



OBCI

OHIO BIRD CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
VOL. 4 ISSUE 1
FALL 2012

OUR MISSION

"Ensuring the conservation and effective management of birds in Ohio by fostering partnerships among governmental agencies, conservation organizations, businesses, and the public"

OUR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Chair: Greg Smith, University of Akron

Vice Chair: Julie Shieldcastle, Black Swamp Bird Observatory

Dave Horn, OSU School of Entomology, Ohio Biological Survey

Mike Reynolds, ODNR Div. of Wildlife

Darlene Sillick, Ohio Bluebird Society

Pete Whan, The Nature Conservancy

Greg Smith Elected as New OBCI chair



At the OBCI Coordinating Council meeting on July 10, 2012, Greg Smith was elected as the new chair of OBCI, replacing long-time chair Paul Rodewald. Greg Smith is a Biologist at the University of Akron and Executive Director of the Ohio Biological Survey.

Greg received a B.S. in Zoology from the University of Florida, an M.S. in Biological Sciences with a minor in Statistics from Mississippi State University, and a Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Oklahoma. His research interests focus on Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Biology. Greg has mentored a number of graduate and undergraduate students and has taught 15 different university-level courses. Greg is married with two children and is a certifiable geek.

Outreach and Education Committee Restarting

Recently appointed Outreach and Education Committee chair Darlene Sillick is working to rebuild the committee with representatives from a variety of conservation organizations across Ohio. The goals of the committee include:

- Promote and coordinate statewide participation in International Migratory Bird Day
- Advise Coordinating Council on opportunities for public outreach related to birds
- Seek out and coordinate efforts with communication and outreach teams working in other states
- Increase opportunities for students to be involved in outreach, research, and other bird-related activities
- Coordinate formation of a bird trail system throughout Ohio
- Compile and distribute information on bird-based recreation within Ohio

In this Issue

New OBCI Chair	Page 1
Outreach Committee	Page 1
Current Projects	Page 2
Upcoming OBCI Events	Page 2
Conferences	Page 3
Grant Opportunity	Page 3
Focus on Our Partners	Page 3

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Program Coordinator Amanda Conover at (614) 432-8489 or obcicoordinator@gmail.com

Upcoming OBCI Events

Feeding Station Installation

Sept 23, 2012, 1pm
Berwick Elem. School
Columbus, OH
To volunteer:
obcicoordinator@gmail.com

Lights Out Columbus Monitoring Program Results Presentations

Sept 24, 2012, 7pm
Delaware Bird Club
OWU Science Bldg, Rm 169

and

Sept 25, 2012, 7pm
Columbus Audubon Meeting
Grange Insurance Audubon Center

OBCI Conservation Planning and Research Committee Meeting

Sept 26, 2012
Division of Wildlife, District 1 Headquarters
1500 Dublin Rd, Columbus

Check our website soon for scheduling information on these other upcoming OBCI events:

Outreach and Education Committee Meeting

American Kestrel nestbox building workshop

Tree planting at O'Shaughnessy Reservoir

Current Projects

Just some of the exciting new initiatives OBCI is working on!

Lights Out Columbus Monitoring Program Report

Data collected as part of the Lights Out Columbus Monitoring Program for Spring 2012 has been analyzed and is presented in The Lights Out Columbus Monitoring Program Report. A total of 70 birds of 22 species were collected from within downtown Columbus during the study period. Our study found a significant relationship between the number of dead birds found at a building and the nighttime light index of the building. Light index values incorporated illumination percentage and building height.



Bird Feeding Station Installation

OBCI and the Ohio Young Birders Club, Central Ohio Chapter, will be donating and installing a bird feeding station at Berwick Alternative Elementary School in Columbus.

The feeding station will help to connect students with nature, and will be incorporated into school curriculum in courses such as math and art. OYBC had previously secured funding for the project from The North Face Foundation. Tom Sheley of Wild Birds Unlimited Columbus donated two feeders for the project, and also generously offered his technical expertise on feeding station design. The station will be installed by the Ohio Young Birders on September 23, 2012.



Young birders installing a feeding station at Indianola School in October 2010.

Ohio Conferences

Ohio Ornithological Society Annual Conference

September 28-30, 2012
Lakeside, OH
Registration Info: ohiobirds.org

EcoSummit 2012

Sept 30-Oct 5, 2012
Columbus, OH
More info: www.ecosummit2012.org
*Volunteer and get 4 hours of
conference admission!*

Grant Opportunity

Joint Venture Flex Fund: Improving the Science Foundation for Bird Conservation

This grant funds projects in the Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Joint Venture region that promote monitoring and applied research that improves JV conservation decision tools at larger scales.

More Information:
<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=123314>

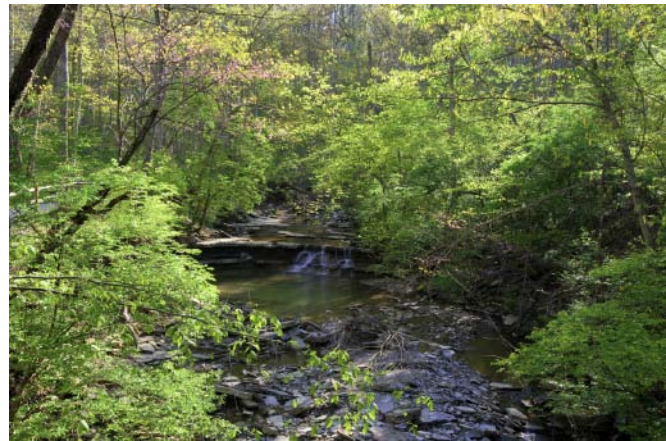
Contact Us:

Phone: (614) 432-8489
Email: obcicoordinator@gmail.com
Website: www.obcinet.org



Find us on Facebook for OBCI updates,
photos, and fun bird-related posts!

Focus on our Partners: Cincinnati Nature Center



Cincinnati Nature Center is nonprofit member supported environmental organization whose mission is to enrich lives by inspiring passion for nature through experience, education and stewardship. Since its founding in 1965, CNC has been focusing on preserving and enhancing natural habitats and educating our community. Our 20 miles of award-winning trails wind through the region's eastern deciduous forest, fields, streams and ponds including 65 acres of old growth forest. CNC offers two convenient locations to hike and explore; Rowe Woods in Milford, Ohio, spans 1,025 acres and Long Branch Farm & Trails, located in Goshen, Ohio, consist of almost 600 acres of forest and farmland.

Cincinnati Nature Center offers educational opportunities for visitors of all ages. For adults we offer NatureVersity which includes continuing education focusing on four tracks: Natural History and Sustainability, Nature Mentoring, Artistic Expression and Health and Wellness. CNC offers family programs including: Preparing for Night, Sweet Maple Days, Full Moon Walks, Creek Romps, overnight programs and more. But engaging children in nature is at the core of our foundation. CNC offers many opportunities including; a fully licensed nature preschool, a variety of summer camps, children Saturday programs and the Marge & Charles Schott Nature PlayScape. This innovative 2.5 acres Nature PlayScape engages children in unstructured play by providing hands-on creative experiences in nature. Visit Cincinnati Nature Center and discover all it offers!

Would you like your organization to be our next featured partner, or do you have an item that you would like to be included in our next quarterly newsletter? Please email obcicoordinator@gmail.com. Photos are welcome, but not required.