

ABOUT WICHITA AUDUBON

We are people who love and enjoy nature and work to preserve it. And we love to share the outdoors with those around us.

Our major education and conservation project for 47 years has been the development of Chaplin Nature Center. This 230 acre preserve near Arkansas City features a Visitor's Center staffed by a full time naturalist. The Visitor's Center features educational exhibits, a library and meeting spaces. Our naturalist conducts programs for school classes from across south central Kansas, as well as civic organizations, youth groups and the public. The trails through the woods and prairies, leading to the sandbars of the Arkansas River, are open to the public from sunrise to sunset year round. Our members support the Chaplin Nature Center with donations of money and time, including fund-raising, maintenance and construction projects, and staffing the Visitor's Center.

From September through May we have monthly programs that inform us and expand our horizons. Throughout the year we take field trips to interesting places near and far. All of our activities are free and open to the public. Our volunteers also participate in park cleanup projects, Christmas Bird Counts, environmental advocacy, and a large variety of other activities in support of our chapter and its mission:



OUR MISSION

The Wichita Audubon Society is committed to providing nature education, promoting environmental conservation, and encouraging appreciation of the natural world.

MEMBERSHIP

Join the Wichita Audubon Society and help us with our continuing efforts to maintain Chaplin Nature Center, provide free nature education for children and adults across south central Kansas, and provide speakers and field trips open to all. You will receive eight issues a year of our newsletter to keep you informed about all our news and upcoming events.

For additional information call Carol Cumberland, carol.cumberland@swbell.net, (316) 685-4867

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

I want to join the Wichita Audubon Society
Individual - \$20, Family - \$25
Student (18 & under) - \$10

I would prefer to receive the newsletter by email

You can join online at www.wichitaudubon.org. Or make checks payable to the Wichita Audubon Society and send to PO Box 47607, Wichita, KS 67201.

Note: if you are a member of the National Audubon Society you are automatically a member of Wichita Audubon Society and do not need to pay additional dues.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
2020-2021

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

| | | |
|--|-------------------|---|
| President | Bob Gress | 316-765-2046 bobgress@cox.net |
| Vice-Pres & Program Chair | Rachel Roth | 316-213-9527 lilbluestem@gmail.com |
| Secretary | Barbara Gobbert | 316-841-5099 bgobbert@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Patty Marlett | 316-200-3419 pmarlett@mac.com |
| Director & AOK Rep | Tom Ewert | 316-670-3140 trewert@yahoo.com |
| Director | Mark Nolen | 765-346-7213 nolen.mark@gmail.com |
| Director | Bill Langley | 316-253-6175 78gmouse43@gmail.com |
| Director | Rod Wedel | 316-215-4362 redb819@sbcglobal.net |
| Director | Daniel Housholder | 316-684-2070 dhousholder@cox.net |
| Director | Jeremy Birket | 316-371-2829 tceinict@gmail.com |
| CNC | Bill Langley | 316-253-6175 78gmouse43@gmail.com |
| Field Trips | Tom Ewert | 316-670-3140 trewert@yahoo.com |
| Hospitality | Sara Blackmon | 316-264-4408 |
| Membership | Carol Cumberland | 316-685-4867 carol.cumberland@swbell.net |
| Newsletter & Webmaster | Patty Marlett | 316-200-3419 pmarlett@mac.com |
| Naturalist | Shawn Silliman | 620-442-4133 cnc@wichitaaudubon.org |

www.wichitaaudubon.org

The Wichita Audubon Society, Inc., is a chapter of the National Audubon Society and a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.
P.O. Box 47607, Wichita, KS 67201

PROGRAMS

LOCATION: GREAT PLAINS NATURE CENTER, 6232 E. 29TH STREET NORTH, 316-683-5499

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

The first three meetings will be online only. They will be live-streamed on Facebook (facebook.com/WichitaAudubon) and on YouTube (www.youtube.com/channel/UCBzA8JCBgw-5aUHVW11M7jw)

In person meetings will resume when it is safe. Watch the website at www.wichitaaudubon.org for updates and links.

SEPTEMBER 15 * ONLINE

Cowbirds: villainous mobsters or falsely maligned native species? A Biologist's Perspective

In this program, we'll walk through the biology of cowbirds, the ways they interact with their host species in Kansas and the current state of cowbird biology research..

Sarah Winnicki, University of Illinois

FEBRUARY 16

CRP is the Bees' Knees: Native Bee Communities

Native bees are important pollinators experiencing population declines. From 2017-19, we assessed native bees on CRP lands across Kansas to determine the relative benefit of high-diversity vs. low-diversity plantings and the effect of cattle grazing.

Alex Morphew, M.S. in Biology WSU

OCTOBER 20 * ONLINE

Forest Park Owls: Hiding In Plain Sight

Mark has studied the Great Horned Owls in Forest Park in St. Louis since 2005. He will cover how he found them, basic facts about the species, and the different behaviors he has been able to document with photos and videos.

Mark Glenshaw, Master Naturalist

MARCH 16

Life History and Current Status of Prairie Chicken in Kansas

Greater and Lesser Prairie chicken are an iconic symbol of the Kansas prairie. This program will give details of their lives and population status.

Vickie Cikanek, KDWP District Wildlife Biologist

NOVEMBER 17 * ONLINE

Life's a Beach: the struggle of coastal shorebirds

For shorebirds and seabirds nesting on the beach isn't as relaxing as it sounds. Learn what the challenges these species face mean for the rest of us.

Allan Saylor, Naturalist at the Great Plains Nature Center

APRIL 20

GO NATIVE! Restoring the Ecology of your Backyard for Birds

Native plants are drought tolerant, ornamental, and provide food and shelter to wildlife. A landscape rich with native plants can be enjoyed for its beauty and the wealth of birds and pollinators it attracts.

Brad Guhr, Education Coordinator, Dyck Arboretum

JANUARY 19

Nature Highlights of Scotland and Ireland

This program highlights Scotland and Ireland's traditional culture, landscapes, rural life and wildlife encountered on a month-long adventure during spring of 2019.

Bob Gress, Naturalist, Photographer and WAS president

MAY 18

Shorebirds in the Tall Grass Prairie; seriously?

We will look at what we have learned from shorebird surveys in the Flint Hills and how this all relates to managing the tallgrass ecosystem for shorebirds and other wildlife.

Dr. Robert Penner, Avian Conservation Manager, The Nature Conservancy in Kansas

FIELD TRIPS

Second Saturday Bird Walks, 8 a.m.

Bring your binoculars and discover the birds that visit and live in Chisholm Creek Park. No birding experience is needed. Expect 1-2 miles of walking on paved paths. The walk will last about 90 minutes. Meet at the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot.

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|--------------|-----------|
| September 12 | March 13 |
| October 10 | April 10 |
| November 14 | May 8 |
| December 12 | June 12 |
| January 9 | July 10 |
| February 13 | August 14 |

For questions: Tom Ewert, 316-670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com

September 13, Sunday 8 a.m.

Quivira/Cheyenne Bottoms

Meet at the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge headquarters and bring a lunch. This is prime migration time for shorebirds at these nationally renowned locations.

Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 316-706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

October 10, Saturday, 9:45 a.m.

Chisholm Creek Park Cleanup

Join us after the second Saturday bird walk to collect trash and keep our adopted park looking nice. Bring gloves, we'll provide trash bags, along with coffee and donuts. Meet in the GPNC parking lot.

Leader: Brian & Nohora Talarico, btalarico34@outlook.com

October 24, Saturday, 8:30 a.m.

Great Salt Plains NWR

One of the best birding spots in Oklahoma, Great Salt Plains should have Sandhill Cranes and lots of waterfowl. Meet at the refuge headquarters and bring lunch. If you don't want to drive down that morning, overnight camping is possible at the state park and cabins are available by reservation. Motels are available in nearby Cherokee, OK.

Leader: Tom Ewert, 316-670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com

November 21, Saturday, 7:45 a.m.

El Dorado Lake

Meet at the McDonald's on Central in El Dorado. This trip should produce wintering grassland, woodland and waterbirds.

Leader: Bill Langley, 316-253-6175, 78gmouse43@gmail.com

December 15, Tuesday, 7:30 a.m.

Sedan Christmas Bird Count

Meet at Granny Wolfe's Green Door Café (north side of W. Main in Sedan) 7:30 for breakfast or 8:00 to start birding.

Compiler: Atcha Nolan, 316-323-4921, qanolan1942@gmail.com

December 19, Saturday, 7:30 a.m.

Wichita Christmas Bird Count

Meet at the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot. Compilation: 5:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center.

Compiler: Kevin Groeneweg, 316-706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

December 20, Sunday, 7:30 a.m.

Winfield-Udall Christmas Bird Count

Meet at the Beech Science Center, Southwestern College in Winfield.

Compiler: Max Thompson, 620-221-1856, maxt@cox.net

December 22, Tuesday, 8:00 a.m.

El Dorado Christmas Bird Count

Meet at the McDonald's on Central in El Dorado. Notify the compiler if you plan to attend.

Compiler: Atcha Nolan, 316-323-4921, qanolan1942@gmail.com

December 26, Saturday, 8 a.m.

Arkansas City Christmas Bird Count

Meet at Newman Park on Hwy 77 just north of the Arkansas River.

Compiler: Gene Young, 620-660-0547, youngg6264@yahoo.com

CHAPLIN NATURE CENTER

Chaplin Nature Center is owned and operated by the Wichita Audubon Society.

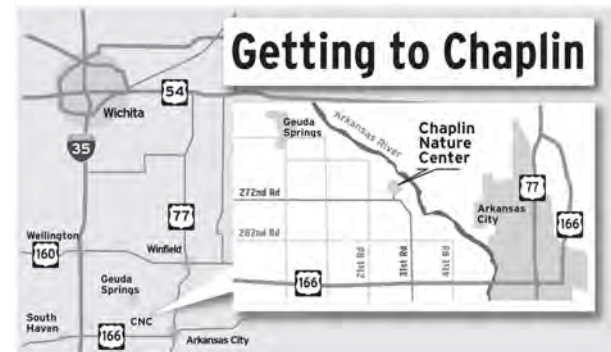
The Trails are open **AT NO CHARGE** to the public from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week. Programs are available on and off site for children and adults. For more information or to schedule a visit, call Shawn Silliman at 620-442-4133 or e-mail CNC@wichitaudubon.org

Visitor's Center Hours:

Open year round: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturday
1 p.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday
Closed Mondays & Holidays

Sept 1 - Nov 15 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday–Friday
Nov 16 - March 15 closed weekdays
March 16 - June 30 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday–Friday
July 1- Aug 31 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Tuesday–Friday

The Visitor's Center is available for rental year round from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Groups should make appointments in advance.



Chaplin Nature Center is located 3 miles west of Arkansas City on Hwy 166, then north 2 1/4 miles on 31st Rd. or 2 miles south of Geuda Springs, then 2.6 miles east on 272nd Rd

Address: 27814 27th Dr, Arkansas City, KS 67005

December 26, Saturday, 7:30 a.m.

Marion Christmas Bird Count

Meet at Wendy's in Hillsboro at 7:30 a.m.

**Compiler: Tom Ewert, 316-670-3140,
trewert@yahoo.com**

December 30, Wednesday, 8 a.m.

Slate Creek Christmas Bird Count

Meet at the Slate Valley Baptist Church, 7 miles south of Oxford on the main road.

**Compiler: Gene Young, 620-660-0547,
youngg6264@yahoo.com**

January 2, Saturday, 7:30 a.m.

Red Hills Christmas Bird Count

Meet at the Casey's General Store, 314 S Iliff St in Medicine Lodge. Groups will depart at 7:30 a.m.

**Compiler: Pete Janzen, 316-519-1970,
pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net**

January 23, Saturday, 7 a.m.

Cheney Reservoir

Meet at the Dillon's at 21st and Amidon. We'll look for winter waterfowl and check out nearby lakes and woodlands. A Kansas Parks permit is required for each vehicle.

**Leader: Pete Janzen, 316-519-1970,
pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net**

February 20, Saturday, 9:15 a.m.

Birding the Tropics at the Sedgwick County Zoo

Meet in the lobby of the Tropics Building (the zoo opens at 9). Leave the cold weather outside and enjoy birding in the tropics. Bring admission money. Binoculars will be helpful. We'll have an intro by a keeper and a list of birds to find.

**Leader: Patty Marlett, 316-200-3419,
pmarlett@mac.com**

March 13, Saturday, 8 p.m.

Woodcock Walk in Chisholm Creek Park

Come see and hear the Woodcock perform his display at dusk. Meet at the GPNC parking lot, located off of 29th Street.

Leader: Cheryl Miller, avian67226@gmail.com

March 27-29, Saturday - Monday

Western Kansas Extended Field Trip

This 3-day trip will include Lesser Prairie-chicken viewing at a ranch in Gove County, visiting Castle Rock, Monument Rocks and Little Jerusalem State Park. We will be looking for high plains birds including raptors and longspurs. There is a 16 person limit. Signup is online - see the wichitaudubon.org website for a link. Due to the pandemic we will not be renting vans, but will travel in personal vehicles.

**Leaders: Kevin Groeneweg, 316-706-9116,
kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net, Pete Janzen,
316-519-1970, pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net**

April 17, Saturday, 9 a.m.

Oak Park Invasive Plant Removal

Asian bush honeysuckle is an invasive plant causing serious habitat damage. We'll spend 3 - 4 hours removing these plants, directed by the Wichita Parks Department staff. Tools, gloves, and water will be provided. Meet by the stone arch at the SW corner of the park.

**Leader: Pete Janzen, 316-519-1970
pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net**

May 15, Saturday, 8 a.m.

Chaplin Nature Center and Ark City Area

Join us as we bird Chaplin Nature Center and nearby hotspots. We should find breeding warblers, tanagers and Painted Buntings. Meet at Chaplin Nature Center. Bring a lunch.

**Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 316-706-9116,
kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net**

June 5, Saturday, 7 a.m.

Derby Canoe Launch

Meet at the Canoe launch on 71st St. for Painted Buntings, White-eyed Vireo and other southern species.

**Leader: Tom Ewert, 316-670-3140,
trewert@yahoo.com**

July 20, Tuesday, 6 p.m.

Picnic

Join us at the Great Plains Nature Center at 6 p.m. for our annual pot-luck dinner. Dinner will be followed by a short, fun program. Bring a dish to share and your own service.

CHAPLIN NATURE CENTER PROGRAMS

Exact times and dates may be subject to change. Please call ahead to verify at 620-442-4133.

Monarch Tagging - Nature Day Celebration

September 26, Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Learn about monarch butterfly migration and how to properly capture and tag monarchs. Guided nature hikes to the Arkansas River, live reptiles and a seldom seen bird egg collection are all part of the celebration.

Chaplin Moon 2k Walk/Run

October 2, Friday, 8 - 10 p.m.

This 2k plus walk or run will take place along the edge of the Center's tall grass prairie trail. Along the trail, stations will award glow sticks to those who answer moon or nature questions. See the website for registration information: wichitaudubon.org/events/

Night Hike

November 13, Friday, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Experience the trails at night. We will start with a short indoor session on using our senses in the absence of flashlights, listening skills, and walking quietly.

Bald Eagle Winter Hike

Jan 30, Saturday, and Feb. 6, Saturday, 10 a.m. - noon

Mid-winter is one of the best times to view Bald Eagles. We will start with a 15 minute introduction, then take a 1.5 mile hike to the Arkansas River to search for wintering eagles.

Bald Eagle Nest Viewing

March 13, Saturday, 10 a.m. - noon

This is a great opportunity to view both adult and young eagles through spotting scopes. We will have the scopes set up at Veteran's Lake in Arkansas City for a close-up look.

Spring Clean up

April 3, Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

We need your help to get the facilities in tip-top shape for the upcoming year. Trimming trails, checking bridges, raking leaves, and working on the front flowerbeds are just a few of the projects.

Twilight Kayak Float

June 4, Friday, 7 - 9:30 p.m.

Enjoy a 3.5 mile evening float down the Arkansas River to take in the scenery and watch for wildlife. Kayak, paddle and life jacket provided. Cost \$25. Call for reservations.

Arkansas City Butterfly Count

July 10, Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Help us count and identify butterflies as part of a North American Butterfly Association official count.