



Mission: Building on the tradition of special interest in birds, Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society is organized to promote enjoyment and protection of the natural environment through education, activism, and conservation of bird habitat.

VOLUME 45, NUMBER 5

MAY 2015

ANNUAL MEETING MONDAY, MAY 18 7:00pm

ELECTIONS AND FINANCES



NOTICE OF ELECTIONS: As stated in Article V, Section 1 of the YVAS by-laws, "the Annual Meeting shall be held in May of each year". At such time, officers and directors shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present. The Nominating Committee recommends the following officers for election: Steve Regele, President; Pam Pipal, Treasurer; and Doreen Hartman, Secretary. The Vice President position remains vacant.

Members of the Board Directors shall serve a term of two years. Half of the directors shall be elected in even years and half in odd years. The Nominating Committee recommends electing the following director for two years: Dorothy Bartlett.

In addition to the annual business meeting of electing board officers and directors, and approving financials, the May 18th Membership Meeting program will include a presentation by the Billings Community Foundation (BCF). BCF is a non-profit, tax-exempt innovative community fund governed by local citizens that promotes philanthropy and charitable giving in the Billings area. After carefully researching the needs of our organization and services in the Billings area, the YVAS Board of Directors recently joined with BCF to manage the endowment fund. We have established an unrestricted endowment fund with BCF, which allows the YVAS board to direct the use of the money, while BCF manages how the funds are invested. BCF has several additional programs that benefit individuals as well as organizations. Some of these programs and how they benefit YVAS will be presented at this meeting.



We look forward to seeing and visiting with you at our May Chapter Meeting.!

YVAS MEETINGS

All YVAS Meetings are at Mayflower Congregational Church, corner of Rehberg Lane and Poly Drive, Billings, MT unless otherwise noted. The public is welcome, there is no admission fee and ample free parking is available.

Monday, May 11, 6:00pm: Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, May 18, 7:00pm: Chapter Meeting

We will hold a YVAS fundraiser dinner at 5:30, before the Chapter meeting. Dinner donation: \$6. Sheila McKay has generously volunteered to coordinate. Please contact her at 652-7175, cell 694-7918, or wjhbird@yahoo.com, before May 15 to make reservations and tell her what you will bring.



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RED LODGE AREA FIELD TRIP RESCHEDULED TO TUES JUNE 16: 7a.m. at Rocky Mountain College for carpooling or Lion's Park restroom in Red Lodge at 8:30 a.m. See page 8 for more details

NEW BOARD MEMBER: YVAS is pleased to welcome Doreen Hartman to the Board of Directors. Originally from a suburb near Cleveland, Ohio, she came to Montana in 1993, where she worked for the Federal Government before retiring in 2011. Doreen joined the YVAS 2013 Christmas Bird Count, led by Jim Court, and was captivated by both the birds and the people. She has become an active, valued member of YVAS and has volunteered to take over the Secretary position from Dorothy Bartlett.



⇒ **YVAS President Steve Regele** put together a map of common YVAS bird trip sites, and a table of coordinate locations for the mapped sites, which was developed by the Field Trip Committee. Designed for both 'seasoned' birders familiar with the area's resources and for new or visiting birders, it is a valuable addition to the YVAS library. You can find the map and the coordinate locations on the website yvaudubon.org

INJURED RAPTORS, WATERFOWL, AND OTHER BIRDS

The YVAS Board of Directors has developed guidelines for anyone encountering injured birds. These guidelines are based on federal and state laws which regulate management of injured wildlife; in some cases it is advised that "If you care, leave it there". To read the complete guidelines, visit yvaudubon.org. Below is a list of resources you can contact to assist with injured birds.

- For injured or twine-entangled **Ospreys**, call Dr. Marco Restani at 406-425-2608 asap. If possible, stay by the raptor until help arrives. If you cannot reach Dr. Restani, call Deb Regele at 406-962-3115. For injured Ospreys, you can also call the Montana Raptor Conservation Center at 406-585-1211.
 - For all other injured **raptors**, call Montana Raptor Conservation Center (MRCC) at 406-585-1211- quickly. If possible, stay by the raptor until help arrives. MRCC has local contacts for assistance. After hours contact numbers are: Becky Kean at 406-570-6215 or 406-586-0002.
 - For **waterfowl**, call WJH Bird Resources at 406-652-7175. If possible, stay by the bird until help arrives.
 - For all other birds including game birds, call the MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks - Monday through Friday at 406-247-2940. If they are willing to accept them, injured birds can be taken to Moore Lane Veterinary Clinic temporarily until transportation can be arranged.
- You can also call YVAS' injured bird transport contact, Jeanette Tasey, at 406-669-3169 for assistance.

Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society Officers: AREA CODE 406

President: Steve Regele, 962-3115, sregele@juno.com

Vice-President: open

Secretary: Doreen Hartman, 697-0277, rdzlh-man@bresnan.net

Treasurer: Pam Pipal, 245-4517, ppipal@charter.net

Board of Directors:

Donn Bartlett: 252-0757, donnbartlett@msn.com

Dorothy Bartlett: 252-0757, dpadanyi@live.com

Steve Linder: 380-0073, becon1@bresnan.net

Sheila McKay: 652-7175, cell 694-7918, wjhbird@yahoo.com

Deb Regele: 962-3115, debregele@gmail.com

Marco Restani: 425-2608, restani@stcloudstate.edu

Sue Weinreis: 855-4181, granpeak@gmail.com

Nancy Wiggins: 651-0218, nwiggins83@gmail.com

Montana's Congressional Delegation:

Sen. Steve Daines: U.S. Senate, Wash. D.C. 20510
website: daines.senate.gov

email: senator@daines.senate.gov

Billings: 406-245-6822 Wash. D.C. 202-224-2651

Sen. Jon Tester: U.S. Senate, Wash. D.C. 20510

website: tester.senate.gov

email: senator@tester.senate.gov

Billings: 406-252-0550 Wash. D.C.: 202-224-2644

Rep. Ryan Zinke:

website: zinke.house.gov

email: representative@zinke.house.gov

Billings: 406-702-1182 Wash, D.C: 202-225-3211

Committees and Special Assignments: AREA CODE 406

Audubon Adventures: Jerry Dalton, 656-3656,
daltonlj@centurylink.net

Bird Questions: George Mowat, 656-7467 gmowat@bresnan.net;
Helen Carlson Cummins, 248-8684

Birdathon: Ruth Vanderhorst, 245-5118, acrv@bresnan.net

Christmas Bird Count: Jim Court, 259-5099, C: 860-0450,
custertours@gmail.com

Conservation Advisor: Steve Regele, 962-3115, sregele@juno.com

Conservation Reading Group: Jerry Dalton, 656-3656,
daltonlj@centurylink.net

Editor: Nancy Wiggins, 651-0218, nwiggins83@gmail.com

Field Trip Chair: Donn Bartlett, 252-0757, donnbartlett@msn.com

Hospitality: Audrey Jurovich, 656-2748

Injured Raptors: Montana Raptor Conservation Center, 406-585-1211; Raptor Transport-Jeanette Tasey, 669-3169,
jtasey@gmail.com; Waterfowl-WJH 652-7175

Membership Secretary: Joel M. Bowers, 534-3672,
cell: 591-5635, jmba@jmba.com

Osprey Project: Deb Regele, 962-3115, debregele@gmail.com
Twine Committee: Lisa Bessasparis
698-9405, OspreyBTC@gmail.com

Publicity: Dorothy Bartlett, 252-0757, dpadanyi@live.com

Program Chair: Sheila McKay, 652-7175, wjhbird@yahoo.com

Recycling (aluminum): Larry Handsaker, 406-855-9832

Website: Deb Regele, 962-3115, debregele@gmail.com

Meetings are held September through May at Mayflower Congregational Church, corner of Poly and Rehberg, Billings, MT:

• Board Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 6:00pm. Board Meetings are open to the entire membership.

• General Chapter Meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 7:00pm. All meetings are open to the public.



FIELD TRIP NOTES

SATURDAY MARCH 21 DUCK DAY

It was really a fun Duck Day at Sheila McKay's WJH Wild Bird Resources. The days activities offered miniature donkey rides with Tami Lorenz, turtles 101 with Dave Pauli, a hands-on falconry exhibition with Mike Zermeulew; a classic duck regatta, and a nature contest on animals and animal control with Dave Pauli. Duck holding and identification labs were just right for the youngsters in the crowd. Thanks to all who supported and participated in this day. Submitted by Will Crain.



Falconer Mike Zermeulew
Photo by Will Crain



Tami Lorenz's miniature donkey ride
Photo by Will Crain



Peter and Helen Cummins and Sophie with
Swan 'Lightwing' Photo by Will Crain



Duck Regatta supervised by Sheila
Photo by Will Crain

SATURDAY APRIL 11 EXXON PONDS/EMERALD HILLS

On a mid-April morning that went from cloudy to warm sunshine to cool winds, 16 birders led by Ron Kuhler and George Mowat walked the fields of Exxon Ponds and saw Bald Eagles and Red-tailed Hawks soaring and sailing in the skies. For many, the Red Tailed Hawks above the Emerald Hills overlook provided the major thrills of the day. For the five or six birders who were walking closely behind Ron, the flushing of two mature Great Horned Owls right in front of us was surely the event of the day.

On the ponds, the ducks seen included Common Merganser, Mallard, American Wigeon, Double-crested Cormorants, Northern Shovelers and Gadwall. Four Gadwall were seen flying in a courtship formation according to Jim Hansen. Song Sparrows and Red-winged Blackbirds, Wild Turkeys and Ring-necked pheasants provided springtime music.

Spying a Great Blue Heron and two Snow Geese added to our list. Mountain Bluebirds, a Downy Woodpecker, Western Meadowlark and a few other species were seen as we enjoyed a standup lunch at the overlook before the winds kicked up and we left for home. In all, 28 species were identified. Thanks to George and Ron for a great introduction to spring birding. Submitted by Ruth Vanderhorst



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 11, 12, AND 15 ORNITHOLOGY CLASSES

THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER!! Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society will be hosting Ornithology Classes May 11, 12 and 15. The classes will be held at the Mayflower Church, 2940 Poly Drive in Billings, from 6 pm to 8 pm. Dr. Marco Restani's topics will be:

Monday: Review of bird topography and classification

Tuesday: Bird conservation in a modern world

Friday: A lecture on bird ID by species group (decided by class participants)

For YVAS Supporting Chapter Members, the classes are \$20 each. For non-members, the classes are \$30 each. If you become a YVAS Supporting Chapter member for \$20 prior to the class, you get all the benefits of a Supporting Chapter Member. To register and reserve a place in one, two, or all three classes, contact Deb at debregele@gmail.com or 406-962-3115.



MAY 21 THURSDAY 7pm The **CONSERVATION READING GROUP** will meet at Sheila McKay's home 2222 S. 54th Street West, Billings Montana 59106. South 54th street intersects Neibauer Road. Call [406-694-7918](tel:4066947918) if you need directions. The topic will be "The Yellowstone River". What are the most important issues to you?

Feel free to bring a guest. Anyone interested in YVAS or river conservation is welcome, and the discussion is framed such that a last minute decision to join us will not exclude anyone. If you have time to prepare, please bring a river issue that you feel is important, and would like to share with the group, and/or research some information on "free-flowing rivers" versus rip-rap (Rip rap locks a river into a specific channel, deepens the channel, and may have downstream implications). Submitted by Sheila McKay

MAY 30-31 SATURDAY AND SUNDAY BIRDATHON 2015

Birdathon will be held from 5 p.m. on May 30, to 5 p.m. on May 31. Teams will gather at 897 Adobe, Billings, no later than 5:30 p.m. on Sunday with completed species lists to be counted collectively. Refreshments will be served to the tired and hungry teams.

MEMBERS of YVAS:

Have you made arrangements to be on a Birdathon Team? If so, wonderful! The deadline for registration is May 20. Registration forms, Pledge forms and Rules are available on the website, yvaudubon.org. It is time to not only begin planning your birding strategy, but to begin work on obtaining pledges supporting your team.

Have you decided which Team to support with a donation or pledge? If you have, that is great. Thank you. If not, fill out a Pledge Form and send it to YVAS, Box 1075, Billings, MT 59103. If you prefer to just support the Birdathon without team designation that's fine too. Many people do.

Remember, 2015 goals for Birdathon funds are to support:

1. Bringing a nationally known bird expert to Billings to present a public program to further the goals of education about and conservation of the natural environment.
2. Starting an Osprey Rescue Fund to support rescue efforts when Osprey become entangled in baling twine used as nesting material. To date, eight Osprey nestlings have been entangled in twine (two died and six survived) That is important. Rescue efforts can be expensive and do demand expert intervention.

Thanks to everyone who participates in any way. Submitted by Ruth Vanderhorst

JUNE 5-7 *WINGS ACROSS THE BIG SKY* Helena, Montana

"**LIVING ON THE WIND**" – what a great theme for Montana Audubon's Bird Festival featuring keynote speaker Scott Weidensaul, who will be speaking on migration patterns. Field trips are filling fast, so please register as soon as possible. Register by mail, or online at www.mtaudubon.org. Also, be sure to reserve your rooms at the Red Lion Colonial Hotel by calling 1-406-443-2100, or book online with the code MONT0604.

EACH YEAR MONTANA AUDUBON RECOGNIZES INDIVIDUALS WHO WORK FOR THE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF BIRDS AND OTHER WILDLIFE BY PRESENTING AWARDS AT THE SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET. WE ARE CURRENTLY SEEKING NOMINATIONS IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES: LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR, CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR, CITIZEN SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR, AND SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.

TO MAKE A NOMINATION, DOWNLOAD A NOMINATION FORM FROM WWW.MTAUDUBON.ORG/ABOUT/AWARDS.HTML. NOMINATIONS ARE DUE AT THE OFFICE BY MAY 22, 2015. MAIL COMPLETED FORMS TO MONTANA AUDUBON, PO BOX 595, HELENA MT 59624.

10-14 JUNE 2015 WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! Western Field Ornithologists (WFO) is an organization of amateur and professional field ornithologists that promotes the study of birds throughout western North America including Hawaii, the northeastern Pacific Ocean, and Western Mexico. Field trips will visit a variety of habitats around Billings, from the high mountains (Black Rosy-Finch) to the grasslands (Sprague's Pipits). We'll see courting McCown's and Chestnut-collared Longspurs in their finest plumage, Upland Sandpipers and Lark Buntings. History buffs will delight in viewing the Little Bighorn Battlefield where Custer saw his last Sharp-tailed Grouse.

There will be workshops on field identification of sparrows (Jon Dunn) and flycatchers (Dan Casey), natural history of owls (Denver Holt), bird sound identification (Nathan Pieplow), and more. Friday and Saturday afternoon science sessions will update you on the most current avian research from the region, and the Saturday evening banquet will feature a keynote address by Stephen Dinsmore on Mountain Plovers. Ed Harper and Nathan Pieplow will again offer their ever-popular sessions on bird ID by sight and sound. Email erpfromca@aol.com to be added to the electronic mailing list. WFO members are able to register for our conferences at a reduced rate and have early access to registration. You can join at westernfieldornithologists.org/join.php. **HOTEL:** To book a room at the WFO rate (\$96.00/night) call the Billings Hotel & Convention Center at (406) 248-7151 or (800) 537-7286 and ask to receive the WFO room rate.

AUDUBON CENTER 7026 South Billings Blvd, Billings, MT, 59101 (406) 294.5099 mtacec.org

Saturday MAY 9 Night Hawks from 6-8 pm. Amphibians & Worm Cups. Join us at the Audubon Center for a nature filled evening and then an amazing snack. Fee is \$5/person or **Free for Friends of the Center**.

Friday MAY 15 Nature Night from 6-9 pm. 4 – 12 year olds welcome. Cost is \$22/child or \$20 for **Friends of the Center**. Drop your child off for an evening of outdoor adventures with our Naturalists.

Saturday MAY 16 Shepard Nature Play Space Ribbon Cutting Event. Bring the whole family for our ribbon cutting event on at 11am. There will be a brief presentation then the play area will be open for play!

Saturday MAY 23 Crepuscular Insect Hunt from 6-8pm. What goes bump and tweet in the night? Join us to find out. \$5 per family.



CONSERVATION NEWS

So far this year, five new Osprey poles and platforms have been installed along the Yellowstone River, all a result of birds nesting on active power poles in 2014. By April 21, three of the five platforms were occupied by content Osprey couples. Yellowstone Valley Electric installed two of these new poles and platforms on River Road in March 2015, at no cost to YVAS. This year YVAS is fortunate to have Boy Scout Sean Ellis monitoring one of these nests while earning his Eagle Scout Rank. Prior to the installation of the poles, Sean and other Scouts prepared and prepped the new platforms with sticks. A few weeks later, returning Ospreys readily adopted the new nesting sites. Sean monitors the nest a few miles west of Duck Creek on a weekly basis, with additional visits when needed. He is also keeping his eye out for "repeat offenders" that have a fetish for nesting on active power lines.

On another note, Ospreys returning to the new nesting platform at Swinging Bridge were not as impressed as those who returned to River Road. For several days, Beartooth Electric linesmen removed sticks placed by the returnees on the old nesting site (an active power pole), and placed them on the new platform, morning and again at night, to make their point with the obstinate pair. The birds finally accepted the new pad, and took up residence on the pole/platform that was installed last December by Beartooth Electric, again at no cost to YVAS.



Boy Scout Sean Ellis at the Osprey platform nest installation

Awaiting the late arrivals are the new vacant nesting platforms near the DeHart Exit on I90 west of Big Timber, installed by NorthWestern Energy, and the one near East Rosebud exit on I94, installed by MDU. Many many thanks go to the utility companies, landowners, and the YVAS volunteer Osprey monitors. Without them, this project would not be possible. For more information and pictures visit <http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/groups-coordinate-to-erect-new-osprey-nesting-sites-along-yellowstone/article>. Submitted by Deb Regele

bp

AFTER BP OIL SPILL HOPE TAKES FLIGHT [VIDEO]



As we mark the five-year anniversary of the catastrophic Deepwater Horizon disaster, Audubon has been hard at work to restore and improve bird habitats all along the Gulf Coast. In the wake of the worst oil spill in U.S. history, Audubon is working to protect bird populations and restore critical habitat across all five Gulf states. Watch and share this short video at audubon.org.

UNPRECEDENTED CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP KEEPS BI-STATE SAGE GROUSE OFF ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST

On the California-Nevada state line, a geographically distinct population of Greater Sage-Grouse once faced a precarious future. Today, that's changed, thanks in large part to the an unprecedented partnership effort by the Bi-State Local Area Working Group and proactive conservation efforts of private landowners. Read more at

<http://www.sagegrouseinitiative.com/unprecedented-conservation-partner>.



NESTING MATERIALS

- ⇒ **THE CROWS** [Click here: Are crows the ultimate problem solvers? - Inside the Animal Mind: Episode 2 - BBC Two - YouTube'](#)
- ⇒ **"THE BLUEBIRD EFFECT"** by Julie Zickefoose is a book about the change that's set in motion by one single act, such as saving an injured bluebird—or a hummingbird, swift, or phoebe. Each of the twenty five chapters covers a different species, and many depict an individual bird, each with its own personality, habits, and quirks. *Bluebird Effect* mixes humor, natural history, and memoir to give readers an intimate story of a life lived among wild birds.
- ⇒ Visit Audubonaction.org to read more about:
- Your Yard Matters: America's lawns take up 8 times more space than all of New Jersey. What grows on those 45 million acres including your back yard could make or break many bird species. It's all about native plants and the yummy bugs that inhabit them. Audubon features editor Rene Ebersole offers step-by-step guidance on how to transform your yard into a bird habitat haven.
 - [Overwintering Plovers Make National News](#)
Follow Audubon's Walker Golder as he shares the overwintering secrets of the endangered Piping Plover with PBS NewsHour. With only 8,000 birds left, these shorebirds are struggling to survive. Climate change may be the biggest threat to these birds yet. This 8-minute segment perfectly captures the race to save the plovers — before it's too late. [Read More→](#)
 - [This Old \(Bird\) House](#)
"I'm a comedian, not a carpenter." So says all-thumbs comic actor Michael Ian Black as he tries to demonstrate the art of building a backyard birdhouse. His fumbling has a serious purpose though — to encourage people to turn their yards into ideal bird habitat. Another Toyota TogetherGreen PSA well worth watching. [Watch Video→](#)
- ⇒ Visit abcbirds.org to read more about:
- [Spring's Nesting Birds Make Easy Prey for Outdoor Cats](#): With Spring now here, baby birds and other young wildlife will soon be arriving and later venturing from their nests in a generally defenseless state. American Bird Conservancy (ABC) is reminding cat owners that even the most well-fed domestic cats pose serious threats to vulnerable wildlife. Spring is perhaps the single most important time of the year for cat owners to protect wildlife by keeping their cats indoors or under their direct control," ABC Invasive Species Program Director Grant Sizemore said.
 - It's spring! Migratory birds are on the move, and we're tracking along with them through "North with the Spring," a 100-day cross-country journey inspired by Edwin Way Teale's 1951 book of that name. Follow along as spring unfolds: [Read the first dispatch](#) from ABC Field Naturalist Bruce Beehler [Learn more about the "North with the Spring" Journey](#)
- ⇒ Visit nwf.org to view:
- [Video Diary: One Tiny Hummingbird Family](#). If you don't already have an obsessive devotion to hummingbirds, beware; this might change your mind. Hummingbirds are [among the worlds smallest and fastest birds](#). Darting and diving through the sky at faster-than-the-eye speeds that can make even the most focused birders dizzy.



RENEWAL NOTICES

The YVAS Board of Directors is trying to find a better way to alert supporting Chapter Members of their renewal dates. The list below consists of those members up for renewal in May and June. Please use the application form below (include your email address) and submit it, along with a check, to any Board Member or mail it to the address on the application when it is time to renew. Contact Membership Secretary Joel M. Bowers at 534-3672 or jmba@jmba.com, with any questions.

MAY

Dan Crabtree
Cheri Dale
Tom & Jeannette Davis
William DeMeyer
Brenda Dunham
Dennis Holschbach
Margaret McCarty
Velma Pederson
Robert Pond
Marco Restani
Vernon Sundberg
Cheryl Tatum
Janet Weisz

JUNE

Sandra Abraham	George Mowat
Grant Barnard	Marlene Pirtz
Debra Bonogofsky	Bonnie Preikszas
Jean Boone	Jim & Jean Sells
Rita Cetrone	Duane Smith
Richard Cornelius	Gail Speck
Mary Fitzpatrick	Lynn Rector
James Forseth	
John & Carol Gibson	
Justin Harris	
Claudia Janecek	
James King	
Thomas Korb	
Leslie McCormick	
Jacob Meisner	

National Audubon Society
Recruitment Code: C0ZN500Z
Application for New Membership

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society. I understand that I will receive the Audubon Magazine and Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society Flyer. Make check payable to **National Audubon Society**. Renewals will be sent to you through National Audubon.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

One Year Membership

\$20 One year new membership

Send this application and your check made out to **National Audubon Society** to:

Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society
Attention: Membership Secretary
P.O. Box 1075
Billings, MT 59103-1075

Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society
Application for New & Renewal Membership

Please enroll me as a supporting member of Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society. I understand I will be supporting local Chapter activities and receiving the local newsletter. I will enjoy full family Chapter benefits. Make check payable to **Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society** for \$20. If applying for a new or renewing student membership, make check for \$10 and indicate academic affiliation.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____



Do you want to receive the Flyer electronically?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Send this application and your check to:
Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society
Attention: Membership Secretary
P.O. Box 1075
Billings, MT 59103-1075



YELLOWSTONE VALLEY AUDUBON FLYER

Non-Profit Organization
PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BILLINGS, MT
PERMIT NO. 27

P.O. Box 1075
Billings, MT 59103-1075

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Field Trip Calendar:

All field trips depart from Rocky Mountain College parking lot on Rimrock Road, adjacent to Billings Studio Theater, unless otherwise noted, and will be by car. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING PETS.** All field trips are open to the public. Passengers will share gas costs with driver when car-pooling. Do make sure you check all field trips with listing in flyer each month for any changes. Binoculars and birding books are available on loan at the field trips. FIELD TRIP CHAIR: Donn Bartlett 252-0757, donnbartlett@msn.com

May 9	Sat	MEET AT RIVERFRONT PARK S Billings Blvd, 1st Parking Area on right at 8 am. Half Day.	George and Bernie Mowat, leaders.
May 14	Thur	MEET AT RIVERFRONT PARK at 5:30 p.m. (See above location)	Mike Weber, leader.
May 16	Sat	LAKE BASIN 8 a.m.	Sack Lunch. Mike Weber, leader.
May 19	Tues	STILLWATER RIVER AND WOODBINE AREAS 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Sack Lunch, Ruth Vanderhorst, leader.
May 22	Fri	SAGE CREEK IN THE PRYORS 6:15am	A mile or two, some hiking in rough terrain. Lunch, water, snacks, hiking boots, raingear, bug spray, sunscreen, bear spray if you have it. Sue Weinreis and Carolyn Jones, leaders.
May 23	Sat	POMPEY'S PILLAR 7a.m. to early afternoon	Sack Lunch optional depending on how long we bird in the morning Ruth Vanderhorst, leader
May 30-31	Sat-Sun	BIRDATHON	Contact Ruth Vanderhorst at 245-5118 or acrv@bresnan.net
June 2	Tues	MEET AT PICTOGRAPH CAVE 5:30 pm. Exit I-90 at Lockwood (Exit 452) and turn onto Coburn Road	Ruth Vanderhorst, leader
June 5-June 7	Fri-Sun	MT AUDUBON BIRD FESTIVAL in Helena	Contact mtaudubon.org for more information
June 10-14	Wed-Sun	WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE	Billings, MT Contact westernfieldornithologists.org
June 16	Tues	RED LODGE AREA 7 a.m. at Rocky Mountain College for carpooling or Lion's Park restroom in Red Lodge at 8:30 a.m.	Sack Lunch, Stan Heath and Jerry Dalton, leaders.

