

Wisconsin Stopover Initiative

Helping Migratory Birds In Backyards and Communities

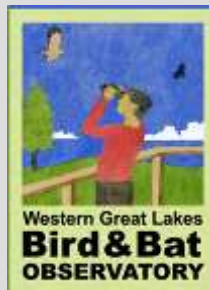
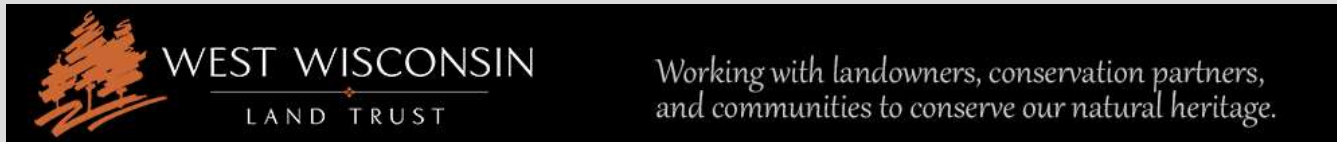
Kim Grveles

Wisconsin Stopover Initiative
Department of Natural Resources

WBCI Annual Meeting
March 20, 2015
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin



Acknowledgements



www.wisconsinbirds.org/Migratory/



www.wisconsinbirds.org/migratory

Why are backyards important for Migratory Birds?



Robert Kuhn



Grosbeaks Galore

May 9, 2015
Two Rivers, WI



Photos Courtesy: Kate Redmond











What Can You Do?

Plant Native Plants

Become a Master Gardener or Naturalist

Build a brush pile

Talk to your neighbors

Keep Cats Indoors

Volunteer at a local park

DONATE – Bird Protection Fund

WWW.WISCONSERVATION.ORG



WISCONSIN STOPOVER INITIATIVE

A partnership comprised of local, state, and federal agencies, private organizations, businesses, and individuals ... working together to protect, conserve, and enhance the habitats used by birds migrating through the Great Lakes.



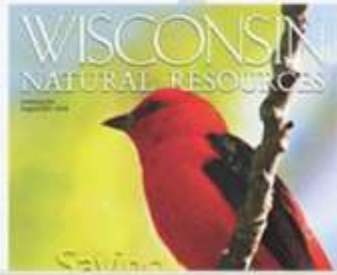
Dunes and grassy beaches offer protection to birds
Harrington Beach State Park, photo by Summer Matteson



Greenbeaks Galore!
 How to Donate to Save An Migratory Bird and/or Habitat
Forest Beach Migratory Preserve
 4000 Forest Beach Drive, 49740 Forest Beach State Park
 Holland, Wisconsin
 Thursday, November 8, 2012 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
 Reserve Space: 40 Group Tables, tables of varying sizes
 (Sponsored by Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Nature Center for Children)

Space does not make a good location
 We will pay off \$50 for migratory birds
 100% of remaining proceeds
 will go to the Wisconsin Nature Center

There is only 50 - 60 tables
 available
 and a lot of other people
 are interested in donating



Bird Protection Fund
 Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin
Taking action now to enjoy birds always.
 Please donate to protect migratory birds



Bird City Wisconsin (BCW)



Dr. Bryan Lenz, Director
(birdcitywisconsin@gmail.com)

Bird City Model

- 7+ of 22 criteria across 5 categories:
 - Habitat creation & protection
 - Community forest management
 - Limiting/removing threats
 - Public education
 - International Migratory Bird Day



- High Flyers: Brown County, Evansville, Green Bay, LaCrosse, Manitowish Waters (Town of), Mequon, Milwaukee, Muskego, Newburg, Oconto, Oshkosh, Ozaukee County, Stevens Point, Wausau

Bird City Stats

- 89 communities:
 - 2.48 million residents (43.3%)
 - Land area 2,175 mi² (7.7%)
 - Water area 3,480 mi² (31.3%)



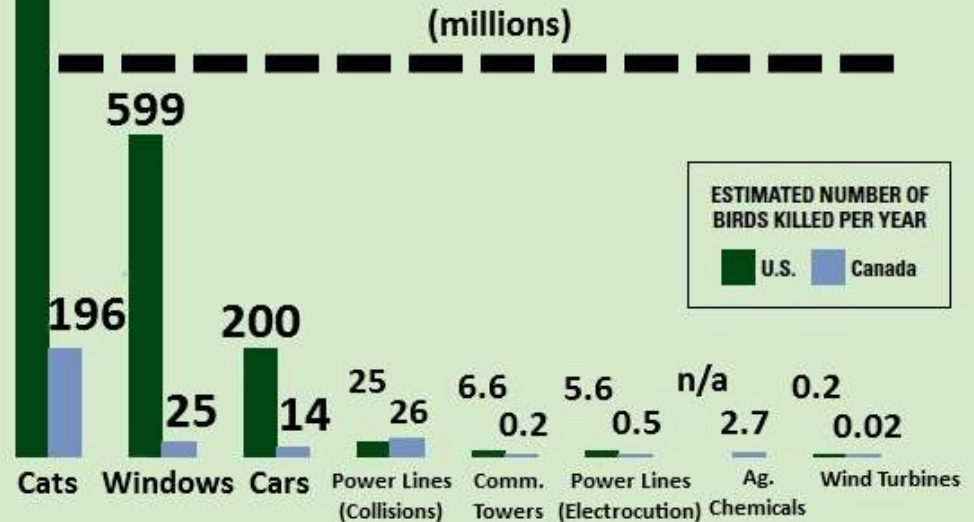
Threats to Urban Birds

2.4 BILLION!!!

2.4 billion

Drivers of Bird Declines (Excluding Habitat Loss)

(Based on Loss SR, Will T, Marra PP (in prep),
modified by BB Lenz)



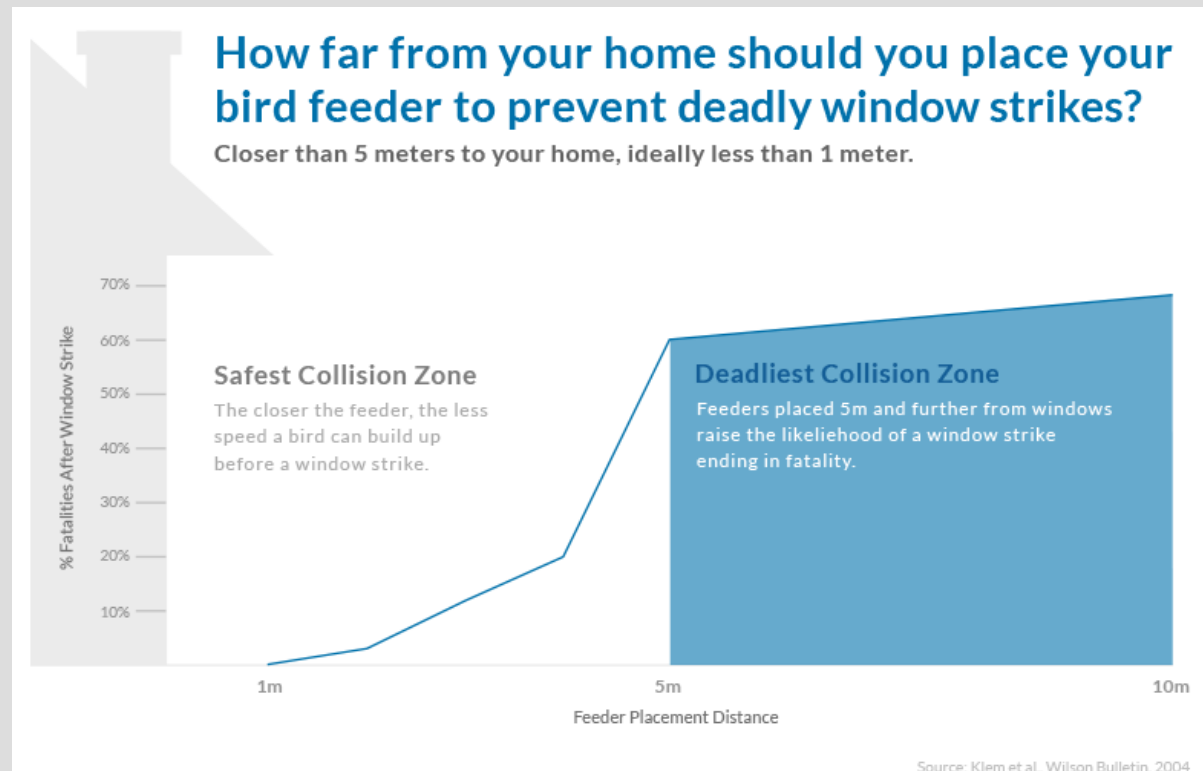
Cats

- Keep cats inside
- Don't feed feral cats
- Support programs that eliminate feral cats
- TNR does not work
- ABC's "Cats Indoors!" & more at www.birdcitywisconsin.org under Best Practices



Window Strikes

- Hawk decals do not work
- ABC's Bird Tape (<http://abcbirdtape.org>)
- Nets/screens
- Paint
- Fritted & UV glass
- Feeder placement



NOTE: Don't use HKS Sports & Entertainment Group

Backyard Habitat

- Native plants, leave dead trees & leaves
 - Insects
 - Edible fruit & seeds
 - Evergreens
- **NO CATS!!**



Yard Map (Cornell)

- Online: content.yardmap.org/about-us/
- Citizen science with your yard
- Improve habitat & knowledge
- Network



Green Rooftops

- Many kinds
- Green rooftops have higher bird & insect diversity
- Energy efficiency, storm water
- Also for the birds!



Conclusions

Reduce threats

If you build it, they will come

For further information on these topics and more please see www.birdcitywisconsin.org or email me at birdcitywisconsin@gmail.com