

Rose hips look — and taste — good

Although roses, genus *Rosa*, are grown primarily for their flowers, the fruits are both visually attractive and tasty.

The fruits are known as hips (“hyps” may be more appropriate since the technical name of the fruit is a hypanthium) and are usually bright red and sometimes orange.

The fruits are high in vitamin C and are used to make tea, preserves, and herbal remedies. Birds don’t seem to care when they are hungry in mid- to late winter.

Native species roses should only be considered since non-native species can be terribly invasive (multiflora or Japanese rose, for example). Check out your native plant references for names of native roses.



The birder's garden

pears in their landscape. Fruiting pears (Bartlett, or Asian) are not the issue. Their fruits are large and are consumed primarily by humans (except in my garden where they are consumed by both deer and raccoons).

The nasty, or should I say vicious, pears are the Callery pears (*Pyrus calleryana*). Unfortunately, birds love the small fruits and scatter the seeds via their droppings everywhere!

The Bradford ornamental pears and other cultivars are incredibly invasive and show up in large numbers where either the species or cultivars are grown.

Even though the trees are beautiful in flower, leaf, and fall color, **DON'T PLANT THEM!** They are so invasive that the Ohio Department of Agriculture has banned their production and sale starting about two years from now.

Next time we'll discuss more herbaceous and woody species loved by birds. Stay tuned!

— **Dick Munson, Conservation Chair**

Lions and tigers and pears, oh my!

I list pears only to warn gardeners not to plant some

Changes are coming to your Audubon newsletter

Thanks!

I appreciate you all, AMV!

Thanks to all of the Audubon Miami Valley officers and board members who have supported this newsletter since I began with it in 2007.

And special thanks to all the chapter members, readers and contributors to the newsletter over the years.

I know you'll keep up the great Audubon work you do!!

Thanks!

— **Judi Hetrick**

Help!

Newsletter editor needed

Audubon Miami Valley needs to find someone who is willing to volunteer to be an editor for our newsletter that comes out 3 times a year. Judi Hetrick has been the wonderful editor for almost as long as most of us can remember. Now, she and her husband have bought a home in North Carolina and are planning to move after this school year. We wish them the very best.

AMV is planning a shorter printed

newsletter with more information and colored pictures on our website AMVOHIO.ORG. All the meetings and field trips are listed on our website with the dates, times, locations and expanded information about the event so the information is always available. The website also has old newsletters, and links on the right-hand side of the home page with other websites of interest. Don't forget that Audubon Miami Valley had a Facebook and Instagram page.

— **Linda Williams,**
AMV president

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2018 CALENDAR

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 7:30 P.M.

eBird - What Does It Mean to You?

Brian Wulker, Fernald Preserve, Harrison, Ohio

2nd Floor Community Room, Lebanon Citizens National Bank, 30 Park Place West

Launched in 2002 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society, eBird gathers basic data on bird abundance and distribution.

More than 330,000 unique users have submitted to it more than 26 million checklists, more than 366 million observations, and data for more than 10,300 species.

Brian Wulker is an environmental

scientist with both B.S. and M.S. degrees from Morehead State University. He works for Navarro Research and Engineering at the Fernald Preserve.

He also volunteers as an eBird regional editor for Ohio and northern Kentucky to review bird records and maintain data quality in eBird.

Bring your cell phone or tablet to the meeting.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 9 A.M.-2 P.M.

2018 Hike-a-thon

Miami University Natural Areas

Rain or shine, this is the day to learn, discover, and explore the 17 miles of trails that traverse the 1,000 acres of the Miami University Natural Areas with over 20 Hike-a-thon partners.

Open to all campus and community plus four-legged friends on leash.



OUR MISSION

Audubon Miami Valley works to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.

The Audubon Miami Valley newsletter is published three times a year. Judi Hetrick is editor. John Blocher is proofreader. Caitlin Stone designed the Meadowlark logo. The newsletter is printed by Letterman Printing in Oxford on 100% recycled paper.

Deadline for the autumn 2018 issue is July 15. Send contributions to jhetrick@amvohio.org or to Newsletter, P.O. Box 556, Oxford, Ohio 45056

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SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22

Talawanda Trails

When Talawanda High School was

constructed, 97 acres were set aside as forest, wetland, and prairie for field studies and recreation.

Our leader in this remarkable preserve will be Adriane C. Ruther, Sustainability Initiative Coordinator at Talawanda.

Trails could be swampy, so wear appropriate footwear. We'll meet at the high school at 8:30 a.m.



MONDAY OCTOBER 8, 7:30 P.M.

Of Fire, Bison ... and Voles

Amy Sullivan, Miami University

2nd Floor Community Room, Lebanon Citizens National Bank

Tallgrass prairie is one of North America's most endangered ecosystems: only about 2 percent remains, mostly in small disconnected patches.

We will explore how fire and bison shaped intact tallgrass prairie ecosystems, and how the flora and fauna of modern remnants and restorations are shaped by mammalian herbivores of a different sort: voles.

Amy Sullivan is a visiting assistant professor with Project Dragonfly at Miami University.

SUNDAY OCT. 14

Spring Valley Wildlife Area

Spring Valley Wildlife Area is in the gently rolling agricultural region of southwest Ohio just east of the Little Miami River.

This 842-acre preserve contains a wonderful variety of habitats and its bird list features more than 230 species.

Expert naturalist Sam Fitton will lead this trip.

We will leave at 7:30 a.m. from the TJ Maxx parking lot (on Locust Street across from McDonald's) and return to in the afternoon. Pack a lunch if desired.



NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2018 CALENDAR

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10

East Fork State Park Lake Area

East Fork in Clermont County is one of Ohio's largest state parks. Harsha Lake nurtures water birds of all kinds. East Fork's landscape diversity — dry-forested hills, rocky cascades, abandoned farmlands, thickly grown floodplains, marshy grasslands and swamp forests — leads to an abundance of plant and animal life.



David Taylor, park naturalist, will lead us. The trip will leave at 7:30 a.m. from the TJ Maxx parking lot (on Locust Street across from McDonald's), returning by late afternoon. Bring a lunch and binoculars.

THE HEFNER LECTURE, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 15, 7 P.M.

How to Tame a Fox and Build a Dog

Benton Hall 102, Oxford campus

Dr. Lee Dugatkin will present "How to Tame a Fox and Build a Dog" the story of an experiment in evolution that reveals steps in the domestication of dogs and resulted in foxes that crave human companionship,

Dugatkin is an acclaimed speaker, evolutionary and behavioral biologist, and historian from The University of Louisville.



Lee Dugatkin

SATURDAY DECEMBER 8

Brookville Lake Area

Ornithologist Dr. David Russell will again lead us on a birding tour of the Brookville Reservoir area between Liberty and Brookville, Indiana.

We'll look for migrating ducks, geese, gulls, sandhill cranes and other species.

The group will meet at 7:30 a.m. at the west end of the Walmart parking lot (on U.S. 27, north of Oxford). Pack food and binoculars if desired.



SATURDAY DECEMBER 15

Christmas Bird Count

Counters should gather at 7 a.m. at the Miami University Ecology Research Center on Somerville Road for the Christmas Bird Count.

Dress warmly and wear boots for walking. Wear a bright jacket and bring binoculars if possible.

Bring your own table service and a covered dish to share for lunch.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 12, 7:30 P.M.

Feeding Birds with Native Plants

Tara Poling, Marianist Environmental Education Center, Dayton, Ohio

2nd Floor Community Room, Lebanon Citizens National Bank

The Marianist Education Center at Mount Saint John sees native plants as one of the anchors in its mission to restore communities of land and people.

It collaborates with Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning each year to host the Midwest Native Plant Society's conference.

The center's Its citizen science projects have included a bee count, a feederwatch, and butterfly monitoring.

MONDAY DECEMBER 10

Hiking and Birding Costa Rica

This presentation will focus on Marlene Hoffman and Kathie Brinkman's recent travels in Costa Rica with the Sierra Club, a trip heavy on hiking, birding and ecology.

They have lots of photos to share from the trip. Some of the birds just about posed for them!

Marlene Hoffman was raised on a farm north of Oxford where she developed her love of birds and nature. Joining the local Audubon chapter and birding with the "experts" allowed that interest to grow.

Marlene retired from a nursing career at McCullough Hyde hospital and now has time to pursue outdoor hobbies. She was Oxford's Citizen of the Year in 2017.

Kathie Brinkman has been an Oxford resident for 59 years. Thirty-four of those years were focused on her career at Miami in computer support services. In retirement, she's been able to return to her passions: family, photography, gardening and travel.



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