRFIELD, CT



Volunteers play a crucial role in the success of the Fairfield Region.

Thank you to the Friends of Larsen, our naturalists and committed volunteers of all ages who graciously took time to weed overgrown beds, fix our Burr Street welcome sign, and plant new native greenery. Last month, Eagle Scout Troop 199 rebuilt the hawk watch platform in Deer Meadow! This vital work helped us prepare for the grand reopening of our Birds of Prey Compound as well as contributes to our overall visitor experience and impact.



NESTING BOXES

Our longtime Audubon volunteer of 10 years and active Troop 188 scout member built bluebird nesting boxes and installed them on our property. Charlotte designed, cut and crafted 8 nesting boxes that provide many advantages such as:

- offering additional nesting spaces to alleviate competition
- protection from predators and harsh winters
- increase bird populations by providing safe breeding sites



WELCOME JUNE!

Meet the newest member of our Birds of Prey family. June is an American Kestrel who came to us from Missouri. She was found on the ground with a fractured left wing. Her finders nursed her back to health, but unfortunately, her injury is permanent, limiting her flying capabilities. She will be a great addition to our Aviary, where she will be an essential educational resource offering others the opportunity to learn about Birds of Prey in person.

Nature Store and Birds of Prey Compound open Mon.- Sat. from 10am - 3pm.
Trails open year-round from dawn to dusk.

Birdcraft Museum & Sanctuary

314 UNQUOWA RD. FAIRFIELD, CT



We are celebrating the first anniversary of the reopening of our Birdcraft Museum and Sanctuary in downtown Fairfield.

Throughout the year, we hosted a variety of programs and events for all ages — including bird-themed family days, conservation lectures for adults, and our popular Birdcraft Carving and Decoy Show.

We are immensely proud of the interest our bird banding program generates. Since the 1970's, Birdcraft has been using this universal technique to collect data on the movement, survival, and behavior of birds during spring and fall migrations. Participants can watch our licensed volunteer banders as they capture, tag, and release individual birds, logging each one for scientific study at the Bird Banding Laboratory. Did you know that 135 different species of birds have been tagged at Birdcraft Sanctuary?



Museum open Tues, Thurs, & Sat from 10am - 3pm.
Trails open year-round from dawn to dusk.

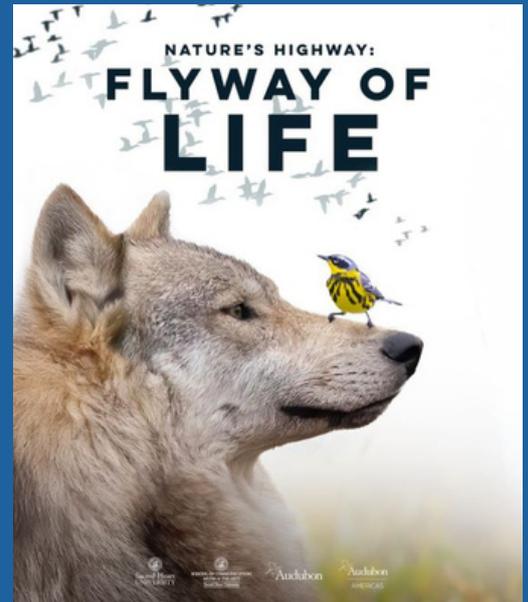
Fairfield Flocks Together

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Flyway of Life film screening and Q&A
Sunday, October 5, 1 pm
SHU Community Theatre, Fairfield, CT

Flyway of Life returns to Connecticut this weekend! After two sold-out shows this spring, Tomas Koeck's award-winning documentary — celebrating the Atlantic Flyway and the incredible migration of North America's birds — is coming back to the SHU Community Theatre in downtown Fairfield. Join filmmaker and local Fairfielder, Tomas Koeck, for a post-film Q&A.

[Purchase tickets at shucommunitytheatre.org/](http://shucommunitytheatre.org/)



The Enchanted Forest

Friday, October 24 • 5 pm- 7:30 pm

Fairfield Nature Center. 2325 Burr St. Fairfield, CT

Celebrate Halloween with a nature-themed illuminated walk through the forest.

Live animals — including owls — plus crafts, snacks, and hot chocolate.

Guided walks are every 15 minutes.

Dress for the weather. Costumes encouraged!

[Purchase tickets at ctaudubon.org](http://ctaudubon.org)

Feather Friendly Tip

Avoid using synthetic spider webs for outdoor decoration.

Beware! Halloween decorations can be harmful to wildlife.

-  Fake spider webs can entangle birds, bees, and other small animals, leading to injury or death.
-  Birds may attempt to use these artificial fibers for their nests, which can trap and harm their chicks.
-  If ingested, the synthetic materials can be toxic to wildlife, causing digestive blockages and long-term health issues.
-  They are made from plastic and are non-biodegradable, contributing to pollution when blown into natural habitats.

