

Volume 40, No.4

Sept/Oct 2016

Join us for our annual picnic!



On Sunday, September 18, our annual fall picnic will take place at Summit Lake State Park's Sunset Shelter from 1-4 p.m.

Please bring (1) a hot or cold dish, salad, or dessert to share and (2) your own tableware. RCAS will provide hamburgers and hotdogs as well as a number of outdoor games and activities for all ages.

Afterwards, we will have a bird hike lead in English and Spanish by Audubon member John Velasquez, who is also current President of the Mississinewa Audubon Club in Marion, IN.

The picnic is free, but entrance into Summit Lake State Park is \$7 per vehicle.

Radio Tracking Fledgling Cerulean Warblers Wednesday, October 19, 7:00 p.m.

Our speaker will be Ball State graduate student, Clayton Delancey. Clayton is the 2016 RCAS Fox Student Grant Recipient. Clayton's research focuses on Cerulean Warblers, a neotropical migrant species that is considered a 'Species of Concern' range-wide and endangered in Indiana. Clayton will speak about his current research, which involves using radio telemetry to track fledgling Cerulean Warblers. Additionally, Clayton is investigating migration by using geolocators to track movements to their wintering grounds!

Programs are held at Muncie Public Library, Kennedy Branch. 7:00 pm: chapter business & refreshments, 7:15 pm: scheduled program.



Film Showing: The Story of Stuff

Thursday, September 8

Living Lightly will show *The Story of Stuff* at 4:30 p.m. at the Maring-Hunt branch of the Muncie Public Library. The showing is free and open to the public. *The Story of Stuff* is Annie Leonard's 20-minute film about "the way we make, use and throw away all the stuff in our lives," according to storyofstuff.org.

Susan Eichorn will lead a discussion after the film's showing.



Fox Island and Eagle Marsh

Saturday, September 3

Fox Island and Eagle Marsh are adjacent properties in Allen County. They offer a nice variety of habitats. We will begin birding at Fox Island, break for lunch, then head to Eagle Marsh. Meet at the Fox Island Bird Observation Building at 9:15 a.m. There is a \$2 fee per person at Fox Island.

Directions from Muncie: take I-69 north to exit 299. Merge onto Lower Huntington Rd. Take a left onto Branstrator Rd., and then turn right onto Yohne Rd. Fox Island is at 7324 Yohne Rd. It will be on the left.

Meet at Cooper Parking lot at 7:45 a.m. if you wish to caravan. Allow 1.5 hours for travel.

White River Clean-up Service Trip

Saturday, September 10

Join Team RCAS for the 10th annual White River Clean-up. Volunteers walk the bank, river, and land where possible removing debris from and around the river. When that is not possible, volunteers use canoes to navigate through the water filling them up along the way with the debris they find. The clean-up begins at 8 a.m. at Westside Park with a free lunch afterwards. Pre-register at www.surveymonkey.com/r/WhiteRiverCleanup2016 and put "Robert Cooper Audubon Society" under "Company/Organization." The first ten people to pre-register then email RCAS at admin@cooperaudubon.org will receive a free RCAS t-shirt the day of the clean-up!

Eagle Creek Park Sunday, October 2

RCAS will join the weekly bird hike led by members of the Amos W. Butler Audubon Society. Meet at the Ornithology Center at the park at 9 a.m.

Directions: Take I-69 south to I-465 west. Follow to the south loop. Take exit 21 and turn right on to 71st St. Follow until 71st St. turns into Eagle Creek Parkway. The park is on the right. Follow signs for the Ornithology Center.

Meet at Cooper Science at 7:30 a.m. if you wish to caravan.

Cool Creek Park

Saturday, October 8

This Hamilton Co. park hosts a weekly bird hike led by Kieth Star ling. The group gathers at 8 a.m. at the North Parking Lot.

Directions: Take I-69 south to exit 210. Turn right onto E 146th St. Turn right onto Greyhound Pass. After 0.2 mi turn right onto Cool Creek Park Rd. Take the Cool Creek Park exit on the roundabout.

Caravaners can meet at Cooper Science at 6:50 a.m.

Travel time is about an hour.

Muscatatuck NWR

Saturday, October 22

Visit Indiana's first National Wildlife Refuge whose mission is to restore, preserve, and manage a mix of forest, wetland, and grassland habitat. Meet at the visitor center at 9 a.m. Caravaners will meet at Cooper Science at 7 a.m.

Bring a snack and water. The group may get lunch in Seymour after.

Directions: Take I-69 south to I-465 south to I-65 south. Exit at 50A to merge onto US-50 E. The refuge is 3 miles east of the I-65 / US-50 interchange at Seymour, IN.

Send Us Your Nominations!

Our Fall awards banquet will honor individuals and organizations that have made contributions to the environment in our region in these categories:

Robert H. and Esther (Munro) Cooper Conservation Award: the chapter's highest honor, for overall contribution to, conservation of, and appreciation for, the natural environment.

Phyllis Yuhas Wildlife Habitat
Preservation Award: for
development of habitat that
contains significant wildlife and/or
native plant life populations.

Richard Greene Public Service

Award: for active involvement in

serving the public's environmental interests and concerns.

Clyde W. Hibbs Conservation Education Award: for excellence in educating the area's children, youth, and/or adults on conservation issues and practices.

Charles Wise Youth
Conservation Award: for
excellence in conservation
practices by a youth under the
age of 18.

To make the event a success, we need your help. If you know of an organization or individual who deserves recognition for his or her service in any of these

Categories, please send your nomination, along with a description of the nominee and his or her contact information to Sarah McKillip at sarahrmckillip@gmail.com.

Be sure to include your own name, phone number, address, and email. Nominees need not reside in our 7-county region or be affiliated with the Audubon Society. A list of past recipients is linked from our website at the bottom of the "Monthly Programs" page.



Living Lightly Fair

Saturday, September 17 from 9-4

The 10th annual Living Lightly Fair returns to Minnetrista offering practical ideas and inspiration for living more sustainably. Celebrating its 10th year with a new logo, the free event offers speakers, activities for kids and adults, a green marketplace of 50+ vendors, and expired medication drop-off. Food will be available for purchase from Payne's Restaurant and Afghan cuisine from AWAKEN.

Featured speaker, Madi Vorva, will speak at 11 a.m. about her Girl Scout campaign to have Girl Scout cookies use responsibly sourced palm oil. She will lead an interactive session for kids and teens at 2 p.m.

Other speaker topics include installing solar energy systems, starting your own honeybee hive, climate change, monarch butterfly gardens, and working with legislators to make a greener state.

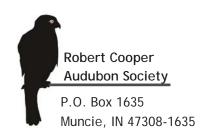
For a full event schedule, visit www.livinglightlyfair.org.







RCAS participated in Camp Prairie Creek! The campers learned how to bird-watch, went on a bird hike, and learned more about common birds. The kids had great questions, demonstrating their interest and concern. We have a bright future with conservation-minded kids like these!



Dates for Your Calendar

Sept 3: Fox Island and Eagle Marsh

Sept 8: Film Showing: Story of Stuff

Sept 10: White River Clean-up

Sept 17: Living Lightly Fair

Sept 18: Annual Picnic

Sept 25: Mounds Bird Hike

Oct 2: Eagle Creek Park

Oct 8: Cool Creek Park

Oct 19: Cerulean Warblers—Clayton Delancey

Oct 22: Muscatatuck NWR Oct 30: Mounds Bird Hike

Chapter Website: www.cooperaudubon.org

Find us on Facebook!

Email: admin@cooperaudubon.org

Program meetings are held at
Muncie Public Library, Kennedy Branch
1700 W. McGalliard Rd., Muncie, IN
7:00 pm: chapter business & refreshments
7:15 pm: scheduled program

Cooper's Talk is published 5 times a year by the Robert Cooper Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society serving Blackford, Delaware, Grant, Henry, Jay, Madison, and Randolph Counties.

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