September Meeting

Join us on Tuesday, September 20, 7 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center for the first program of our new season. Our speaker will be Jessica Mounts. Her presentation, “Where’s the Fish?”, will tell us more about the life in our waterways. Kansas is home to nearly 150 species of fish, but even the most active anglers will only see a handful of those species in a lifetime. Jessica will talk about big minnows and small catfish “hiding” in our streams and rivers.

Jessica Mounts is the Executive Director of the Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams, and the author of “A Pocket Guide to Kansas Stream Fishes.”

She graduated from Newman University in Wichita with a BS in Biology, and began her career with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism as a fisheries biologist in 2004.

Passionate about streams and water resources, she most recently led an effort to designate the Arkansas River in Kansas as a National Water Trail.

You can also join us for dinner with Jessica before the program at Panera Bread, 1605 N. Rock Rd, at 5:30 p.m.
Help Us Earn Money!!

With your help, Wichita Audubon gets financial support from the Dillons Community Rewards Program. We get credit for every purchase our members make using their registered Plus card. The more YOU shop with Dillons, the more opportunity Wichita Audubon and Chaplin Nature Center will earn.

Go to https://www.dillons.com/communityrewards
Sign In or Create an Account to Enroll
Click on “Enroll Now”
Enter the 5-digit NPO 76181
Select Wichita Audubon and click on “Enroll”
And a big thank you to all those who are already signed up!

Amazon Smile

You can also help earn money for Wichita Audubon when you make purchases from Amazon. Amazon Smile is a program that donates 0.5% of each purchase to the charity of your choice. When you are ready to shop, go to http://smile.amazon.com, choose Wichita Audubon Society as your charity, then shop! It works just like any online shopping at Amazon.com, and it doesn’t cost you anything.

Leaving a Legacy

The Wichita Audubon Society has been a successful organization for more than 60 years. We operate Chaplin Nature Center, a 230 acre preserve near Arkansas City that features a visitor’s center staffed with a full time naturalist. We have provided free nature education programs to thousands of children and adults across south central Kansas. And it all takes money. Every officer and board member has struggled with the effort to raise that money. Our success is a testament to all those people, but we like to be sure our success can continue into the future. You can help insure our future by remembering Wichita Audubon in your estate planning. Here are some suggestions for ways you can help with no strings attached. Each of these provides you with the flexibility to change your mind at any time.

• Name the Wichita Audubon Society to receive all or a percentage of funds remaining in your retirement fund. Retirement assets are one of the most heavily taxed assets you own. Leaving all or part of the remaining funds can help reduce estate and income taxes. WAS is exempt from paying taxes that might otherwise be owed if you leave the gift to a loved one other than a spouse.

• Designate the Wichita Audubon Society as a beneficiary to a life insurance policy. Insurance policies that have outlasted their original purpose are an easy way to leave an environmental legacy.

• Leave funds remaining in a bank or

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Extended Field Trip 2017

Join us the third week of May 2017 in the Warbler Capital of the World - Magee Marsh Wildlife Area in northwest Ohio. Our visit is timed during the peak occurrence of the later migrating warblers, such as Magnolia, Blackpoll and Bay-breasted. Numerous other migrants will be in abundance as we explore the woods, marshes and Lake Erie shoreline at this renowned hotspot. Planning is still tentative, but our birding dates will likely be May 15 - 18, with travel before and after those dates.

Those who are not familiar with Magee Marsh may wonder what makes this such a hotspot. The answer is the great natural barrier that is Lake Erie. Waves of migrating birds tend to pile up in the woodlots surrounded by marshland on the lake’s southern edge to rest and refuel before crossing the lake. This produces large numbers of birds similar to a fallout. Without the adverse weather conditions of a fallout, the birds are active and singing. Viewing in the marshy woodlands is along a boardwalk, where the birds are easily seen at eye-level, offering great photo opportunities. We expect to see at least 20 warbler species a day.

Together with the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, which is directly to the west, Magee Marsh Wildlife Area is perhaps the largest uninterrupted area of coastal wetlands habitats remaining in Ohio; the remnants of the Great Black Swamp. Between waves of migrating songbirds, we will explore the various impoundments in both locations for waterfowl, shorebirds, rails and other birds. Other likely birding locations include East Harbor State Park, Great Egret Marsh, Maumee Bay State Park, and perhaps Erie Marsh Preserve and Pt. Mouillee State Game Area in Michigan. With great luck we may see the rare Kirtland’s Warbler. An optional extension can be arranged after our stay in Ohio for a much better chance to see the Kirtland’s near Grayling Michigan, about a 4 hour drive.

Contact Kevin Groeneweg at kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net to sign up and to receive additional information.

Leaving a Legacy, Continued

brokage account or a certificate of deposit. One of the simplest ways you can help insure the future of Chaplin Nature Center is by making Wichita Audubon the “pay on death” (POD) or “transfer on death” (TOD) beneficiary of a bank or brokerage account or certificate of deposit.

• Remember Wichita Audubon in your will or trust. Leaving a gift to Wichita Audubon in your will or trust of a specific amount or percentage leaves all the remaining assets for loved ones.

Each of these options allows you to retain full control of your assets for as long as you need them and still leave an enduring legacy.
Chaplin Nature Center Programs

Saturday, September 24, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Butterfly Tagging/Nature Day

The spectacular monarch butterfly migration will be moving through Kansas during the center’s annual Nature Day. This is a once-a-year opportunity to learn more about the migration as well as how to capture and tag monarchs. Monarchs are our only migratory butterfly, traveling each fall to wintering grounds in the mountains of Mexico. By attaching a tiny tag to their wing we can help scientists at the University of Kansas track them. Guided nature hikes will also be offered at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Lunch will be available for purchase.

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.