



## PILCHUCK AUDUBON LOOKS FORWARD

By: *Allen Gibbs, Conservation Chair*

A national wildlife refuge in Oregon is occupied by folks who think it is a bad thing for national forests, wildlife refuges, and public domain lands to be owned by all Americans. There is no doubt that our attention is focused not only in Malheur but also on millions of acres of publicly-owned federal lands in our own front and back yards.

We have had some conservation accomplishments in 2015. However, there is much carryover into 2016 and beyond, and opportunities for PAS members to help. Here is a sampling:

Our Forest Practices Committee, led by Kathy Johnson, will be especially busy in 2016. Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBS) recently completed analysis of its road system and public access. The newly released "Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest – Forest-wide Sustainable Roads Report," and its companion "Sustainable Roads Strategy – Public Engagement Report," gave important new data to be used in future decisions about the forest's road system.

It is a 2,440-mile road system used for recreation, commerce, tribal cultural purposes, vegetation management, fire protection, etc. For lack of sufficient congressional funding to maintain them, and a certainty that funding will continue to decline, there are roads which are sliding off steep moutat. Even where roads are not closed by slides and washouts, downed trees and brush patches prevent vehicle access.

One highlight of the analysis is that 32 percent of the roads (783 miles) was identified by the study team as opportunities to be closed, decommissioned permanently or converted to trail. Also, construction of additional roads is not recommended! Future planning by the MBS will require public involvement in deciding whether to retain roads for public uses.

Straining our capacity to respond to forestry matters is increased activity by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in Snohomish County. We are working on a barrage of state trust land timber sale proposals near Wallace Falls State Park. PAS' Conservation and Forest Practices committees have a good understanding of laws and rules pertaining to federal forests. However, even with help from more expert conservation groups, we have much to learn about Washington State's management of its trust lands.

US Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, Representative Suzan DelBene, and Governor Jay Inslee announced last July creation of a new partnership called the Darrington Collaborative. The collaborative includes timber industry and prominent conservation groups, seeking "...to increase ecologically

*(Continued on page 4)*

### FEBRUARY PROGRAM MEETING

#### The Natural History of Picos de Europa National Park

*by Dan Logen*

**Friday, February 12, 7:00 PM**



Dan Logen, avid traveler and photographer, will present "The Natural History of the Picos de Europa National Park." This is Spain's oldest national park, located in the northern part of the country.

Dan will present fantastic photos of the scenery, birds, mammals, flowers, and insects which he encountered there on a springtime visit in 2013.

This program comes highly recommended by Skagit Audubon, which enjoyed it last May.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2016**

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Everett Firefighter's Hall

**2411 Hewitt Avenue, Everett**

*Questions? Leave a message at 425-610-8027*

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: Kathleen Snyder, Pilchuck Audubon President

It was my very great pleasure to attend an informal ceremony in January to dedicate a memorial bench in Kayak Point County Park. As you might remember, Robert K Royce generously left Pilchuck Audubon \$100,000 in his will in 2013. He loved birds and all wild creatures and wanted to leave something behind for them.

Mr. Royce lived near Marine View Dr. in Tulalip and had spent time at Kayak Point Park. We arranged with the county parks department to install a bench there, right on the water with a wonderful view. The attached plaque reads: "Pilchuck Audubon Honors Robert K. Royce for his generosity to the birds – 2015". Mr. Royce's gift has been or will be used for an Imagine Children's Museum Kid's Bird Day (May 2016), a prototype swift tower in Albany OR, support for middle and high school conservation/birding groups, and a program to develop backyard wildlife habitats locally. These are all new efforts for PAS and without Mr. Royce's gift, they would not have happened.

If you are out at Kayak Point Park and would like to see our bench, it is adjacent to the south beach picnic shelter. It is a perfect place to sit down and enjoy our beautiful shoreline and the birds who live there. If you would like more information on how you can leave a legacy for the birds, please contact me at [president@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:president@pilchuckaudubon.org).

*P.S. Check out the new features on our website. David Richman is the new featured photographer in our Photo Gallery and Wally David offers tips on feeding hummingbirds in winter on our Birding webpage.*



Me, June and Rusty Roylance, Terry Nightingale and Kathy Piland  
Photo by Jim Beneteau

**KRISTIN KELLY, PAS/SMART GROWTH  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
HAS A NEW EMAIL**  
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## About Pilchuck Audubon Society

The Pilchuck Audubon Profile, official newsletter of Pilchuck Audubon Society is published monthly.

Pilchuck Audubon Society (PAS) is a grass-roots environmental organization with members throughout Snohomish County and Camano Island, Washington.

Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife, for the benefit of the earth's biological diversity.

Through education, advocacy, and community activism, PAS is committed to bringing people closer to wildlife in order to build a deeper understanding of the powerful links between healthy ecosystems and human beings, and to encourage the involvement of our members in efforts to protect the habitat this wildlife depends upon

for survival.

We serve as a local chapter of the National Audubon Society. PAS is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt, non-profit organization incorporated in the state of Washington.

### Newsletter submissions

Submit articles to [newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org) or mail to 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198, Snohomish, WA 98290. Submissions must be received by the 21st of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit.

**To contact Pilchuck Audubon Society, call 425.610.8027.**

The monthly Profile is available online at [www.pilchuckaudubon.org](http://www.pilchuckaudubon.org)



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# SNO-KING WATERSHED COUNCIL TAKES ACTION

On December 21, 2015 the Sno-King Watershed Council (SKWC) and Waste Action Project filed a 60-day Notice of Intent to file a citizen suit against Snohomish County under the Clean Water Act. The suit focuses on violations of the county's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit related to stormwater system development at Snohomish County Paine Field Airport.

In October, SKWC observed that the Airport had expanded a bus park and ride lot that encroached into wetland buffers in an area that was currently under an appeal. No work was supposed to have occurred in this area until SKWC's appeal of the Airport's Determination of Non-Significance was resolved. Further investigation found that an adjacent 5-acre gravel surfaced parking lot had also been constructed sometime in 2013 without required environmental reviews or obtaining grading and drainage permits from the County's Planning and Development Services department.

SKWC determined that polluted stormwater was running into a high value wetland at the headwaters of Swamp Creek in violation of County and State water quality protection rules. The potential harm to the wetlands and downstream waters may be considerable, including sediment, oil, grease, and metals from vehicles.

In November, SKWC filed a formal complaint with the County's Planning Department, which confirmed that the stated violations had occurred and issued a Warning Notice to the Airport requiring it to comply with the code by December 7, 2015. The Airport missed its December 7 deadline and requested a four week extension to submit permit drawings for construction at a future date.

Snohomish County Surface Water Management group has also confirmed that there has been a violation of the County's NPDES permit.

For the last two months, SKWC has repeatedly requested Snohomish County to immediately halt using the illicitly constructed 5-acre parking lot and to restore the lot to its previous condition, pending issuance of an approved grading and drainage permit and construction of water quality and detention facilities required by code.

Because Snohomish County has refused to halt pollution generating operations at the park and ride lot, both the SKWC and Waste Action Project provided notice to force an immediate halt to the County's code violations. Snohomish County could be facing penalties up to \$37,500 per day.

SKWC is a non-profit organization working to protect streams, watersheds, and natural areas in our region. Waste Action Project is an environmental organization that endeavors to have the Clean Water Act and other environmental protection laws implemented.

*Pilchuck Audubon has provided financial support to SKWC for their efforts to protect this wetland.*

# BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

December 26, 2015 - January 25, 2016

By Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

Carole and Larry Beason are the only ones who report Evening Grosbeaks from their home at Lake Bosworth. We used to see them every year, but not this year. Their total species count of 41 included the 11 Evening Grosbeaks, 6 American Coots and 28 Canada Geese on the lake, 2 Common Ravens flying over, 30+ Dark-Eyed Junco, 4 Golden-Crowned Sparrows, a Great-Blue Heron, 10 Hooded Mergansers on the lake, 1 Merlin, 8 Purple Finch, 2 Red-Breasted Nuthatch, 10 Red-Winged Blackbirds, and a Turkey Vulture overhead.

Hilkka Egtvedt's report from Mukilteo included a Sharp-Shinned Hawk, 5 California Quail, 3 Anna's Hummingbirds, 5 Northern Flickers, 6 Steller's Jays, 12 Bushtit, 17 American Robins on her neighbor's lawn, 12 European Starlings on the same lawn, 3 Spotted Towhee, a Fox Sparrow, 5 Golden-Crowned Sparrows, 36 Dark-Eyed Junco, and 6 House Finches for a total species count of 23.



Western gull  
Photo by Doug Forsell, USFWS

Kriss Erickson reported a record number of Black-Capped Chickadees from her home in Everett. She had 26 last month and 32 this month. She must have a large number of feeders up for them. Her report also listed a Red-Breasted Nuthatch, 2 Red-Winged Blackbirds, 22 Western Gulls, 2 Pacific Wrens, 23 North-Western

Crows, 2 Bewick's Wrens, 2 Bald Eagles, a Green-Winged Teal in her yard, 2 Cooper's Hawks, and 7 American Robins for a total species count of 23.

Reporting from Marysville, Pam Meyers listed 33 Pine Siskins, 2 Bewick's Wrens, 38 American Crows, 2 Yellow Warblers, 3 Anna's Hummingbirds, 20 American Robins, a Varied Thrush, 12 Glaucous-Winged Gulls flying over, a Great-Blue Heron flying over, a Brown Creeper, a Band-Tailed Pigeon, 3 Canada Geese flying over, 3 Downey Woodpeckers and 5 Northern Flickers for a total species count of 29.

My report from Marysville listed only 6 Black-Capped Chickadees, 5 Chestnut-Backed Chickadees, 25 Dark-Eyed Junco, 60+ European Starling, 15 Mourning Doves in my yard, 4 American Wigeon in the flooded field, 2 Great-Horned Owls in the woods, 40+ Glaucous-Winged Gulls in the fields, 8 Spotted Towhee, a Pileated Woodpecker,



Dark-eyed Junco  
Photo by Dave Menke, USFWS

3 Northern Flickers, and 3 Trumpeter Swans in the fields for a total species count of 23.

If you are interested in becoming one of our reports, please email me at [pricemara1@gmail.com](mailto:pricemara1@gmail.com) or leave a message on my cell (425)750-8125.

# PILCHUCK AUDUBON...

(Continued from page 1)

sustainable timber harvests near Darrington and create jobs, while improving the health of forests and watersheds in the area." PAS is not a member but has been asked to comment on proposals developed by the group. For more information on the Darrington Collaborative, see [www.darringtoncollaborative.org](http://www.darringtoncollaborative.org).

The Federal Highways Administration has proposed a feasibility study to pave the gravel portion of the Mt. Loop Highway, and transfer maintenance responsibilities from the USFS to Snohomish County. The Forest Service has issued a scoping letter for a Categorical Exclusion, meaning no Environmental Assessment [EA] nor Environmental Impact Statement [EIS] would be performed for "daylighting" 64 acres along a seven-mile section of the road. This could involve logging for 30 feet on either side of the road (where that much space between the road and the Sauk River exists). PAS submitted comments on this project, calling for an EA at the very least, and will be participating in future planning.

Not all of our 2016 work is about forestry. PAS, along with other Washington Audubon chapters, is following this year's Washington State Legislature session (60 days). No new conservation legislation is expected but conservation coalitions are alert for efforts to weaken existing conservation laws and regulations. Consult the Advocacy section at PAS' website for contact information on your state legislators.

PAS and other chapters oppose expansion of the Shell refinery near Anacortes. The expansion would substantially increase capacity of the refinery to utilize Baaken oil shipped by rail through our communities. Skagit County and WA Department of Ecology have the lead on this matter.

PAS and other conservation and user groups will continue to advise the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife about development plans for Leque Island facilities. This relationship began in 2014.

The Snohomish County PUD still pursues federal permits to develop a hydropower facility on the South Fork Skykomish River. PAS has not supported the proposal and board member Jay Ward monitors periodic PUD meetings.

In November, the Sno-King Watershed Council requested an investigation of possible permit procedure violations by Snohomish County's Paine Field, involving conversion of a wetland area, which is part of Swamp Creek watershed, into a storm water detention pond (see accompanying article). PAS has contributed funding to SKWC for appeals and litigation in the matter.

Your participation in our efforts is always welcome. You can contact me at [conservation@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:conservation@pilchuckaudubon.org).

## BIRD SEED SALE!

NEXT BIRDSEED SALE WILL BE  
TUESDAY, MARCH 22ND  
DETAILS IN MARCH NEWSLETTER  
AND ON PILCHUCK WEBSITE.

# PROGRESS ON SMART GROWTH SPECIAL CAMPAIGN

By: Kristin Kelly, Smart Growth Executive Director

Keeping the Smart Growth Program alive and effective through 2016 will require more support from our membership and friends, as grants become more competitive and scarce. My special appeal sent out right after the New Year, has raised a little more \$4,000! This is a good start towards for \$12,000 I need to replace a grant request that was denied. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so generously. I'm hopeful I can continue to raise the money needed to keep the Smart Growth Program alive and well this year and into the future.

Two unresolved issues from 2015 will continue into 2016. Multi-family residential zoning in our urban growth areas, particularly along Highway 99, is needed to create more transit-oriented development communities. Secondly, possible changes to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) regulations for what types of development (both residential and commercial) would be exempt from SEPA regulations in Snohomish County is also being promoted. I will continue to track these and keep you informed.

In addition, on the near horizon, will be work on changes to the county's cottage housing regulations, more planning for our county's Urban Centers, and a subarea planning process by the City of Everett for the Everett Transit Station area and downtown. I will continue working on this with the Everett District Station Alliance. I will also continue serving on the Executive Committee of the Sustainable Lands Strategy, working toward gains in both salmon and wildlife habitat restoration and farming.

Please contact me at [execdirector@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:execdirector@pilchuckaudubon.org) if you would like to donate to the Smart Growth Program.



The 2016 Audubon Photography Awards, presented in association with Nature's Best Photography, have begun!  
<http://www.audubon.org/photoawards>

# TRIP CALENDAR

Check our web site at [www.pilchuckaudubon.org](http://www.pilchuckaudubon.org) for the latest information.

**Tuesday, February 2** **Silvana Roads**  
Meet at 8:00 AM at Quilceda Village Wal-Mart west of Marysville (I-5-Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. Pipers, Waterfowl, Shorebirds, Falcons, all the winter LBJs. We may also visit the Nature Conservancy site. Pack a lunch.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360-435-3750

**Tuesday, February 9 Point Roberts, USA & Boundary Bay, BC**  
Meet at 7:00 AM at Quilceda Village Wal-Mart west of Marysville (I-5-Exit 200). Park away from store, to the East, near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. Bring your US Passport or Enhanced Driver's License. Shorebirds, waterfowl, seabirds, raptors and maybe a puffin or phalarope. Pack a Lunch  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360-435-3750

**Saturday, February 13** **Kruckeberg Botanic Garden**  
Meet at 8:30 AM at Everett Station at 3201 Smith Ave. Park in the northwest corner of the parking lot, across Smith Avenue from the Everett Station building. We'll carpool to the Everett Waterfront to view the birdlife, then to the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden in Shoreline and enjoy the plant life while we also view the birds in conjunction with the Great Backyard Bird Count. No experience is necessary—you need bring only your curiosity and binoculars, if you have them. Optional socializing event over lunch. For the bird walk, bring: snacks, water, binoculars, and foul weather gear just in case. This is a half-day event.  
Leader: Terry Nightingale, 206.619.2383, [tnight@pobox.com](mailto:tnight@pobox.com)

**Tuesday, February 16** **Fir Island**  
Meet at 8:00 AM at Quilceda Village Wal-Mart west of Marysville (I-5-Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. Expect almost anything, Golden Eagle, Northern Shrike, Tundra Swans, Merlin, etc. Pack a lunch.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360-435-3750

**Saturday, February 20** **Marysville area**  
Meet at 8 am at the Jennings Park barn at 6915 Armar Rd. in Marysville. We will bird the park, the Berringer Farm area and the east side of the Qwuloolt Estuary. We'll be looking hard for a Lapland Longspur. Half day trip.  
Trip Leader: Al Elliott 360-659-3180

**Tuesday, February 23** **Port Townsend**  
Meet at 7:10 AM at the Edmonds Wade James Theater Parking Lot. The theater's address is 950 Main St., Edmonds, 98020, just East of 9th Ave. on the South side of Main St. We'll take the ferry to Kingston, go through Port Gamble and across the floating bridge. On the way we'll visit Marrowstone Island and Indian Island with views of Admiralty Inlet, waterfowl, shorebirds, and seabirds. Previous year's trips have been memorable and rewarding. Pack a lunch.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360-435-3750

# UPCOMING EVENTS, FESTIVALS, & CLASSES

**Arlington Eagle Festival**  
**February 5 – 6** **Arlington, WA**  
With winter comes the return of the eagle to the Stillaguamish River. To celebrate, Arlington hosts an annual Eagle Festival. Enjoy this event which includes guided tours, art and photography shows, speakers, demonstrations, live music, wagon rides and other activities.  
<http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/index.aspx?page=427>

**Sound Waters**  
**February 6** **Langley, WA**  
Please join WSU Island County Beach Watchers as it celebrates 20 years of Sound Waters. This is a unique opportunity to learn about the ocean and marine environment. Knowledge will help us save this miracle of nature for future generations. Sixty sessions to choose from.  
Register now at <http://beachwatchers.net/soundwaters/wp/>

**Winter Wings Festival**  
**February 11 – 14** **Klamath, OR**  
When it comes to West Coast birding, the Klamath Basin is near legendary. Migrating waterfowl are the centerpiece of the event, but raptors get some love, too, with a falconry display and casual hawk watch. This festival also puts a big emphasis on wildlife photography, and the keynote speakers include artist Stephen Johnson and South African TV personality James Currie.  
More info: [winterwingsfest.org](http://winterwingsfest.org)

**John Marzloff**  
**February 14** **Everett, WA**  
Everett Friends of the Library is hosting a program featuring Dr. John Marzloff talking about his book *Subirdia: Sharing Our Neighborhoods with Wrens, Robins, Woodpeckers, and other wildlife*. 2 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium, 2702 Hoyt, Everett. Valentine's and bird-themed refreshments will be served. Free.

## REMINDER

Olympic Birdfest, April 15-17, 2016.

Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction & raffle, gala banquet, and more. Our featured speaker: noted artist Tony Angell, "Revealing the Secret Lives of Owls".

Join our festival pre-trip: a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 12-14, 2016. Register separately at [www.pugetsoundexpress.com/audubon](http://www.pugetsoundexpress.com/audubon).

Extend your festival with our Neah Bay post-trip on April 17-19, 2016: two days exploring north-west coastal Washington. BirdFest registration at [www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org).

# 2015 EDMONDS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

By: Rick Taylor, CBC Compiler

The Edmonds Christmas Bird Count was held December 19, 2015. The CBC is conducted in a 15-mile diameter circle centered just west of Martha Lake in Lynnwood. This was the 32nd Edmonds CBC since 1984. A record 129 species was recorded on count day and three additional species (Western Gull, American Pipit, and American Dipper) were recorded during count week. A total of 49,566 individual birds were observed by 80 field participants in 32 field parties and 48 home feeder counters at 37 locations. The combination of feeder counters and field participants at 128 was one higher than our record participation set last year and well above the average.

A full report of species seen, counts, and effort data for the 2015 Edmonds CBC will be posted on the Pilchuck Audubon website along with historical counts for comparison and a description of the areas.

## HIGHLIGHTS

One new species, Common Yellowthroat, was added at Lowell Riverfront Trail. Two Black Turnstones were on the Edmonds breakwater. An American Dipper was present in Wallace Swamp Creek Park during count week. A single Common Redpoll was found in Meadowvale County Park.



CBC participants by David Richman

## HIGH COUNTS

There were 15 new record high counts:

- Cinnamon Teal – 10 vs. 3 in 1999
- Brandt's Cormorant – 27 vs. 23 in 2013
- Sharp-shinned Hawk -- 10 vs. 8 in 2001
- Bald Eagle – 67 vs. 41 in 2012
- Virginia Rail -- 16 vs. 9 in 2003
- Black Turnstone – 2
- Anna's Hummingbird – 167 vs. 134 in 2014
- Red-breasted Sapsucker – 12 vs. 9 in 2013
- Downy Woodpecker – 65 vs. 51 in 2013
- Northern Flicker (Red-shafted) – 228 vs. 168 in 2013
- Pileated Woodpecker – 27 vs. 24 in 2014
- Chestnut-backed Chickadee – 454 vs. 414 in 2014
- Brown Creeper – 44 vs. 34 in 2014
- Pacific Wren – 150 vs. 126 in 2013
- Bewick's Wren – 128 vs. 119 in 2013

## LOW COUNTS

Four species were missed this year that should have been detected:

- Eared Grebe – found in 53% of the counts
- Western Gull (count week) – found in 59% of counts
- Rough-legged Hawk – found in 47% of the counts
- Northern Shrike – found in 41% of the counts

Thanks to our team leaders, the field participants, and the feeder counters. Special thanks to Linda Phillips for hosting our post-count tally and her homemade bread and hot soups.

## BEAUTIFUL WEATHER + RECORD PARTICIPATION = GREAT CBC

### Everett/Marysville Christmas Bird Count

By: Scott Atkinson, Compiler

The results are in: congratulations to all of you—we had another terrific bird count on January 2nd. 140 species of birds were detected—almost certainly the second-highest of all 40+ Washington State CBCs. This high species count equals our best year (2011) and is very close to or equal to our last CBC on January 1, 2015 with 139-140. This CBC we were just short of 40,000 individuals, down some from the 44,059 record on the Jan. 1, 2015 CBC. Still, like last year, we had a significant number of record-high individual count (for 17 species) and tied for the record-high on five more. These are measured within the current position of our CBC circle which is now 21 years old. New to our CBC this year were the Lesser Goldfinch at Island Crossing and Harlequin Ducks. On the opposite end, Western Gull, Red-necked Grebes and Western Grebes were close to, or tied with, 21-year record lows.



Lesser Goldfinch  
Photo by Robert Burton, USFWS

125 people participated in this year's CBC—eclipsing last year's record of 113. Our feeder counters increased to 52 and field observers were 73, four more than last year. Miles increased over last year (126 on foot vs. 119 last year, 670 by car over 588 last year). Weather conditions (clear and cold, 18 to 42 F) were nearly a dead match for last year, I heard from many of you that the cold this year slowed the morning birding. All the details of our count are posted on the Pilchuck website.

Many thanks to Art and Shirley Wait for hosting our end-of-the-day potluck in their usual gracious style. See you all next year!

# How many birds will you find?

19th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count  
February 12-15, 2016



**Join In!** Count birds in your backyard, local park, or wherever you spot a bird, and submit your observations online.

[birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org)

White-breasted Nuthatch  
Photo: Nick Saunders/Gallic

The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the four-day event and report their sightings online at [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org). Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts, and you can participate from your backyard, or anywhere in the world.

Each checklist submitted during the GBBC helps researchers at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society learn more about how birds are doing, and how to protect them and the environment we share. The 19th annual GBBC will be held **Friday, February 12 through Monday, February 15.**

**Learn beginning birding techniques and ID skills** and then be able to participate in the GBBC by attending one of these classes. Submitting data to be covered also. Free and family friendly.

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Willow Creek Demo Garden, 95 Pine St, Edmonds.  
Susie Schaefer [garden@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:garden@pilchuckaudubon.org)

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM**

Stillaguamish Conference Room at the Arlington Public Works Office, 154 Cox Ave in Arlington.  
Terry Nightingale, [vice-president@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:vice-president@pilchuckaudubon.org), and Pam Myers, [pilchuckaudubonmail@gmail.com](mailto:pilchuckaudubonmail@gmail.com).

## **Puget Sound Bird Fest in Edmonds 2016**

Be sure to mark your calendar for the festival on September 9 -11.

Friday night, Sep 9, will be the key note speaker for the festival as well as our Pilchuck Audubon program meeting.

## **The Demo Garden 2016**

The schedule for 2016 at the Edmonds Wildlife Habitat Native Plant Demonstration Garden is being finalized and it will be another busy year. Work parties are scheduled for the first Saturday of each month 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Help is always needed and it is a fun way to contribute, learn about native plants, and meet people with similar interests.

There will also be at least one (usually more) workshop or family event each month. The workshops include: Great Backyard Bird Count training (May 6), Hummingbirds and Mason Bees, Frogs, Pollinators, Garter Snakes and Salamanders, and Winter Bird Identification.

Art and family fun projects will include Papermaking with native seeds, mushroom and other natural dyes, Nesting Material Containers, and Making Birdfeeders.

The Edmonds Watershed Fun Fair will be at the Demo Garden on May 7th. Workshops and other activities are open to all and are free (donations are always appreciated).

Be sure to check on the PAS website for dates and times. Information is also available on the Facebook (Edmonds Wildlife Habitat Project) or email [garden@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:garden@pilchuckaudubon.org).

## **Susie's Spring Field trips are almost filled up.**

We are hoping for the criminals occupying Wildlife Refuge to leave or we will be forced to cancel one trip.

NEXT BIRDSEED SALE WILL BE TUESDAY, MARCH 22ND - DETAILS IN MARCH NEWSLETTER AND ON PILCHUCK WEBSITE.

Pilchuck Audubon Society  
 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198  
 Snohomish, WA 98290



## Pilchuck Audubon Society Membership Information

Support your local Audubon chapter by becoming a member. PAS dues are tax deductible (consult your tax professional for details). The PAS tax ID number is 91-6183664.

- New Member ..... \$28
- Renewal ..... \$28
- Lifetime Member ..... \$1,000
  - 10 monthly payments of \$100
  - 4 quarterly payments of \$250
  - 1 payment of \$1,000
- Donation ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - My employer will match my contribution!  
 My employer's gift matching form is enclosed with my contribution.

Make checks payable to: Pilchuck Audubon Society

Mail to: Pilchuck Audubon Society  
 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198  
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Send me these via email (check all that apply & include your email address above):

Profile Newsletter     Program Announcements     Action Alerts

Pilchuck Audubon Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable corporation registered with the Secretary of State's office. Your contributions are tax deductible.

## CALL FOR CITIZEN SCIENTISTS!

Participate in a regional volunteer monitoring effort, learn about coastal ecology, and meet like-minded community members.

**WHAT:** Observe intertidal habitat use of water birds

**WHO:** University of Washington, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries, and Washington State Department of Natural Resources

**WHEN:** Water bird surveys will be conducted monthly during low tides, recording the abundance and behavior of birds in vegetated and non-vegetated patches. Surveys will occur from mid-March through September 2016.

**WHERE:** Easy shore access within 300 m of low intertidal habitats including seagrass patches. These include: north end of Case Inlet, Nisqually delta, Birch Bay, Skokomish River, and Port Gamble Bay.

**TRAININGS:** Are planned to coincide with mid-day low tides on February 27, 28 or March 12, 13.

To register your interest in participating, <http://goo.gl/forms/V5UZBosLis> or contact Mo Turner (msturn@uw.edu 757-768-9195).