

**NEW! NEW! NEW!**

**WAXWING ASSOCIATES** is offering individual birding and bat walks thru **Smartbox Adventures**. **Smartbox** is an international company offering adventures world-wide for families and friends to experience unusual activities at reasonable rates. Check out **Waxwing Associates** offerings in the **Smartbox Northeast Adventure** book at [www.smartbox.com](http://www.smartbox.com) or look in a local bookstore or department store for the booklets.

Book step on guides, motor coach, birding, and wildlife tours now by contacting:

Waxwing Associates

Hollidaysburg, PA

814-693-6563

[twentz@waxwingassociates.com](mailto:twentz@waxwingassociates.com)



**Waxwing Associates**  
140 Queen Ann Drive  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648



## Alleghenies Adventures

### March 17, Tuesday 7:00 PM—Wild Mushrooms of the Juniata Valley

Join the author of Field Guide to the Wild Mushrooms of Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic for an in depth look at the fungi that share our woods. Juniata Valley Audubon program at Bellwood Antis library, Bellwood Exit 41, I-99. Information contact Dave Bonta 684-3113.

### March 21, Saturday 6:30 PM— Woodcock Mating Rituals

Canoe Creek State Park has a wide variety of wetlands and old fields that provide habitat for woodcock nesting. Join Juniata Valley Audubon members for a look at the whimsical woodcocks. Meet Canoe Creek Pavilion I, Leader: Stan Kotala 946-8840.

### April 4, Saturday 11:00 AM—Buy Fresh, Buy Local!

Make your lives healthier with the old adage, buy fresh, buy local! Join Friends Farm CASA to learn how to get fresh local produce every week. Learn about sustainable agriculture, how the food is produced and how to get great local produce to your dinner tables. Meet Canoe Creek State Park Education Center.

Leader: Heidi Mullendore, EES 695-6807.

### April 11, Saturday 10:00 AM—Spring Walk

Stretch those winter-tired legs and get blood moving on an early spring morning walk. We'll look for signs of spring including the first wildflowers and fiddleheads. Walk leaves from the Canoe Creek State Park Education Center. Leader Heidi Mullendore, EES 695-6807

### April 24, 25, 26, Fri—Sun Leave 5:00 PM Friday—Cape May Shore Birds

Juniata Valley Audubon is sponsoring a weekend trip to Cape May, N.J./ Lewes, DE area to observe thousands of shore birds, warblers, and other spring migrants. Shore birds stop over to take advantage of horseshoe crab eggs being washed ashore for a nutritious feeding frenzy. Van service with 2 overnights in motels included in the cost of \$150 double or \$250 single occupancy. Pre-paid reservations required by April 16. Leader: Terry Wentz 693-6563.

### May 9, Saturday 3:00 PM—Spring Cleaning

Spring cleaning the green way! Find out what your cleaning products have in them and learn steps to take to replace your cleaning products with effective, environmental safe products. Why go green? Find out how it affects your family and home. Meet Canoe Creek State Park Education Center. Leader: Heidi Mullendore 695-6807.

### May 23, Saturday 3:30 PM—Wildflower Wander

Seek out the spring jewels of the forest-wildflowers. Enjoy a walk through the spring woods as you learn how these fascinating and beautiful plants survive. Walk leaves *Canoe Creek State Park Education Center*.

Leader: Heidi Mullendore 695-6807

### May 24, Sunday 3:00 PM—Lucky 7 Kayak Tours: Wildlife by Kayak

Get outdoors as we paddle around Canoe Creek Lake looking for eagles, ospreys, muskrats and other lake wildlife. Not for beginners, must be 12 or older. Bring your kayak or contact the park to use one of there kayaks. Meet Canoe Creek State Park Boat Rental. Leader: Heidi Mullendore 695-6807.

### June 6, Saturday 8:00 AM—Birds, Bats, and Wildflowers

An all day event sponsored by Juniata Valley Audubon with a variety of guided walks and programs. Learn from local experts about the birds, bats, and wildflowers that make Canoe Creek State Park unique. Meet at Canoe Creek Education Center. All day from 8 AM—9 PM, fee \$10 per person or \$20 family.

Contact: Terry Wentz for information 693-6563



TRILLIUM

**Get out and enjoy Central Pennsylvania through out the seasons. The Alleghenies has lots to offer.**

**Take a look at our new webpage. Completely redone, easier to use with lots of good information and links.**  
[www.waxwingassociates](http://www.waxwingassociates)



HORNED LARK



# Waxwing Newsletter

**WAXWING  
ASSOCIATES LLC**

Volume 4, Issue 1

March, April, May 2009

## Migratory Bird Day

International Migratory Bird Day was started by the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center (SMBC) in the early 1990's by their staff to foster greater understanding, appreciation, and protection of the phenomenon of bird migration. The first celebration was held at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. in 1993. Today the celebration is coordinated by the Environment for the Americas (EFTA) non-profit group to share information about birds and conservation. The official date for celebrations in the U.S. and Canada is the second Saturday of May, this year May 9, 2009.

An IMBD event provides the public an opportunity to learn about birds and their conservation with a variety of bird walks, classroom programs, public presentations, bird counts, one-day events and multi-day festivals. Throughout Pennsylvania many local Audubon chapters and bird groups hold events during the month of May to celebrate this day. The theme for this year's observation is "Celebrating Birds In Culture"

The Juniata Valley Audubon Society in south-central PA is holding a bird walk May 23, 8 AM beginning at the Canoe Creek State Park Education Center. During this walk as many as 150 species of birds may be observed in honor of migratory bird day. You may contact walk leader Stan Kotala 814-946-8840 for more information about the Canoe Creek bird walk. Novice bird watchers as well as experts are welcome and will enjoy this 4 mile hike at a relatively slow pace to observe birds at the peak of their migration north.

Many groups or individuals who participate in IMBD keep a list of birds they observe and participate in citizen science reporting to Cornell Lab of Ornithology's eBird data base. Bird observations from all over the Western Hemisphere are submitted and shared with others over eBird by logging onto [ebird.org/IMBD](http://ebird.org/IMBD), emailing results to [migratorybird-day@aol.com](mailto:migratorybird-day@aol.com), faxing data to 303-499-9567, or mailing to IMBD 2840 Iliff Street, Boulder, CO 80305. For more information about IMBD go to [www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org).

eBirders submitted more checklists and observations than in any previous year in 2008 including over 1 million observations in one month. Information that is readily available includes maps with GPS points with up to 5 species at a location, bar charts with frequency of occurrence, arrivals and departures for a site, all time first/last records, high counts for a region, summary tables by week, month, or year, bar charts for my locations, my summary tables, and my eBird lists.



**OSPREY**

## Waxwing Nature Tours: Yellowstone National Park

Waxwing Associates is offering its first national tour to Yellowstone for the fall of 2009, September 9 to 18. The tour is all inclusive including air fare, lodging, most meals, guides, and van transportation. If you have been looking for a wildlife watching experience to the premiere spot in the lower 48 states, this tour is for you.

The September dates have been chosen as prime wildlife watching times after the park recovers from the busy summer season and wildlife once again roam freely. Expect to see large herds of elk, and bison, grizzly bears, and possibly wolves. In addition we will explore the geology of Yellowstone that makes it famous from geysers, to mud pots, to warm springs. All activities will be led by local expert guides at a comfortable pace.

We will be staying at lodges in Yellowstone and will have some free time to explore parts of the park by ourselves. All details will be taken care of for you..

**CALL IMMEDIATELY for FIRST PRIORITY AND COSTS.**

**814-693-6563**

**or email**

**[twentz@waxwingassociates.com](mailto:twentz@waxwingassociates.com)**



**BISON**

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**COLUMBINE**

**PLEASE NOTE: GUIDES DO NOT PROVIDE BINOCULARS PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BINOCULARS AND BIRD IDENTIFICATION FIELD BOOKS**

**Coming in next issue**

**June 2009:**

**Butterflies**

**Summer Solace**



## Ice Is Out

Let's declare winter over! When the ice on local lakes leaves, spring takes off at a break neck pace. Waterfowl, raptors, and northern songbirds have already begun their trek north to summer nesting grounds. Hundreds of thousands of snow geese and tundra swans mass at Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area near Lebanon, PA the first two weeks of March and continue lake hopping as ice leaves the lakes farther north. Raptors are taking advantage of southeastern and southwestern winds to soar the ridge tops of the Appalachians. Raptor counts have begun at various hawk watch sites and golden eagles are among the early migrants. Soon pine siskins and white winged crossbills will be leaving Central PA where they have survived the winter foraging at homeowners bird feeders.

As ice fishermen cling to the last days of sitting on the ice, hoping for a large pickerel or some early crappies, the ice becomes precariously thin and ospreys show up to fish from the skies. The PA Fish & Boat Commission is busy stocking trout for the grand opening day of trout season only to provide easy pickings for fish eating waterfowl. Take a trip the first two weeks of April to a local lake that is stocked with trout and enjoy watching ospreys, loons, and mergansers feast on the fish.

From mid April thru the merry month of May tropical song birds and local nesters are moving thru Pennsylvania to Canada and Alaska. Just open your doors and windows on those warm spring mornings to listen to the symphony of songs that birds produce to impress their mates. Red-winged blackbirds, bluebirds, robins, mockingbirds, wood warblers, and orioles are some of the most vocal birds. Enjoy, ice is out and spring has arrived!

## Birding Guides Available

Waxwing Associates has a staff of expert guides available to seek out any wildlife species, cultural resources, or historic sites in the Alleghenies. We are able to cater a 2 hour outing to an all day event including transportation from a local motel. We have the capability to plan an entire tour for van size to motor coach size groups including transportation to the Alleghenies, motel reservations, meals, and of course expert guides.

### RATES BY GROUP SIZE:

#### Van size groups

Minimum: 10 people / 2hours

\$150 plus transportation, amenities.

#### Motor coach groups

Maximum:

50 people/ 2 hours

\$350 plus transportation & amenities

For detailed information contact :

#### Waxwing Associates

Phone: 814-693-6563

Email:

[twentz@waxwingassociates](mailto:twentz@waxwingassociates).

com



**BLOOD ROOT**

To subscribe to Waxwing Newsletter send your email or mailing address to 140 Queen Ann Drive Hollidaysburg, PA. 16648



**LINCOLN HIGHWAY  
BEDFORD**

## Spotlight on Central PA

### LINCOLN HIGHWAY HERITAGE PARK

The year 2009 is the 200th birthday celebration of Abraham Lincoln who most consider our greatest President so its appropriate we emphasis the first transcontinental highway named in his honor. U.S. Route 30 through 6 southern PA counties has been designated a state heritage park.

It's where the journey is just as important as the destination, where road warriors can experience nostalgic America at its best. A trip on the Lincoln Highway becomes a passage in time and place as you discover the many historic, cultural and recreational attractions that await you. Learn about three 18th century forts; five state parks; mountainous topography of breathtaking beauty and scenery; a bigger than life Coffee Pot and the community where Abraham Lincoln delivered the immortal Gettysburg address.



**Terry Wentz, Owner  
Waxwing Associates**