



CHAPTER CONNECTION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Aug. 5, 2009

Contact: Mary Dettloff at 517-335-3014

Necropsy Results on Washtenaw County Swans Show Blunt Trauma as Cause of Death

Department of Natural Resources wildlife veterinarians at the Wildlife Disease Laboratory in Lansing reported today that blunt trauma, not gunshot wounds, was the cause of death in the case of three swans killed over the weekend in Lodi Township in Washtenaw County.

In his necropsy report, DNR Wildlife Veterinarian Dan O'Brien said the male adult swan and female cygnet found dead early Saturday morning died of massive blunt trauma consistent with being struck by a vehicle. An adult female swan from the same pond that was found alive on Sunday with severe injuries and had to be euthanized also suffered from blunt trauma, O'Brien said.

"Euthanizing the adult female swan was the wise and humane thing to do," O'Brien noted in his report after examining the extent of its injuries.

DNR conservation officers will continue investigating and following up on tips provided by the public. Persons with any information about this incident can call the DNR's Report All Poaching (RAP) Line at 800-292-7800. Information may be left anonymously.

Local news story at: <http://www.annarbor.com/news/lodi-township-swans-died-of-blunt-trauma-consistent-with-being-struck-by-a-car-dnr-says/>

SUMMER FUN AT MICHIGAN AUDUBON SANCTUARIES

Family Camp Out at Ronald H. Warner Sanctuary: August 8-9

Michigan Audubon will host a one-night campout at the Ronald H. Warner Sanctuary on August 8-9. Activities will start at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. We'll explore trails and do some birding, talk about Cerulean Warblers, and look for amphibians. We'll grill hotdogs for dinner. Enjoy a s'more while you listen to stories from Tom Funke, Michigan Audubon's conservation director, during the planned evening bonfire. Pitch your tent and fall asleep to the sounds of crickets and cicadas. Bring your own breakfast and plan on leaving by 10:00 am.

Registration for the campout is required and can be made by contacting Wendy at 517-886-9144. Michigan Audubon members: \$15 per adult, \$5 per child ages 4 – 17; children under age 4 are free. Non member's participation fee is \$25 per adult, \$10 per child. No unaccompanied minors allowed. Bring your own tent. We encourage you to bring binoculars, field guides, and your camera. Don't forget the bug repellent! No RV hookup available. Event held rain or shine. The Ronald H. Warner Sanctuary is located approximately five miles southwest of Hastings on Erway Rd.

Migration Celebration Week: Sept. 8-12

The Lake Bluff Bird Sanctuary has a week of activities planned to celebrate fall migration along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Beginning on Tuesday, September 8 you can attend special presentations by Manistee area organizations, watch special showings of nature movies, participate in birding hikes or just shop in the Nature Store during special evening hours. The week will culminate on September 12 with a day full of activities. Join members of the Manistee Audubon Society and Lake Bluff resident managers Rich and Deb Krieger for a fun filled week. Make sure to check out the latest details on the [festival page](#) of our website.

AUDUBON ART EXHIBIT IN JACKSON

Plan to see the nationally traveling exhibition, *John James Audubon: American Artist and Naturalist*, at the Ella Sharp Museum of Art and History, now through August 29, 2009. This traveling exhibition comes from the John James Audubon Museum and State Park in Henderson, Kentucky. The Ella Sharp Museum of Art and History is located in the Ella W. Sharp Park at 3225 Fourth St. in Jackson. The museum can be reached by phone at (517) 787-2320 or via their website at www.ellasharp.org.



BIRDS ON LINE



Birding in the United States: A Demographic and Economic Analysis

This is a report from the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

http://library.fws.gov/Pubs/birding_natsurvey06.pdf

Kirtland's Warblers in Wisconsin appear in this video prepared by Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin. <http://www.birdchick.com/wp/2009/07/wisconsin-kirtlands-warbler-video/>

New Michigan birding and wildlife website launched. This website is planned as a broad, comprehensive family site with an emphasis on conservation. <http://www.mibirdingnetwork.com/index.php>

Michigan Audubon on Twitter! Follow us...

Michigan Audubon is now on Twitter. Visit <http://www.twitter.com/michiganaudubon> to receive messages about upcoming programs, media alerts, and special discounts in the Michigan Audubon bookstore. Twitter is just one of the social media tools we'll be using to stay connected with Michigan Audubon members and bird enthusiasts in Michigan and beyond.

What's Twitter?

Twitter is a service for individuals to communicate and stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent messages. People write short updates, often called "tweets" of 140 characters or fewer. If you don't already have a twitter account, you can sign up for one here: <http://www.twitter.com>. It's a free service and requires you to create a log-in name and password on your first visit.

What does it mean to follow someone on Twitter?

Following someone simply means receiving their Twitter updates. When you follow someone, every time they post a new message, it will appear in your Twitter home page. New messages are added to your home page (or you can receive them on your mobile phone) as we post them, so you always get updates about Michigan Audubon in real time.

We hope you'll follow us! You can also learn about Michigan Audubon, buy a book, or register for a birding event online, by visiting the all-new <http://www.michiganaudubon.org>.

Lake Bluff Quilt Raffle

Members of the Manistee Victorian Quilters Guild have created a beautiful queen size quilt that is being raffled off to benefit Michigan Audubon's Lake Bluff Bird Sanctuary. The "Nature's Friend" quilt is a nine-patch block quilt in the colors of blue, brown and mauve. Tickets for the raffle are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. Second place in the drawing wins two throw pillows and third place is a fleece throw with the Manistee lighthouse on it. The drawing for the quilt will be held on September 12. Winners need not be present. To purchase tickets for the quilt, send a check made payable to: Lake Bluff Quilt Raffle, 6011 W. St. Joseph Hwy., Suite 403, Lansing, MI 48917.

