

THE AUDUBON ENDEAVOR

Mark Your Calendars April 14: “Let’s Pull Together”



Be on the lookout for Dyer's Woad, it's invasive!

Mark your calendars for the third annual Mt. Shasta Area Audubon's Weeds to Native Plants Program “Community Let’s Pull Together” day, on **Saturday, April 14**, in Mt. Shasta. In case of rain, the alternate date is April 28.

The event will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Mt. Shasta City Park's upper lodge with breakfast snacks and orientation. Volunteers will sign up, receive a safety briefing, meet their station leaders and head toward their invasive weed patches. Work will continue until 1 p.m., when everyone will reconvene at the park for a lunch that will be provided. Lucky individuals will receive prizes for their remarkable weeds, provided by Shasta Visions, the Mt. Shasta Chamber of Commerce, and other generous businesses.

All participants should be ready to get dirty and come prepared with gloves and tools such as shovels and weed removal forks. Hard working Extractigators and trucks will be used for larger, embedded plants. Please mark your tools.

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“To support and advocate a healthy and stable environment for present and future generations”

In the past, the event has attracted more than 50 volunteers and is supported by many hard working community organizations such as the City of Mt. Shasta and the USDA Forest Service.

To sign up, please email invasiveweedsiskiyou@gmail.com or contact Rebeca Franco, event coordinator, at 530-605-9148.

Rebeca Franco

President's Message



*Western Meadowlark,
photo by Laura Flett*

Now that spring is getting close I am reminded of why the Western Meadowlark is one of my favorite birds. I grew up in Ogden, Utah, and about this time of year the migratory birds began to show up. I was not a happy student and would have much preferred to be outside building forts or atomic powered rockets rather than sitting in school. Spring brought warmer weather and open windows in my school, so when the Meadowlarks arrived you could hear their amazing lyrical song from inside the classroom. As soon as I heard them I knew that the freedom of summer was close at hand and it gladdened my heart.

These days we live in a densely forested area in Mt. Shasta and do not have Meadowlarks near by, so instead I wait for the return of our Black-headed Grosbeak families. They have a pretty nice song, too.

The Board has been busy planning for spring events: our annual invasive weed pulling project on April 14, and our booth at the Science Festival on May 19. Planning for field trips is ongoing. Be sure to check our website periodically for new additions.

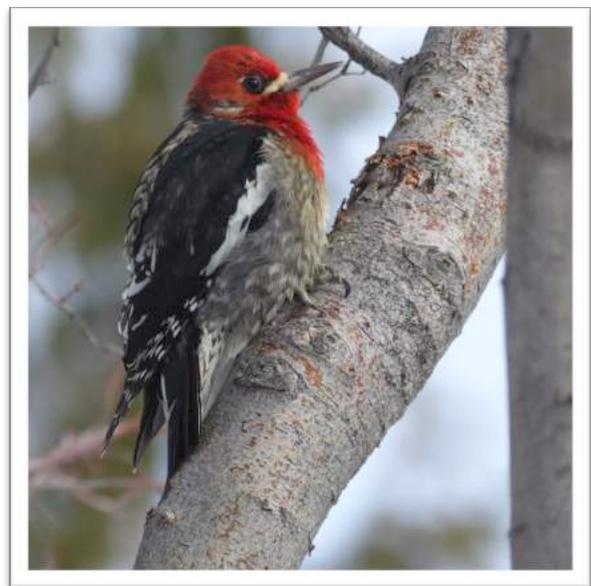
Kerry Mauro, President

ABOUT OUR FIELD TRIPS

MSAA field trips provide enjoyable opportunities to learn more about birds and our natural world. Our trips are led by experienced birders who are happy to share their knowledge. All levels of birders, from beginning to advanced, are welcome to participate.

In addition to our birding trips we are planning several geology trips and possibly a wildflower hike. If you have suggestions regarding trips and events, have a favorite site to recommend, or would like to lead a bird walk, please contact Joey Russell at 530-459-5190.

More information and upcoming trips posted at:
<http://mtshastaaudubon.com/upcoming-events/>



*Red Breasted Sapsucker,
photo by Joey Russell*



Red Winged Blackbird, photo by John McCoy

Nurture Your Garden and Birds, Too: Audubon's Native Plant Guide

Now that spring has arrived, consider adding some native plants to your garden to benefit birds. National Audubon has a handy native plants database that allows you to enter your zip code and find native plants suitable for your area—and it shows the birds that love them.

Check out the adjacent sampling of Mt. Shasta native plants found using Audubon's database. Surely your outdoor space has room for one or more of these wonderfully valuable plants. The birds will thank you for it!

Audubon's Year of the Bird partnership has set a collective goal to get 1 million native plants in the ground this year. Let's help them reach it.

Enter your zip code here and get planting:
<https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>

Flowers

Bluebell-of-Scotland (*Campanula rotundifolia*)
 Common Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
 Great Red Indian-Paintbrush (*Castilleja miniata*)
 Narrow-Leaf Fireweed (*Chamaenerion angustifolium*)
 Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)

Trees

California Buckeye (*Aesculus californica*)
 California-Laurel (*Umbellularia californica*)
 Pacific Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus nuttallii*)
 Red Elder (*Sambucus racemosa*)
 White Alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*)

Shrubs

Black Hawthorn (*Crataegus douglasii*)
 California Rose (*Rosa californica*)
 Cascade Oregon-Grape (*Mahonia nervosa*)
 Grouseberry (*Vaccinium scoparium*)
 Saskatoon Service-berry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)

Siskiyou Science Festival

Mt. Shasta Area Audubon will participate in the culmination of Siskiyou County's first annual Science Festival on Saturday, May 19, 10:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. in downtown Mt. Shasta. The festival is intended to "nurture an appreciation of science in our daily lives" and provide practical applications of simple science principles. The theme for this year's festival is "Science is Everywhere."

Our Education Chair, Rebeca Franco, and Michelle Andras and Tristan Behm, with help from students from the Mattole Valley Charter School, will make available an EnviroScape. Visitors can manipulate this hands-on model of a watershed to show where pollution goes in a watershed and learn how to keep our rivers, lakes, and streams healthy for people, birds and other wildlife.

Please stop by our booth on May 19 and support community collaborations for science education.

More information at: <https://siskiyouscifest.com/>

Upcoming Field Trips

Klamath River Field Trip – Saturday, May 6

Join expert birder Joey Russell for this all-day trip down the Klamath River to Happy Camp. The group will drive down the river, stopping to look for birds such as Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Ruffed Grouse, American Dipper, and Bald Eagle. Meet at the Grocery Outlet Bargain Center parking lot at the north end of Yreka at 8:00 a.m. For more information contact Joey Russell at 530-459-5190.

International Migratory Bird Day Field Trip – Sunday, May 12

Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day with a field trip in the Shasta Valley Wildlife Area led by local biologists and birding experts. The trip will begin at 7:30 a.m. and will combine driving and short walks. From Montague proceed 1.5 miles east on Ball Mountain/Little Shasta Road to the Wildlife Area headquarters. For more information contact Sam Cuenca at 530-468-1207.

For more upcoming field trips, visit:
<http://mtshastaaudubon.com/upcoming-events/>

Events Calendar

Let's Pull Together

April 14, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Mt. Shasta City Park

Field Trip: Klamath River

May 6, 8 a.m.

Meet at Yreka Grocery Outlet

Field Trip: Int'l Migratory Bird Day

May 12, 7:30 a.m.

Meet at Shasta Valley Wildlife Area Headquarters

Siskiyou Science Festival

May 19, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Downtown Mt. Shasta

Field Trip: Horseshoe Ranch Wildlife Area

May 26, 7:30 a.m.

Meet at Yreka Grocery Outlet

Field Trip: Willow Mtn. to Meiss Lake

June 10, 8 a.m.

Meet at Yreka Grocery Outlet

Field trips typically last all day with limited restroom stops. Carpooling encouraged. Bring food, water, binoculars, field guides, and comfortable shoes. Dress in layers appropriate for the weather.

Thanks for supporting Mt. Shasta Area Audubon with your membership!



Wood Duck pair, photo by John McCoy



Mt. Shasta Area Audubon has been a certified chapter of National Audubon Society since 1976. National Audubon is a worldwide mainstream birding and conservation organization that promotes both birding activities and the conservation of natural systems that are essential to the survival of robust bird populations. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join National Audubon or this chapter to promote and sustain these vital efforts.