

A PLACE FOR FAMILIES - A PLACE TO LEARN - A PLACE TO EXPLORE - A PLACE FOR NATURE

NEW PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES! Amanda Hull, Lead Naturalist.

Are you interested in attending some fascinating events here at the Sanctuary this summer and fall? We have planned weekly encounters for families and a new event for adults only! Keep reading to learn more!

If you plan on visiting the Ohio Bird Sanctuary over the weekend during the summer, add the Feathered Encounters in the new Treehouse Classroom to your list! The staff and I are so excited to show off all of our hard work with bird flight training. These encounters will show off one of our trained ambassadors as they fly into the Treehouse Classroom and a second bird that will be on the glove. You'll hear a presentation about both birds' backstories and some awesome facts! The Feathered Encounters in the Treehouse Classroom will occur on Saturdays at 11:00AM and 1:00PM from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Tickets are \$3 per person and can be purchased on our website online in advance. Come out to meet two of the Sanctuary's avian ambassadors while hanging out in the trees!



The Sanctuary loves to hold family-friendly events, but we thought about switching it up and having an adult only event. I'm proud to announce our newest fundraiser ... drum roll please...Easels with Elliott! If you like wine and painting nights, this is the perfect event for you! Each guest will enjoy wine and get to paint their canvas however they choose. Then Elliott, our resident Black Vulture ambassador, has been trained to leave painted tracks on top. Even if you are not the next Bob Ross, this event is still very interactive, entertaining, and educational. During each painting session, the staff will discuss the human-wildlife conflict with Black Vultures, current lethal / non-lethal methods to deter vultures, and what OBS is doing to help this cause. At the end, your canvas can be displayed on an easel for a picture with Elliott! Tickets are \$60 with wine included and \$50 without wine. The price includes a one-of-a-kind canvas you take home, an unforgettable experience with a Black Vulture, and a portion will be donated to the Black Vulture cause! To attend a future Easels with Elliott event, check your email, our website, or Facebook to find out dates this upcoming Fall.



If you would like to support our Black Vulture cause another way, visit the Sanctuary on International Vulture Awareness Day (Saturday, September 3rd). The Ohio Bird Sanctuary will be celebrating this day for the very first time! All the staff here love vultures for how smart, cool, and gross they are! Come out on the first Saturday in September to learn for yourself what amazing animals vultures are. I hope to see all of you for the Feathered Encounters in the Treehouse Classroom, Easels with Elliott, and Vulture Awareness Day!



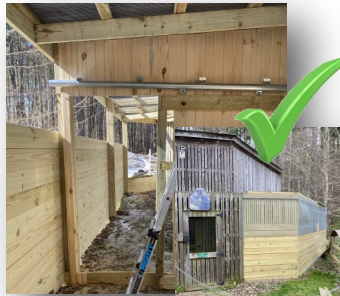
From the Desk of the Executive Director



The dust is flying at the Sanctuary! We launched the *Spreading Our Wings* Campaign last summer with a goal of raising 3.1 million dollars to address aging infrastructure and renovate and construct the necessary facilities to support our growing operations. We have received \$1,500,000 in gifts and in kind donations. This initial generosity is giving us the opportunity to tackle a few of our most pressing needs this calendar year. We have \$1,100,000 in pending grant opportunities and gifts that we are optimistic we will receive in the next 6 months. It is an exciting time for the Sanctuary!

Timeline of the 2022 *Spreading our Wings* Campaign Projects:

- February: Alumni Roofing generously replaced the leaking roof of the Education Center. The crew worked tirelessly through extreme weather, and we are truly grateful to Kristine and Todd Lindeman for their support.
- March: Birds requiring our rehabilitation services has exponentially increased over the last two years. Two enclosures were constructed adjacent to the octagon flight cage to condition small raptors preparing for release, and two enclosures were built adjacent the Bird Barn to prepare songbirds for release.



- May: Parking is in short supply at OBS. Walker Brothers will excavate a new drive for student/camper drop off, repair entrance, and expand parking area in our lower lot.
- This summer: Due to increase in programs and visitors, we have the dilemma of too many individuals using display area at the same time. We will begin preparing the site for construction for the new Avian Encounter Area that will be located adjacent to the Education Center and house our program birds. This new area will provide a separate space for onsite programs independent from the visitors enjoying the displays and songbird aviary. It will also provide an exceptional space for our birds to have more freedom to perform natural behaviors during presentations.
- September-October: Our driveway is in bad need of repair. Kokosing Co. will resurface the driveway and all parking areas.
- We have outgrown our space. The Visitor Center not only serves our guests, it also serves as an area to receive and treat injured birds, prepare food for education birds, and contains the staff offices. We plan to start renovations to this building upon receiving additional gifts. These renovations will include enlarging the lobby and entrance, creating a break area for volunteers and staff, adding a new entrance for receiving birds, and upgrading and relocating all of bird care to one end of the building. These changes will greatly enhance the visitor's experience and separate the bird care from the general public area. The new entrance will provide an accessible entrance to the bird display area and a larger naturally lit area for our resident birds that are housed in the lobby. The new bird care area will have incubators for young birds, triage area for treatment of critical birds, and upgraded ventilation and wash areas. We hope to have the required funds to start construction in December.

In 2024, we plan to construct an accessible boardwalk with observation areas that will link our Visitor Center to the existing marsh boardwalk. Check our website for updates on any restrictions or closures due to the renovations while we grow and expand to better serve you and our feathered friends.

We are only halfway through this exciting campaign for the Sanctuary and continue to ask for your support to raise the remainder needed to complete all the projects and create a maintenance trust to support daily operations. If you have questions about how to support our efforts, I can be reached by calling 419-884-HAWK or by email at exec.director@ohiobirdsanctuary.com.

Gail Laux

Executive Director & Founder

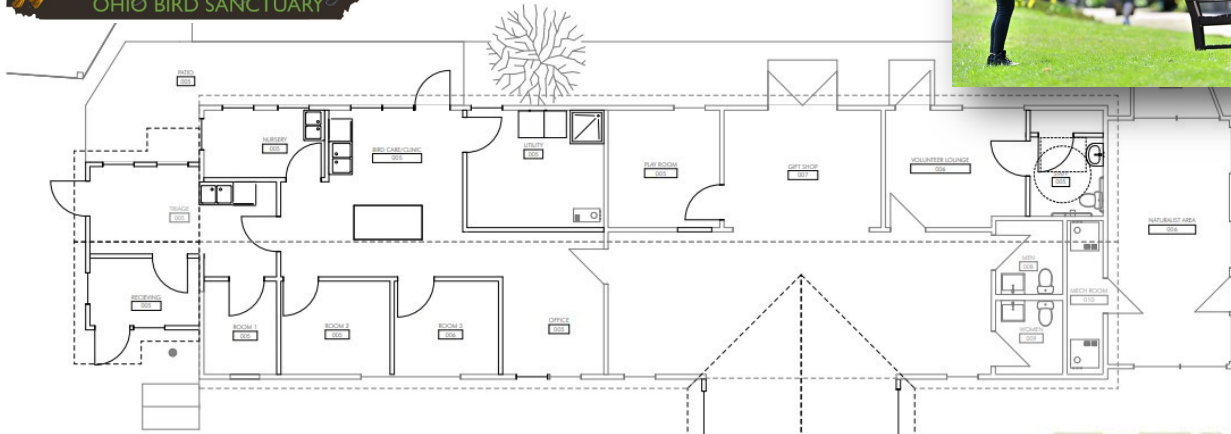
"Please excuse the mess"



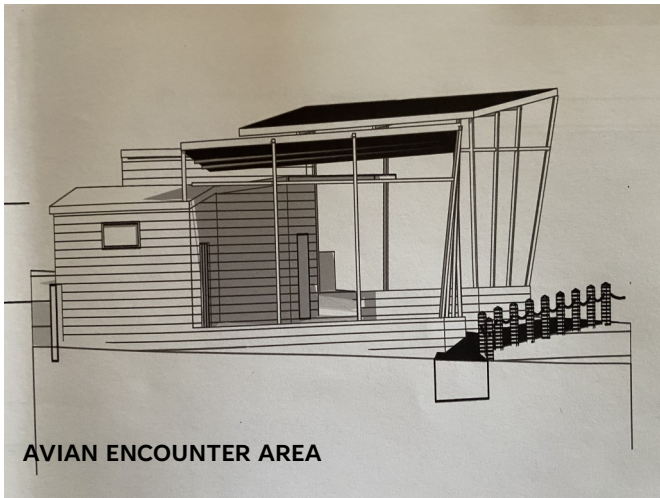
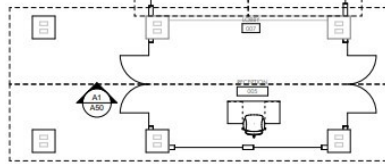
2022 Spreading Our Wings Construction Projects



VISITOR CENTER RENOVATION

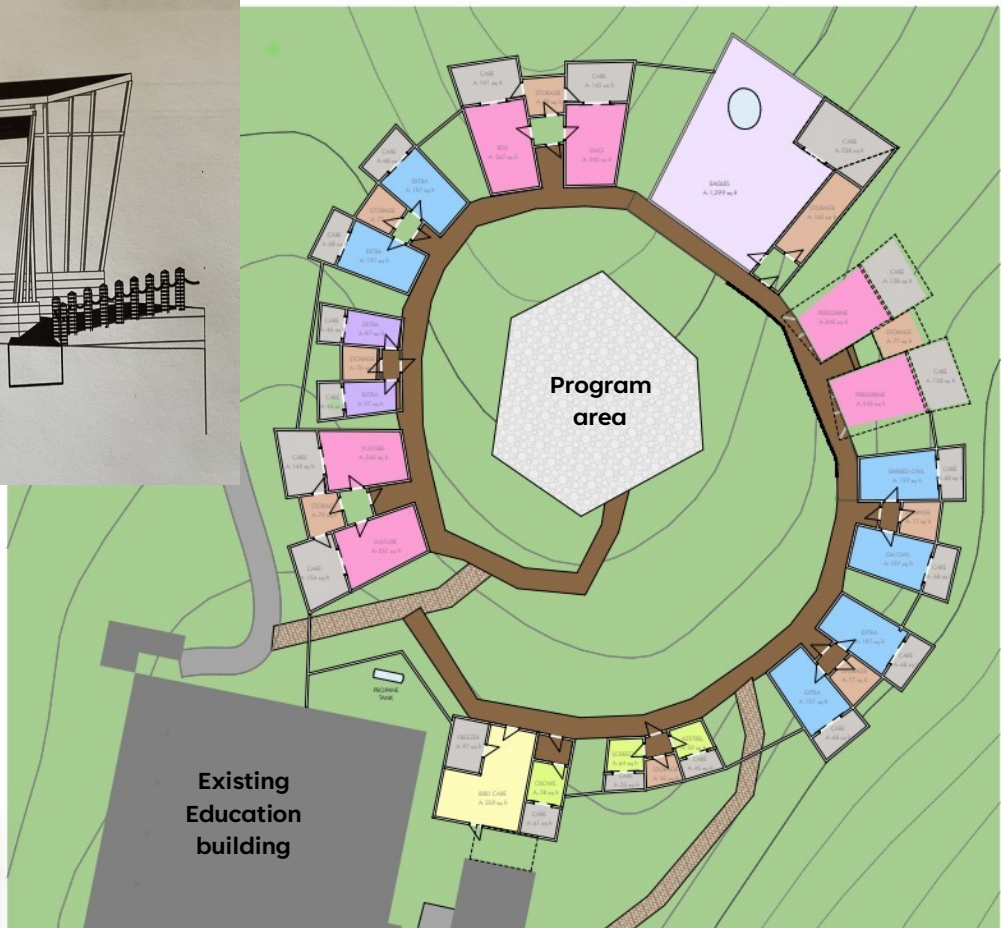
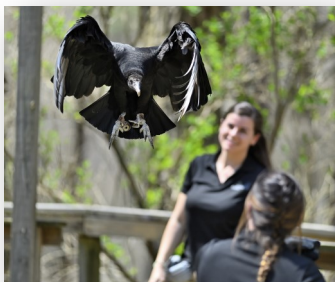


- New entrance with triage area
- Baby Bird Nursery
- New Entrance and enlarged lobby



AVIAN ENCOUNTER AREA

- Enclosures designed specifically for program birds in a wooded setting.
- Fenced program area to provide separate area for school groups and camps.
- Enhanced conservation programming with natural behavior demonstrations.



02 Conceptual Site Plan | Opt 1
SCALE: 3/32" = 1'-0"



The Art of Training Amanda Maugans, Curator of Birds

Practice makes perfect. Our staff and birds have been working hard and Grace, the American Kestrel and Elliot, the Black Vulture are now flying high for conservation efforts. Our goal with these two birds was to train for flighted behaviors to incorporate in our educational presentations. Each species has an important role in keeping our Ohio ecosystems happy and healthy, all the more reason to support them!

One organization that we are excited to work with and help support is the American Kestrel partnership that is a project of the Peregrine Fund. This specific project works on monitoring nesting boxes around the country, specifically built for American Kestrels. Our Kestrel, Grace, is excited to represent her wild cousins by showing guests how kestrels maneuver through the air and dive into their nesting boxes.

Elliot, the Black Vulture is also working hard to share important information regarding wild Black Vultures here in Ohio. A lot of folks have not had the best encounters with these feathered friends of ours. Vultures play a vital role in our ecosystems but are unfortunately causing human wildlife conflicts. Elliot will have spotlight roles this summer in our Feathered Encounters in the Treehouse classroom and Easels with Elliot. Tickets to the Feathered Encounters are currently available online and a portion of our profits from these programs will be donated to Vulture conservation.



New Protocols for Rehabilitation Whitney Gibbons, Bird Care Technician

This year, a strain of avian influenza has been sweeping across bird populations throughout the country. Avian influenza has many different strains, some being more dangerous than others, and exists naturally in bird populations. Avian influenza is more prevalent in waterfowl species. Waterfowl that carry avian influenza tend to be asymptomatic, unfortunately spreading the virus amongst more susceptible avian species as they migrate.

The Ohio Bird Sanctuary is more than prepared to deal with the avian flu due to our strong existing biosecurity protocols. The bird care team has made further steps to eliminate crossover between birds taken in for rehabilitation and our residential education birds. A new revision is we have re-routed rehab intake to the south end of the building to eliminate having public bring birds through the visitor center. During the examination of birds, our bird care staff wear gloves and gowns to prevent the possible spread of disease between birds, utilize footbaths, and sanitize the receiving area after each intake. Adult birds are then housed in a separate building away from our residential birds. We have converted one of our rehabilitation rooms as our nursery, solely to house healthy nestling songbirds and nestling raptors in order to keep them separated from the adult birds. In addition to these changes, at this time, we are not allowing any waterfowl species to be taken in. OBS is already a facility that does not rehabilitate waterfowl, but has often acted as a means of transfer of waterfowl to other rehab facilities. With waterfowl being a high vector species for avian influenza, this will further help to prevent the possible spread of disease to our facility.



OBS plans to improve our rehabilitation area through renovation of the south end of the building adding a new space specifically designed for rehab intake, triage, and a baby bird nursery. This new space will allow for complete separation of any exposure from the rehab birds to our residential birds. This will continue to better prepare us when circumstances, such as the avian flu, arise in the future.



Field Trips Are Back!

Emily Tackett, Director of Operations

The end of the school year at the Ohio Bird Sanctuary means school buses, nature hikes, and lots of students eager to learn about birds!

Field Trip season is in full swing here at the Sanctuary, and we love it! It has been a few years since we have had this many field trips on the calendar. Our field trips range from 1.5 hours to 3.5 hours in length, and the activities include a bird presentation, owl pellet dissection, nature hike, and a visit to the Treehouse Classroom!



Bird Presentations are a favorite as the students get a chance to see our birds up-close outside of their enclosures. Owl pellet dissections are always one of the staff favorites as we enjoy challenging the students to step out of their comfort zone and take on the role of a detective.

During our nature hikes, we explore the various ecosystems found around the OBS Property. We use our eyes, ears, and even nose to learn about the plants and animals around us. We also have a few activities located on our trails such as a migration game and spider web game. We enjoy utilizing activities to teach students about the natural world!



Our new Treehouse Classroom has been a wonderful addition to the Spring Field Trip Season. We have added a scavenger hunt to the “Treehouse Experience.” Students can borrow some of our binoculars as they search for everything on the scavenger hunt. It has been such a perfect addition to our field trips that now it’s difficult to imagine doing the field trips without the Treehouse Classroom!

Spring is a busy time of year at the Sanctuary, and we have had to turn away numerous requests for fieldtrips. The Staff are already trying to figure out how to fit more field trips into a day to be able to share our programs with more students!

2022 PUBLIC EVENTS CALENDAR

RAPTORS UPCLOSE: Join one of our staff members and two birds at Mohican Lodge Saturdays at 5pm.
(April–November)

KEEPER TALKS: Enjoy observing our Bird Care Team interacting with our Avian Ambassadors.
Great opportunity to ask our staff questions about the birds and watch training and enrichment activities.
Weekdays at 11am. Saturdays at 11am & 1pm (Memorial Day to Labor Day @ 12 pm) Sundays at 1 & 3 pm

TREEHOUSE FEATHERED ENCOUNTERS: Join our staff in the Treehouse Classroom for an educational encounters with a few of our feathered friends.
Cost is \$3/person. Under 2 years old is free.
Limited to 20 individuals and registration is required.
Tickets are available online. (ohiobirdsanctuary.com/calendar)
11am & 1pm (Memorial day–Labor Day)

INTERNATIONAL VULTURE DAY September 3rd

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL Fun event for families and annual fund-raiser for the Sanctuary October 15, 10am–4pm \$20/car

CHRISTMAS FOR THE BIRDS December 10th
Registration required. Details TBD.



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Ohio Bird Sanctuary
3774 Orweiler Road
Mansfield, OH 44903

NEWS HAWK



**Non-profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Mansfield, OH
Permit # 114**

Or current resident

Visitor Center and Trail Hours

Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 4 pm Sunday 12 -4 pm
Closed Monday and Holidays

Admission

\$5/Adult \$3/Child (3-15 years old) & Military/Veteran
Members are Free

Become a member today and receive free admission to the bird display area and early registration and discounts on camps, and special events!



Owl \$25 (Individual)

Free admission for one individual.

Hawk \$50 (Family)

Free admission for one household plus a \$5 Gift card.

Falcon \$100 (Family & Friends)

Hawk level benefits plus free admission for 4 guests and a \$10 Gift card.

Eagle \$500 (Supporter)

Falcon level benefits plus free admission for 8 guests, a \$25 Gift card, and a private tour.



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