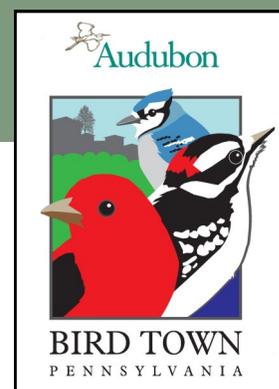


# BIRD TOWN FLYER

 Audubon PENNSYLVANIA

Volume 1, Issue 6

July 2013



## Flyways and Waterways...Habitat Helps Hydrology!



Two veteran environmental professionals will present “Flyways and Waterways: Creating Backyard Bird Habitat for Healthy Watersheds” on **Tuesday, July 23, at 6:30 pm**. Thomas Cahill will call on his forty-two years in natural resource planning to explain innovative ways to deal with stormwater on individual properties and in entire communities. John Rogers will explain how converting turf grass to bird habitat can actually

solve water issues in backyards.

The 1.5 hour talk will appeal to the average homeowner, avid gardeners and even municipal engineers and officials who may be interested in learning ways to address federal permit (**MS4**) issues.

The **FREE** talk will be held in Room 208 of the Learning Center on the **Temple Ambler Campus**. Parking is available on Meetinghouse Road and requires a short walk on campus. Registration is requested by emailing [ssaffier@audubon.org](mailto:ssaffier@audubon.org) (or just hit “reply” to this newsletter email!)

## Bird-themed Scavenger Hunt at Radnor Library

By Kathleen Pollack

Radnor **Bird Town** partnered with Radnor Memorial Library in June for the Library’s Annual **Family Scavenger Hunt**. In celebration of Radnor becoming a Bird Town, the theme of the scavenger hunt was birds. Eighty-five scavenger hunt booklets, “Field Guides,” for the bird-themed hunt were distributed at the library to interested families. Over the next week participants looked for bird identification clues at 15 local participating businesses, did bird research at the library, and completed bird related activities in their Field Guide.

The week’s scavenger hunt activities culminated in a party at the Library on Friday, June 21. While points were being tallied to determine a winner, Phil Wallis entertained families with interesting bird facts and conducted a Bird Town Raffle. Raffle items were donated by **Do-It-Best Hardware** of Wayne, PA and included bird feeders, bird food, and gardening items.



### Plant of the Month

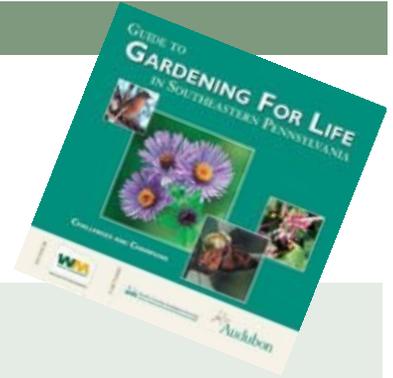
#### Slippery elm

Beginning a new feature this month by featuring a plant or bird. This month featuring the often-overlooked slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*), a tree that has been recorded in 64 PA counties. Larval host to mourning cloak, question mark, eastern comma, and more than 20 moth species! Considered a bit of a weed tree because it tends to germinate easily and grows fast. Many may be familiar with the throat remedy afforded by the inner bark, but there is a long list of historic ethnobotanical uses for the tree including as a preservative in Buffalo fat, kidney and stomach aid, cordage, tea, and others.



*Ulmus* leaves consumed by insects

**Gardening for Life book sale continues!** Get inspired with this colorful guide chock-full of tips from homeowners and experts. See the order form attached to this email to take advantage of the low \$6.95 price on this Audubon classic. Buy one for that neighbor with the turf-dominated landscape!



**Audubon At Home**  
 John James Audubon Center  
 at Mill Grove  
 1201 Pawlings Rd.  
 Audubon PA 19403  
 610.666.5593 x112  
 ssaffier@audubon.org

### Sponsorship Opportunities

The **Upper Perkiomen Bird and Wildlife Festival** takes place on Saturday, September 28th at Green Lane Park.

There are still opportunities to sponsor this event ranging from \$100 to \$5,000 (or more). If you have a business and would like to reach a targeted audience of 2,000 (plus publicity leading up to event), please email [ssaffier@audubon.org](mailto:ssaffier@audubon.org)

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS—2013

- July 12-15—Audubon Convention, Stevenson WA
- July 23. 6:30pm—Flyways and Waterways (see page 1 for details) Temple Ambler
- July 31-Aug 1—Invasive Plant Conference Shepherdstown WV [www.maipc.org](http://www.maipc.org)
- Sept 28, 12 noon—Upper Perkiomen Bird and Wildlife Festival, Green Lane Park
- Sept 28—7am—7pm: Migration Festival, Lehigh Gap Nature Center, Slatington PA

## Designing with Natives Creates Certification New Class to Start Soon

The first group of “Certified Backyard Conservation Designers” finished a 10-week course with John Rogers learning about curb appeal, garden types, and practices in conservation and environmental stewardship.

The course grew out of John’s work in developing training materials for backyard stewards within the Bird Town program.

Starting September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the second training to certify backyard Conservation Designers will begin. For ten weeks the group has a one hour telephone call to discuss the topics. Each one applies the ideas to their own home or a special project. The course is limited to 12 people this session and there is a fee. Trainees will receive a set of detailed materials on

each topic as well as one on one consultation. For more information please contact John at [jrogers@keystoneconservation.org](mailto:jrogers@keystoneconservation.org)

Some recent graduates include from left: Daniel McBride, Jeanine Mitchell, (John Rogers), Mary Ellen Noonan, Vicky Bastidas, Pam Fitzpatrick. Not pictured: Autumn Thomas, Mary Ellen Heisey.



**Please share this newsletter with your friends!!** Do not want to receive the *Bird Town Flyer*?? No prob. Please reply to this email with request to cancel.