

WINNEBAGO COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT & SUNNYVIEW EXPO CENTER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Veterans Day

Federal Holiday

Veterans Day is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans, that is, persons who have served in the United States Armed Forces. It coincides with other holidays including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day which are celebrated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major U.S. veteran organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans

Day in 1954.

History of Veterans Day

World War I – known at the time as "The Great War" - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is



Soldiers of the 353rd Infantry near a church at Stenay, Meuse in France, wait for the end of hostilities. This photo was taken at 10:58 a.m., on November 11, 1918, two minutes before the armistice ending World War I went into effect

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Winnebago County Parks Dept. 625 E. Cty. Rd. Y #500, Oshkosh WI 54901 (920)232-1960

www.co.winnebago.wi.us/parks

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Schedule of Events

SUNNYVIEW EXPO CENTER

November 2—4H Pizza Making

November 7—OPD EVOC Training



November 13—K9 Law Enforcement Exercise

November 16 & 30—Private parties

November 22—Corrections Officer Training Mondays & Thursdays—Strong Bones Classes



WINNEBAGO COUNTY COMMUNITY PARK

The Snell Road entrance to the Park closes for the season on November 30. Restrooms have already closed. A port o potty remains in the dog park parking lot for use by all park patrons.

Check the info line 920-232-1960 for general condition of trails and info on when horses are allowed. For Open/Close of Waukau Dam Bike Trail @WaukauDamBikeTrail on Facebook



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Spotlight On

North America Has Lost More Than 1 in 4 Birds in Last 50 Years, New Study Says

For the first time, researchers have estimated the volume of total avian loss in the Western Hemisphere—and it's not just threatened species that are declining. Many backyard favorites are also losing ground.

Almost anywhere you go, you can find birds. They scurry through the waves on every beach, sing as they wing over every prairie, raise chicks in nests in every wood, and visit every backyard. But while birds remain everywhere, people are actually seeing far fewer of them than just 50 years ago, according to a new study. It estimates that North America is home to nearly three billion fewer birds today compared to 1970—that's more than 1 in 4 birds that have disappeared from the landscape in a mere half a century.

"This was an astounding result, even to us," says lead author and Cornell Lab of Ornithology conservation scientist Ken Rosenberg.

The study, published today in the journal *Science*, marks the first time experts have tried to estimate sheer numbers of avian losses in the Western Hemisphere. Typically, conservation studies focus on a specific species, habitat, region, or type of threat. By taking a higher-level view, the study highlights that

many birds we still consider common, ranging from Baltimore Orioles to Dark-eyed Juncos to Barn Swallows, are actually posting heavy population losses over time.

Altogether, the research team-which included collaborators at the American Bird Conservancy, Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, U.S. Geological Survey, the Canadian Wildlife Service, and other institutions—analyzed the breeding population of 529 species by pooling data from the North American Breeding Bird Survey, Audubon's Christmas Bird Count, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service waterfowl survevs. and 10 other datasets. They also analyzed more recent data collected by weather radar technology that can track large groups of birds as they migrate to estimate their numbers.

The weather radars indicated a 14 percent decrease in nocturnal spring-migrating birds in the last decade alone, helping the authors to verify the longerterm survey trends—especially for those breeding in remote northern habitats that aren't as well monitored. Using models that incorporated all the data, they estimated the net number of birds lost over time, across various habitats and bird

groupings.

Bringing so many different datasets together is tricky work, says Nicole Michel, senior quantitative ecologist at the National Audubon Society, who was not an author of the study but provided some underlying data. The authors had to account for differences in collection methods, location, species elusiveness, and even the attentiveness of the data collectors themselves. Even with this detailed approach, the study didn't capture every North American species, and declines of each individual species included have varying uncertainty ranges, based on data available. Sea and shorebird data proved particularly limited, says Rosenberg, and many elusive birds had to be left out entirely.

Despite these gaps, the overall picture is clear, especially because the radar and survey data tell the same story of losses, Michel says. "Unfortunately for the birds, I think we can be very confident in these results," she says. Scott Loss, an Oklahoma State University ecologist not directly involved in the study, agreed: "We know birds are in decline, but this is a really sobering picture of that decline," he says.

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Holiday Wonders Shopping Expo & Craft Fair Saturday, November 9th 10 am - 4 pm

Sunnyview Expo Center 500 E County Road Y Oshkosh, WI

FREE Admission

FREE Goodie Bag with Purchase

Toy Drive

Our 12th annual Holiday Wonders Shopping Expo & Craft Fair is a can't miss event. The best event yet for vendors and shop-

pers alike.

Start your holiday shopping early by attending the admission free Holiday Wonders Shopping Expo & Craft Fair on Saturday, November 11th from 10 am to 4 pm at the Sunnyview Expo Center on the Winnebago County Fairgrounds in Oshkosh.

You'll browse and shop over 125 vendors selling a wide variety of unique and wonderful items for those hard to buy for people including custom decorations, artisan glass, designer purses and jewelry. And don't worry if you work up an appetite, the kitchen is open along with many vendors selling very tasty goodies.

To make your shopping experience even better, pick up a Show Directory for a suggested \$1 donation to Toys for Tots. The Show Directory

tory contains the booth layout and vendor listing along with ads for many of the vendors participating in the show. Plus...Receive a complimentary goodie bag with a purchase from any vendor at the show (while supplies last).

To help make Christmas morning special for all children in NE Wisconsin we're also raising money for Toys for Tots. Drop off any new, unwrapped toy. Cash donations are also welcome.

Please visit www.landkproductions.com for

more information







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<u>@vinesandrushes</u> is the Facebook page to like for all your fine wine, wood fire baked pizza, hard cider and entertainment needs.

Nov.1 Live Music featuring Noah John Duo Fri 5:30 PM ·

NOV 2 Live Music featuring Adria Ramos Sat 2 PM ·

NOV 4 Cause of the Mondays - Green Lake County Reads

Mon 4 PM

NOV 8 Live Music featuring Ellis M. Brown

Fri 5:30 PM

NOV 9 Live Music featuring KaRoMa Jazz T

Sat. 2 PM





The Historic Winnebago County Fairgrounds Arch Project fund





MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE AND SEND TO:

Oshkosh Area Community Foundation • 230 Ohio Street, Suite 100 • Oshkosh, WI 54902

Phone: (920)426-3993 • Fax: (920)426-6997 •

Email:info@oshkoshareacf.org

ALL donations welcome! Buy a brick program also coming soon.



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As expected, the study showed that birds that breed in an conservation scientist at at-risk habitats such as grasslands and the Arctic tundra are declining drastically. Grasslands in particular posted the biggest losses, with more than 700 million breeding individuals lost across 31 species since 1970, a more than 50 percent decline (see habitat breakdown below).

Far more surprising were farreaching declines across habitats and bird types, says Michel. About 90 percent of the missing birds came from 12 distinct and widespread bird families, including warblers, sparrows, blackbirds, and finches. Common birds found in many different habitats—even introduced, ubiquitous species like European Starlings—experienced some of the steepest drops. Feeder birds like the Dark-eyed Junco declined by nearly 170 million individuals, the study's models estimated, while Whitethroated Sparrows dropped by more than 90 million.

Grasslands in particular posted the biggest losses, with more than 700 million breeding individuals lost across 31 species since 1970.

There isn't one single factor that can account for these pervasive losses, says Rosenberg. Habitat loss is likely an important driver in some biomes, but can't explain the widespread declines on its

own, says Arvind Panjabi, avi-Bird Conservancy of the Rockies and a study co-author. Multiple, complex environmental factors including pesticide use, insect declines, and climate change, as well as direct threats like outdoor cats and glass skyscrapers, are also hitting birds from a range of angles. For migratory species, long journeys and changes to winter habitats could pose additional challenges. The study itself doesn't look at causes. but the results point to how human influence over the last 50 years has chipped away at bird populations, says Michel.

"My hope is that this will spawn a greater awareness that we really need to take care of our environment." Panjabi says. "In order to prevent another third of our birds disappearing before too long, we need to change how we do things." Kevin Gaston, an ecologist at the University of Exeter not involved in the work, said such a possibility should concern everyone: "We're undermining the role that these organisms have in structuring landscapes, in providing ecosystem goods and services and benefits," he says.

But while the results are troubling, there is some good news. Not all birds declined and some species even showed steady gains over time. Waterfowl as a group, for example, saw a population increase of 34

million individuals since 1970. thanks largely to wetland conservation efforts. Raptors, such as the Bald Eagle, also fared better with a gain of 15 million individuals thanks largely to a ban on DDT in 1972. The numbers show that taking steps like wildlife management, habitat restoration, and political action can be effective to save species in steep decline.

The study serves, in many ways, as a wake-up call. By making the dramatic losses concrete, Rosenberg hopes people will be jolted into action. Today, Cornell and its partners (which includes the National Audubon Society) launched the website 3BillionBirds.org to share the findings and promote bird-saving solutions, including seven steps that anyone can take in their own lives.

"The takeaways are that this is disturbing and that we need to do something soon," Michel says. "But we're seeing wonderful reasons for hope as well.

To read the entire study—

https://science.sciencemag.org/ content/366/6461/120



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Not only do you have the chance to win \$1,000 four times a day at 8am, 11am, 2pm and 4pm on 96.9 The Fox, you have a chance to win your way in to our Holidaze Party!!

That's right, listen to win your invite to our party where you can win a trip, electronics, autographed artist memorabilia, a Chula Vista family getaway and more. We'll even wrap up the party with live music from FOX artist Federal Empire! It all goes down at Headliners in

Neenah on December 12th. Get more information at FOX969.com.







This and that...



Technically you are always looking at your nose, but your brain just chooses to ignore it. Otherwise life could get pretty annoying.

Good to know.

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November 5, 6 - Taurids Meteor Shower. The Taurids is a long-running minor meteor shower producing only about 5-10 meteors per hour. It is unusual in that it consists of two separate streams. The first is produced by dust grains left behind by Asteroid 2004 TG10. The second stream is produced by debris left behind by Comet 2P Encke. The shower runs annually from September 7 to December 10. It peaks this year on the night of November 5. The first quarter moon will set shortly after midnight leaving dark skies for viewing. Best viewing will be just after midnight from a dark location far away from city lights. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Taurus, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

November 11 - Rare Transit of Mercury Across the Sun. The planet Mercury will move directly between the Earth and the Sun. Viewers with telescopes and approved solar filters will be able to observe the dark disk of the planet Mercury moving across the face of the Sun. This is an extremely rare event that occurs only once every few years. The next transit of Mercury will not take place until 2039. This transit will be visible throughout all of South America and Central America, and parts of North America, Mexico, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. The best place to view this event in its entirety will be the eastern United States, Central America, and South America. (Transit Visibility Map and Information)

November 12 - Full Moon. The Moon will be located on the opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be fully illuminated. This phase occurs at 13:36 UTC. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Beaver Moon because this was the time of year to set the

beaver traps before the swamps and rivers froze. It has also been known as the Frosty Moon and the Hunter's Moon.

November 17, 18 - Leonids Meteor Shower. The Leonids is an average shower, producing up to 15 meteors per hour at its peak. This shower is unique in that it has a cyclonic peak about every 33 years where hundreds of meteors per hour can be seen. That last of these occurred in 2001. The Leonids is produced by dust grains left behind by comet Tempel-Tuttle, which was discovered in 1865. The shower runs annually from November 6-30. It peaks this year on the night of the 17th and morning of the 18th. The second quarter moon will block many of the fainter meteors this year, but if you are patient you should be able to catch quite a few of the brightest ones. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Leo, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

November 24 - Conjunction of Venus and Jupiter. A conjunction of Venus and Jupiter will be visible on November 24. The two bright planets will be visible within 1.4 degrees of each other in the evening sky. Look for this impressive sight in the western sky just after sunset.

November 26 - New Moon. The Moon will be located on the same side of the Earth as the Sun and will not be visible in the night sky. This phase occurs at 15:06 UTC. This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.

November 28 - Mercury at Greatest Western Elongation. The planet Mercury reaches greatest western elongation of 20.1 degrees from the Sun. This is the best time to view Mercury since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the morning sky. Look for the planet low in the eastern sky just before sunrise.

http://www.seasky.org/astronomy/astronomy-calendar-2019.html

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Thank You!

generally regarded as the war to end all wars."

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11:00 a.m.

The United States Congress officially recognized the end of World War I when it passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926, with these words:

Whereas the 11th of November 1918, marked the cessation of the most destructive, sanguinary, and far reaching war in human annals and the resumption by the people of the United States of peaceful relations with other nations, which we hope may never again be severed, and

Whereas it is fitting that the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and

prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations; and

Whereas the legislatures of twenty-seven of our States have already declared November 11 to be a legal holiday: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), that the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples.

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislaPage 11 WCP NEWS



President Eisenhower signing HR7786, changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day. From left: Alvin J. King, Wayne Richards, Arthur J. Connell, John T. Nation, Edward Rees, Richard L. Trombla, Howard W. Watts

tion (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Later that same year, on October 8th, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the first "Veterans Day Proclamation" which stated: "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose. Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, which shall include such other persons as the Chairman may select, and which will coordinate at the national level necessary planning for the observance. I am also requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch of the Government to assist the National Committee in every way possible."

On that same day, President Eisenhower sent a letter to the Honorable Harvey V. Higley, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs (VA), designating him as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee.

In 1958, the White House advised VA's Gen-

eral Counsel that the 1954 designation of the VA Administrator as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee applied to all subsequent VA Administrators. Since March 1989 when VA was elevated to a cabinet level department, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has served as the committee's chairman.

The Uniform Holiday Bill (Public Law 90-363 (82 Stat. 250)) was signed on June 28, 1968, and was intended to ensure three-day weekends for Federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. It was thought that these extended weekends would encourage travel, recreational and cultural activities and stimulate greater industrial and commercial production. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 (89 Stat. 479), which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veterans service organizations and the American people.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

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"Parks Picks"

WINNEBAGO PET EXPO 2019













Picture Yourself in Winnebago County Parks & Sunnyview Expo Center With...













OSHKOSH















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