

2001 Conserve Wildlife Foundation GOLF CLASSIC

On May 29, the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ held its second annual golf tournament at Stanton Ridge Golf and Country Club in Hunterdon County and raised \$72,000 to support rare wildlife conservation. We would like to extend our appreciation to the Bald Eagle Title Sponsor, Anheuser-Busch, and all of the sponsors, players and volunteers who helped make this event such a great success!



L to R: (PHOTO 1) John Hannafin of Anheuser-Busch (Bald Eagle Title Sponsor) speaks at evening reception; (PHOTO 2) teacher Susan Marner gets set to make a birdie putt while NJEA's Joyce Powell and Steve Wallmer look on; (PHOTO 3) Linda Tesauro, CWF Director, presents prize for second place low net to Al Komjathy of the Stewart Agency, accepting for Mike Staker of Waste Management/Wheelabrator; (PHOTO 4) Volunteers at sign-in (l to r), Arlene Illies, Fran Forgash, Terry Sellmeyer, Tara Bowers and Kris Schantz.

A special thanks to all of our sponsors, raffle, and silent-auction donors:

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"Brewing Solutions for a Better Environment"

Through its many environmental programs, awareness campaigns and research projects, Anheuser-Busch, Inc., has long been a leader in environmental excellence. In addition to its support of the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ, it partners with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, The Conservation Fund, Ducks Unlimited, The Rainforest Alliance and other organizations to help conserve fragile natural resources.

"We are particularly encouraged by the amazing comeback of the bald eagle in the Garden State," says John Hannafin, the general manager of Anheuser-Busch's Northeast Region, which includes its 50-year-old Newark brewery. "Due to the intensive management of state biologists, New Jersey is now home to a record 29 pairs of nesting bald eagles. This is an achievement worth celebrating, and one in which we were glad to take part as the Bald Eagle Title Sponsor of the CWF 2001 Golf Classic."

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Conserve Wildlife Foundation News Webcam Peregrine Falcons

Kurt Eichler, executive vice president of LCOR, the owner and manager of the 101 Hudson building in Jersey City (left); Dennis Bone, president of Verizon Communications; and Robert Shinn, N.J. DEP commissioner hold state-endangered peregrine falcon chicks banded at the building on June 11. Also present during the banding of the four-week old chicks by ENSP principal zoologists Kathy Clark and Mike Valent was Bob McDowell, director of the N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife.



The chicks, which hatched in a nest box installed by state biologists, were the featured attraction of the state's first nest box webcam. The webcam was made possible by a Verizon grant to the Conserve Wildlife Foundation and the cooperation of LCOR.

The birds fledged at the end of June. To learn more about the project, please see www.njfishandwildlife.com and/or www.conservewildlife.nj.org.

Citizen Scientist Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the following, please contact Elissa Director, a Citizen Scientist Program volunteer coordinator, at 609-984-0621.

Wildcat Ridge Hawk Watch From Aug. 15 through Nov. 15, a hawk watch will be conducted at the Wildcat Ridge Wildlife Management Area in Morris County. Coordinator Bill Gallagher needs volunteers to help staff the seven-day-a-week count. A basic knowledge of birds is required; Gallagher will train interested volunteers, who will record sightings and weather data.

Endangered and Nongame Speakers Bureau Volunteers give slide show presentations to groups and organizations throughout the state. The presentation is a non-technical overview of endangered and threatened species in New Jersey. Additional volunteers are needed in Atlantic, Bergen, Cape May, Cumberland, Essex, Hudson, Monmouth, Ocean, Passaic, Salem and Union counties. Volunteers able to give daytime presentations are also needed statewide.

CONSERVE Wildlife

Newsletter of the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's
 Endangered and Nongame Species Program Summer/Fall 2001

Creating A Community Partnership: Citizen Scientist Program takes flight

The Division of Fish and Wildlife's ENSP is formalizing its rapidly expanding volunteer network as the Citizen Scientist Program -- a unique way for New Jersey's citizens to learn more about and make a significant contribution towards the state's wildlife.

The volunteer program is part of the Division's Wildlife Conservation Corps. According to its mission statement, "The Citizen Scientist Program involves New Jersey's residents in the conservation and stewardship of rare and endangered wildlife through participation in learning, research and advocacy activities in partnership with New Jersey's Endangered and Nongame Species Program."

To make that mission a reality, the ENSP has created a program logo, designated three volunteer coordinators -- Melissa Craddock, Elissa Director, Larissa Smith -- prepared a members' brochure and begun to identify opportunities for volunteers to make a difference. The effort is being underwritten by generous grants from the Educational Foundation of America and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

The ENSP and the wildlife it serves have benefited greatly for years from volunteers who've done everything from monitoring eagle nests and erecting osprey platforms to banding shorebirds. During the past year, at least 1,500 people have volunteered with the ENSP. Some contribute a day of their time, while some, such as eagle nest monitors, log as much as 40 to 50 hours per month.

Building on that legacy of volunteer involvement, one of the program's goals is to recruit people willing to devote at least

40 hours a year. "By increasing their skills and knowledge, we'll be able to build a trained corps of volunteers capable of making a lasting commitment and contribution to the ENSP," says Elissa Director.

The Citizen Scientist Program is also a natural extension of the ENSP's Landscape Project, which has created a series of maps that prioritize -- on a regional or landscape basis -- the most critical habitat for endangered, threatened and rare species.



Top L to R: Melissa Craddock, ENSP biologist, with volunteers Sherry Cusi, James Pritchett, Stanley Hershey, Glen Boyd, Anna Boyd. Bottom L to R: Harry Strano, Cathy Esser, Lauren Lozowski, Susan Rifkin, Paul Axel-Late

These maps continue to evolve as new data -- including data collected by volunteers as part of the Herp Atlas, Gloucester County and Galloway Township surveys -- is gathered. Adds Larry Niles, ENSP chief, "Involving people in every aspect of our work through the Citizen Scientist Program not only will enable us to accomplish more but will enable our residents to better understand New Jersey's wildlife and become advocates for the protection of that wildlife."

Says John Healy of Greenwich, who has been monitoring eagle nests since 1982, "With all the pressure wildlife face

today, we all need to do something. It's a great thing."

Maria Musciano-Keefe, a Somerdale resident who has conducted herpetile surveys in Gloucester County and banded shorebirds along the Delaware Bay, agrees: "It's good to know that the ENSP cares enough to involve people. A good way to make people care and want to conserve is to show them what's out there."

If you'd like to know more, call Elissa Director at 609-984-0621 or Larissa Smith at 609-628-2103.

Keeping New Jersey's Wildlife in Our Future

ENSP