



# TERN OF EVENTS

PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER  
JUNE/JULY 2021 ISSUE 21:04

*To conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the enjoyment and benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity in northwestern Pennsylvania.*

## THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

Hurray, we can finally meet in person at our annual membership meeting and picnic! We've reserved the Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle for Thursday, June 24, starting at 6PM. We'll provide the subs and beverages, and you contribute a side dish or dessert. Bring your own place setting and a cup or glass, so we don't have to waste paper or plastic. Maybe a lawn chair too, if you want to sit outside. Plus binoculars and lawn games! There won't be a program, but there will be a brief membership meeting. The Board needs you to vote on some bylaw changes. (See Pages 3,4) And if anyone would like to serve as Trustee on the Board, an election will be held. So let's get together, eat, hang out, and maybe watch a few birds.

Several Presque Isle Audubon members cleaned up Fry's Landing in late April. We collected 26 bags of mostly plastic. Thank you: Barry Gray, Ron Inrieri, Deb DiPlacido, Pat and Pete Benekos, Sylvia Jarema, Sue Przybylak, Pamela Moore, John DePaul, and Pat Howell. We picked up the usual junk: straws, bottles, food wrappers, Styrofoam. What bothered me the most were plastic shotgun wads, hundreds of them. We need to get the NW PA Duck Hunters Association help with clean up next year. (Or better yet, have plastic shotgun shells banned, along with lead ammunition. I can dream). The biggest financial supporters of Keep America Beautiful are Altria (Philip Morris Tobacco), American Beverage Association, American Chemistry Council, Dow, Food Packaging Institute, National Association of Convenience Stores, and the Plastics Industry Association. Nice arrangement: pay for work gloves and garbage bags, and in turn get volunteer labor to pick up the stuff you make or sell that's ended up as litter.

Speaking of plastic, PIA has signed onto an amicus brief filed by PennFuture in support of municipalities in southeastern PA that have filed a lawsuit on March 3, 2021 in Commonwealth Court. They are asking the Court to declare a state law preempting local governments from enacting or enforcing bans on plastic bags is unconstitutional.

(Cont. on Page 2)

## JUNE/JULY THINGS TO DO!



FOX SPARROW

**June 12, Saturday (FT) - Graveyard Pond**

**June 24, Thursday - Membership Meeting and Picnic, 6:00p at Rotary Pavilion**

**June 26, Saturday(FT) - Old Gas Well Trail**

**July 10, Saturday(FT) - Sidewalk Trail**

**July 20, Tuesday - PIA Board Meeting at 6:00**

**July 24, Saturday(FT) - Pine Tree Trail**

## 2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



### Officers

President	Sue Murawski
Vice-President	Paul Burroughs
Secretary	Mary Ann Daniels
Treasurer	Julie Dell
Retiring President	Drew Mortenson

### Board of Trustees

2018-2021	Dave Gustafson
2018-2021	Tony Keck
2019-2022	Thomas Frank
2019-2022	Bill Ferguson
2020-2023	TBA
2020-2023	TBA

### Chairs of Standing Committees

Conservation	Paul Burroughs
Education	Andrew Sipple
Field Trips	Michele Rundquist Franz
Membership	Ron Intrieri
Programs	Mary Birdsong
Publications	Janet Price
Publicity	TBA
Sales & Marketing	Jennifer Ferrick
Sanctuaries	Sue Murawski

The *Tern of Events* is published by the **Presque Isle Audubon Society**, a chapter of the National Audubon Society and a member of Audubon Pennsylvania serving northwestern Pennsylvania including Erie and Crawford counties.  
**Address:** 301 Peninsula Dr., Suite 8  
Erie, PA 16505

**Website:** [www.presqueisleaudubon.org](http://www.presqueisleaudubon.org)

## THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH (Cont.)

The newly formed PA Audubon Council held its first statewide meeting via Zoom in April. We met leaders from four other states' Councils, who gave us tips on how to make PA's Council an effective voice for each chapter in PA. The need for a process to identify and then prioritize conservation concerns was discussed. We'll meet again on June 16 to generate a list of federal and state conservation matters to tackle. Any bird or environmental advocacy issues dear to your heart you'd like to see addressed by the PAC? Let me know please!

~Sue Murawski,  
[president@presqueisleaudubon.org](mailto:president@presqueisleaudubon.org)

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEER "BIRDING BUDDIES"

When I plan my travels, I almost always visit the local Audubon chapter website or FB page to see if they have any events such as field trips happening during my visit. I noticed some of the local chapters had a list of "Birding Buddies"; volunteer guides willing to take people birding in the area. I mentioned this during a recent PIAS Executive Board meeting, and we discussed whether this might be something some of our members might like to volunteer to do. After all, who isn't always looking for an excuse to get out birding. We occasionally get requests from people coming from out of town (or even novice local birders) for bird guides to help them locate and bird at hot spots on the park. When this happens, we generally send around an email looking for volunteers willing to help. We've been getting more requests this year and think it might be a good time to see if any of you would like to be included in a list of volunteer birding guides. If you are interested in being a "Birding Buddy", please contact us at [info@presqueisleaudubon.org](mailto:info@presqueisleaudubon.org). We will not publish your contact information, but when we get a request will forward it on to the Birding Buddy volunteer group. Then, if you are available and interested, you would contact the requester with your availability.

~Michele Rundquist Franz, Field Trip Leader

## OUR BYLAWS NEED UPDATED!

Here are the proposed bylaw changes suggested by the Board. We need our members to approve them at the next general membership meeting on June 24, during the picnic. There's nothing unusual here; some clarification of Directors' duties, reinstatement of the Nominating Committee, and additional language about virtual meetings. Any words with a line through them will be deleted from the bylaws, and any words in italics will be added. Questions? Please contact anyone on the Board ahead of the meeting. The entire set of bylaws, with these proposed changes, is posted on our web site's home page: [www.presqueisleaudubon.org](http://www.presqueisleaudubon.org).

~~Article I, Section 4: Each National member shall have the right to cast one vote at the annual meeting and at any regular or special meeting of members on any motion that may properly be brought before such meeting, including the election of National officers and directors. Each Chapter-Only member shall have the right to cast one vote at the annual meeting and on motions which relate to Chapter-only issues as determined by the President.~~

*Article II, Section 4: In the event an emergency makes holding the yearly in-person membership meeting unlawful or impossible, PIAS may conduct such meeting by electronic or other remote access means, providing all participants are clearly audible to one another. PIAS must use its best efforts to make such virtual meetings as accessible as possible for all members, including those who lack access to required technology. Any action that could be taken at an in-person meeting, including bylaws amendments, may also be taken at such a virtual meeting. During a virtual meeting, all reasonable technology must be used to authenticate each individual who attends. Determination to hold a membership meeting as virtual is made by the President.*

*Article III, Section 7: Executive Board members may be recalled for just cause, following notice and opportunity to be heard. A 2/3 vote at a scheduled meeting at which a quorum is present is required for removal.*

*Article III, Section 8: In the event an emergency makes an in-person meeting unlawful or impossible, the Executive Board may hold virtual meetings online in real time, provided that all Directors present can hear each other, and best efforts are made to be accessible to the Directors, including those who lack access to the necessary technology tools to participate. In the event of*

*extenuating circumstances, a Director may remotely attend an in-person Executive Board meeting, and participate in Board deliberations and decisions, providing all participants are clearly audible to one another.*

*Article IV, Section 2. ... All officers shall be appointed or reappointed for a yearly term at the March Executive Board meeting, with the exception of the President, who is appointed for a two-year term.*

~~Article V, Section 2. Each Trustee shall be a member of at least one Standing Committee. Section 3 will then become Section 2.~~

*Article VI, Section 1: The President shall appoint and remove Chairpersons of Standing Committees. All committee chairpersons will be appointed for one year. All who desire to continue as chairpersons shall be reappointed for a succeeding year at the March Executive Board meeting.*

~~CONSERVATION COMMITTEE ... It is strongly recommended that a member of this Committee attends the Erie County Environmental Coalition meetings. The Society's representative to the Pennsylvania Audubon Society shall be a member of this committee. The committee members should attend and be familiar with the activities of similar area organizations.~~

~~EDUCATION COMMITTEE It shall be the duty of this Committee to: maintain a Speakers Bureau from which programs may be presented to other groups; promote enrollment in Audubon Camps and provide awareness of the activities of this Society and the National Audubon Society; stimulate interest and appreciation of the Audubon cause through exhibits and lectures; distribute educational materials; and coordinate the Audubon Adventures Program and the Allegany Nature Pilgrimage event. It shall be the duty of this committee to promote awareness of the Presque Isle Audubon Society by participating with local school groups, environmental groups and the general public, through lectures and activities on birds and nature; and to maintain a connection with the Allegany Nature Pilgrimage representative.~~

~~NOMINATING COMMITTEE The Executive Board shall annually appoint, at the November Executive Board meeting, a Nominating Committee of not fewer than 4 members. The Chairperson shall be a Trustee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, two additional members from the Executive Board (excluding officers), and at least one member from the general membership. This shall be a working committee throughout the year.~~

(Cont. on Page 4)

## OUR BYLAWS...(Cont.)

*Suggestions for candidates for Officers and Trustees may be submitted to the Nominating Committee by any member of the Society. The Nominating Committee shall nominate candidates for Trustees to succeed those whose term of office will expire, and for all Officers. Its report shall be presented to the Executive Board at the March meeting. The list of Trustee candidates shall be printed in the newsletter before the annual general membership meeting, and then presented to the membership at that meeting for elections. The Committee shall introduce the nominees with a brief description of his/her activities within the Society. The President will ask if there are any nominations from the floor, provided that those nominated have given their consent. A brief description of these nominees' activities within the Society shall be presented. Voting will then take place. A Trustee will win by a majority of the votes of the members present. Elected Trustees shall begin their terms of office at the first Executive Board meeting after elections.*

**SANCTUARY COMMITTEE** The Society's representative to the Erie National Wildlife Refuge, as part of National Audubon's Adopt a Refuge Program, shall be a member of this Committee.

**ARTICLE IX - CHANGE OF CHAPTER STATUS**  
Circumstances may arise under which either a Chapter or National may choose to reconsider their relationship. ...

~~In such situations, it is the responsibility of the State Director or Chapter Services Office (in states without a State Office) to work with the Chapter to attempt to return the Chapter to full activity or to compliance with the Chapter Policy. The State Director or Chapter Services Office is encouraged to use whatever tools or resources are needed to restore the Chapter to full Chapter activity or to compliance; options might include formulation of a remedial plan, or designation of "reorganization" status for Chapters needing additional time with temporary suspension of dues share and access to the mailing list.~~

~~If the Chapter is not able or willing to return to full activity or to compliance, then the State Director, acting after consultation with the State Board, or the Chapter Services Office (for Chapters in states without a State Office) may recommend to the Senior Vice President for Field Operations (SVP) that Chapter de-certification is warranted and request revocation of the Chapter's charter. If that recommendation is approved, the SVP will provide~~

~~sixty (60) days written notice of de-certification to the Chapter President.~~

~~Any Chapter, by vote of its Board, may revoke its charter and cease to be a Chapter of National by providing sixty (60) days written notice of such decision to its State Director or the Chapter Services Office (for Chapters in states without a State Office).~~

~~In any case, each member of the Chapter will remain a member of National for as long as their Audubon membership is current.~~

~~In such situations, the Executive Board should follow the guidelines of National Audubon to reorganize to become compliant, or to terminate its chapter status with National Audubon. Each member of the Chapter will remain a member of National Audubon for as long as their Audubon membership is current.~~

**ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS** The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended... and, provided further, that notice of such amendments shall have been mailed or emailed to each member of the Society.

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## RED HEADED WOODPECKERS IN TROUBLE



The Red-headed Woodpeckers at Raccoon Park in Springfield PA, have suffered multiple setbacks in recent years. In 2019, to the dismay of local birders and other residents, Raccoon Park was logged by the Township. Not only were all the large trees cut from the area between the bluff of Lake Erie and the road leading to the park, the nesting tree of the Red-headed Woodpecker, easily visible from the parking lot, was also cut. In 2020, the Red-headed Woodpeckers relocated to a tree by the pavilion. In 2021, that tree was also cut. These spectacular birds, tho rare, and in diminishing numbers, have not given up. They are nesting in a third tree this year, 2021. Let's hope third time is lucky. To survive they are going to need luck. And some Friendly Humans.

~ Issy Lawrie, Presque Isle Audubon Member

## BIRD REPORT

The following birds of note were reported from April 1 to May 16, 2021 from Presque Isle S.P. unless noted otherwise.

**Trumpeter Swan**—2; April 6 to May 13; mostly at the head of Presque Isle Bay; J.B.

**King Eider**—1; April 23 to May 9; lakeside of Presque Isle; J.B.; latest spring record, first April record.

**Eurasian/African Collared-Dove**—1; May 14; TREC tower; J.B.

**Whip-poor-will**—1; April 12; Erie; K.A.; Record early in the county by a few days.

**Least Sandpiper**—1; April 9; Gull Point; J.B.; record early in the county by about three weeks.

**Willet**—9; May 2; Edinboro Lake; J.H. 8; May 2; Vista 1; J.E. Up to 21; May 3; Gull Point; S.B., D.M., J.F., J.M.

**Lesser Yellowlegs**—365 (high count); May 7; Gull Point; J.M.

**Red-throated Loon**—1; May 9; off Beach 9; m.ob.

**American White Pelican**—1; May 4 & 5; Long Pond; R.S., J.M., resp.

**American Bittern**—16 (high count); April 27; near Sunset Point; J.B.

**Least Bittern**—1; April 13 (early); Niagara Pond; J.B.

**Cattle Egret**—1; May 3; TREC tower; J.B.

**Marsh Wren**—1; April 10; Presque Isle; J.B.; Record early by about ten days.



Marsh Wren

**Long-eared Owl**—2; April 9; Dead Pond Trail and B-trail area; J.Be., R.D.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl**—1; April 6 & 7; B-trail; R.D. 1; April 10 & 11; east of B-trail; R.D.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher**—1; May 14; Pine Tree Trail; D.M., J.K. 1; May 16; Thompson Circle; J.M.

**Fish Crow**—1 heard; April 13, Thompson Circle; J.B.; First county record.

**Evening Grosbeak**—several; through the period, most flying past TREC tower; J.B.

**Common Redpoll**—1; April 4; Girard; R.D.

**Lapland Longspur**—1; April 4 (late); Gull Point; J.B.; Second April record.

**Clay-colored Sparrow**—1; May 13; Beach 11 area; J.B., J.M.

**Yellow-breasted Chat**—1; May 14 & 15; Pine Tree Trail; J.M., et al. (See Below)



**Golden-winged Warbler**—up to 6; May 4, 11, & 14; Sidewalk Trail, Fry's landing, Pine Tree and Dead Pond Trails; m.ob.

**Prairie Warbler**—1 banded; April 28; Fry's landing; fide J.B. (See Below)



**Contributors:** K.A.-Ken Andersen, J.B.-Justin Berkheimer, J.B.-Jason Bojczyk, S.B.-Sara Busch, R.D.-Randy Donn, Roger Donn, J.E.-Julia Eckar, J.F.-Jennifer Ferrick, J.H.-Jamie Hill, J.K.-Janelle Kheshki, D.M.-Doug Massey, D.M.-Donna McCabe, J.M.-Jerry McWilliams, R.S.-Ruth Swaney, m.ob.-many observers

~Jerry McWilliams, Bird Reporter  
jerrymcw@aol.com

## FIELD TRIP REPORT

It has been a true delight getting back into the field and birding with fellow enthusiasts!! Our first trip, on April 17<sup>th</sup> included Sidewalk and Ridge Trails and yielded 30 bird species. The highlight, as far as birds, was probably the nice flock of Rusty blackbirds that entertained us with their bubbly song. Another highlight was being joined by a young new birder named Olive who birded with us with her dad, Brian. Olive was quite the trooper and kept up with us step-for-step! Olive told us that a bird she would like to see was a Golden-winged warbler. Unfortunately, that species did not make our list.



On May 1<sup>st</sup>, the PIAS field trip was at Pine Tree Trail. Despite a rainy week, the trail was fairly dry. I had hoped we could double our tally from the trip prior but that was not to be. We ended up with 31 species so, not doubled, but +1!! What we did double was participants, increasing from 6 to 12! We saw a few early arriving warblers including Palm, Pine and Yellow-rumped; the Yellow warblers had either not arrived or were uncharacteristically quiet. We saw a nice number of migrating blue jays overhead which is always cool to experience.



You might imagine, our trip on May 15<sup>th</sup> yielded a nice bump in species numbers as migrating warblers and a few other species stopped over at the park on their way to their northern breeding grounds. We had 60 species on this trip to Fry's Landing. We made a quick stop at the Erie Bird Observatory's bird banding station and participants were able to observe the banding process. We had a nice group of 13 participants on this trip including two researchers from France who are researching immunology at the University of Pittsburgh. Our participants from France were happy to have "checked 11 new boxes" on their trip to Presque Isle so far and plan to come back in the summer in hopes of seeing more new species. When asked how they had found out about the field trip they said they found it on the PIAS website. Keep that in mind when you are looking for interesting things to do. On the website not only can you find a schedule of field trips but also membership programs and special events.

### Saturday Field Trips for June and July

June 12: Graveyard Pond Trail  
June 26: Old Gas Well Trail  
July 10: Sidewalk Trail  
July 24: Pine Tree Trail

~Michele Rundquist Franz, Field Trip Guide

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Welcome everyone to the Presque Isle Audubon Chapter. When you join National Audubon, you are automatically a member of Presque Isle. For those of you who rejoined, thanks again. This report includes memberships for the last four months.

**Erie:** Maggie Gleason, Pam Moore, Elizabeth Guldan, Amelia Vidmar, Bonnie Ginader, Laura DiBacco, Shirley Keinath, James Hallamy, Joseph Walczak, Marcia Anthony, Marc Bryant, Kyler Sonney, Edwina Gateley, Jane Cowell, Gretchen Fairley, Tom Gaughan, Alfred Warner, Tara Maiello, Christine Greaves, Deborah Cable, Gretchen Rinehardt, Rich and Claire Giardina, Joseph Saber, Ronald Fall, Paula Ruane, Alma Getz, Rena Wierbinski, Julie Glass, Kim Darnofall, Jerry Vogt, Beth Nielsen, D. Zmyewski, Donald Davitt, Tiffany Moore, Jennifer Ferrick, Martin Maly, Richard Maly, Patricia Wigham, Cindy Lewis, Michael Koncewicz, Asher Whitney, Richard Lutton,

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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Cont.)

Katie Smyklo, Katherine Lutton, Shannon Thompson, Judith Lynch, Ken Andersen, James Hallamy, Marc Bryant, AnnaMarie Senita, Tom Brocki, Jim & Rosemarie Petetti, Sylvia Jarema, Marcia Hall, Claudia Mosso, Tiffany Marini, John Zeitler, J. Nuber, James Thompson, John Dreibelbis, Karen Malone, Elizabeth Deimel, Michael Schupp, Doris Cipolla, Virginia Marino, Barbara Maleski, Mary Zebrowski, Thorp Andrews, Virginia Long, Lois Carlson, Stan Nowak, Nancy Klein, Peter Correa, Charles Burchard

**Alblon:** Kathi Swann, Lisa Kosmatine

**Allison Park, Pa.:** Teri and Larry Flatley

**Cambridge Sps:** Sally Luce, Donald Girdwood, Quimby Mamula, Don Kuziak

**Centerville:** Lynn Kalkbrenner, Ruth Ledonne

**Conneautville:** Tom Sprong, John Tautin, Mike Hague, C.Kent Persinger, Adam Troyer, Jean Agnew

**Corry:** Karen Prather, John Wellington, Janelle Patterson, Mari Alice Pilewski, Tiffany Bisbee

**Cranesville:** William Taylor

**Edinboro:** Cynthia Legin-Bucell, Richard Ghere, Richard Hymes, Cosmo Barbaro, Tom Parker, Tim Banks, David Espey, Debbie Zahler, Bob Smith

**Fairview:** Thomas Dash, Andrew Edwards, Krista Jeffries, Karen Euliano, Cindy Silka, Linda Graziani, Patricia Howell, Darla Graff, Denise Foltz, Joseph Mando, Mary Albaugh, Kathleen Ames

**Girard:** Donna Douglass, William Stewart, R. Miller, Carol Brandon, Eleanor Simpson

**Harborcreek:** Kimberly Koch, William Joslin

**Jamestown:** Steve DeKramer, David Leary, E. King

**Lake City:** Norman Ewing, Joe Legnasky

**Linesville:** David Oberdick, Bonita Farley

**McKean:** Jann Hayes, Jack Braun

**Meadville:** Brian Miller, Andrea Thomas, Sue Dearment, M. Mason, Nancy Frambes, Kenneth Unice, Tom Tidball, Becky Burac, Michael Camara, Rose Corbett, Richard Myers, Diana Smith, Margot Stoll, Suzanne Harvey, Barbara Johnson, Regina Schweinsberg, Calvin Ernst

**North East:** Judith Schenker, Jennifer Degrosky, Diana Dougan, Victoria Bartlett, MaryAnn Robinson, Judy Corchado, James Walczak, Dann Olin

**Saegertown:** Marlene Jenkins

**Spartansburg:** Maryann Miller, JACTRADING.COM

**Springboro:** Nanette Grygier

**Titusville:** Stacy Saintz

**Union City:** Harr Nye, Jamie Hecker

**Waterford:** Lois Wiley

**Waterford:** Phyllis Polumbo, Jeff Nelson

**Wattsburg:** Olive Sammons, John Murawski

**Westford:** Helen Oyen

**Allison Park, Pa:** Teri & Larry Flatley

**Austin, Tx:** Michael Jewell

**Pittsburgh:** Dallas DiLeo

**Venango, Pa:** Heather Pasewicz

**Sarasota, Fl.:** Laura Marie Koitsch

Hope I didn't miss anyone. Hopefully the in person meetings can start again in the fall at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center. Any Questions, just email me.

~Ron Intrieri, Membership Chairman  
[membership@presqueisleaudubon.org](mailto:membership@presqueisleaudubon.org)

Presque Isle Audubon Society's newsletter, the *Tern of Events*, is published every other month: February, April, June, August, October and December. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month preceding publication. All published material is subject to editing.

Send submissions to Janet Price, editor, via [jrplkm@aol.com](mailto:jrplkm@aol.com) or 418 E. 36th St., Erie, PA 16504. If you have any questions, call Janet at 814-825-8394.

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**Presque Isle Audubon Society  
Chapter Only Membership Application**

Chapter only membership includes membership in the Presque Isle Audubon Society ONLY and the chapter newsletter, *Tern of Events*.

Individual membership \$15.00/year

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter only members, both new and renewal, will receive the online version of the *Tern of Events* unless they specifically request the paper copy. Please provide your e-mail address for the online version of our newsletter.

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Do you require a paper copy? \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form with your check payable to the Presque Isle Audubon Society to:

Presque Isle Audubon Society  
Ronald Intrieri, Membership  
Tom Ridge Environmental Center  
301 Peninsula Drive, Suite 8  
Erie, PA 16505

**National Audubon Society  
Membership Application**

Renewal members can join as they have in the past, either by sending their membership check directly to National Audubon, or they can join online. New members are to send their first membership check to the local chapter. The address is at the bottom of this application.

Membership includes membership in BOTH the National Audubon Society and the local Presque Isle Audubon Society. National members receive *Audubon Magazine* (4 issue per year) and the chapter newsletter, *Tern of Events*. Please include your e-mail address to receive the online version of the newsletter.

Introductory membership \$20.00  
Renewals \$20.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter Code U15**

Mail this form with your check payable to the National Audubon Society directly to **YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER.**

Presque Isle Audubon Society  
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