

# Bird Town Pennsylvania

EAC Network  
Conference  
February 26, 2022



# BIRD TOWN

## PENNSYLVANIA



## Mission

Bird Town Pennsylvania works in partnership with local municipalities and like-minded organizations to promote community-based conservation actions to create a healthier, more sustainable environment for birds, wildlife and people.





- Actively engaging municipalities in PA for over 10 years
- Originated to amplify Audubon PA's Bird Habitat Recognition Program and part of the Audubon At Home Initiative under National Audubon Society
- Now under the umbrella of Pennsylvania Audubon Council and building further partnerships with other conservation groups.

# 34 Bird Towns in 9 Counties and growing!

## **Berks County**

Longswamp Township

## **Bucks County**

Chalfont Borough

Doylestown Borough

Doylestown Township

Falls Township

Lower Makefield Township

Morrisville Borough

New Britain Borough

Newtown Township

Solebury Township

Springfield Township

## **Chester County**

Kennett Township

Schuylkill Township

Tredyffrin Township

West Vincent Township

## **Delaware County**

Landsdowne Borough

Newtown Township

Radnor Township

## **Lancaster County**

Mannheim Township

## **Lehigh County**

Allentown

Lower Macungie Township

Salisbury Township

## **Montgomery County**

Abington Township

Borough of Jenkintown

Cheltenham Township

Hatfield Township

Lower Gwynedd Township

Marlborough Township

Springfield Township

Upper Dublin Township

Upper Moreland Township

Upper Salford Township

## **Northampton County**

Bethlehem City

## **Tioga County**

Wellsboro Borough



# The Goals of Bird Town

- Connect more people to nature through bird related activities, ecological landscape practices and networking,
- Improve general ecological literacy,
- Inspire municipal level change to create a more liveable community for birds, wildlife and people,
- Encourage grassroots innovation and involvement and sharing across communities.





# What does Bird Town PA provide for a municipality?

- Provides a state-wide structured program with congruous goals
- Offers concrete resources and achievable actions
- Provides a framework for community networking
- Provides support, training and workshops for Bird Town Leaders
- Provides opportunities to expand into diverse communities
- Increases opportunity and success in obtaining funding



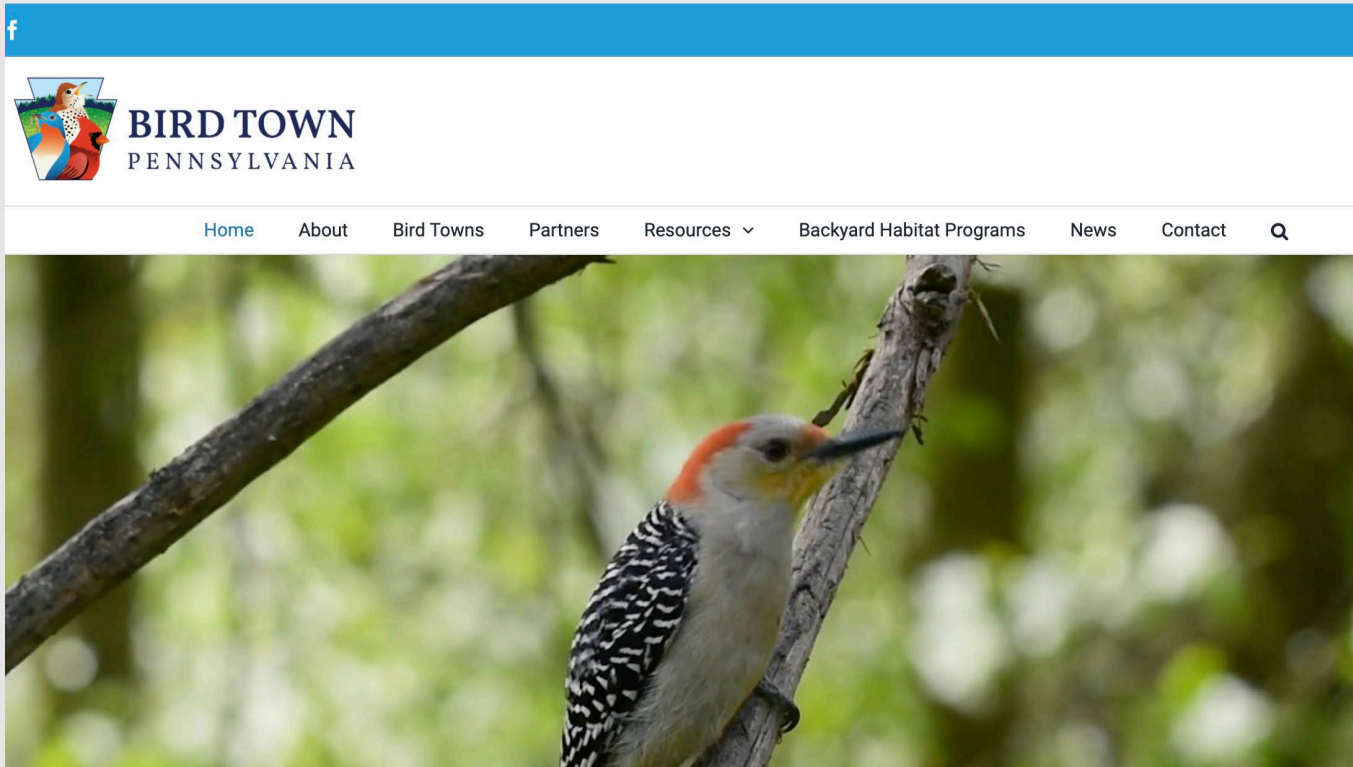
# Engage – Educate – Encourage - Support

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- holding Pop-up native plant gardens
- holding native plant sales and swaps
- developing numerous proclamations, resolutions and ordinances (PROs)
- offering informational materials at table events
- supporting and running community science programs
- educating about invasive plants and running workshops for their removal
- leading birding walks
- reducing bird window strikes
- reducing pesticide use
- working with schools to engage and educate about these issues
- holding speaker events
- educating about storm water management with rain barrel workshops and rain garden plantings
- sharing the joy of bird and nature watching







Please visit our website:  
[birdtownpa.org](http://birdtownpa.org)

- Includes a rich array of resources
- List of Conservation Partners
- A special Backpage for Bird Town Leaders Only which includes:
  - Contact Lists for the program and other programs
  - Workshop and Meeting Recordings and Supplementary documents
  - Sample PROs
  - Event and Activity Templates
  - Webinar and educational opportunities
  - Bird Town Handbook (under construction)



# Backyard Habitat Property Registration/Certification Database

- Includes 10 organizations, each offers a very similar path to develop sustainable and wildlife friendly properties.

- Our goal is to engage property owners and managers who care about providing good habitat for ecological diversity and a sustainable future.

- It is our vision to build highways of sustenance and safety to counterbalance the tremendous loss of habitat for birds, plants, and all native species.



## Audubon: Bird-Friendly Habitat

- Emphasis: Safe and healthy habitat for birds
- Requirements: Demographic data on property: size, rural, suburban, etc. Four categories of habitat are listed: Food, Shelter, Water, Nesting — At least 2 items in food and one each in shelter, water and nesting. An additional 19 question survey asks for percentages for Bird-Friendly characteristics but it is not clear how these questions impact your acceptance.
- Benefits: Audubon has many downloadable and interactive resources including Plants for Birds – a customizable database for native plants for your location with high bird value. The Audubon name is instantly recognizable.
- Cost: \$25 application fee includes cost of yard sign



## Homegrown National Park

- Emphasis: Creating habitat for wildlife one yard at a time
- Requirements: Use the link to register and then begin to add plantings of native plants for your map
- Benefits: Native plants and other resources; put your property on the map; create and track native plant goals
- Costs: Free registration, free downloadable sign for printing

# Additional Networking Opportunities

- The Bird Town Flyer: bimonthly eNewsletter for Bird Town and EAC/EAB leaders
- The Bird Town Forum: a private Facebook page group with 150+ members, where Bird Town Leaders share upcoming events, inspiring and educational material
- Bird Town PA Community eNewsletter: being developed to share across the community quarterly



## BIRD TOWN FLYER

*A Publication of the Bird Town  
Pennsylvania Working Group*



January 17, 2022

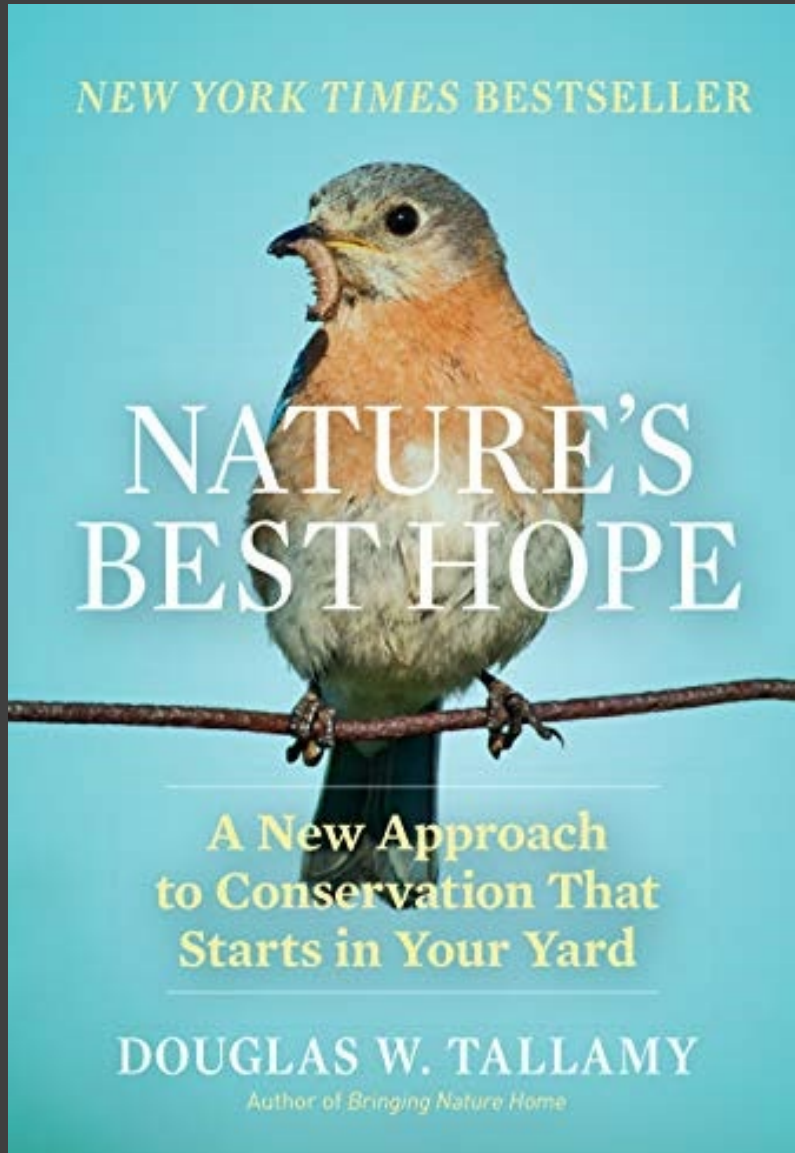
### CONNECT WITH BIRD TOWN PENNSYLVANIA

There are several ways for Bird Town leaders to stay connected with each other and Bird Town Pennsylvania through social media and on-line resources.

#### **Bird Town Flyer:**

The Bird Town Flyer is the bimonthly digital newsletter of Bird Town Pennsylvania. The "publication" schedule is the 15th of January, March, May, July, September, and November. It is distributed to the Bird Town leaders in our database and intended to provide Bird Town updates, promote upcoming workshops, and spotlight or profile an outstanding Bird Town event or project that has taken place. We encourage the submission of contact information of the leaders in their respective Bird Towns. This could include members of their

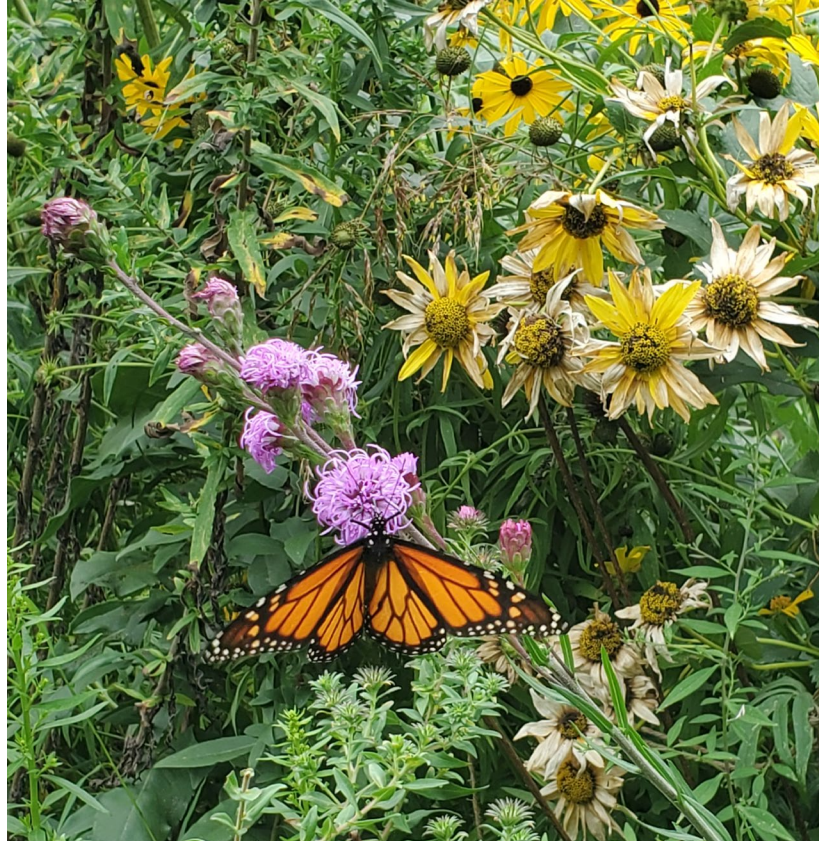




## Projects and Programs 2019-2021 *New Britain Borough*

- Annual native plant pop-up park
- Native landscaping projects throughout the Borough
- Weekly native plant sales at Borough's farmer's market
- Annual table event at Women's Farm & Garden Association "Designed for Nature" garden tour
- Book sales at table events
- Maintenance of 30+ bluebird nest boxes
- Bird walks at the Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve
- Participation in GBBC, Christmas Bird Count
- NWF "Community Wildlife Habitat" Certification





Chalfont Birdtown  
2021  
Twin Streams Park  
Native Plant garden

- Plant Grant by Bowman's Hill
- 80 Perennials, trees and shrubs donated and planted in June and July
- 22 Bluebird/Tree swallow nesting boxes maintained with many successful broods



# Newtown Township (Delaware County)



American goldfinch on anise hyssop

## Gardening with Nature in Mind

*Come visit the Garden. Join the experts virtually to discuss ways you can help build healthy habitats for your family, community, and wildlife.*

### Native Plant Pop-Up Garden Locations

<b>Newtown Township Administration Building</b> 209 Bishop Hollow Rd. Newtown Square, PA <b>May 8-15, 2021</b>	<b>St. Albans Circle</b> Newtown Square, PA <b>May 15- June, 2021</b>
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**May 5, 7:00-8:00 pm**  
Newtown Township Zoom\*

**Gardening: A Wildlife Biologist's Perspective**  
Learn how to love your garden with Michael J. McGraw, MES, QAWB (he/him/his), Senior Wildlife Biologist and Ecologist, Applied Ecological Services.  
[www.appliedeco.com](http://www.appliedeco.com)

**May 12, 7:00-8:00 pm**  
Newtown Township Zoom\*

**A Garden Conversion**  
Vince Smith, President of Valley Forge Audubon will walk us through the steps of converting his yard to a native plant habitat.

\*Zoom links will be posted on township website five days prior to the meeting.  
<https://newtowntownship.org>



Exhibit Design by  
Fiber Tree Designs



Thank you  
for your interest in  
Bird Town Pennsylvania  
and consider joining us!

Please contact us at  
[pabirdtown@gmail.com](mailto:pabirdtown@gmail.com)