

The Meadowlark

The Newsletter of Genesee Valley Audubon Society, Vol. XXXI, No. 5
May/June 2004



The Conservation Quandary

From the President

June Summers

Alternative energy sources, sources other than oil, are being sought today for tomorrow's needs. Every energy source has a socio-economic cost, for example hydrogen is not found naturally and requires a lot of energy to separate it from hydrocarbons, solar power requires solar collectors which can be considered visual pollution. The newest and largest trend to hit Central and Western New York is wind turbine farms, which have been proposed in several places across the State. Locally, wind turbine farms have been proposed in Springwater, the Seneca Army Depot and near Hi-Tor Wildlife Management Area near Naples.

The proposed wind farm near Hi-Tor WMA really causes a conservation quandary. Environmentalists agree that wind farms have the possibility of being an excellent alternative energy source because no polluting byproducts are produced. However, little is known about the effects of wind turbines on nocturnal neotropical migratory birds of the East Coast.

We do know from communications tower studies that nocturnal migrants are attracted to lighted towers. Anything over 210 feet must be lighted according to FAA regulations. Towers with guide wires are particularly dangerous to night migrants in fog.

Attracted by the lights, the migrants fly around the towers, flying into the guide wires to their death. This phenomenon has been recorded many times. This problem occurs only under the specific conditions of migration seasons, fog and lighted towers. Can this happen with the blades of a wind turbine? The turbines proposed for the Hi-Tor area are to be approximately 400 feet tall, requiring FAA standard lighting. This area is also known to be shrouded in fog when surrounding areas are not.

The Hi-Tor WMA has been designated as an Audubon Important Bird Area and as a NYS-DEC Bird Conservation Area. Genesee Valley Audubon Society did a three-year breeding bird survey of Hi-Tor WMA in the late 1990's. That breeding bird survey and the current Breeding Bird Atlas data give us a good picture of the birds that nest in the area. But, what about nocturnal migrants, including bats?

Fortunately New York State requires that both State and local government agencies must consider environmental impacts equally with social and economic factors during the decision-making process for privately or publicly sponsored action. This process is known as the State Environmental Quality Review, SEQR. The advantages to the SEQR process are



that the public may participate in the scoping of the draft Environmental Impact Statement, review SEQR documents and comment, and participate in SEQR hearings on the environmental impact of the project. We do have a voice.

GVAS will participate in the SEQR process as closely as possible. We will suggest the developers for this project be required to do radar studies for a year at least to study the nocturnal migration over this ridge. We will also offer the breeding bird data that we have so that the NYS-DEC can make decisions on the future of the project using sound science.

If you have any suggestion on scientific data that should be collected or would like to participate in this project review, call June Summers, (585) 965-6047.

Genesee Valley Audubon Center At the Mt. Morris Dam 2004 Programming Schedule

As of January 9, 2004

Saturday, May 15, **Birdathon** – 11:00pm - 2:00pm. A full Day of Birding. Come for the bird walk at 7:30am. Stick around for some light refreshments, and then join GVAC for a carpool drive along Visitor Center Road and River Road. Birdathon is our annual fundraiser. Get sponsors or make a donation of \$10.00. May in Livingston Country is a good chance to see many different bird species. If coming for the entire day bring lunch. Binoculars are recommended.

Saturday, May 22, **Planting a Butterfly Garden**, 10:00am. Our youth volunteers from Earth Day, April 24th, will be back to plant their butterfly garden. Come out and discover which plants attract wildlife, and which plants are native to Upstate New York. Your children will be able to join in to make our nature center and surrounding area a beautiful welcoming haven for butterflies and birds this summer.

Saturday, June 26, **Spring/Summer Nature Journaling**, 12:30pm. Have you even considered beginning a nature journal to record your thoughts, experiences, and sights? Learn how with artist Pam Brickell. This is the 1st of three sessions. Rain date Sunday, June 27, same time. Fee \$2.00 per person or \$5.00 per family.

Saturday, July 31, **Summer Nature Journaling**, 12:30pm. This will be the height of summer. What a wonderful time to come out and enjoy the trails, while learning how to sketch and record your thoughts and experiences. Learn how with artist Pam Brickell. This is the 2nd of three sessions. Rain date, Sunday, August 1, same time. Fee \$2.00 per person or \$5.00 per family.

August -TBA, **The Butterflies of Upstate New York**, 12:30 – 1:30pm. Everyone who has helped us with our butterfly garden throughout the spring and summer is welcome back to see what “harvest” we have reaped. After learning about the kinds of possible butterflies we might attract we will go out to our garden and field and see what butterflies are hanging out around the center.

Directions to the Genesee Valley Audubon Center in Mt Morris

From the North: Take 390 to Exit 7 Mt. Morris and Letchworth Park. Turn left on to 408S. In town 408S will turn left followed by a very quick right. Follow 408S for

1.9 miles. Turn right at the William B Hoyt II, Mt Morris Dam Entrance. Drive up to the visitor parking lot (1.7 miles) to meet walk leader.

From the South: Take 390N to Exit 6 Sonyea. Take Route 36 North for seven miles. Turn Left on to Route 408S and travel for 1.9 miles. Turn right at the William B. Hoyt II, Mt Morris Dam Entrance. Drive up to the visitor parking lot (1.7 miles) to meet walk leader.

For further information regarding the walk contact Loretta Morrell at (585) 338-3683. For further directions contact the William B. Hoyt II Visitor Center at (585) 658-4790

Nature Walks

At the Audubon Center

Additional walks may be scheduled throughout the year. All walks are free and open to the public of all ages. Binoculars will enhance your enjoyment. Wear sturdy footwear that can get wet, and dress for the weather.

Saturday, May 15 7:30am – 9:00am. Warbler Walk. Birdathon

Saturday, June 19 7:00am – 8:30am and again from 8:45am – 10:45 am Warbler Walks

Saturday, July 10 7:00am – 8:30am and again from 8:45am – 10:45am Warbler Walks

Saturday, August 7 12:30pm – 2:00pm

Saturday, September 4 12:30pm – 2:00pm

Audubon Center Wish List

| | |
|---|--|
| Volunteers | Safe |
| Large Refrigerator for basement or garage | Computer Desk (receptionist/upstairs office) |
| Bar-size Refrigerator for Retail Space | Filing Cabinets |
| Bookcases for Resource Library and retail space | Shelving |
| Displays for nature center and retail space | Microscope |
| Cash Register | Money for Lumber and Paint |
| | Spotting scope |

Acknowledgments

Genesee Valley Audubon Society would like to thank the following people:

Phyllis Mc Caulley for the donation of a picture window
Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Morrell for the donation of carpeting

Irene Szabo for the donation of a Gateway Computer
John Babbitt for the use of Turkey Vulture Slides

Carolyn Redding for her supply of Turkey Vulture, Short-eared Owl, and Raptor Pictures

Mrs. Joyce Tantillo for her \$50.00 gift

It's for the Birds: a festival celebrating International Migratory Bird Day

May 8, 2004, 10:00am to 4:00pm at Braddock Bay Park (Admission Free)

Presented by BirdCOR - a non-profit coalition of local environmental organizations and agencies

The festival will celebrate the beauty and wonder of migratory birds while calling attention to the need to conserve their habitats. There will be educational demonstrations, fun learning activities and games for the kids and families, and many opportunities to find out more about migratory birds and the organizations that support their conservation. After the festival, projects and conservation activities planned and carried out as part of IMBD will leave a lasting legacy to benefit birds in the Rochester area.

This year's theme for the nationwide IMBD celebration is Conserving Colonial Birds. Come to the festival...Have a great time...Learn about Colonial Birds.

Featured Speaker: Dr. Stephen Kress, staying with the Conserving Colonial Birds theme, will speak on Atlantic Puffins, a colonial water bird.

Dr. Kress is a world-renowned ornithologist and director of the National Audubon Society's Seabird Restoration Program. He will speak on Project Puffin, which he started in 1973 to reestablish a colony of Atlantic Puffins on Eastern Egg Rock off the coast of Maine. Dr. Kress will discuss the reasons for starting this groundbreaking project and extension into the Audubon Seabird Restoration Program.

Dr. Kress will also speak on the latest book that he has coauthored, *Saving Birds, Heroes Around the World*. This exciting book tells the stories of six birds and the people

who are working to save them. From the Black Robin of New Zealand, the Lesser Kestrel of Israel, to common Murres in California, these inspiring stories will awe you.

Organizations, artists, and crafts persons participating in the festival include the following: Jessie Barry, wildlife artist; Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO); Braddock Bay Raptor Research (BBRR); Don Buss, wood carver; Environmental Education and Conservation Global (EECG); Genesee Country Nature Center; Genesee Valley Audubon Society (GVAS); Nan Hoffman, folksinger; Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; Pam Johnson Brickell, wildlife artist; Terry Kozakiewicz, Nature Photographer; Lower Great Lakes Fishery Resources; David Missel, wood-carver; Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; New York Sea Grant; New York State DEC, Project WET and Project WILD; Rochester Birding Association (RBA); Linda Sabha, wildlife artist; Sea Kayak Rochester; Seneca Park Zoo; The Nature Conservancy (TNC); Water Education Collaborative; Wild Wings; Wildlife Society, student chapter at Finger Lakes Community College.

Find more details here:
www.eecg.org/imbd.htm

Directions to Braddock Bay Park:

Take Rte. 390 north to the end. Exit onto the Lake Ontario State Parkway, West. Go to the second exit, East Manitou Rd/Braddock Bay Park Exit; turn right (north), less than 50 yards down the road turn left into the Park.

MBD Festival Schedule

Braddock Bay Park throughout the day: Live Birds of Prey, raptors from Wild Wings and Braddock Bay Raptor Research, will be on display; Migration Game; Kids Crafts; Birdie Activities; Bird Carving Demos; Craft vendors and the Hawk Watch.

10:00 am Exhibits open at Braddock Bay Park.

Hawk Watch open. Bird Walk.

10:30 am **Live Bird Demo**, Wild Wings will show live birds of prey including a Peregrine Falcon and an eagle.

11:00 am **Saving Birds**; Dr. Stephen Kress retells stories of people who are working to save birds around the world.

Noon **Live Bird Demo**, Braddock Bay Raptor Research.

Tour of the Banding Station.

Hosted by Braddock Bay Raptor Research.

1:00 pm **Project Puffin**, Dr. Kress recounts his work restoring puffins to Eastern Egg Rock off the coast of Maine.

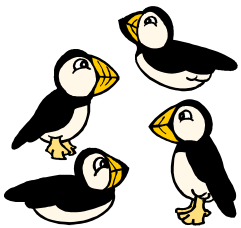
Throughout the afternoon: the Blue Goose, National Wildlife Refuge System Mascot; the Montezuma Bald Eagle (Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge); and the Incredible Hawk (Braddock Bay Raptor Research).

2:00 pm **Purple Martin Presentation**, Rick Marx. What it takes to be a landlord for these amazing birds.

3:00 pm **Live Bird Demo**, Braddock Bay Raptor Research.

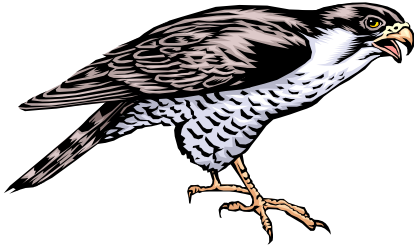
4:00 pm Close

Food: Hot Dogs and Hamburgers provided by Onsite Vending
Cookies, Muffins, and Coffee by Montana Mills



Fledgling Falcon Watch

Genesee Valley Audubon Society (GVAS) is organizing the fourth annual Fledgling Falcon Watch. Falcon watchers observe the young falcons as they try their wings. That first leap off the Kodak Office building is very exciting and frightening for the young falcons.



Fledgling falcons are like toddlers, wobbly on their wings and curious. This can be a dangerous combination for the young falcons. On

their first flight they quickly become exhausted and can end up on the ground. On the ground they can be hit by cars or fall prey to raccoons and other predators. Later when they become better flyers they investigate places and things that they shouldn't, like air conditioning cooling towers or air shafts, where they can become trapped.

Falcon watchers insure the safety of the fledglings as they face the perils of the world for the first time. They will keep track of the fledgling movements from sun up to sun down. If one of the fledglings lands on the ground they watch the bird and keep it from harm; if necessary the bird is removed from the area and released from a higher vantage point. This year will be particularly interesting, because plans are being made to put a satellite transmitter on one of the young falcons to track its movements after their flying abilities allow

them to start exploring farther and farther away.

The biggest benefit to being a falcon watcher is the opportunity to learn falcon behavior. Watching the parents, Mariah and Kavar, transfer prey in mid air is awe inspiring. The fledglings have their own distinct personalities and their interactions with each other are often comical.

To meet great people and learn a lot about bird behavior, volunteer. Call June Summers at (585) 865-6047 to find out when the signup and orientation meeting will be held in June.

Falcon Transmitter

Assuming that Mariah and Kavar will successfully raise their young, GVAS and The Migration Research Foundation have become partners to facilitate the tracking of at least one young falcon by satellite. One young falcon will be fitted with a solar-powered transmitter for \$5000.00. Satellite time and data analysis services can cost thousands of additional dollars over the transmitter's three-year service life. Our goal is to gain a better understanding of the movements and migration of the Rochester fledglings. For more information call June Summers, 585-865-6047, or send donations (check or money order only, please, made payable to Migration Research Foundation) to Peregrine Falcon Fledgling Transmitter Fund, c/o Migration Research Foundation, 98 Linden Street, Rochester, New York 14620.

The 2004 Fairport Rubber Duck Race

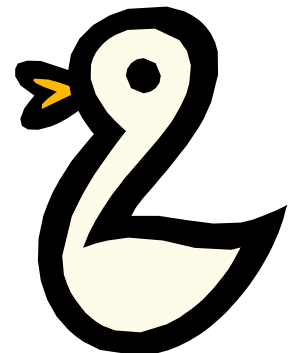
What is a Rubber Duck Race? Thousands of bright yellow rubber ducks floating down a local waterway as people cheer their adopted ducks and hope they "swim" for a prize.

You can make a tax-deductible donation of \$5 to adopt a duck. Each duck will be banded with a number, and the person who adopts a duck receives a numbered ticket matched to that duck. On the day of the race, the banded ducks will be released onto the race site and the first ducks to cross the finish line win prizes for the people who adopted them. Thousands in prizes will include fabulous goods and services from local merchants, including two round trip tickets on the new ferry to Toronto, the "Spirit of Ontario."

The race will be held on June 12, 2004, on the Erie Canal in the village of Fairport, NY.

BirdCOR, a not-for-profit Rochester Area coalition of some twenty local, state and national organizations and agencies interested in promoting conservation of birds and their habitats, is conducting this race. Money raised will be used for local conservation projects. A portion of the funds will be reinvested for service projects undertaken by area schoolchildren and members of scouting and other youth groups.

Tickets will be on sale April 12 at the Bird House, 3026 Monroe Ave., or call June Summers (585-865-6047). Official rules and prize information will be posted on the web site, <http://www.eecg.org/birdcor/>



Birdathon 2004 is Saturday, May 15th

If you are a regular reader of this newsletter you will know that Genesee Valley Audubon Society has been growing fairly quickly over the past few years. This has been very exciting to us, but at the same time it has been a little frightening. To grow we need funds. Currently our annual income is not keeping up with our growth. We need those of you who believe in conservation and the educational message that we proclaim to put your money where your heart is. Birdathon is yet another way that you can assist us in raising money to cover some of our many expenses for the coming year

For those of you who are unfamiliar with Birdathon, here's what you do. First find sponsors. Ask everyone you know to sponsor you for a little or a lot. They can sponsor you for a flat rate or be brave and sponsor you per species. On May 15th gather up your friends, family members, or even just go for a walk by yourself around your neighborhood, and look for as many different species of birds as possible. Write down all the different species you find. Go back to the people who sponsored you and collect your pledges. It's easy, it's fun, and you will have a great time.

If you don't have anyone to go birding with or you would like to become a part of a birdathon group, then plan on coming out to Mt. Morris Audubon Center for a day of bird watching. We are offering a morning bird walk from 7:30am – 9:00am as our monthly bird walk. Refreshments will follow at 10:00am, we will review our bird checklist at that time. Beginning at 11:00am we are offering a roadside birding trip which will begin at the William B. Hoyt II Visitor Center off 408S in the town of Mount Morris. We will travel along River Road to encounter several species of grassland birds. Depending on road conditions we will continue this driving tour down a seasonal road that follows along Letchworth State Park. We will be visiting both sides of the gorge; both sides are listed as Important Bird Areas of New York by National Audubon. Bring your lunch and plan on staying for the entire day. Since this is a fundraising event we are requesting that each participant either raise pledges or donate \$10.00 to Genesee Valley Audubon Society. For reservations contact Loretta Morrell at 338-3683.

Here at Genesee Valley Audubon Society, we use a portion of our Birdathon funds to provide Audubon Adventures to as many 4th and 5th grade classes as possible. Audubon Adventures is an environmental newsletter aimed at children. GVAS sends another

portion to the New York State office of National Audubon to support their lobbying efforts in Albany on behalf of the environment. Money is also needed to further establish the nature center out in Mt Morris, and to help fund International Migratory Bird Day and other programming that GVAS produces throughout the year.

However you choose to support Birdathon, your time and money are well spent. For more information, or sponsor forms, or if you would like to find someone to sponsor for Birdathon 2004, call Marylynn Marino at 235-3560. All Birdathon donations should be sent to Bill Gruenbaum, 1 Tully Lane, Rochester, NY, 14626.

FIRST SUNDAY HIKES

GVAS will continue our First Sunday Hike Series for the fourth year. We will be hiking in Durand-Eastman Park in 2004. We will be meeting at the Golf Course Club House parking lot on King's Highway which runs through the park. King's Highway may be accessed from Lakeshore Blvd.

The purpose of these hikes is to familiarize our members and friends with the beauty of our area parks as Audubon Important Bird Areas. Most of all we have fun discovering what nature has to offer. Children are welcome.

DATES AND TIMES

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| May 2 | 8:00 a.m. |
| June 6 | 8:00 a.m. |
| July 4 | 8:00 a.m. |
| August 1 | 8:00 a.m. |
| September 5 | 3:00 p.m. |
| October 3 | 3:00 p.m. |
| November 7 | 3:00 p.m. |
| December 5 | 3:00 p.m. |

EMS Club Days

Friday, April 23rd, and Saturday, April 24th
Both days all day, 10:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

As member of an outdoor club, you can get 20% off your total purchase at EMS during Club Days. This newsletter with your mailing label is proof of membership in Genesee Valley Audubon. The local Eastern Mountain Sports (EMS) store is in Marketplace Mall.

Reduce pesticide use in home and garden

Pesticides are designed to kill, repel, or otherwise control perceived pest organisms – they are intentionally toxic substances. It is critical to realize, furthermore, that the vast majority of pesticides are toxic to organisms beyond the targeted pests. Whenever we use insecticides (for insect control), herbicides (for weed control), fungicides (for fungus control), rodenticides (for rodent control), or other pesticides, we must recognize that we are potentially exposing birds, beneficial organisms, pets, and people to risk. It is estimated that seven million birds die each year because of exposure to lawn pesticides. In a recent study of pesticide exposure among children living in a major U.S. metropolitan area, traces of garden chemicals were found in 99% of the 110 children tested. Remember, because children and pets have smaller body sizes, a tendency to play and roll on the ground, and frequently put in their mouths things that they find, they have a greater risk of exposure to applied pesticides do than adult humans.

Pesticide use is rampant in this country – homeowners apply an estimated 78 million pounds of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides per year to their homes, lawns, and gardens. And, this does not include applications made by pest control and lawn care professionals. Herbicide use is growing at a particularly rapid rate with homeowners using over 50% more than they did 20 years ago. According to the most recent data reported by the EPA (1999), 74% of a total 103.9 million U.S. households use some type of pesticide – 58 million households using insecticides, 40 million using

herbicides.

As a consequence of such widespread use, pesticides have become pervasive in our environment. A U.S. Geological Survey analysis of 20 major river basins and aquifer systems reveals that commonly used lawn and garden pesticides are routinely found in surface and ground water throughout the country. Many can also persist in soil and in our gardens, and can be carried on our feet into our homes.

Beginning in your backyard you can do your part to reduce the amount of toxins that can potentially end up in streams, soil, food chains, and on children's hands. Before even contemplating pest control – make sure you have a pest problem. Learn your enemies. Equally important, learn your natural allies in pest control and welcome these beneficial organisms such as dragonflies, parasitic wasps, and lacewings into your yard.

In the healthy backyard, less-toxic alternatives are used to deal with common pests and weeds should a problem occur. In many cases, the only “active ingredient” you'll need is some elbow grease; hand-pulling weeds, for instance, can eliminate the use of herbicides and the risks they pose to the broader environment. Before reaching for the spray, dust, or turf builder, consider the many available alternatives. Encourage your neighbors to do the same since what they spray on their yard can drift to yours. If repeated infestations of your plants have you bugged, consider native plants – they're more resistant to pests and are adapted to withstand attacks.

EXTOXNET (Extension Toxicology Network) Cooperative Extension

Coalition offers science-based information on the toxicology of over 100 common pesticides written in digestible language for the non-expert.

<http://pmep.cce.cornell.edu/profiles/extoxnet/>

National Pesticide Information Center

Cooperative service of Oregon State University and the U.S. EPA providing “objective, science-based information about a wide variety of pesticide-related subjects.”

<http://npic.orst.edu/index.html> (800) 858-7378

Beyond Pesticides/National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides

Provides information on the human health and environmental effects of commonly used pesticides and offers suggestions alternatives to their use.

<http://www.beyondpesticides.org/>

PAN (Pesticide Action Network) Pesticide Database

A “diverse array of information on pesticides from many different sources” for approximately 5,400 active ingredients, additives, and solvent. Integrated with the U.S. EPA formulated product database.

<http://www.pesticideinfo.org>

NCAP (Northwest Coalition Against Pesticides)

Offers a wealth of information and downloadable fact-sheets about pesticides, alternatives, and recommended activities.

<http://www.pesticide.org>

Beyond Pesticides Coalition – Marin County, CA

Site offers information on pesticide education, IPM ordinances, Healthy School initiatives, and Neighbor Notification or “Right to Know” ordinances.

<http://www.pesticidefreezone.org/home.htm>

10 Steps for Responsible Pesticide Use

1. PRACTICE PREVENTION

Keep indoor areas clean and dry. Keep outdoor areas clear of trash and standing water. Remove potential pest hiding or breeding sites.

Keep your plants and soil healthy. Plant native flowers, trees, shrubs, and grasses to take advantage of their ability to thrive in your area and their natural anti-pest defense systems.

Pests are often the symptom of a problem rather than the source. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a pest control approach that stresses prevention of problems that may lead to pest infestations.

2. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A PEST PROBLEM

Seeing a bug or a weed doesn't mean you have "pest problem." Could it be a beneficial insect or a desirable native plant? Take the time to identify it.

Pest control does not mean pest elimination. If you find a potential pest species, is it abundant enough to cause a problem?

3. TRY NON-TOXIC CONTROL METHODS FIRST

Our reliance on synthetic chemicals to control pests is a 20th century phenomenon. There are scores of alternatives – some dating back centuries, some newly devised. Think outside the box (or spray can), literally.

4. IF YOU MUST USE A PESTICIDE, USE THE LEAST TOXIC

ALL PESTICIDES ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL. Different pesticides carry different levels of risk to you, others, and the environment.

Pesticides labeled CAUTION are considered least hazardous to human health. WARNING signals more poisonous pesticides. DANGER (with skull and crossbones) identifies extremely poisonous pesticides.

Be aware that the risks of some pesticides may be very different for humans, birds, aquatic organisms, and

5. READ THE LABEL, READ THE LABEL, READ THE LABEL

It bears repeating. The label provides the critical information you need for the safest use, and only legal uses, of a pesticide.

Read the label BEFORE you BUY, MIX, USE, STORE, or DISPOSE of ANY pesticide.

Read the label EVERY TIME you reach for a pesticide.

6. USE ONLY THE RECOMMENDED AMOUNT MORE IS NOT BETTER. Use only the amount specified on the label.

When preparing a pesticide for use, mix only the amount you will need at that time.

7. PROTECT YOURSELF, OTHERS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

USE COMMON SENSE!

Wear protective gear, don't smoke or eat, apply only at the time and under the conditions specified on the label.

Alert family, guests, and neighbors when using pesticides and don't apply when people, pets, or wildlife are near.

Don't apply pesticides when windy or near water sources. Remember there are many pathways through which pesticides can spread beyond a targeted area.

Take heed of the time interval needed after treatment before a lawn or other area is safe for small children and pets.

8. KNOW THE SIGNS OF PESTICIDE POISONING

Know the signs of poisoning for the pesticide that you are using. Different symptoms can result from different pesticides. Different symptoms will result from different routes of exposure – inhaled vs. ingested vs. skin contact.

Review first aid information provided on the label before using a pesticide.

9. STORE UNUSED PESTICIDES IN LOCKED AREAS IN THEIR ORIGINAL CONTAINERS

CHILD RESISTANT DOES NOT MEAN CHILD-PROOF. Close packages properly, using all child-resistant features. Store out of reach. Lock the storage cabinet.

Never transfer pesticides to other containers, especially those from food or drink items.

Avoid having pesticides that will need to be stored. Buy only the amount of pesticide that you need for the specific problem you've identified.

10. DISCARD OLD, POORLY LABELED, OR DISCONTINUED PESTICIDE PRODUCTS IN A SAFE MANNER

DON'T STOCKPILE. INVENTORY WHAT YOU HAVE. KEEP ONLY WHAT YOU NEED.

The label is critical for safest use – if you can't read the label, get rid of the product.

Pesticide uses and safety concerns change. Old products may no longer have applicable labels.

Contact local solid waste management or health agencies for disposal guidelines. State and local laws may dictate stricter guidelines than those provided on the label.

Never dispose of pesticides by pouring them down a drain of any kind.

Board of Directors**Genesee Valley Audubon Society, Inc.****Officers:**

President, June Summers; *Vice President*, vacant; *Secretary*, Joni VanDelinder; *Treasurer*, William Gruenbaum.

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The Meadowlark is published the 1st of September, November, January, March, and April. Articles for the Meadowlark should be submitted four weeks prior to the date of publication. Send articles to Joanne Mitchell, 169 Black Walnut Dr., Rochester, NY 14615, or at GJMitch@localnet.com.

Meadowlark staff: *Editor & Layout*, Joanne Mitchell; *Business Editor*, vacant; *Printing*, Community News; *Distribution*, vacant.

Genesee Land Trust Events

Island Cottage Woods Trail Work Party: 8:30-11a.m., Saturday, April 10. Meet at the Lake Plains Waterfowl Club House on Island Cottage Road in Greece, north of Ontario State Parkway.

Third Annual Native Plant Sale: 8:30a.m. - 2p.m., Saturday May 15, Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave.

Backyard Habitat Tour: 9:00 a.m. - 4p.m. Saturday, June 19. For more information contact 256-2130, info@geneseeandtrust.org or www.geneseeandtrust.org.

Keep up-to-date with our web site, www.ggw.org/gvas.

The Meadowlark

P.O. Box 886, Adams Basin, NY 14410-0886

GVAS: A chapter of the National Audubon Society

The mission of GVAS is to promote conservation of the environment through education and to advocate for its protection, focusing on birds and other wildlife in western New York.

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