WHO WE ARE

Audubon New York is the state’s leading voice for the conservation and protection of natural resources for birds. Integrating science, conservation, policy and education, Audubon’s mission is 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. With 50,000 members and 27 affiliated chapters state-wide, Audubon New York oversees seven sanctuaries and centers, from Long Island to western New York, and protects priority habitats including 130 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) identified as critical for the conservation of birds.

Audubon’s strategic plan, *A Roadmap for Hemispheric Conservation 2012-2015*, renews and strengthens our commitment to conserve and restore natural ecosystems by focusing on birds. The plan targets five conservation strategies:

- Putting Working Lands to Work for Birds & People
- Sharing Our Seas & Shores
- Saving Important Bird Areas (IBAs)
- Shaping a Healthy Climate & Clean Energy Future
- Creating Bird-Friendly Communities

There are unprecedented environmental challenges for New York’s birds and their habitats. Audubon New York’s strategic priorities support a healthy, sustainable future for birds, wildlife, and communities along the Atlantic Flyway.

WHY BIRDS MATTER

**When birds thrive, people thrive.** Scientists recognize birds as an “indicator” species, sentinels of the overall health and balance of our ecosystems. When that balance is challenged, birds are often the first to show the effects. When bird populations thrive, so do the ecosystems that people depend upon for a healthy quality of life.

Birds connect us to nature in unique ways. Birds are readily accessible everywhere and require no equipment or specialized knowledge to enjoy. People of all ages and backgrounds can enjoy the pleasures of bird watching in urban, suburban, and rural areas, connecting us to the natural world in a tangible way.

**Birds matter.** The Earth’s biological diversity rests in our hands. Birds, other wildlife, and their habitats are an integral part of the delicate ecological balance that supports all living beings, including humans. Each species relies on a natural ecological pattern for survival and disruptions can have devastating effects. Today’s abundant resources, technologies, and innovations bring with them the long-term environmental responsibility to protect, conserve, and restore ecosystems for the benefit of all; including humans, birds, wildlife and native vegetation.
**Birds mean business.** New York State’s economic growth, diversity, and stability rely on the services provided by our natural resources, including recreation and tourism, farming and agribusiness, forest products, and clean water. In particular, bird watching is the fastest growing outdoor recreation in New York and across the country, with an estimated 4 million bird and wildlife watchers generating $4.2 billion in ecotourism revenue in New York alone.* This symbiotic relationship means that what’s good for birds can be very good for the economy. Audubon New York’s role is to increase awareness and action among landowners, government representatives, and communities to understand, plan for, and support this beneficial relationship.

**HOW AUDUBON MAKES A DIFFERENCE**

Audubon New York’s network is structured to create a roadmap for conservation at scale across New York State and within the Atlantic Flyway. More than 30 science, conservation, and education staff are located at offices and centers from Long Island to Central New York, working with Audubon chapters and volunteers stretching from the Great Lakes to the Adirondacks to the Hudson Valley and down to Long Island to protect and conserve vital habitats that support birds and other wildlife throughout their entire lifecycle.

Where we are:

**State Headquarters:** Frear Building, Historic Downtown Troy, NY

**Conservation and Science Office:** Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY

**Education, Events and Development Office:** New York, NY

**Conservation, Education and Community Outreach:**
  - Buttercup Farm Audubon Sanctuary, Stanfordville, NY (640 acres)
  - Constitution Marsh Audubon Center & Sanctuary, Cold Spring, NY (270 acres)
  - Montezuma Audubon Center, Savannah, NY (198 acres)
  - Prospect Park Audubon Center, Brooklyn, NY (partner owned)
  - Rheinstrom Hill Audubon Center, Craryville, NY (1,100 acres)
  - RamsHorn-Livingston Audubon Sanctuary, Catskill, NY (430 acres)
  - Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary & Audubon Center, Oyster Bay, NY (12 acres)

Visit our website at ny.audubon.org/audubon-locations for complete center and sanctuary information.

**Leadership:** In addition to Executive Director Erin Crotty and Board Chair Virginia Stowe, Audubon New York’s strategic leadership includes a nearly 30-member State Board of Directors. Comprised of conservation minded executives, philanthropists, and birders from across the state, the State Board of Directors works side-by-side with Center Advisory Councils and a Stewardship Council to achieve conservation at scale within New York State.

**Chapters:** The strong chapter network is at the heart of Audubon New York’s grassroots conservation efforts and exemplifies the strength of bringing partners together to achieve dramatic results. A complete list of the 27 chapters across New York can be found at the Audubon New York website at ny.audubon.org.

*According to 2011 USFWS’s survey on Hunting, Fishing and Wildlife Associated Recreation*