



Fall Beckons

September's lengthening shadows send signals to us—and to birds—that summer's end is near and that fall migration is underway. On a recent walk during a New England vacation, I saw a number of bird species congregating—certainly a sign that a long journey awaits them.

This time next year, visitors to both the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove (Audubon, PA) and the Discovery Center (Philadelphia) will be able to experience migration in new ways. With support from generous donors, Audubon will install a MOTUS tower at Mill Grove, along with interactive kiosks that will link to Audubon's Migratory Bird Initiative's on-line tool. (A MOTUS tower picks up signals emitted by transmitters that have been placed on birds. The growing network of towers across North and South America allows us to track their hemispheric movements. These data help environmental groups like Audubon determine where to focus its work on behalf of birds.)

We are still seeking donations to bring interactive Migratory Bird Explorer kiosks to

the Discovery Center. There, we will use data from the MOTUS tower at the University of Pennsylvania to create lessons for students and enhance the public's understanding of how migratory birds are using Philadelphia's parks and other green spaces. If you are interested in learning more about Migratory Bird Explorer kiosks at the Discovery Center and how to support this project, please contact Wendy Christie at wendy.christie@audubon.org.

The next two months will be busy ones for birds and for Audubon. We invite you to look at our events calendar and join us at an upcoming program.

Thank you for your support,
Suzanne

Suzanne Biemiller
Executive Director, Audubon Mid-Atlantic
Vice President, National Audubon Society

Green heron. Photo: Ira Rappaport/Audubon Photography Awards



Bird-Safe Baltimore Effort Underway

Bird-Safe Baltimore is a newly formed network of community partners whose mission is to ensure safe passage for birds, through education,

collision mitigation, and legislation. Following in the footsteps of other large city collaborations such as Lights Out Philly and Lights Out Harrisburg, Baltimore is joining this national movement to protect migratory birds. Bird-Safe Baltimore encourages businesses and residents across the city to turn off non-essential lights between 11 PM and 6 AM for four months each year (April, May, September, and October). People can also help birds by drawing blinds/curtains, using warm-colored amber or yellow bulbs, and utilizing timers and motion sensors when possible. You can find out more about Bird-Safe Baltimore and affirm your commitment by taking the pledge at birdsafebaltimore.org.

[Be sure to check out the recent story from WBALTV11, featuring our very own Erin Reed Miller!](#)



Northern Parula/Hugh Simmons



Farewell to Jeanne Ortiz, Senior Program Manager, Landscape Conservation

Audubon Mid-Atlantic would like to take a moment to say thank you to Jeanne Ortiz, our Senior Program Manager of Landscape Conservation. Jeanne is moving on to a new role at Pennsylvania's Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) after nearly 14 years at

Audubon. Jeanne has led the 185-mile Kittatinny Ridge Conservation Landscape, a Global Important Bird Area, in partnership with the Pennsylvania DCNR, and has made it a model conservation effort for the commonwealth. She conducted "Return on Environment" studies with partners to document the economic value of natural system services and the economic impact of natural resources. The Carbon County study led to the creation of a \$10 million conservation fund that was approved by voters by a wide margin last November. This past spring, Penn Future recognized Jeanne for her role as a conservation leader in Pennsylvania. We will miss Jeanne and cannot wait to see all that she will accomplish on behalf of the environment in her new role at DCNR.



Sign up now for the 2023 Philadelphia Birding Weekend

Registration for our second annual Philly Birding Weekend is [now open!](#) During the weekend of October 13-15th, we will explore Philadelphia's iconic green spaces and neighborhoods while looking for birds during the fall migration. Some of this year's guided excursions will include:

- Bird collision monitoring in Center City with Keith Russell;
- Exploring Whitby Meadow, part of the Philadelphia Pollinator Network;
- Birding and learning about the Strawberry Mansion neighborhood's unique history and significance in Philadelphia;
- Celebrating the weekend at our Tally Rally at the Discovery Center.

To learn more and register for these and other exciting trips, please [click here](#). We are still accepting event sponsors and would love to elevate the profile of your business or organization through sponsorship. To sponsor the event, please email Wendy Christie at wendy.christie@audubon.org.

Participants at last year's Philly Birding Weekend



Wings Over Water: A Film Screening and Panel Discussion

Join Audubon Mid-Atlantic and partners on Wednesday, September 27th from 7:00 until 8:30pm at the Colonial Theater in Phoenixville, PA for a viewing of "Wings Over Water." This film shares the epic journey of three migratory birds and their connection to wetlands and other crucial waterways as they traverse thousands of miles to reach their nesting and breeding grounds. Two of the film's featured birds, Yellow Warblers and Mallard Ducks, also migrate through parts of the Atlantic Flyway, including the Delaware River Watershed where Audubon Mid-Atlantic is working to conserve, restore, and create quality habitat for these and many other bird species. Following the film, a panel of experts will discuss the annual phenomenon of migration and the inherent role of birds as indicators of

environmental health. [More information and an opportunity for discount tickets is available on our website.](#)

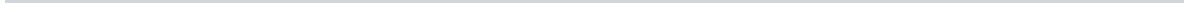


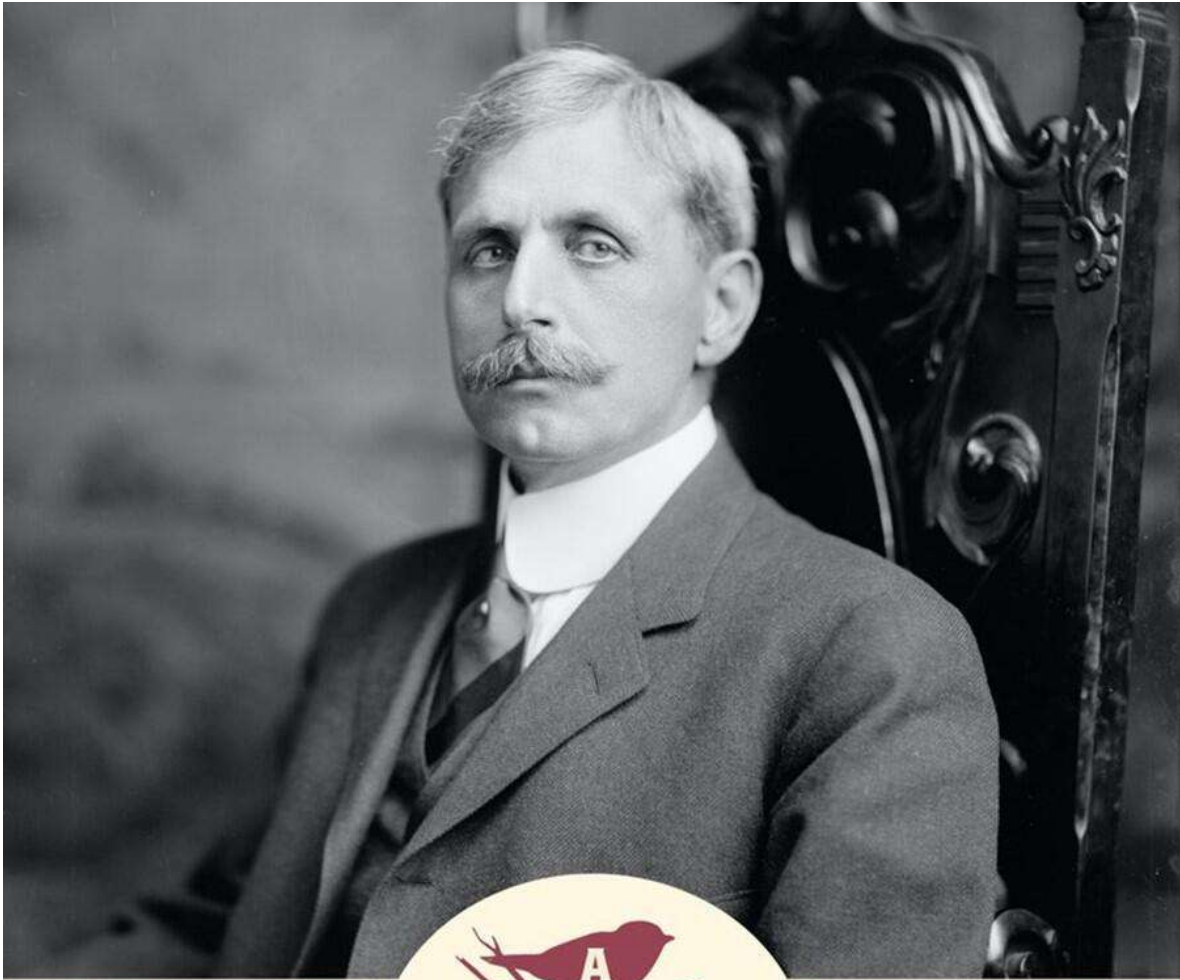
Opportunity for volunteers with the John James Audubon Center

Join Audubon Mid-Atlantic on September 30th from 9:00 until 3:00pm for a volunteer tree planting effort along the Perkiomen Creek, where we will enhance the tree canopy and riparian buffer damaged after Hurricane Ida. Riparian buffers, or stream-side areas of trees and other native vegetation, are essential areas of habitat for birds and other wildlife. They also play a critical role in protecting our drinking water quality and reducing damage from floods. Volunteers will learn to plant native trees and shrubs and help install fencing to protect the plantings from deer. Audubon will provide volunteers with gloves, tools and a free lunch. More information on the event [can be found here.](#)



Volunteer event





CONNECTICUT

★ **YANKEE** ★

GOES TO WASHINGTON

SENATOR GEORGE P. MCLEAN,
BIRDMAN OF THE SENATE

WILL MCLEAN GREELEY

Meet the Author: Will McLean Greeley

Join us for this virtual event with author Will McLean Greeley, to learn the story of how Connecticut's George P. McLean helped establish lasting legal protections for birds by overseeing passage of the 1918 Migratory Bird Treaty Act; landmark environmental protection legislation that is still in effect today. Audubon Mid-Atlantic policy staff will share updates on Audubon's current policy priorities that would protect migratory birds and the places they need, from their wintering grounds to their summer breeding habitat. Attendance is free but registration is required to receive the Zoom link. [More information and registration on our website.](#)

Check out Audubon Mid-Atlantic's Upcoming Events

DISCOVERY CENTER EVENTS

Visit our Centers, explore our trails, and join us for some winter birding and other exciting activities happening across the Mid-Atlantic region!

- [Pennsylvania Events](#), including the John James Audubon Center and The Discovery Center
- [Patterson Park Audubon Center Events](#)

CONNECT WITH US



Audubon Mid-Atlantic

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