

# Join Us

## AT OUR NOVEMBER MEETING!

Thursday, November 3rd 7:00pm -  
Foster Community Center, Room 213  
200 N. Foster Ave, Lansing MI

### Improving Backyard Habitats and Beyond with Presenters -

**Alexa Warwick**, Outreach Specialist, Conservation Biologist, MSU Extension & MDNR and **Bindu Bhakta**, Natural Resources Educator, MSU Extension

Alexa and Bindu will discuss ways to improve wildlife habitat in your backyard and beyond by first covering the basics of wildlife management and then describing how to add food, water, and shelter to support different types of wildlife. You'll also learn about resources available to help with these improvements. They will also share an upcoming educational opportunity in 2023 through MSU Extension's Michigan Conservation Stewards Program. This program helps individuals learn more about science-based ecosystem management, foundations of conservation in Michigan, and Michigan's diverse natural communities.

Our program will begin with a brief welcome, snacks and beverages at 7:00 followed by the program at 7:15. Programs are open to the public and appropriate for all ages.



*Dedicated to creating a greater awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the interrelatedness of all Michigan's wild places and wildlife and the need for stewardship.*

## A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

November is here and we are ready to start our speaker series again! It has been wonderful meeting at local birding sites, but our new location for the 2022-23 program year at Foster Community Center will open our meetings to more people in the Greater Lansing Area and keep us in contact throughout the winter.

Like the Capital Area Audubon Society, the Foster Community Center has been a part of the Lansing Community for over 100 years! Foster is located centrally and is less than a block from the bus route. Our meetings will be held in Room 213, and will fit up to 100 people. This allows us to easily accommodate all of our participants and gives us room to grow.

If you have not been to Foster before, there is ample, easy parking, as well as a front ramp and elevator. We will have members meet visitors outside as well as post signs to direct you to our meeting room. Plan to arrive a little early this month to navigate the new space!

If you would like to attend, but would need a Zoom (online) option, please reach out so we can arrange a link to view our meeting. We would like to be available to as many of our members as possible and understand that for some an in-person meeting is not yet possible.

I look forward to seeing you all in November!

Kristy Taylor  
CAAS Board President

## MEET OUR NOVEMBER SPEAKERS

Alexa Warwick is an engagement/ outreach specialist and conservation biologist in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University (MSU). She works jointly with MSU Extension and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to develop, evaluate, and improve wildlife and conservation-related engagement/outreach programs, including the Michigan Conservation Stewards Program.

Dr. Warwick also conducts research in amphibian ecology and the human dimensions of wildlife. She received her Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Florida State University and was previously a postdoc at MSU conducting research and leading programs in science education and outreach.

Bindu Bhakta was born and raised in the Detroit area where she currently resides. Since November 2005, Bindu has served as a Natural Resources Educator for MSU Extension, based in Oakland County. She works with a team of individuals from MSU and MSU Extension to develop and coordinate delivery of programs on a variety of natural resource topics in SE Michigan and across the state.

She also coordinates the Michigan Conservation Stewards Program which helps individuals gain knowledge that empowers them to engage in conservation stewardship activities in their local communities. Away from work, Bindu keeps busy with her 9-year old daughter and 12-year old son. She also likes to walk, hike, travel, garden, and cook.

# CAAS EVENTS

Monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of the month September - June

Meetings will begin at 7pm in Room 213 at Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave. Lansing, MI (unless otherwise listed)

**December 1 - Wild Rice Research, Speaker - Kailee Pearson**

Learn how MSU Fisheries and Wildlife student, Kailee Pearson worked with wild rice as a field technician with the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and lead her own research at Corey Marsh to combine her tribal heritage with her passion for the outdoors.

**East Lansing Christmas Bird Count - Saturday, December 17th**

Details in next month's Call Note.

**January 5 - Up to My Ears in Mud and Traffic, Speaker - Susan Elbin**

Lessons from Long-term Bird Monitoring in New York City. Susan will give us a glimpse into the lives and conservation issues facing some NYC birds, share her secret to working with a small staff in a very large city, and celebrate some of their conservation successes!

**February 2 - Michigan's Wildlife Action Plan and State of the Bird, Speaker - Tony Henehan**

Learn about the State Wildlife Action Plan, how it helps birds and species of special concern here in Michigan and what the Restoring America's Wildlife Act could mean for our state.

**Thursday March 2 - TBA**

**Thursday April 6 - TBA**

**Spring Bird Walks - Saturday Mornings in April and May at Fenner Nature Center**

**Thursday May 4 - Migration in Mid-Michigan at Capital City Bird Sanctuary**

**Thursday, June 1 - Member Walk and Ice Cream Social at Fenner Nature Center -**

Check out our Facebook page at [facebook.com/capitalareaaudubon](https://www.facebook.com/capitalareaaudubon) for events around the state and much more!

# NOVEMBER IS MICHIGAN RARE BIRD MONTH

by Daryl Bernard - Michigan Bird Listing Facebook Group

November is known as rare bird month in Michigan. Long-distance migrants take a wrong turn in Albuquerque and end up in Michigan.

Over the past many years my Michigan list has benefitted greatly from November vagrants. The photo below is from November 2018 when a Spotted Redshank turned up, drawing the birding masses to a rural intersection in Washtenaw County.

Below is a list of "good" birds that have been recorded during November during the 21st century. Some of these pass through Michigan on a fairly regular basis, some were long-term lingering birds, and others were truly spectacular vagrants. But they're all decent birds - birds that many of us would love to see and still need for our Michigan's lists.

Which birds from this list will turn up this November? What birds might we add to this November list? Are you hoping for anything in particular? Predictions? Can't wait to find out!

Black-bellied Whistling Duck  
Brant  
Eurasian Wigeon  
King Eider  
Common Eider  
Harlequin Duck  
Barrow's Goldeneye  
Western Grebe  
Common Ground-Dove  
White-winged Dove  
Anna's Hummingbird  
Costa's Hummingbird  
Rufous Hummingbird  
Red Phalarope

Spotted Redshank  
Ancient Murrelet  
Black-headed Gull  
Little Gull  
Laughing Gull  
Franklin's Gull  
California Gull  
Slaty-backed Gull  
Arctic Tern  
Pacific Loon  
Northern Gannet  
Black Vulture  
Short-tailed Hawk  
Swainson's Hawk  
Northern Hawk Owl  
Great Gray Owl  
Boreal Owl  
American Three-toed Woodpecker  
Crested Caracara  
Prairie Falcon  
Say's Phoebe  
Vermilion Flycatcher  
Ash-throated Flycatcher  
Tropical Kingbird  
Couch's Kingbird  
Western Kingbird  
Gray Kingbird  
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher  
Cave Swallow  
Rock Wren  
Sage Thrasher  
Mountain Bluebird  
Townsend's Solitaire  
Varied Thrush  
Eurasian Tree Sparrow  
Cassin's Finch  
Lark Sparrow  
Golden-crowned Sparrow  
Harris's Sparrow  
Sagebrush Sparrow  
Green-tailed Towhee  
Spotted Towhee  
Western Meadowlark  
Lucy's Warbler  
Black-throated Gray Warbler  
Western Tanager  
Painted Bunting



Photo - Rare bird stakeout by Daryl Bernard

# CAAS MEMBERSHIP

Support community programs with your CAAS Membership. Your membership supports programs in our community and monthly meetings Sept. through June.

Memberships run the length of the program year, September to August.

## SEPTEMBER 2023 - AUGUST 2024

### Membership Categories

Individual	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
Contributing	\$30.00
Sustaining	\$50.00
Donor	\$100.00

To sign up and pay online, visit - [capitalareaaudubon.org](http://capitalareaaudubon.org)

If you would like to mail your membership form and payment, please mail to -  
CAAS, PO Box 22065, Lansing, MI 48910

## CALL NOTE

Published monthly  
September through June by the  
Capital Area Audubon Society  
PO Box 22065, Lansing MI 48909.  
Deadline for submissions: 20th of the month.

### 2022-2023 CAAS Officers

President	Kristy Taylor
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### 2022-2023 CAAS Board of Directors

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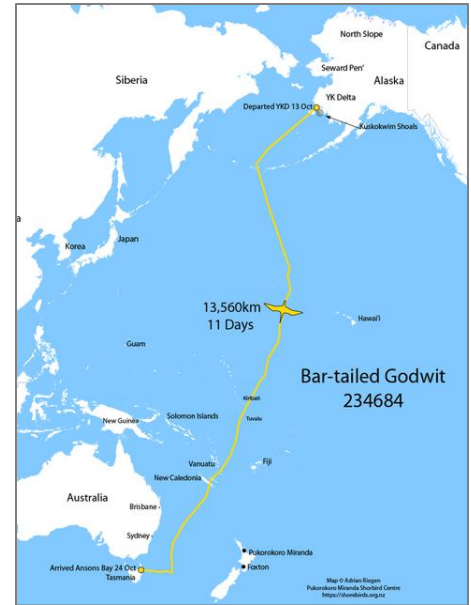
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## RECORD BREAKING GODWIT FLIGHT

Exciting news: A New World Record Godwit Flight!!

Wednesday, October 26th, a juvenile Bar-tailed Godwit, just 5 months old (tagged in Alaska) touched down in Ansons Bay in northeast Tasmania.

This godwit (number 234684) departed from Alaska on October 13, 2022 and certainly looks to have flown non-stop to Tasmania. This will not be the first one to make this flight as godwits are frequent visitors to Tasmania, but it's the first time a tagged bird has flown between Alaska and Tasmania. In the process it flew a minimum of 13,560 km in 11 days 1 hour. The previous long distance record of 13,050 km set by the adult male 4BBRW in 2021 is blown out of the water by this young upstart.



## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT TIME

Each year in the December, birders from all around the country gather to count the birds that over-winter in their communities.

This year the East Lansing Christmas Bird Count will be held on Saturday, December 17th. Participants can join a group near their home or help to record the birds wherever you travel! There are over 75 different count circles in Michigan and hundreds across the country that you can join.

Full lists and a map are available at [www.audubon.org/conservation/join-christmas-bird-count](http://www.audubon.org/conservation/join-christmas-bird-count).

In the December Call Note, we will post the contacts for each count area and ways for new participants to get involved.

Hopefully this year will be a little warmer than 1989, when the low for the count was -2 and the high was only 19 degrees!

Area Leaders are encouraged to email Barb Hosler at [birdingbarb@yahoo.com](mailto:birdingbarb@yahoo.com) with questions and instructions for this year's count.

## FALL BERRIES FOR BIRDS

### National Wildlife Foundation -

Now is the time to start thinking about fall planting in your yard or garden! Many birds such as cardinals, chickadees, bluebirds, robins, cedar waxwings, and mockingbirds are year-round residents or migrate south to your area in winter. By planting native berry producing shrubs or trees you will attract these birds and ensure they have food throughout the winter.

In Eastern states, consider:

\* Winterberry - The attractive bright red fruit of winterberry is eaten by small mammals and many bird species.

\* Beautyberry - The long-lasting fruits provide food for birds and other animals well into the winter months when other food-sources are unavailable.

By providing food, water, cover, places for wildlife to raise their young, and practicing sustainable gardening you are eligible to have your yard recognized as a Certified Wildlife Habitat.

For additional resources, native plant suggestions and information on becoming a certified wildlife habitat, visit <https://www.nwf.org/garden>

