



Building our Nest: Philadelphia

June 2016

Reservoir Water Overflow Device is Complete – step one towards breaking ground on the Discovery Center

Thanks to funding from the Department of Community and Economic Development, the first significant construction at the East Park Reservoir was completed this spring. The new overflow control device will ensure the water level of the reservoir remains within acceptable limits, which will lead to the decommissioning of the reservoir as a dam. This mandated site-development work will make it possible for construction of the Discovery Center to start in late fall 2016. As construction documents are finalized, we continue to fundraise so that all planned elements of the building can be included.



Conservation matters

Working with partners, Audubon is implementing community conservation engagement projects throughout Philadelphia. With input from residents and assistance from Philadelphia University's Landscape Architecture program, we are repurposing vacant lots in Southwest Philadelphia to enhance habitat, beautify the neighborhood and transform neglected spaces into community gathering spots. In addition, we just finished a successful school year, providing 1,000 students from 2nd to 8th grades with in-class and outdoor hands-on learning experiences. In May, fourth graders

enjoyed a trip to the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge to explore the trails, catch critters in the marsh and observe birds through binoculars.

Native Plants Are Good for Birds and People

Audubon is engaging schools, communities and Friends groups in the propagation of native plants for use in targeted projects that improve habitat for birds and beautify neighborhoods. Small community lots are springing to life, thanks in part to Audubon, our partners, and dozens of volunteers. Audubon offered new workshops on container gardening for residents of Strawberry Mansion and Kingessing neighborhoods. It was a great success with everyone walking home with pots of native plants and a new excitement of gardening for birds.



Learn more about Audubon's work throughout the Commonwealth at:
pa.audubon.org



Audubon PENNSYLVANIA