

City of Portage Environmental Advisory Board
Agenda for the meeting on September 14, 2022

- 7:00 p.m. Welcome and introduction of guests
- 7:01 p.m. Public Comment
- 7:05 p.m. Call to order approval of minutes from August 2022 meeting
- 7:15 p.m. Gail Walter Presenting on the Urban Bird Treaty
- 7:45 p.m. Discussion on Potential Committees/Fall Events
- 8:00 p.m. Arbor Day Discussion Revisited.
- 8:10 p.m. Board Feedback/Committees
- 8:15 p.m. Adjourn



Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds

Making Cities Healthier Places for Birds and People

Birds enrich our lives through their intrinsic value to people as threads in the earth's ecological tapestry, as pollinators, predators, and prey. Birds are also actively appreciated and enjoyed by millions of people throughout the country. In urban areas, birds represent people's most frequent contact with wildlife, help people connect to nature, and benefit their overall health and well-being.



Urban and suburban areas can provide important stopover habitat for migratory birds like this Indigo Bunting. / U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The Urban Bird Treaty Program supports city partners that are conserving migratory birds through habitat conservation, hazard reductions, community science, and outreach and education in urban and suburban areas. Since 1999, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has designated 30 Urban Bird Treaty cities in the U.S. The program's goals are to:

- Protect, restore, and enhance urban habitats for birds.
- Reduce urban hazards to birds.
- Engage people in appreciating and conserving birds and their habitats.

Birds are a valuable resource, contributing aesthetically, culturally, scientifically, and economically to America's communities. Urban areas can provide important habitats for birds as large concentrations of birds migrate through cities and need quality habitats to rest and refuel. Birds are not only threatened by habitat loss in urban areas but also by hazards such as lights and building glass, which can lead to bird deaths from window collisions.

The Urban Bird Treaty program emphasizes habitat conservation through invasive species control and native plant restoration; hazard reductions through bird-safe building programs; community science activities; and education and outreach programs that give people, especially diverse and underserved communities, opportunities to learn about and appreciate birds and participate in their conservation.

Cities can become healthier places for birds and other wildlife when organizations and individuals become dedicated to learning about and conserving birds and their habitats. This is not only good for birds, but also for the health and well-being of people living in and visiting our cities.



Over 83 % of the U.S. population lives in urban areas. The future of conservation lies in our ability to inspire Americans to connect with nature. / Susannah Lerman, U.S. Forest Service



In 2011, the City of Portland and partners adopted a "Portland Oregon Bird Agenda" to carry out actions to reduce bird strike hazards to migratory birds. / Portland Audubon

The Urban Bird Treaty program is a unique collaboration between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and participating U.S. cities and their partners. The Service provides guidance and technical assistance to partners to carry out projects and become designated as Urban Bird Treaty cities. The Service also awards grants through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program.

For more information on the Urban Bird Treaty Program visit: <https://www.fws.gov/program/urban-bird-treaty>. To find out more about what you can do to help birds, visit <https://www.3billionbirds.org/>

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