News: World Migratory Bird Day Celebration on May 11 in Homewood
From:Thorn Creek Audubon<thorncreekaudubon@gmail.com>

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Upcoming Bird Walks

Spring bird walks are coming up April 28 and May 12. Check out the details on our website > Events

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May 11 Event in Homewood
World Migratory Bird Day Celebration

The Village of Homewood is again celebrating World Migratory Bird Day at the Izaak Walton Preserve. Come by and enjoy your pick of free activities!

This event is sponsored by the Homewood Public Works Tree Committee in partnership with Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve, Thorn Creek Audubon, Boy

Scout Troop 342, and the Homewood-Flossmoor High School Art Department.

   Date: Saturday, May 11
   Time: 8:00 am - 12 noon
   Location: Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve
   Address: 1100 Ridge Road, Homewood, IL ([map](#))

Programs:
8:00 am - 9:15 am… Bird Walk, Thorn Creek Audubon

9:30 am – 10:15 am… Dragonflies & Damselflies of Northern Illinois, Jim Phillips, Cook County Forest Preserve District
(Free drawing for bird or insect photo at end of program)

10:30 am – 11:15 am… Birds Need Bugs!, John Elliott, Chicago Bird Alliance
(Free drawing for bird or insect photo at end of program)

Ongoing 9:00 am - 12 noon

- **Audubon-guided Bird Walks for Families;** Bring binoculars if you have them. Kid's binoculars available to borrow.
- **Children's Arts, Crafts, and Games**
- **Build a Bughouse**
- **Local Birds Photography Exhibit**

This event is part of the Village of Homewood's application to become certified as a Bird City Illinois by the Audubon Council of Illinois.
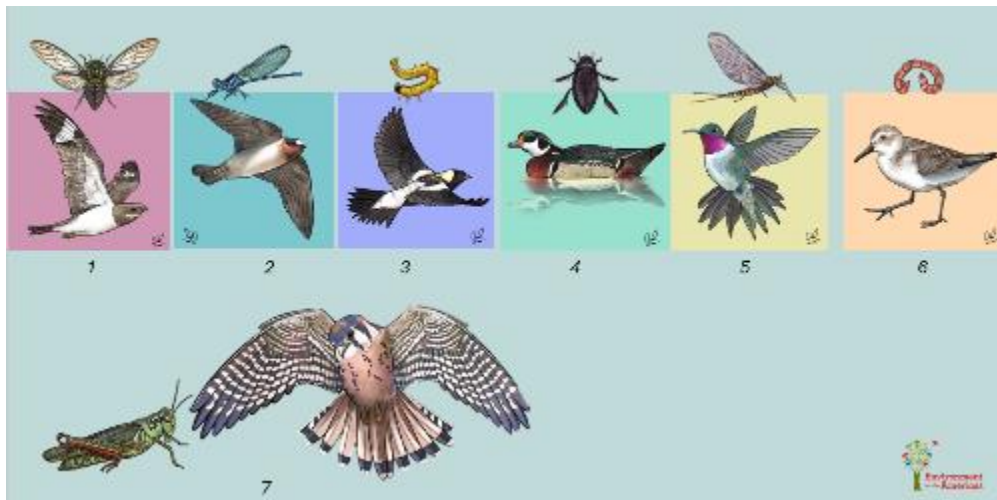
[Trail Map for Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve](#)

Protect Insects, Protect Birds

Check out this flyer to learn about eight simple ways you can help protect insects and birds. > [Download](#)

For kids: World Migratory Bird Day poster to color > [Download](#)

Meet the Ambassadors of World Migratory Bird Day 2024

Art by Anna Rose, migratorybirdday.org

The Species

1. Nacunda Nighthawk / Giant Cicada (*Chordeiles nacunda / Quesada gigas*)
2. Cliff Swallow /Vivid Dancer (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota / Argia vivida*)
3. Bobolink / Willow Sawfly (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus / Nematus corylus*)
4. Wood Duck / Giant Water Scavenger Beetle (*Aix sponsa / Hydrophilus triangularis*)
5. Broad-tailed Hummingbird / Mayfly (Selasphorus platycercus / Cinygmula ramaleyi)
6. Semipalmated Sandpiper / Buzzer Midge (*Calidris pusilla / Chironomus plumosus*)
7. American Kestrel / Red-legged Grasshopper (*Falco sparverius / Melanoplus femurrubrum*)

Environment for the Americas picked the seven bird species as examples of the important role of insects in the lives of migratory birds. As EFTA explains:

These species not only demonstrate the diversity of migratory birds but also highlight their dependence on insects and healthy insect habitats.

- Cliff Swallows capture flying insects and provide natural pest control benefits around their colonies.

- Despite being primarily granivorous, the North American Bobolink relies on insects as a crucial food resource during the nesting season.
- The Nacunda Nighthawk, active during twilight and night, skillfully uses artificial lighting to hunt for insects.
- Semipalmated Sandpipers scour mudflats for aquatic insects.
- The Broad-tailed Hummingbird supplements its nectar diet with insects, essential for nurturing its chicks.
- Even the American Kestrels rely significantly on insects as a food source.
- Finally, the migration of Wood Ducks to coastal areas shows just how important wetlands with plenty of insects are.

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