

PROGRAM MEETING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2020

THE SNOW GOOSE

Winter Visitors to the Pacific Northwest

Presented by Martha Jordan
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Everett Firefighters' Hall
2411 Hewitt Avenue, Everett ([map](#))

Flocks of Snow Goose arrive each fall to spend the winter in the valleys of Snohomish, Skagit, and Whatcom counties from their breeding grounds on Russia's Wrangel Island. In the 1970s, when PAS was incorporated, this population of Snow Goose was in trouble; much effort by Russia, Canada, and the U.S. was made to be sure they survived. They not only survived; they have thrived. The Wrangel Island population is now a concern to many waterfowl managers, farmers, and others as this increase in population creates an ever-growing human-wildlife conflict as well as attracting a growing throng of winter birdwatchers, who drive an economic boom of ecotourism.

This program will present information on how what we once knew about fewer snow geese no longer applies. Why are lots of Snow Goose now in eastern



Washington? Learn about migration routes, where all these Snow Goose are wintering, how many are there, and the conflicts between humans and geese.

Martha Jordan, long-time PAS member, has a degree in Wildlife Science from Oregon State University. Her work with waterfowl began shortly after graduation. She spent several winters volunteering for Russian scientists looking at the Snow Goose population in the Skagit Valley. As an independent citizen, she began to look at swans in the late 1970s; by 1984, she had contributed much information to state and federal agencies on the status of the Trumpeter Swan in Washington state, including the first swan management plan. Currently, she is Executive Director of the Northwest Swan Conservation Association, a local nonprofit dedicated to ensuring swans continue to grace our skies and lands in Washington and the Pacific Northwest. She is semi-retired but still continues as a professional wildlife biologist and as a Guild Certified Feldenkrais Practitioner (<https://feldenkrais.com/>) for humans and animals.

Incidentally, the Snow Goose has been part of every PAS logo since PAS incorporated in 1975. 🦢

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BIRDING CLASSES

Taught by Candy Brown

The class below will be held at the Frances Anderson Center, 700 Main Street, in Edmonds, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Cost for each class: \$18 for residents, \$20 for non-residents.

To register, call 425-771-0230

MORE AMAZING BIRDS — FEBRUARY 12

Many interesting and beautiful birds visit our region at different times of the year or are permanent residents. We will look at and discuss the habits of sparrows, warblers, wrens, woodpeckers, cedar waxwings, and more. 🐦



2020

Don't miss the 2020 Stanwood-Camano Snow Goose & Birding Festival, which will be held February 22-23. Come see why the shores and waters of Puget Sound surrounding our community are internationally recognized as crucial habitat for countless birds of sea, shore, and land.

Tours and guides will help you experience one of Western Washington's most spectacular natural events —the annual winter gathering of thousands of Snow Goose and Trumpeter Swans. In addition, we have flocks of wintering seabirds and shorebirds along with many raptors that call Stanwood and Camano home.

Along with great field trips to view Snow Geese, Swans, and Shorebirds, festival-goers can enjoy educational booths and presentations at festival headquarters near downtown Stanwood, Washington. Presentations include a Shorebird I.D. Class provided by Ruth Milner, White Birds of Winter by Martha Jordan, From Russia to the Stilly by Vasiliy Baranyuk, and a live raptor presentation by Sarvey Wildlife Center.

A \$5.00 donation is encouraged to help offset festival expenses, and some presentations require pre-registration. Additional information can be found on the festival website at:

<https://discoverstanwoodcamano.com/calendar/snow-geese-festival-2020/>. 🐦

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 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

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..... Open

Pilchuck Audubon Presents

Marine Birds of Washington's Inland Waters

Led by Jean Olson

We will be focusing on plumage, shape, and behavior to help you feel confident in your identifications when you look out over the water. The class will cover alcids, grebes, diving ducks, loons, cormorants, and phalaropes, with a few gulls and dabbling ducks thrown in.



CLASS:
FEBRUARY 11, 6:30-9PM

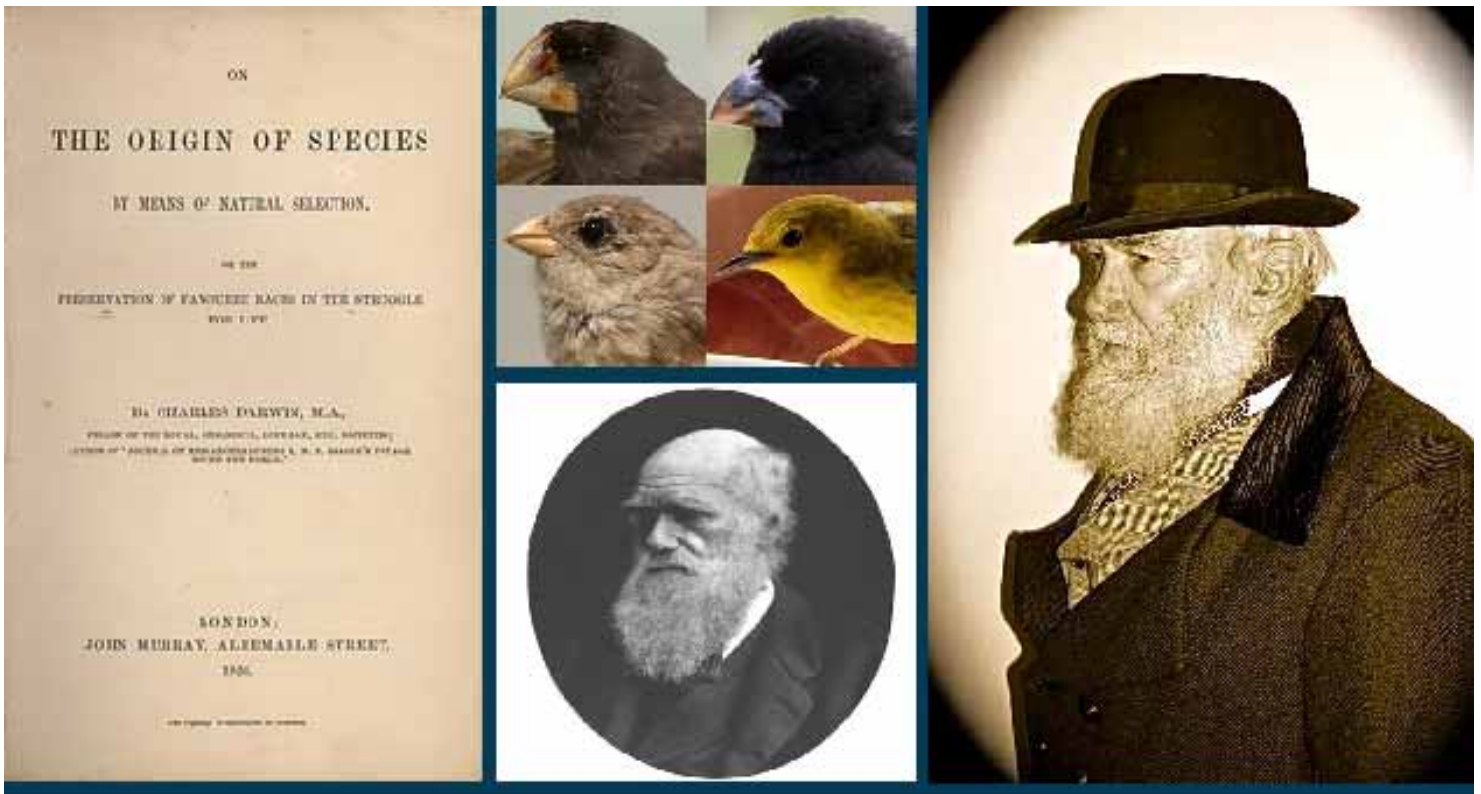
Snohomish County PUD
Room TC2-C
2320 California St
Everett, WA

FIELD TRIP:
FEBRUARY 16 & 17

Visit Point No Point or Fort
Flagler on an all day trip.
Choose your preferred date
when you register.

Class: \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members
Field Trip: \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members
Youth (24 and under): \$15 for class, \$15 for field trip
Discount applies to Pilchuck Audubon members only

Class and field trip sizes are limited.
Email director@pilchuckaudubon.org to register



THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES

& CHARLES DARWIN

Sunday February 23rd | 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. (Limited Seating)

EDMONDS WILDLIFE HABITAT NATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN
Willow Creek Hatchery | 95 Pine Street | Edmonds WA 98020

*Charles Robert Darwin was born in Shrewsbury, England at his families' upper middle class home. Darwin would go on to become one of the greatest scientists of the Nineteenth Century and to publish his Origin of Species in 1859. Biology would never be the same and the theory of Evolution by Natural Selection would be the basis of modern biological sciences. **By special arrangement, Mr. Darwin will be available to explain how he came to his revolutionary theory, including little known details of his life.***

PARKING

Located on the NW corner of Pine Street and Edmonds Way (S.R.#104). There is free parking on Pine Street and for those with limited mobility there is parking in the Hatchery Parking area down the driveway on the right hand side of Pine St.

ABOUT US

The Edmonds Demo Garden is a community garden located on Edmonds City property and is open to the public. It is operated by volunteers under the auspices of Pilchuck Audubon. Most Workshops are held in the Sound Salmon Solutions small education building and the Demo Garden. These events are free, though donations are greatly appreciated and help cover operating and education costs. Donations are tax deductible.

For more information see www.pilchuckaudubon (programs) or contact garden@pilchuckaudubon.org or call 425-771-8165

TRIP CALENDAR

Check our website, www.pilchuckaudubon.org, for the latest information



Saturday, February 1

Brightwater Center

Meet at 8:00 AM at the north end of the Canyon Park Park & Ride (22400 17th Ave SE, Bothell); the nearest I-405 exit is 26. We'll carpool to Brightwater Center. Boots advised. If time permits, we may visit another, nearby site afterwards. Trip leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811 (cell: 206-617-0019), dresnick1@comcast.net

Tuesday, February 4

Fir Island

Meet at 7:30 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart west of Marysville (I-5-Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, next to Quilceda Blvd. and near I-5. Expect almost anything. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360-435-3750

Tuesday, February 11

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 trips have been memorable and rewarding. Pack a lunch. Trip leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Sunday, February 16

Snohomish Ferguson Park

Join Pilchuck Audubon Society, Academia Latina, and North Sound Birders Meet-up for the Great Backyard Bird Count at Snohomish Ferguson Park, 1330 Ferguson Park Rd, Snohomish, at 2:00 PM. Take US 2 to the Hwy 9 exit. Turn right (south) on Hwy 9 and drive toward Snohomish. Turn left at Avenue D. Turn left on 13th St. Turn left at Avenue A. Park at lakeside. Bring fowl-weather [*sic*] gear; sturdy, waterproof boots; and a warm hat. Also bring binoculars and a field guide, if you have them. Optionally, we might reconvene afterward for a little socializing over lunch at a nearby café. Free. Open to all. No registration required. No dogs. Trip Leader: Jonathan Blubaugh, 425-244-7633, aracfi@msn.com

Tuesday, February 18

Deception Pass

Meet at 7:30 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart, west of Marysville (I-5Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. Oystercatchers, Loons, Mergansers, LBJs. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Tuesday, February 25

Blaine and Birch Bay

Meet at 7:30 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart, west of Marysville (I-5 Exit 200). Park away from store to the east,

next to Quilceda Blvd and near I-5. Oystercatchers, Loons, Mergansers, LBJs. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Wilma Bayes, 360-629-2028

Tuesday, March 3

Camano Island

Meet at 8:00 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart parking lot west of Marysville (I-5-Exit 200). Park away from store to the east, next to Quilceda Blvd. and near I-5. We will bird Triangle Cove, Eide Road, English Boom Iverson Spit, and wherever else Virginia prefers. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Wilma Bayes, 360-629-2028

Saturday, March 7

Camano Island—Barnum Point County Park

Join Pilchuck Audubon Society for a weekend bird walk to one of Island County's newest parks, Barnum Point County Park. Until recently, it was known as Barnum Point Preserve. Details may be found at <https://www.liveineverett.com/blog/worth-leaving-town-for-barnum-point-county-park>. This site was recommended by one of our frequent participants. Meet at 8:30 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart west of Marysville (I-5 Exit 200). Park away from store to the east, next to Quilceda Blvd and near I-5. We'll carpool to Camano Island. Bring "fowl-weather" [*sic*] gear; sturdy, waterproof boots; and a warm hat. Also bring binoculars and a field guide, if you have them. Optionally, we might reconvene afterward for a little socializing over lunch at a nearby cafe. Free. Open to all. No registration required. No dogs. Trip Leader: Jonathan Blubaugh, 425-244-7633, aracfi@msn.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking to volunteer with Pilchuck Audubon? Here are some upcoming opportunities:

Snow Goose Festival Booth – We need folks to help man our table at the upcoming Snow Goose Festival in Stanwood, Washington, on Saturday, February 22, 2019.

Hospitality – If you like to bake cookies or plan snacks for a crowd, please let us know you'd like to help with hospitality for our monthly membership meetings.

Board of Directors Openings – Interested in helping to direct and guide the organization over the next two years? We have several opportunities to serve.

Contact Brian Zinke at director@pilchuckaudubon.org for more information. ✍



BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

November 26, 2019 to December 25, 2019

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

Hope everyone got through the snowy part of January OK. For some reason all of the bird species counts are down, even the Beasons', who usually average around 40+ a month.

Carole and Larry Beason had a total species count of only 34 from their home at Lake Bosworth. Their count included 2 Anna's Hummingbird; a Bald Eagle; a Belted Kingfisher; 5 Bufflehead, 3 Pied-Billed Grebe, 4 Ring-Necked Duck, 4 Common Merganser, 3 Hooded Merganser, and 15 Canada Goose on the lake; a Common Raven; a Cooper's Hawk; 2 Downy Woodpecker; 5 Golden-crowned Sparrow; a Great Blue Heron on the deck; 9 Purple Finch; a Pileated Woodpecker; 10 Spotted Towhee; a Sharp-shinned Hawk on the deck porch; and 4 Steller's Jay.

Reporting from Mukilteo, Hilka Egtvedt listed 2 California Quail, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 4 Northern Flicker, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, a Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, 3 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Bewick's Wren, 50 European Starling, 2 Townsend's Warbler, a Fox Sparrow, 3 Song Sparrow, a White-throated Sparrow, 4 Golden-crowned Sparrow, 14 Dark-eyed Junco, and 20 Pine Siskin, for a total species count of 21.

Kriss Erickson had a total species count of 20 from her home in Everett. She listed 23 Dark-eyed Junco, 9 American Robin, 2 Bewick's Wren, 51 Bushtit, 12 Northwestern Crow, 14 Western Gull, 1 Golden-crowned Kinglet, 9 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 22 Black-capped Chickadee, 3 Spotted Towhee, 3 Northern Flicker, 8 Song Sparrow, 2 American Goldfinch, 10 Mallard Duck, 17 Pine Siskin, and 4 Steller's Jays.

Mary Sinker's report from her home in Stanwood listed only 23 species this month. Included in her report were 4 American Robin, 5 Anna's Hummingbird, 11 Black-capped Chickadee, a Brown Creeper, 7 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, a Cooper's Hawk, 75 Dark-eyed Junco, 5 Downy Woodpecker, a Great Blue Heron at the creek, 8 House Finch, 4 Northern Flicker, 32 Mourning Dove, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Red-breasted Sapsucker, 9 Song Sparrow, 9 Spotted Towhee, 12 Steller's Jay, 2 White-crowned Sparrow, and 4 Pacific Wren.

Reporting from Marysville, my report included 5 Black-capped Chickadee, 3 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 50+ Canada Goose in the field, 25 Dark-eyed Junco, 2 Kinglet species, 4 Northern Flicker, 2 Pileated Woodpecker, 3 Spotted Towhee, 4 Steller's Jay, 30+ Rock Dove on the wires, 13 Mourning Dove, an American Robin, 50+ European Starling, 6 House Finch, 50+ Snow Goose in the fields, and a Varied Thrush, for a total species count of 20.

If you would like to participate in our Backyard Birding count, please contact me at pricemara1@gmail.com or leave a message on my cellphone at 425-750-8125. 🐦

BIRD WALK AT RICHMOND BEACH

SALTWATER PARK 4 January 2020

by Douglas Resnick, Trip Leader

Ten of us gathered around dawn in the park's topmost parking lot. One birder joined us mid-walk, while several departed during the course of the walk, according to individual schedules. In the end, the eBird checklist showed 11 observers and 22 species of birds observed.

The morning was cool and partly cloudy, but dry. Soaring birds seemed to enjoy the strong winds: Glaucous-winged Gull, Bald Eagle, and Red-tailed Hawk. We kept them in view, while we ascended to the rim of the park.

The rim is curved, extending seaward from the park's entrance to the west and inland from the entrance to the southeast. Between the trail that runs along the rim and the nearby houses, lawns, bushes, and trees provide opportunities for a variety of birds. Likewise, the nearby portion of the slope that leads downward into the park contains much vegetation, including extensive growths of Himalayan blackberry. Despite the heavy winds, we did find birds here, such as Northern Flicker, American Robin, and Song Sparrow. For a time, a flock of Pine Siskin somersaulted through the air.

After returning to the entrance, we walked gradually downward into the park, making use of the paved walkways on either side of the road, and visiting the park's mezzanine, carved into the eastern slope. We continued to observe the soaring birds, as well as some adventurous American Crow and occasional flocks of Rock Pigeon, but the outstanding sight here was a single Anna's Hummingbird that took its time visiting a shrub that was still in flower.

We then crossed the walkway over the railroad tracks and proceeded to the scrubby area that runs northward beside the sea. When we reached the beach, we found several ducks in the nearby water, which we watched and discussed for some time while they obligingly drifted closer to shore. At close range, we were sure that we were seeing both Barrow's and Common Goldeneye. We also found several Horned Grebe and one Double-crested Cormorant.



Barrow's Goldeneye (L) and Common Goldeneye (R) Side by Side | Martha Clatterbaugh

We returned to the parking lot by way of the trail along the western edge of the lower parking lot, then the long stairway that begins at the northern edge. Here, we found numerous Golden-crowned Sparrow, as well as several House Finch and Dark-eyed Junco.

We ended birding at about 11:00 a.m. Several of us continued onward to lunch at nearby Hill's Restaurant and Bar. 🐦

Instead of my writing from scratch about the legislative session activities, here is a report by Adam Maxwell, Audubon Washington's Government Relations Director. It affords you, via [the blue links](#), to read some bill language.

You can connect with your own state senators and representatives, and leave a few lines of comment. Use your residential address, which shows you are a constituent. How easy is that?

After a whirlwind first week of the 2020 legislative session, the second week slowed down just a bit, at least when it comes to our top priorities. It ramped back up with the annual Environmental Priorities Lobby Day in Olympia on January 30. Hundreds of conservationists, including Audubon members, visited their legislators to encourage their support of key bills. Allen Gibbs and PAS's new executive director, Brian Zinke, were among the citizen lobbyists.

The House version of the **Greenhouse Gas Targets bill** (HB 2311) has advanced through its first committee. We're still waiting for the **Sustainable Farms and Fields bill** (SB 5947) and the **Zero Emissions Vehicle Standard bill** (SB 5811) to come up for hearings in their respective House committees (after passing out of the Senate the first session week).

Our number one transportation emissions priority, the **Clean Fuels Standard bill** (HB 1110), still hasn't come up for a floor vote in the House. We're asking Audubon members to reach out to House leadership to call for a vote in the House ASAP. [Please take action on this and share it with your networks!](#)

As always, please check out our [legislation tracking page](#) to see some of the other bills we're keeping an eye on.

Climate and Clean Energy

We need legislators to continue to prioritize climate and clean energy. If you haven't already, [e-mail your legislators now to ask him/her to continue to lead on climate](#).



Diving Into the Legislative Session |
Photo by Debra Herst

Greenhouse Gas Targets + Sequestration [\(HB 2311/SB 6272\)](#)

This bill updates our state's greenhouse gas targets and makes carbon sequestration the policy of the state. It passed out of the House Environment and Energy Committee last week, and now heads to the committee on Appropriations.

Clean Fuel Standard [\(HB 1110\)](#)

HB 1110 still hasn't come up for a floor vote in the House. We're asking Audubon members to reach out to House leadership to call for a vote in the House ASAP. [Please take action on this and share it with your networks!](#)

Sustainable Farms and Fields [\(SB 5947\)](#)

After passing the Senate the first week, this bill has not been scheduled for a hearing in the House Committee on Rural Development, Agriculture, and Natural Resources. However, there is a possibility it could be scheduled as soon as what remains of this week.

Zero Emissions Vehicle Standard [\(SB 5811\)](#)

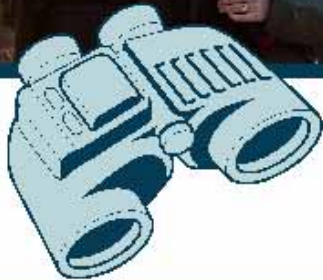
After passing the Senate last week, ZEV now heads to the House Committee on Environment and Energy, where we are expecting a hearing in the next few weeks.

Conservation

Fully fund the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) - budget hearings will be held by end of January, one hopes. [If you haven't already done so, ask your legislator to prioritize funding for WDFW!](#)

That's a wrap. Thanks for all of your support for policies that protect birds, people, and the habitat we all need. 🌿

The Great Backyard Bird Count is upon us!



Great Back Yard Bird Count Training 2020

WITH DR. ALAN MEARNS

Saturday February 8th | 10:00 a.m. – Noon

EDMONDS WILDLIFE HABITAT NATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN
Willow Creek Hatchery | 95 Pine Street | Edmonds WA 98020

Come and learn about the 2020 annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) and receive training that will get you ready to participate in the count held February 14-17, 2020. First-timers, beginning birders, families, kids, and others who want to brush up on their backyard bird identification skills will benefit from this workshop and will have fun.

The training will include time to practice outdoors so bring your binoculars and learn about the birds you may see in your own backyard.



Join us for this year's Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) from February 14-17! The GBBC is free, fun, and easy for all ages to participate in. You can participate even if you have only 15 minutes to spare! If it's your first time getting involved with the GBBC and you would prefer to do it with some experienced folk, we have a group meeting up in Snohomish on Sunday, February 16, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at Ferguson Park.

For more information on the GBBC, visit [National Audubon's page](#) or the [GBBC website](#).

PARKING

Located on the NW corner of Pine Street and Edmonds Way (SR 104). There is free parking on Pine Street; for those with limited mobility, there is parking in the Hatchery parking area down the driveway on the right side of Pine St.



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
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Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
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