

# BIRD TOWN FLYER



Audubon PENNSYLVANIA

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## Help Audubon...three ways to get involved



Audubon Pennsylvania embarks on its first annual Birdathon this year beginning May 4, and ending with the Bird Town team event on May 19th. Read more at [pa.audubon.org/birdathon-2013](http://pa.audubon.org/birdathon-2013).

You can join a Birdathon team, pledge your support online (link is below newsletter) or print the form attached to this email and mail it in with a tax-deductible check.

Spring migration will surely yield large numbers of birds and a diversity of species, migrants and breeding populations. From Presque Isle in western PA to Peace Valley in Bucks County, Birdathon teams will be working hard (tough job, but someone has to do it) to count birds and species.

If you'd like to join any of the remaining teams, please email today. Thanks in advance for your support which helps Bird Town and other Audubon Programs

## What is the Native Plant Ordinance? Come Find Out!

A number of years ago, Lower Makefield Township in Bucks County wrote and adopted the Native Plant Ordinance (NPO) as an amendment to the zoning code that requires new development to have a landscape plan that includes native plants. Though meeting with occasional skepticism, the ordinance has done wonders for raising awareness of the value of native plants and was later adapted and adopted by Schuylkill Township in Chester County.

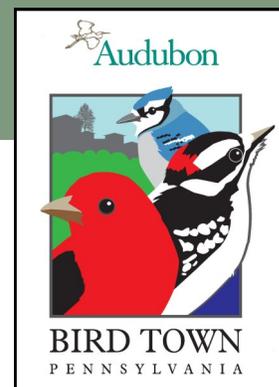
Since both townships are Bird Towns, we decided to invite the author of the ordinance and representative from Schuylkill Twp to offer insight on the origins, successes, and challenges of the NPO. Please join us at Peace Valley Nature Center, 1227 Twp Line Rd, Doylestown on **Sunday, May 19th, 10am**. (Birdathon bird walk starts the park at 8:00 am!) The 1-hour talk is free.



Imagine if every storm water basin was required to be naturalized!



Follow us on Twitter  
[@AudubonAtHomePA](https://twitter.com/AudubonAtHomePA)



## Native Plant Sales...still! BUY...BUY...BUY!!!

MAY 4—CENTRAL PA NATIVE PLANT FESTIVAL [SHAVERSCREEK.ORG](http://SHAVERSCREEK.ORG)

MAY 4—PENNYPACK TRUST HUNTINGDON VALLEY  
[WWW.PENNYPACKTRUST.ORG](http://WWW.PENNYPACKTRUST.ORG)

MAY 11,12,18,19,25  
YELLOW SPRINGS FARM  
[WWW.YELLOWSPRINGSFARM.COM](http://WWW.YELLOWSPRINGSFARM.COM)

MAY 11—JUNE 2—BOWMAN'S HILL WILDFLOWER PRESERVE  
[WWW.BHWP.ORG](http://WWW.BHWP.ORG)

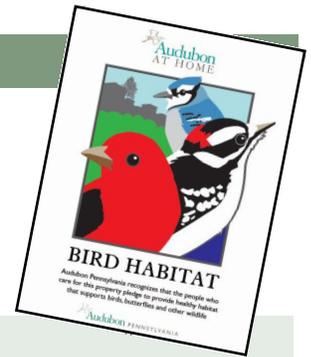
MAY 18—COLLINS NURSERY OPEN HOUSE, GLENSIDE  
[COLLINSNURSERY.COM](http://COLLINSNURSERY.COM)

MAY 25—OHIOPYLE STATE PARK—NOON—5PM

JUNE 2—FRIENDS OF HIGH SCHOOL PARK FESTIVAL/SALE  
[WWW.FHSP.ORG](http://WWW.FHSP.ORG)



**Coming soon....new yard sign design!!** The Bird Habitat Recognition program has always been a part of Bird Town and now the link will be obvious. Our new signs will eventually sport the design you see on your right. For now, we'll be offering durable vinyl overlays if you have the old sign. But we need 100 pre-orders to get these made. They will be \$5.00 each (shipped). So, if interested, let us know. (Send no money now. )



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

### Power of Plants

We're in the heart of planting season so it's not a huge surprise that **free plants** helped more than 20 residents register their properties at the Newtown Welcome Day (a large outdoor fair) on Sunday, May 5. Each applicant received a free small, native perennial wrapped in a tiny burlap bag. The "cute" plants caused quite a buzz and were *burlapped* by Autumn Thomas and initially provided by American Native Nursery in Quakertown. Thanks!!



### Battle II

Which town can sign up the most backyards in our Backyard Habitat Recognition program, a free registry that creates a community of like-minded land stewards. Radnor and Newtown are leading the pack. July 1 is the deadline.



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS—2013

- May 8—Bird-a-thon birdwalk Philadelphia area including John Heinz refuge
- May 11— Bird-a-thon walk Montgomery County including Mill Grove
- May 11—Rain Garden Workshop—Longswamp Township (EAC), Berks County
- May 11—Backyard Stewardship Training—Manheim Township, Lancaster County (call)
- May 16—Bird-a-thon walk Presque Isle and French Creek IBA—Erie area
- May 18, 8am—10am—Introduction to Birdwatching \$5 —Doylestown Central Park
- May 18, 11am—4pm—Collins Native Nursery Open House, Glenside PA
- May 19, 8am—9:30 am—Bird-a-Thon Bird Walk, Peace Valley Park
- May 19, 10am—11am Native Plant Ordinance discussion—Peace Valley Nature Center
- May 27, Memorial Day (Look for Bird Town floats in various parades!)
- Sept 28—Third Annual Upper Perkiomen Bird and Wildlife Festival

For more information on the above, please contact Steve or like our Facebook. Registration required for fee-based Backyard Stewardship Workshops. Don't forget to check page 1 for a listing of NATIVE PLANT SALES!



### Radnor Township Wins Battle of the 'Burbs I

We've waded through the hundreds of GBBC records (which are tied directly to eBird.org) and calculated the most checklists submitted based on the occurrence of the most common backyard birds. As a result, one of the newest Bird Towns, **Radnor Township**, wins the **Golden Binocular Award** which will be presented in the near future. The trophy will be circulated to the winning town each year.

The top five scores (not number of checklists) broke down as: Radnor 137, Allentown 107, Salisbury 105, Schuylkill 98, and Bethlehem 77.

**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.