

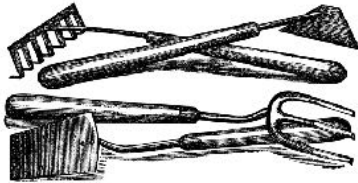
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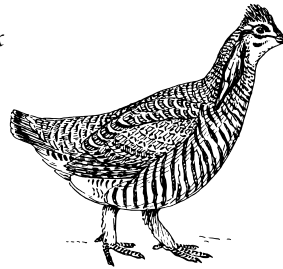
April 2020

April 4

Spring Clean-up at
Chaplin Nature Center
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**April 11**

Second Saturday Bird
Walk in Chisholm Creek
Park. Meet in the Great
Plains Nature Center
parking lot at 8 a.m.
Questions? Tom
Ewert, 670-3140,
trewert@yahoo.com.

**April 21**

Monthly program, "Life
History and Current Status
of the Prairie Chicken in
Kansas," by Vickie Cikanek,
7 p.m. at the Great Plains
Nature Center.

Due to the current coronavirus emergency measures, we are unsure of our ability to conduct any future events. Check our website at wichitaudubon.org or our Facebook page for current information before attending any events.

April Meeting

Our April program will be "Life History and Current Status of Prairie Chicken in Kansas," presented by Vickie Cikanek.

Greater and Lesser Prairie chicken are an iconic symbol of the Kansas prairie. Their mating habits alone make them a must see when visiting the great plains, but there is so much more to their lives than what goes on in the spring. They have been coined by some as umbrella species of the central plains, and it is because of that, there has been a lot of concern over their population statuses across their range over the last 10 years. This program will give more details into all of this and more!

Vickie is currently a District Wildlife Biologist with Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.



She spent 4 years working around Wilson Lake and the last 3 years working in the Southern Flint hills. Prior to that, she held several seasonal or temporary field positions doing bird surveys on the Rio Grande in New Mexico, trapping game animals on Fort Bragg in North Carolina, and trapping and tracking Greater Prairie Chicken in the Flint Hills of Kansas. She is originally from northern

Delaware. She received the bachelor's degree from Colorado State University in Wildlife Biology and worked on her Masters at Fort Hays State University studying Prairie Chicken in the hybrid zone.

The program will be at 7 p.m., April 21, at the Great Plains Nature Center

Gator Fund

Thanks to your generosity we are half way to our goal of \$10,000 to replace our aging Gator.

The Center depends on the Gator, to transport people needing help on the trail, carry tools and equipment, clear flood debris and fallen trees, transport the sprayer during prairie burns, and to support our public programs.

We have a challenge grant from the V. J. Wilkins Foundation. They will match our \$10,000, but we only have until June 30 to raise it. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated. And a big thank you to those who have already donated. We have been thrilled by your response!

Checks can be mailed to WAS at P.O. Box 47607, Wichita KS 67201, or you can donate on our website at wichitaaudubon.org. All donations are tax-deductible.



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www.wichitaaudubon.org

Send address changes to Carol Cumberland, 1106 Gretchen, Wichita, KS 67206
carol.cumberland@swbell.net, 316-685-4867

Birdathon

It's that time of year again for our annual Birdathon. This fund-raiser is a very important source of funding for Chaplin Nature Center. Just contact a team member and tell them you would like to help. Pledges can be made based on the number of species the team finds or can be a fixed amount.

For the CNC team contact Shawn Silliman at 620-442-4133,
cnc@wichitaaudubon.org.

For the Painted Bunting team contact Patty Marlett 2003419, pmarlett@cox.net
Our third team is organized by Tom Ewert, trewert@yahoo.com, 670-3140.

Rio Grande Valley 2020

Twenty two people joined us for our trip to the lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas on January 25 through February 1. We visited Brownsville, Laguna Atascosa NWR, South Padre Island Birding and Nature Center, Santa Ana NWR, Estero Llano Grande State Park, Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park, Quinta Mazatlan World Birding Center, Salineno Wildlife Preserve, Falcon State Park, and San Ygnacio Bird Sanctuary. Here are some pictures from our adventure:



Fork-tailed Flycatcher



Waiting for parrots in Brownsville



Green Jay



Our vans



Golden-fronted Woodpecker



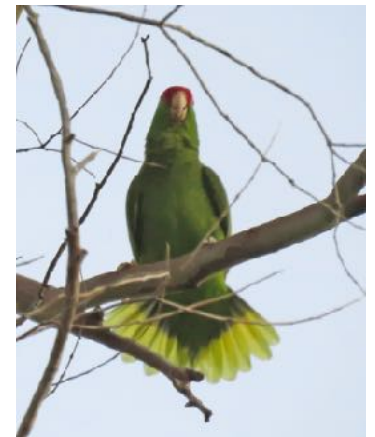
White-tailed Kite



Best donuts in Texas!



We were treated to an outstanding performance by the Zapata High School Mariachi Band, plus good food!



Red-crowned Parrot

P.O. Box 47607
Wichita, KS 67201

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Chaplin Nature Center Programs

Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Spring Clean-up

It's time to get the Nature Center ready for another year of visitors. We need your help on a variety of indoor and outdoor projects. Trimming trails, repairing bridges, raking leaves and cleaning the building are a few areas that need attention. Be sure to wear old clothes and bring a pair of work gloves. Soft leaf rakes and/or tree pruners needed. Call the Center for more information.

This is an activity where you can enjoy nature while keeping your distance from other people!



For more information about any Chaplin Nature Center programs call Shawn Silliman at 620-442-4133, or e-mail cnc@wichitaaudubon.org. CNC is located 3 miles west of Arkansas City on Hwy 166, north 2 miles on 21st Rd, east 0.6 miles on 272nd Rd.