

KRISTY TAYLOR 2021

## Join Us

### AT OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING!

**Thursday, October 6th 7:00pm  
An Evening at the Corey Marsh  
Ecological Research Center!  
4200 E. Herbison Road, Laingsburg, MI**

Join CAAS for an evening at the marsh. Bring a chair and join members as we observe the marsh at sunset. Sandhill Cranes begin staging as waterfowl move in for the night.

Our program will begin with a brief welcome, snacks and beverages.

Dress for the weather, layers and boots or water proof shoes are recommended.

Bring binoculars if you have them. Extra binoculars will be available to borrow during this event and viewing scopes will also be available.

#### **2022-23 Monthly Meeting Dates -**

**Next Month's Call Note will have final details on the full fall program, topics and location. Meetings will be held in person (and available via Zoom when possible). Meetings will start at 7pm.**

**Thursday, November 3, 2022  
Thursday, December 1, 2022  
Thursday January, 5, 2023  
Thursday, February 2, 2023  
Thursday March 2, 2023  
Thursday April 6, 2023  
Thursday May 4, 2023  
Thursday, June 1, at Fenner Nature  
Center - Member Walk and Ice Cream  
Social**

*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

This weekend I spotted my first Junco of the fall. These adorable little birds make me think of a marshmallow dipped in chocolate and also remind me cool temperatures are on the way. Time to bundle up and start to welcome our winter visitors!

This winter the CAAS will be holding in-person meetings at a Lansing area location, but the details are still in progress. With changing Covid guidelines, many meeting places are still navigating new policies, and different staffing procedures. We hope to release our new location very soon and want you to know that our member's comfort, safety, and convenience are at the top of our decision making. If you have a great spot that would work well for our group, please reach out to [caascallnote@gmail.com](mailto:caascallnote@gmail.com)

I am so excited for our programs to begin again. Hearing from local and regional experts about their different areas of expertise is one of my favorite

ways to spend an evening. Next spring we will have the opportunity to learn from two MSU researchers about bird migration and ways that birds can impact human health.

We may also have the chance to participate in making the Lansing Area more sustainable and hopefully a safer place for birds. See page two for details and ways that you can get involved with the Lansing Sustainability planning process.

As always, if you would like to help Capital Area Audubon grow, have a speaker idea or field trip idea, please reach out to the board. We would like to make Capital Area Audubon a larger part of the community and available to anyone who would like to learn more about birds, their habitats and nature here in the Lansing area.

See you Thursday!  
Kristy Taylor  
CAAS Board President



# CAAS BOARD MEMBER UPDATE -

The CAAS members in attendance at our September meeting approved two additional members to our 2022-23 Board. Nick Segersen was included last month, and the bio for new board member Susan Elbin is below. Thank you for your service!

## Nominee Bio - Susan Elbin

Susan Elbin, PhD, is scientist emerita at NYC Audubon, having retired as Director of Conservation and Science in December 2019, where her research focused on urban ecology—conservation of migratory landbirds and migratory and nesting waterbirds. She has been active in the field of avian ecology, within the US and internationally, for more than 40 years. Elbin is a long-term active member of several professional ornithological societies: the Ornithological Council (past Chair), the Waterbird Society (past President), the American Ornithological Society (elected member), and the IUCN Stork, Ibis and Spoonbill Specialist Group (member).

Susan holds an MS degree in Ecology (Pennsylvania State University) and a PhD in Ecology and Evolution (Rutgers University). While adjunct professor at Columbia University, she designed and taught courses in ornithology and migration ecology and has mentored many students over the years.

After her retirement, Susan and her husband, Greg, moved to Grand Ledge, Michigan, to be closer to their daughter Rachel's family. Susan continues her involvement with bird conservation as a member of the Bird Safe Building Alliance and by consulting on bird-friendly building design. Here in Michigan, Susan has participated in USFWS Sandhill Crane surveys and has given guest lectures for Michigan State and Michigan Audubon. She has recently become captivated by a 22+ year-old Turkey Vulture roost off the M100. Susan is keen to share her expertise and passion for birds in support of the Capital Area Audubon Society.

*Thank you for serving on the board Susan!*

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

# LANSING SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

(LANSING) - Thursday, September 22nd, Mayor Andy Schor held an event with Lansing's Sustainability Manager and other officials who are working to make the city more sustainable. Schor announced at the event that the City of Lansing's draft Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) is now available to view and will be open for public comment.

"Climate action and making a positive impact with a comprehensive Sustainability Action Plan is essential in protecting our environment," said Mayor Andy Schor. "Our hope is that with this plan, the community will work together to help implement its goals and strive towards making our city more green and carbon neutral." The SAP was drafted by City sustainability staff, in conjunction with the members of the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Sustainability. Key areas of the comprehensive plan regarding climate change and broad sustainability goals include:

- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy
- Transportation and mobility
- Protection and conservation of water resources
- Land use
- Materials management

"The Sustainability Action Plan represents over a year's worth of work among City staff, local community leaders, citizens and others, and demonstrates our commitment in the fight against climate change," said Lori Welch, Sustainability Manager for the City of Lansing.

Residents and stakeholders will be provided with the opportunity to comment on the plan through both in person and virtual presentations that will take place in the coming weeks. Dates and locations will be announced soon.

Along with the SAP, Lansing has taken several bold steps in the fight against climate change under Schor, such as:

- Creating the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Sustainability
- Hiring the City's first Sustainability Manager to craft the Sustainability Action Plan and manage the goals
- Adopting a municipal action plan
- Passing a climate resolution
- Conducting a citywide and municipal greenhouse gas emissions inventory

- Commissioning an analysis of the ghg inventory for clarity on pathway to emission reductions
- Setting an interim target of 59% reductions by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050

Also highlighted at the event were efforts currently underway to make Lansing more eco-friendly and that have been designed to help save the City money. Many of these efficiencies are being executed through work with Johnson Controls, Inc. Their partnership has made several City-owned facilities more energy efficient and cost effective. Additionally, their work includes citywide interior and exterior lighting, security and IT upgrades, updated emergency management system, replacing some existing heating systems at nine buildings including boilers and pumps, new roofs at five buildings, and the complete remodel of the pedway pedestrian skybridge that connects the Lansing Center to the hotel and parking garage across the river.

"We help cities around the U.S. unlock new possibilities through infrastructure upgrades that create growth, efficiency and cost savings for years to come. That's exactly what we are doing for the City of Lansing," said Charles McGinnis, Vice President of Sales, Sustainable Infrastructure, Johnson Controls. "Through smart infrastructure upgrades at 47 facilities, residents will experience more comfortable and efficient buildings that are both fiscally and environmentally responsible. Congratulations to the leadership of Lansing for embarking on this initiative and its overall sustainable action plan, focused on a greener, more sustainable community."

For more information on Lansing's sustainability initiative and to view the Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) in its entirety, please visit: [lansingmi.gov/sustainability](https://lansingmi.gov/sustainability).

Questions about the SAP and planned public comment sessions can be directed to Lori Welch, Sustainability Manager, at 517-243-5668 or [lori.welch@lansingmi.gov](mailto:lori.welch@lansingmi.gov).

***CAAS Board Member Susan Elbin will be following this planning and commenting on behalf of the CAAS to advocate for birds, and bird habitat. If you would like to help, please reach out to our board.***

# 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
Vice President	Patricia Deventer
Secretary	Nick Segerson
Treasurer	Michael Caterino
Membership	Richard Yarsevich

Editor & Facebook	Kristy Taylor
Publicity & Hospitality	Sandra Conn
Field Trip Coordinator	
Program Coordinator	Patricia Deventer
Historian	Barb Andersen
Website	Sandra Conn

### 2022-2023 CAAS Board of Directors

John Baumgartner  
Michael Caterino  
Sandra Conn  
Patricia Deventer  
Susan Elbin  
Barb Andersen  
Nick Segerson  
Kristy Taylor  
Richard Yarsevich

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## FALL BIRDING IN MICHIGAN

DNR WILDLIFE DIVISION - MI BIRDS

Fall is a magical time, as the rainbow of color emerges across the landscape – and brings birds just as colorful! Waterfowl, waterbirds, shorebirds, songbirds and raptors will begin to pass through Michigan on their way south to their wintering grounds. Michigan lies at the intersection of the Mississippi and Atlantic flyways, two migration “superhighways” that bring more than 380 bird species through the state each fall.

Michigan's coastal and inland wetlands act as important resting and refueling zones for migratory birds; if you want to get in some quality fall birding, these areas are among the best habitats to visit. Wetlands provide birds with water, food and shelter during their long migration journeys, and many birds follow the coastline on their way south.

Whether you're a birding newbie or a seasoned birder, keeping an eye on the weather can help you prepare for your next fall trip. Wind and other weather events can help you predict bird movements. Storms and cold fronts can often result in an awe-inspiring migratory event known as a “fall-out,” when a dense concentration of migratory birds hunkers down in a particular area until poor weather passes. Cold fronts also tend to have northerly winds, which blow north to south, that aid our feathered friends in their southward migration. Regularly check

your weather radar or use BirdCast, a special forecast tool that predicts when birds will be moving near you.

Here's what bird species to expect over the next couple of months:

\* October: Diving ducks, like common goldeneye, long-tailed duck and canvasback arrive this month, along with northern finches, dark-eyed juncos and pine siskins. Northern breeders, such as ruby-crowned and golden-crowned kinglets, American pipits, and horned larks, start to move south.

Sandhill cranes start to migrate in great numbers. Warbler and thrush migration starts to wind down and hawk diversity increases.

Learn about what birds to expect in November by visiting Audubon's website or eBird.org.

Want to see the wonders of bird migration in action, but not sure where to start? Explore the [Michigan.gov/Birding](http://Michigan.gov/Birding) page for information about Michigan's birding trails and migration hot spots.

*MI Birds is a public outreach and engagement program created by Audubon Great Lakes and the DNR, which aims to increase all Michiganders' engagement in the understanding, care and stewardship of public lands that are important for birds and local communities.*

## FALL SANDHILL CRANE VIEWING

On Oct 8th and 9th from noon until dusk, the Kiwanis Club of Battle Creek invites you to witness and celebrate the annual fall migration of thousands of Sandhill Cranes - when these majestic birds leave their favorite feeding fields at dusk and head to Big Marsh Lake for the night.

Dress for the weather, bring a chair and don't forget your binoculars!

Kiwanis Youth Conservation Area is located at 22300 15 Mile Rd, Bellevue MI.

The event will host an Artist Village, Guided Nature Walks, Non-profit Displays, Bird Watching, Food Truck, Live animal presentations and more. Special scheduled events include Michigan Birds of Prey program with

Michigan Avian Experience from 2-3pm, and a Children's activity tent with local orgs and nonprofits from 1-5pm!

Visit the Kiwanis Club of Battle Creek Facebook page for more information.

\$7 weekend parking fee (buses \$1 per person) - a donation toward the education and conservation of this important Michigan habitat.

