OHIO BIRD

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

TO THE TREES!!!

It is finally happening! The Treehouse Classroom construction will begin this summer! The Treehouse Masters (Nelson Treehouse & Supply) have been busy building the intricate pieces of the classroom in their workshop, and they will transport everything to the Sanctuary this July. Construction on site will take just 4 weeks to complete.

The construction area will be closed during the building process. There will not be public access to this site. The area will be roped off for safety reasons during the construction process. The process will be captured through time lapse cameras by DRM productions and will be able to be viewed through a link on our website. The delivery of construction materials and equipment will occupy a large portion of our parking area. We ask that everyone be patient during this process and come visit the Sanctuary once the Treehouse is completed.

We will be hosting special member viewing events during the construction phase and at the completion. Details and dates will be sent to members by the end of June.



What is the Treehouse Classroom?

The Sanctuary will expand its accessibility to the trails through the construction of an accessible Treehouse Classroom and forest trail. The Treehouse Classroom will be constructed by the professionals of Nelson Treehouse & Supply (Animal Planet's Treehouse Masters) and local service groups and volunteers. It will be nestled between a beech tree and a majestic sycamore tree, creating a magical space for learning, observation, and a bird's-eye view of the forest. The classroom will be accessible by bridge that will start at ground level, but as the terrain descends into the forest, the visitors rise into the treetops.

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NEWSLETTER OF THE OHIO BIRD SANCTUARY SPRING 2021

Dear Friends of OBS

We are gearing up for a very exciting summer!

Treehouse Classroom Update

The Nelson Treehouse Builders will be here in July to create our accessible Treehouse Classroom, "To the Trees!". This is a culmination of years of planning, and we are very grateful to the donors that have made this project possible. Staff & the Board have put their heads together to determine the best way to maximize the time the construction team is on site. Volunteers are being scheduled, meals to feed the workers are being planned, and we are coordinating to the best of our ability our limited parking area. We ask that everyone be patient during this building process. The construction site will be off limits. We will hold special events and open hours once the Treehouse Classroom is completed.

The OBS staff are very excited to have this new classroom space to provide unique forest exploration experiences for fieldtrips, tours, and camps. The Treehouse will be utilized for educational programming during the week and will not be open to the public Tuesday through Friday. Starting in September, we will be changing our weekend admission fees to \$5/adult and \$3/child. Weekends will be filled with additional bird encounters and opportunities to explore the Treehouse Classroom. The number of individuals that can be in the Classroom is limited to 25 people at a time to protect the health of the trees. The Treehouse Classroom has seasonal use and will only be open from the last weekend in April until the last weekend in October. We are using this first 8 weeks as a test to determine how to best have public access. Please check our website to receive updates on the construction and details on when it will be ready for visitors.

New Curator of Birds

Mary Meixner has served as our Curator of Birds for over six years. She started as a volunteer in 2012 and was part of our bird care team as a college intern and then part time bird assistant before she stepped into the role of Curator. Mary began her quest to complete the Appalachian Trail a few years ago and has decided to take time off to complete the trail and pursue other career options. We wish her well and

all of us, including the birds, will miss her.

Amanda Maugans, has accepted the position of Curator of Birds. Amanda volunteered at the Sanctuary while in high school, worked part time at OBS while pursuing a Veterinary Technician degree, and served as Curator of Birds in 2012. For the past eight years, Amanda has spread her wings studying endangered corvids in Hawaii, working at the Columbus Zoo, and served as a technician specialist for Med Vet & Hull Veterinary. We are all very excited that Amanda has returned to the Sanctuary and has brought her expertise, skills, and contagious enthusiasm back to OBS. We know she will usher our bird care into the next level of excellence.

<u>New Driveway</u>

We have invested in a new driveway to create a safer traffic flow and increase our parking spaces. The original entrance is now one way, and it is an entrance only. The new drive is now how you exit the Sanctuary. We are creating signage to help visitors follow the new pattern and where to find additional parking areas. We would like to give a special thank you to the individuals and businesses that have made this new drive possible. Thank you to Daniel Mace and John Champer for clearing the brush, Woody Woods for removing the dead Ash and damaged pine trees, Walker Brothers for excavating and building our drive, and Ohio Valley for constructing our new gates.

Gail Laar, Founder & Executive Director









Do I need your help?

Spring is the nesting season for birds and, unfortunately, it is also a time for stormy weather. This combination often produces young birds out of the nest before they are ready to be independent of their parents. These birds do not always require being rescued, but they do often need a little bit of assistance.

NESTLINGS: If the young bird dislodged from the nest is

sparsely feathered or unable to stand, it will need to be returned to the original nest or brought to a rehabilitation center. At this stage, they are unable to regulate their own body temperature and require a nest structure to support their growing legs.



BRANCHERS/FLEDGLINGS: If the young bird is uninjured and capable of standing, it does not need to be rescued. At this stage, they just need us to protect them from predation by moving them under a bush for cover or in some cases making a replacement nest and getting them up off the ground. This will allow the young bird to remain safely in the care of its parents giving it the best chance of long-term survival.

If the bird requires rescuing, it must be brought to a licensed wildlife rehabilitation center within 48 hours. This is a regulation of the US. Fish & Wildlife Service. To increase the young birds chance of survival, it is best to get the bird to a facility within hours of rescuing. Each species has very specific needs. The correct diet, rations, and environment can make the difference in a bird's ability to be released back into wild.



The Sanctuary is designed to provide secluded areas to reduce human interaction and professional care. Currently in our care, we have a variety of young birds including: Screech-Owls, Coopers Hawks, Red-shouldered Hawks, American Kestrels, Bluebirds, Robins, Mourning Doves, a Song Sparrow, and Blue Jays. Every day the nestlings are weighed to monitor weight gain and in some cases are receiving medications, tube feeding, and subcutaneous fluids. Because



of proper care, these young birds will have a second chance at a life in the wild.

UPCOMING 2021 PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Weekly Programs

- <u>Bird Encounters</u> in the Outdoor Amphitheater Saturdays at 1pm
- <u>Bird of Prey Presentation</u> @ Mohican Lodge, Perrysville Saturdays at 7pm April – November

New! - September & October

- Additional <u>Bird Encounters</u> in the Outdoor Amphitheater Saturday at 11am and 1pm Sunday at 1pm
- <u>Treehouse Classroom Exploration</u> Saturday & Sunday only.

Special Events

 <u>Fall Family Festival</u> Saturday October 16th 10am-4pm Admission: \$30/car or \$15/car for members. Special bird encounters in the Treehouse Classroom, Children Activities & Food.



New Admission Prices Tues-Friday: \$1/child \$3/adult Saturday & Sunday: \$3/child \$5/adult

Weekend price change will not begin until September 2021.

<u>Photo Fridays</u> Aug. 13, Sept. 10 & Oct. 22 @ 5pm \$30/person or \$20/member
Our avian ambassadors will be outside of their enclosures for photo opportunities and up close encounters.
Join our bird care staff after hours for this behind the scenes opportunity.
Register at this link: https://ohiobirdsanctuary.networkforgood.com/events/23069-spend-time-with-the-birds





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Or current resident

Ohio Bird Sanctuary 3774 Orweiler Road Mansfield, OH 44903

Visitor Center and Trail Hours Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 4 pm Sunday 12 - 4 pm Closed Monday and Holidays

Weekday Admission \$1/Child & Military \$3/ Adult Weekend Admission \$3/Child & Military \$5 / Adult





WWW.OHIOBIRDSANCTUARY.COM

Become an Ohio Bird Sanctuary member today and receive free admission and discounts on programs and events!



Owl \$25

Free admission for one household to bird display area and discounts on camps, programs, and events.

Hawk \$50

Owl level benefits <u>plus</u> free admission to bird display area for four guests and \$5 gift certificate.

Falcon \$100

Owl level benefits <u>plus</u> free admission to bird display area for eight guests and \$10 gift certificate.

Eagle \$500

Owl level benefits <u>plus</u> free admission for ten guests, \$25 gift certificate and discount on rentals.



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