

The



Cardinal

FEBRUARY MARCH 2011 • WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG • SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

FEBRUARY MEMBER MEETING

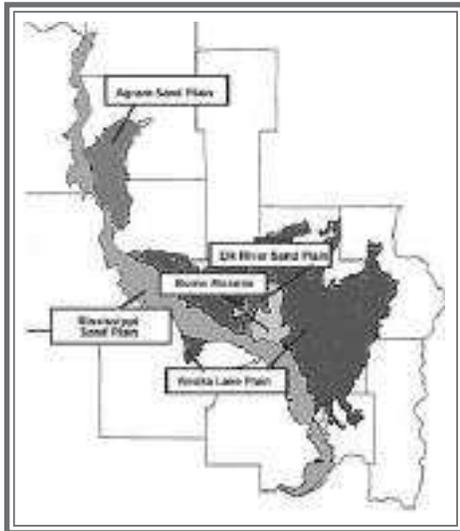
“Sand Country Wildlife”

A film produced by **Walter Breckenridge**

February 10, 2011

Many birders put high value on bird-watching and bird surveying in areas like Bunker Hills Regional Park, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve, Helen Allison Savanna SNA and, when we can, the AHATS site in Arden Hills. That’s because these all lie on the Anoka Sand Plain, whose unusual ecology attracts distinctive birds and other wildlife.

Lark sparrows are reliably found on the sand plain, as are sandhill cranes, eastern towhees, brown thrashers and many others. This month we’ll show a 65-minute film produced by Walter Breckenridge in the 1960s, while he was director of the Bell Museum of Natural History, tells the engaging story of the sand plain’s natural history.



Escape winter’s chill by traveling via film to the sand plain to learn more about this fascinating area.

MARCH MEMBER MEETING

Two Centuries of Human Impact on the Upper Mississippi

with **Daniel Engstrom**

Director, St. Croix Watershed Research Station

March 10, 2011

Human activity has dramatically altered the Upper Mississippi, where the combined effects of agriculture, urbanization and hydrological alteration have severely affect water quality. Until recently, however, we could only guess at the magnitude of changes to the river.

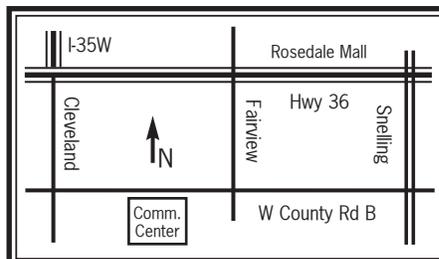
Using state of the art geological methods, scientists at the St. Croix Watershed Research Station have reconstructed a detailed picture of the pre-settlement Mississippi from sediments accumulating in Lake Pepin. The results quantify the immense increases in sediments, nutrients and pollution that have accompanied the human transformation of the watershed.



One bright spot is that identifying the sources of the problem helps point the way toward solutions. Daniel Engstrom has worked in some of the world’s most remote regions but is known here at home for his groundbreaking research on the environmental history of the Upper Mississippi.

Relevant website:
www.smm.org/SCWRS

Our meetings begin at 6:45 with social time, 7:00 PM for the program, at the Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Road B, in Roseville. Free and open to the public. Free parking available. *Bring a friend!*



CHAPTER INFORMATION

BOARD MEETINGS

Saint Paul Audubon's Board Meetings are held at the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District Office at 2665 Noel Drive, Little Canada. Exit 35-E at Little Canada Rd., go east to Noel, across from City Hall. Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month unless otherwise noted, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Upcoming dates are: **February 7, March 7**. For more information or regrets, contact president Bruce Bevis at bruce.bevis@thomsonreuters.com

AUDUBON APPLAUSE



Thank you very much to **Julian Sellers** for coordinating our Christmas Bird Count in December. Julian's work is totally appreciated by all CBC participants. A very big thank you also goes to **Deb Bachrach**, for hosting the CBC's Tally Party. It was a warm end to a very birdy day!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The SPAS Nominating Committee would like to say thanks to those who suggested names for next year's leadership. We tentatively have nominees for open positions for Board, President, and Vice President. The committee's report will be presented at the February Member Meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted, after which nominations will be closed. The list of nominees and their bios will be in the April/May *Cardinal*. The election is held at the May Annual Meeting.

Please note that the nominations process will remain open until Feb. 10th. Your suggestions are welcome! Please contact Cheri Steinmueller at cjsteiny@comcast.net, or at 651-343-4019, or at 2410 Sunrise Dr., St. Paul, MN 55117.

CHERI STEINMUELLER

Chapter President's Message

2011 began with birds falling from the sky and continued concerns over habitat loss. This reminds us of the importance of the work we all do with the St. Paul Chapter of the National Audubon Society. My hope and plan for 2011 is that we are able to build and expand upon the great work that was done in 2010. We have a great line-up of Member Meeting topics and Field Trips coming up in the next few months.

Our membership numbers are up as we begin the new year!!

In order to grow and expand our work in 2011, I am working to expand our partnership with Thomson Reuters. I am happy to announce that we have secured a donation from Thomson Reuters to the Saint Paul Audubon of \$2,500. In addition, we are exploring ways to expand their support, both financially and directly, for Audubon projects that will have a benefit locally and beyond.

Bruce Bevis,

PRESIDENT

SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| President | 651-269-7889 |
| Bruce Bevis | bruce.bevis@thomsonreuters.com |
| Vice President | 651-636-3462 |
| Craig Andresen | candresen@comcast.net |
| Treasurer | 651-340-3487 |
| Richard Newmark | ranemark@yahoo.com |
| Secretary | 651-292-0004 |
| Tess Rizzardi | mjbryand@qwest.net |
| Programs Chair | 651) 206-2270 (c) |
| Mark Bearss | mark.bearss@co.hennepin.mn.us |
| Conservat'n Co-Chr | 651-645-5230 |
| Val Cunningham | writers2@comcast.net |
| Conservat'n Co-Chr | 651-260-7040 (c) |
| Susan Solterman | ssolterman@yahoo.com |
| Field Trips Chair | 651-633-1663 |
| Chase Davies | ccdavies@aol.com |
| Education Chair | 651-776-0104 |
| Steve Johnson | csrockclimb@yahoo.com |
| Membership Chair | 651-738-8310 |
| John O'Connell | john-sharon-oconnell@att.net |
| Newsletter Editor | 651-464-6743 |
| Holly Peirson | hpbirdscouter@msn.com |
| Newsletter Mailing | 651-644-5338 |
| Jane Schuler | n/a |
| Chapter Phone | 651-291-2596 |

(Outgoing Message Only — take down numbers given to call for info)

Audubon Minnesota 651-739-9332

www.mn.audubon.org

National Audubon Society www.audubon.org

ABOUT OUR CHAPTER

Founded in 1945 as the 'St. Paul Bird Club' with 12 members, the Saint Paul Audubon Society now serves the entire East Metro region of the Twin Cities area, and has around 2,600 members. We hold 9 Member Meetings a year. Feel free to contact those listed at left for more info, or write to SPASociety at PO Box 7275, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55107 or visit our website at www.saintpaulaudubon.org

ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

The Cardinal is published 6 times a year. Articles are due on the 5th of January, March, May, July, Sept, and Nov. Submissions may be edited. Send to hpbirdscouter@msn.com

THE CARDINAL ON THE WEB

Members may now receive the newsletter by download from the website. To sign up, contact Webmaster **Ben Wilson** online.

LOCAL SUPPORT

Audubon members who don't live in Saint Paul who want to receive *The Cardinal* may send \$15 for a 1 yr sub. to **John O'Connell**, 2184 Larry Ho Drive, St. Paul, MN 55119

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please call **1-800-274-4201** to change your address for National Audubon Society mailings, including *Audubon Magazine* and *The Cardinal*, or to sign up for Audubon's paper-free renewal program.

Saint Paul Audubon's Spring Warbler Weekend

May 6-8, 2011



Many birders are aware that some of the world's best birding is available right here in Minnesota! During the spring migration one of the best locations to be looking for birds is along the north-south Mississippi and St. Croix River

Flyway. Our annual Warbler Weekend is located near Lake Pepin and Frontenac State Park, right on the flyway!

Our annual weekends over the last 30-40 years have averaged 130-135 species, including an average of 21-24 species of warblers. You may bird by car, on foot on area and Frontenac State Park trails, by car, or simply by relaxing in a lawn swing. In addition to this informal style of birding, the Chapter's Field Trip leaders offer bird walks for beginner, medium, and experienced birders. Several locations are always canvassed, including Sand Point, Hok-Si-La (a Lake City campground and park), and Frontenac State Park's prairie restoration project between the park and Wells Creek. A Bird Board is displayed, so if you decide to stop birding and come in for sustenance, and then see that there's a Kentucky Warbler about 1/4 mile from your location, you have a decision to make...

Accommodations include dorm-style rooms, shared bathrooms and dining at very reasonable prices. Note the rates have been reduced 25% this year, but with these low rates there can be no refunds for cancellations after April 30. There are also tennis courts, a pool, a gym, and a lovely Labyrinth for those who like to meditate. Camping is available on the grounds, or at nearby Frontenac State Park (day or annual pass required).

Traditional events are watching and counting the Chimney Swifts entering the chimney at dusk; and Friday and Saturday evening owl walks (bring flashlights and dark sweat-shirts!) Ben Wilson, a local photographer, and the Webmaster for Saint Paul Audubon, will be the speaker on Saturday night.

Dinner is on your own on Friday (there are numerous restaurants in Red Wing), but there will be a program with socializing, snacks, coffee and information for new birders regarding warblers beginning at 7:00 PM, followed by the Chimney Swift watching and owl walk.

Registration is limited to Saint Paul Audubon members until April 10TH, then open to all on a first-come first-serve basis. For more information please call Deb Bachrach at 651-690-4130 or send email to deb.bachrach@yahoo.com

Warbler Weekend Registration Form

| Quantity | Options | Amount |
|----------|--|----------------|
| ___ | Full Wknd Adultsgl \$140 .shr \$125 | \$ _____ |
| ___ | Fri. night +3 Sat. meals . .sgl \$85 .shr \$75 | \$ _____ |
| ___ | Sat night + 4 mealssgl \$95 .shr \$85 | \$ _____ |
| ___ | Child under 12 (sharing with adult) | \$.30 \$ _____ |
| ___ | Saturday Breakfast8:00 AM | \$.8 \$ _____ |
| ___ | Saturday LunchNOON | \$.10 \$ _____ |
| ___ | Saturday Dinner6:00 PM | \$.12 \$ _____ |
| ___ | Sunday Brunch10:00 AM | \$.10 \$ _____ |
| ___ | Camp (no hookup) \$20 -ea nt + \$40/4 meals | \$ _____ |

(Prices include registration fee. No refunds for missed meals.)

Total (check payable to Saint Paul Audubon) \$ _____

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Day phone _____ Evening phone _____
 Names of People attending _____

Send check to Saint Paul Audubon Society,
 c/o Deb Bachrach, 1163 Edgcombe Rd., St. Paul, MN 55105.
 Checks will be held until April 17. No refunds after April 30.
 For more information please call Deb Bachrach at 651-690-4130
 or send email to deb.bachrach@yahoo.com

OUTINGS

Bald Eagle Winter Antics

SUNDAY, February 20, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Bald Eagles return to feed, loaf, and play. Let's watch!

Each February the first wave of Bald Eagles arrives in Minnesota from southern winter residences. We will seek them from Lake Pepin south to Wabasha and perhaps across the river in Wisconsin. Tradition calls for a breakfast break in Red Wing and lunch somewhere in Wabasha. We will stop at Colville Park, the eagle viewing pullouts on Hwy 61, and the National Eagle Center viewing platform. Return depends on weather either to view eagles soaring above the Wisconsin bluffs on afternoon thermals or updrafts, or retracing our drive.

Dress for wind and cold weather; especially wear a hat, gloves, and warm footwear. Bring snacks and fluids. Come with a full tank of gas. No registration required.

Difficulty Easy Lots of driving

Carpool SW corner, Sears Parking at Marion and I-94

Leader Chase Davies, 651-633-1663, or
ccdavies@aol.com



February 18-21, 2011

This four-day event is free and is open to bird watchers of all ages and skill levels. Participants may watch birds for any length of time on one or more days of the count, and enter their tallies at www.birdcount.org. The results provide a snapshot of the whereabouts of more than 600 bird species. From reports of rare species to large-scale tracking of bird movement, the GBBC provides insight into bird populations. The GBBC is a joint project of National Audubon Society, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Bird Studies Canada.

Mid-February is chosen to get records of the birds typically found throughout the winter months.

On the www.birdcount.org website, participants can explore real-time maps and charts that show what others are reporting during the count. The site also has tips to help identify birds and special materials for educators.

GBBC participant surveys have shown that people really enjoy exploring the data and say they learn more about their local birds.

Participants may also enter the GBBC photo contest by uploading images taken during the count. Many images are featured in the GBBC website's photo gallery.

All participants are entered in a drawing for prizes that include bird feeders, binoculars, books, CDs, and many other great birding products.

2011 Beginning Bird Identification Course for Adults



Bird enthusiasts **Bonnie Sample** and **Chase Davies** teach how to observe and identify common urban birds. We will look at common feeder birds to learn identification techniques and move on to other birds in different habitats.

The course consists of Tuesday evening indoor classes, each followed by Saturday morning field trips. The Tuesday evening classes are on **April 5, 12, 19 & 26** from 6:30–8:30 at Maplewood Nature Center. The Saturday morning field trips are on **April 9, 16, 23 & 30** from 8–10:00 AM. Field trip locations will be determined by bird activity and weather.

Early registration is recommended: Send a check or drop by with payment, to Maplewood Nature Center, 2659 East 7TH Street, Maplewood MN 55119. The fee is \$40 for the series. Prepay by March 31st.

Art Show Benefits Nature

Plan to attend an art exhibit featuring the natural world, now showing at the Bell Museum of Natural History through March 12, 2011.

Fifteen area artists are exhibiting their works as part of "On the Edge," a show created by Project Art for Nature. PAN artists focus on a specific habitat and create art works to raise awareness about the threats each area faces. A portion of the sales of the artwork will be donated to the Minnesota Scientific and Natural Areas Program. To find the Bell's hours and for directions, visit www.bellmuseum.org. To learn more about PAN, visit www.projectartfornature.org.

Wild Ones "Design with Nature" Conference

Saturday, February 26, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

University of Minnesota Conference Center
1890 Buford Avenue, Saint Paul, Minnesota

The 2011 theme, "*Building Tomorrow's Heritage*," fuses Aldo Leopold's vision of community to include soil, water, plants and wildlife with the current movement toward natural landscape management. Leopold, best known for his book, "*A Sand County Almanac*," was an ecological activist who inspired people to treat the land with love and respect. For more info and to register, go to www.designwithnatureconference.org

The 67th St. Paul (North) CBC

Julian's Report: We had 72 participants in 15 teams in the field, plus two teams watching their home feeders.

Party-hours in the field: 114

Party-miles driven: 624

Party-miles on foot: 39

Temperature: 8 to 15 degrees

Snow depth: 14 inches

15,069 birds of 60 species, pending acceptance of documentation of Harlequin Duck by the Records Committee of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union. Our record number of species is 62, in 2006.

Some highlights:

Harlequin Duck (1) at Pig's Eye water treatment plant, pending acceptance by MOURC, first time on CBC.

American White Pelican (2) and Great Blue Heron (4) at Pig's Eye water treatment plant and Mississippi River

Merlin (1) in the Como Park area

Peregrine Falcon (2) near separate nesting locations on the Mississippi River

Eastern Bluebird (3) in Falcon Heights

Hermit Thrush (1) in Roseville

Song Sparrow (2)

White-throated Sparrow (11) our record is 12

Owling Results:

Eastern Screech-owl (3, most ever, and first birds since 2005); Great Horned Owl (13); Barred Owl (1)

Record high numbers of:

Red-tailed Hawk (69), Wild Turkey (67) first reported in 1999, Red-bellied Woodpecker (53), Northern Shrike (10), American Goldfinch (466)

Most abundant species:

Mallard (3,580), House Sparrow (1,785), Rock Pigeon (1,642), American Crow (1,638), European Starling (1,131), American Robin (1,047), Canada Goose (828), Black-capped Chickadee (745), American Goldfinch (466), Common Merganser (311)

And here is an interesting historical tid-bit: The first Bald Eagle on our CBC was found in 1978. This year we found 42. Our record is 50 (in 2005).



Addendum: Trumpeter Swan Story

Near the end of the day we went to Sackett Park near White Bear and the railroad track. In the ball field near the woods we found a Trumpeter Swan sitting in the snow! I tried the number of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Roseville, but no one answered. I later found that the hours are 9-6:00, and people need to bring in the birds themselves.

To catch a sick bird, they said to put a fishing net over its head if it seems dangerous, and a blanket over the body. In off hours keep them in a box in a dark warm place; don't feed them.

But I didn't know that, so we finished birding, then I called a friend who knew a volunteer who had the right number – they said to bring it in right

CBC - Trumpeter Story, continued from p. 5

away, so we went back the park. It was dark by then. The bird had either flown away or gone into the woods. I went back at sun up... and found it dead under a bush in the woods. So, I put its body on the plastic ice-fishing sled I had brought with me, and took it to the WRC.

They said it probably hit a power line. It was also very light, not the usual 25 pounds, seemed like less than ten. They will check it out and let me know what they think killed it. I hope its death can help with understanding how our environments can be improved for them.

They let me peek in a room with two live swans being rehabbed for lead ingestion. They feed on the bottom of lakes and eat lead sinkers and shot. One swan was

Two Audubon Minnesota Projects Receive Competitive TogetherGreen Innovation Grants

Nearly \$68,000 from the National Audubon/Toyota Conservation Initiative gives Minnesotans the chance to protect threatened bird populations. *TogetherGreen Innovation Grants* provide seed money for projects that use innovative approaches and technologies to engage new and diverse audiences in conservation action.

Audubon Minnesota received TogetherGreen Innovation Grants for:

- **Chimney Swift Conservation Project:** With a \$47,565 Grant, Audubon Minnesota will partner with Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, South Washington County Schools, and Kraus-Anderson Construction Company to create Chimney Swift towers (at elementary schools, nature centers, parks, the Minneapolis American Indian Center, and on tribal lands), and develop a tool kit to help site owners use the towers to introduce local people to Chimney Swifts and their conservation needs.
- **Bird Safe Buildings:** With \$20,000 in funding, Audubon Minnesota will work with building owners, managers, designers, and architects to promote understanding about (and implementation of) bird-safe design strategies. Astoundingly, hundreds of millions of birds are killed in window collisions in the U.S. each year. Audubon will partner with *Edward Heinen Architectural Consulting* and the *Center for Sustainable Building Research* at the Univ. of Minn. College of Design to create a bird-friendly network of building designers and architects that make materials and design decisions that result in fewer bird hazards and collisions.

For more information, visit www.togethergreen.org

standing in a kiddie pool and one was out, but their beaks were almost touching.

I donated for other birds... and, I plan to spread the word on how to get birds to the WRC. With spreading urban areas we might see more birds in trouble. It would be great to have a group of people on call to help get birds to the WRC. To contact the WRC: call 651-486-9453 or go to www.wrcmn.org

It was a magnificent bird. We were very sad that it was too sick to save.

KATHY SIDLES & PAUL GADE, CBC AREA 9: PHALEN

SPAS Annual Fund Drive reminder: If you haven't already donated, the Chapter will greatly appreciate your tax-deductible donation and use it wisely for the benefit of birds and other wildlife in the East Metro Area.

Saint Paul Audubon Society Annual Fund Drive Donation

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution for the Saint Paul Audubon Society, to be used for:

\$ _____ *Annual Operating Fund*

\$ _____ *Endowment Fund*

\$ _____ *Wherever needed*

This gift is given:

___ *in memory of* _____

___ *in honor of* _____

For generous donations (of \$100 or over), you may choose to ___ receive ___ not receive a signed photograph donated by SPAS member and wildlife photographer Ron Winch

(No Fund Drive funds were used to create this gift from SPAS and Ron Winch)

Thank You Very Much for Your Support

Donor Name _____

Address _____

Phone/Email _____

If your contribution was given in memory of or in honor of someone, we will send an acknowledgement card. A card will be sent to:

Name _____

Address _____

SEND YOUR CHECK TO: Dean Doering, 1901 North Victoria Street, Roseville, MN 55113, or, you may go to the SPAS Website at <http://saintpaulaudubon.org> and click on "Support Us"

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Watching Bird Banders at Work

Carpenter Nature Center, SE Washington Co., 4TH Fridays, 8 - noon. For info and directions, call 651-437-4359.

Lowry Nature Center, Carver Park Reserve, NC Carver Co., on 3RD Sat's, 8 - Noon/summer, 9 - Noon/Winter. Free.

Ritter Farm Park, Lakeville, also has banding dates; check with the city Parks and Rec. Dept.

Springbrook Nature Center, Fridley, Anoka Co.; for dates and times to to www.springbrooknaturecenter.org

You may be allowed to release birds. Dress for the weather!

SPAS' E-Alert!

If you have Email, sign up today for our online notification system! You'll receive announcements about upcoming events, information about current legislative happenings, and other Saint Paul Audubon happenings between issues of *The Cardinal*. When you *change your email address*, notify list manager Chase Davies of your new address, at ccdavies@aol.com
You may unsubscribe at any time.

✧ Reaching Our Leaders

In Washington, D.C.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| President Obama | The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C. 20500, 202-456-1111 president@whitehouse.gov |
| US Senator | <i>Amy Klobuchar</i> DC 202-224-3244, MN 612-727-5220 http://klobuchar.senate.gov/emailamy.cfm Russell Senate Office Bldg, Washington DC 20510 MN: Federal Building, #298, Ft Snelling, MN 55111 |
| US Senator | <i>Al Franken</i> DC 202-224-5641, MN 651-221-1016 info@franken.senate.gov 320 Hart Senate Office Bldg, Washington DC 20510 |
| US Rep 4TH | <i>Betty McCollum</i> DC 202-225-6631, 1029 Longworth House Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20515; MN 651-224-9191, 165 Western Avenue N, #17, Saint Paul, MN 55102; Internet email: www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html |
| US Rep 5TH | <i>Keith Ellison</i> DC 202-225-4755, MN 612-664-8000 1130 Longworth House Office Bldg, DC 20515 250 Marquette Avenue #225, MPLS, MN 55401 http://ellison.house.gov |
| US Rep 6TH | <i>Michelle Bachmann</i> DC 202-225-2331, MN 651-731-5400, 412 Cannon House Office Bldg, Wash, DC 20515 MN: 6043 Hudson Rd #330, Woodbury, MN 55125 http://bachmann.house.gov/Email_zip.htm |

In Minnesota

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Governor | Tim Pawlenty 75 Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr Blvd, #130, Saint Paul, MN 55155, 651-296-3391 Fax: 651-296-2089 tim.pawlenty@state.mn.us |
| MN Senators | To find your senator, call the Secretary of State 651-296-0504, or go to www.senate.leg.state.mn.us |
| MN Reps | To find your representative, call the MN House at 651-296-2146, or go to www.house.leg.state.mn.us |

★ Bookmark These Sites!

Saint Paul Audubon Society is at

www.saintpaulaudubon.org

- Chapter Member Meetings • Field Trips
- local Conservation issues • Education news/happenings
- "The Cardinal" newsletter archives

Audubon Minnesota is at www.mn.audubon.org

- National and state-wide Conservation info
- map and contacts for all Audubon Chapters in MN
- State Breeding Bird Atlas info

National Audubon Society is at: www.audubon.org

- NAS Science research and reporting
- National Environmental & Conservation issues & action,
- NAS Education opportunities • *Audubon at Home* features
- National Centers & State Chapters clickable map

Minnesota DNR is at www.dnr.state.mn.us

or call 651-296-6157 or 888-MINNDNR

- **State Parks:** A-Z clickable map, historical and natural info, visitor centers, reservations, bird lists
- State Forests • Wildlife Mgmt Areas
- Scientific & Natural Areas • "Minnesota Volunteer" subscriptions • lake maps & fishing guides • wildlife info
- **invasive species** alerts and eradication information

National Wildlife Refuges are at www.fws.gov/midwest
(click on state)

National Parks are at www.nps.gov (clickable map)

Minnesota Ornithologists' Union is at www.mou.mn.org

- state-wide birding listserve • migration and nesting occurrence maps • 87 County bird lists • RBA (Rare Bird Alert) reports • seasonal reports • Where to Bird in MN

Minnesota's Rare Bird Hotlines are:

Metro/Statewide 763-780-8890

Duluth/No. Shore 218-728-5030

Northwestern MN 1-800-433-1888

Ramsey County & Saint Paul Audubon have collaborated to publish "A Guide to Birding Ramsey County." Find it online at:

<http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/parks/NaturalResources/BirdingInRamseyCounty.htm>

Northwest MN's *Pine to Prairie Birding Trail* website is at www.mnbirdtrail.com

The *Minnesota River Valley Birding Trail* is at www.birdingtrail.org

Mississippi River from Itasca to Iowa, the *Great River Birding Trail*, is at www.greatriverbirding.org

MNBirdNet Statewide Electronic Bird Club, is at: mnbird-request@linux2.winona.msus.edu

Find a list of Minnesota birding events and checklist at: <http://home.rconnect.com/~ekblad/MN-Event.htm>

Get Involved in saving/restoring habitat: Buy Duck Stamps!
<http://www.fws.gov/duckstamps/stamps.htm>

SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

PO Box 7275, St Paul, MN 55107-7275

WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG

February March 2011

April May Deadline 3/5/2010

Welcome... To the Saint Paul Audubon Society. We're a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Our Mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and Earth's biological diversity.

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

Board Meeting7
Member Meeting: Anoka Sandplain . . .10
Great Backyard Bird Count18-21
Field Trip: Wintering Eagles20

MARCH

Board Meeting7
Member Meeting: Miss. River10

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 3795
St. Paul, Minnesota

Time Dated Material
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

"GSS" & Song Tips

The two most important things to learn about birds, after you take in a bit of info about plumage (lol), are GSS and song.

GSS, otherwise known as General Size and Shape, is what experts use to tell them what just flew by at that very fast rate, or skulked behind the closest bush. Over time, learning the silhouettes of the birds, both perched and in flight, is the best way to get a fast ID, especially if you wish to participate in a Birdathon or Big Day.

Song is all-important. There are many tools out there these days that can help. The best way to do it is to start now! Listen to a few species whenever you have a moment or two, and then test yourself on them. When you can proficiently call out the correct songs, move on to another few. By spring migration you'll be good to go!

St. Paul Audubon Society Local Sponsorship

Yes! I want to be a sponsor of my local chapter, Saint Paul Audubon, by donating \$15, for which I will receive The Cardinal newsletter and other online news. Please fill in the personal information, make a check for \$15 out to Saint Paul Audubon Society, and send it to the address below. Thank You Very Much!

- I'm a NEW member! Please send my Welcome Packet right away!
I currently receive National's Audubon Magazine.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please sign gift card: _____

Mail to: Saint Paul Audubon, c/o John O'Connell, 2184 Larry Ho Drive, St. Paul, MN 55119

National Audubon Society Membership C9ZM030Z

Yes! I will become a new member or give a new gift membership in the National Audubon Society. I will receive Audubon Magazine and Saint Paul Audubon's The Cardinal newsletter. Please fill in the form, make a check for \$20 out to National Audubon Society, and send it to the address below. Thank You Very Much!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please sign gift card: _____

Mail to: National Audubon Society, P.O. Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250
(Write on envelope: "Attention: New Membership — please process immediately")