



20+ Outreach Events

In 2023 we talked a lot about environmental awareness and how to make a connection with nature through hands-on fun. **Examples:**

- **Restoring** natives and removing invasive plants at area parks
- **Answering** questions at Earthfest, Cascade Lake and the Rochester Flower & Garden Tour
- **Spinning** the "bird wheel" at Arbor Day, the Olmsted County Fair and the International Owl Festival
- **Engaging kids and older adults** with programs about bird songs
- **Consulting** and providing expertise about bird feeder types and placement to several area organizations



Clockwise from top left: Arbor Day fun; Damsels & Dragons - holding a live damselfly; Our booth at Earthfest; Learning about insects at our Bug Hunt

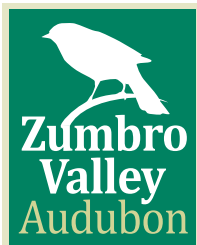
Want to volunteer with us?

Email: contactZVAS@ZumbroValleyAudubon.org



"Preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known."

Carl Sagan



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE

PO Box 6244
Rochester, MN 55903

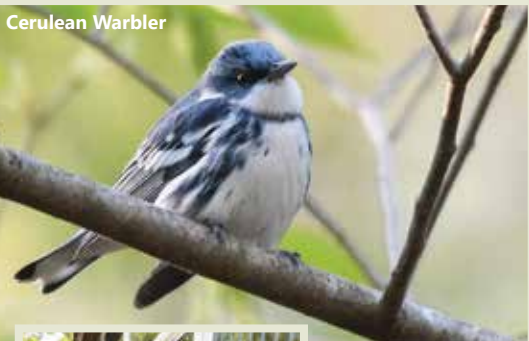
NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROCHESTER MN
PERMIT NO. 289



Get the latest program information via our free eNewsletter.

Send your email address to editor@ZumbroValleyAudubon.org.

Cerulean Warbler



© Brendan Lanpher

Above:
A Cerulean Warbler

Left: Installing bird-safe demonstration window treatments at the Whitewater State Park Visitor Center.



Eastern Screech Owl



© Brendan Lanpher



Above: an Eastern Screech Owl roosting in a tree cavity near Byron.

Below: a Blue Jay enjoying some free seed at a Quarry Hill feeder.

Connecting with nature.

Your generous support enables us to offer free no-pressure events where people can connect with nature and learn at their own pace.

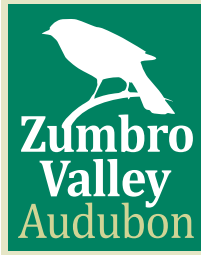
We also provide grant money to like-minded environmental groups. Last year these included:

- International Owl Festival Sponsorship: \$500
- MN Audubon: \$500
- Driftless Area Bird Conservancy Cerulean Warbler Research Project: \$500
- WCS MoSi Banding Project: \$500
- Bird Seed for Quarry Hill: \$300
- Bird Seed for Whitewater State Park: \$300
- Earth Fest Sponsorship: \$250
- WWSP Bird-safe Windows Project: \$255

Thank you!

ZumbroValleyAudubon.org





CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE

We are an all-volunteer nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

Dear Members,

2023 was a busy year - all made possible by the efforts of our talented volunteers and the funds you so generously provided.

With your continued help we'll be able to offer even more **free** educational programs, field trips and citizen science opportunities in 2024.

Thank you!

Michael Degerstrom
President / Zumbro Valley Audubon



Rochester's Reservoirs Field Trip

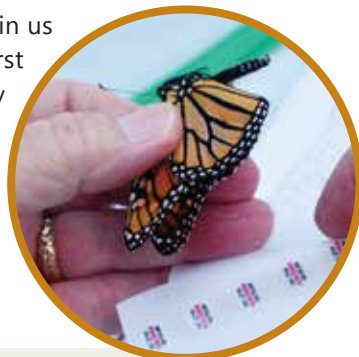
Action! Our group may be small, but our volunteers are mighty. Here's how we used your donations last year.

19 Expert Guided Field Trips

We visited restored prairies, honed our bird song skills at Chester Woods, found rare wildflowers at Root River County Park, watched migrating waterfowl and shorebirds at Armstrong Wetlands, Rice Lake State Park, Cascade Lake and Olmsted County's many reservoirs, searched for warblers in Kutzky Park and Hok-si-la Park, identified spring ephemerals in the Izaak Walton Wetlands, and searched for sparrows and other songbirds at the Rock Dell Wildlife Management Area and Kalmar Reservoir.

12 Expert Guided Bird Walks

Our regular walks at the Quarry Hill Nature Center have become quite popular. Join us at 9 am on the first Saturday of every month. Meet us near the Nature Center entrance.



7 Special Programs

Expert speakers entertained and educated us on a wide variety of subjects during free in-person and online programs.



Two of our 2023 Programs



Monthly Bird Walk at Quarry Hill

8 Citizen Science Events

The more we know the better we can protect and preserve our environment!



Searching for Sparrows at Kalmar

In 2023 we hosted a Christmas Bird Count, a Monarch Tagging Event, a Bug Hunt, Damsels & Dragonflies, a Butterfly Count, a Chimney Swift Sit, and spring and fall Global BIG Day Birding events.



Birding Backpack

2023 Financial Overview

Income:

Annual Fund Drive (Feb.) & other donations	\$ 3,991
Audubon Dues	\$ 1,315
Give to the Max Day (Nov.)	\$ 1,058
Other Donations	\$ 4,687

Total \$ 11,051

Expenditures:

Grants, sponsorships, outreach	\$ 3,105
Programs, speaker fees, publicity, website, education	\$ 3,018
Admin, insurance, PO Box, fundraising, printing	\$ 1,262

Total \$ 7,385

3 Special Projects

We installed **bird-safe demonstration windows** at the Whitewater State Park Visitor Center. Visit and see 3 different solutions that help prevent birds from dying in window collisions.

We created a "**Birding Backpack**" which can be borrowed and used on the trails at Oxbow Park.

We supported a **MoSi banding station** in Guatemala and completed research on constructing a **MOTUS receiver station**. This MOTUS station will be built in Tikal National Park in 2024 at a cost of nearly \$5,000 – one of the largest projects we have ever taken on – and it couldn't have been accomplished without supporters like you.

Your donations mean everything to us!

Please use the enclosed envelope or visit giveMN.org (click "Donate" and type in Zumbro Valley Audubon). Your gifts allow us to continue doing the things we do and they are 100% tax deductible. Thank you!

