

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Atlanta Bird Fest Is Coming to Atlanta

(Atlanta, Ga.) February 15, 2018 –Registration for Atlanta Audubon Society’s **Third Annual Atlanta Bird Fest** is set to open in early March. Featuring five consecutive weekends of activities, exclusive field trips, workshops, guest speakers, and more, Atlanta Bird Fest 2018 will be Atlanta’s largest bird and nature festival, and this year’s event will run from April 14 to May 20. Proceeds support Atlanta Audubon Society’s mission to build places where birds and people thrive.

Atlanta Bird Fest 2018 will offer something for both the casual and serious bird and nature enthusiast.

Highlights include:

- 1) The weekend of April 14-15, **Julie Zickefoose**, Ohio-based author, illustrator, and naturalist, will kick off Atlanta Bird Fest with three events, including an evening program co-sponsored by Atlanta Audubon and Chattahoochee Nature Center on Saturday, April 14. On Sunday, April 15, Zickafoose will lead a bird walk at the Cochran Shoals Unit of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, followed by a lunch event at Horseradish Grill.
- 2) An **Open House and Native Plant Sale at the Blue Heron Nature Preserve** on Saturday, April 21;
- 3) **Birds & Brunch at Serenbe**: Back by popular demand, the Birds and Brunch tour at Serenbe will take place on Saturday, April 28. Join Atlanta Audubon for a morning of birding on the private trails of Serenbe followed by brunch at The Hill restaurant;
- 4) **Building Your Wildlife Sanctuary Workshop** on Sunday, April 22, to teach homeowners and property managers how to transform their property into a Wildlife Sanctuary;
- 5) **A guided paddle trip on the Chattahoochee River** with Jerry Hightower, park ranger of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, on Saturday, April 14.
- 6) **Wine & Warblers in North Georgia** on May 5; spend the morning birding in the North Georgia mountains in the restricted conversation area of Smithgall Woods State Park, followed by a wine tasting at Yonah Mountain Vineyards;
- 7) **Photography Workshops** (one for beginners and another for intermediate/advanced photographers) with Eric Bowles, an Atlanta-based wildlife photographer, on Saturday, May 5.
- 8) A variety of bird walks at locations around the metro-area and others, including **Chattahoochee River National Recreational Area, Cubihatcha Outdoor Center, Arabia Mountain,**

Sweetwater Creek State Park, Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge, the Georgia Coast, and other birding hotspots;

- 9) Celebrate the final day of Atlanta Bird Fest 2018 on Sunday, May 20, with a **Closing Celebration at Sweetwater Brewing Company featuring Janisse Ray**, Georgia author and environmental activist. Her presentation, Our Life with Birds, will be a lyrical and heartfelt look at the wild creatures that instill such passion, especially those that inhabit the environs of our home state, why we follow them and name them, and what they teach us about the world. She will highlight some remarkable natural history events that will help us love the birds of Georgia with even more dedication. Join us to hear this clarion call for the protection of wild places and a defense of hope.

Registration for Atlanta Bird Fest will open to Atlanta Audubon members on March 1 and to the public on March 8. For a complete listing of Atlanta Bird Fest events or to register, visit www.atlantaaudubon.org/abf-events.

Atlanta Bird Fest 2018 is presented by Atlanta Audubon Society thanks to our generous sponsors Colonial Pipeline, Cox Enterprises, Georgia-Pacific, NewFields, SolAmerica Energy, and Southwire. For more information on sponsorship opportunities, please contact Michelle Hamner, Director of Development, at michelle@atlantaaudubon.org.

Media Note: Photos to accompany this article and a MS Word version of this press release are available for download at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/y3l9s32oktcs94e/AADL4n1VHbxzzwGhN455VJ-fa?dl=0>.

Atlanta Audubon Society is committed to building places where birds and people thrive. We create birds - friendly communities through conservation, education, and advocacy.

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This year's Atlanta Bird Fest logo featuring the Pileated Woodpecker was designed by Atlanta-based artist Kyle Brooks (aka BlackCatTips). A limited number of Atlanta Bird Fest T-shirts will be on sale in the Atlanta Audubon online store beginning Monday, February 26. (www.atlantaaudubon.org/shop-in-our-online-store)