



Santa Fe Audubon Society
Melrose, FL

SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

<https://www.santafeaudubon.org>

and



Santa Fe Audubon Society - Florida



NEW GENERATION CHURCH

22500 SE 71st Avenue
Hawthorne, FL. 32640

9:30am-
3:30pm

SATURDAY
SEPT. 28TH
2024

Keynote Speaker:

ENNIS JACOBS

J.D. Pres.,
Southern Alliance for
Clean Energy, Tallahassee, FL.

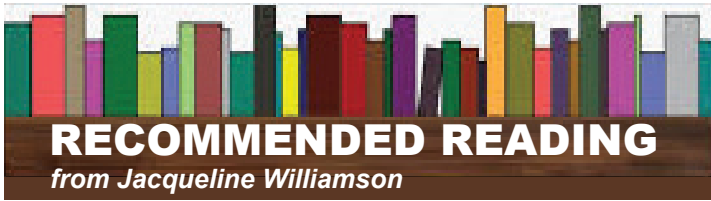
**“Building Sustainable Climate Justice Solutions
for Our Most Vulnerable Communities.”**

- Panels on: Development and Wetlands Conservation, Health, and Weatherization.
- Moderated by mayors of Archer, High Springs, and Micanopy.
- Climate Vulnerability Study presented by Steve Hofstetter and John Nix.

SCAN QR-CODE TO
PRE-REGISTER!



Special guest speaker Ennis Jacobs, JD, President of the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy will discuss “Building Sustainable Climate Justice Solutions for Our Most Vulnerable Communities”. This will be followed by results of the county’s Climate Vulnerability Study and panels on Development and Conservation, Food and Health, and Weatherization moderated by mayors of Archer, High Springs, and Micanopy. Snacks, lunch, coffee and beverages provided. Join us for this important informative event!



RECOMMENDED READING

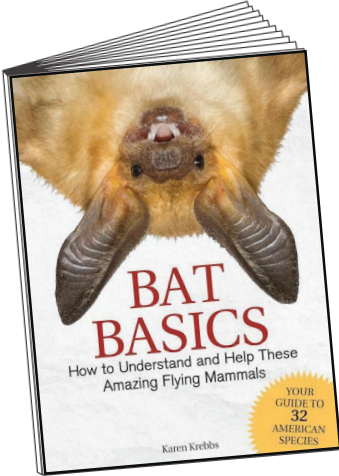
from Jacqueline Williamson

BAT BASICS

HOW TO UNDERSTAND AND HELP THESE AMAZING CREATURES

by Karen Krebs

Separate Fact from Fiction with This Fun, Fascinating Guide.



We need bats to eat mosquitoes, pollinate plants, and more. Karen Krebs has been studying the world's only flying mammals for more than 35 years—and she's sharing her expertise with you. Learn the bat basics, such as how they use echolocation, why they hibernate, and what they eat. Then use the field guide section to identify common and important species to know.



IT WORKED!



From Audubon Florida.....

State Park Development Proposals Delayed Until Next Year!

Audubon congratulates the passionate conservationists and park lovers across the state who spoke out for these special places over the last week. Because of your heartfelt words and advocacy for protected lands, the Governor and the Department of Environmental Protection have wisely decided to rework development proposals for nine Florida state parks and present them for public review next year. You wrote letters, shared updates, and called your elected officials – and it worked!

BIRD OF THE MONTH

TREE SWALLOW (*Tachycineta bicolor*)

Band Code TRES



Photo courtesy of Michael Drummond.

Photo courtesy of Bill Chitty.

Handsome aerialists with deep-blue iridescent backs and clean white fronts, Tree Swallows are a familiar sight in summer fields and wetlands across northern North America. They chase after flying insects with acrobatic twists and turns, their steely blue-green feathers flashing in the sunlight. Tree Swallows nest in tree cavities; they also readily take up residence in nest boxes. This habit has allowed scientists to study their breeding biology in detail, and makes them a great addition to many a homeowner's yard or field.

COOL FACTS:

Migrating and wintering Tree Swallows can form enormous flocks numbering in the hundreds of thousands. They gather about an hour before sunset and form a dense cloud above a roost site (such as a cattail marsh or grove of small trees), swirling around like a living tornado. With each pass, more birds drop down until they are all settled on the roost.

For more information about the Tree Swallows go to:

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Tree_Swallow/overview

Fun Fact: A group of Tree Swallows are collectively known as a "stand" of swallows.



Achroma County,
Florida



UF | IFAS
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

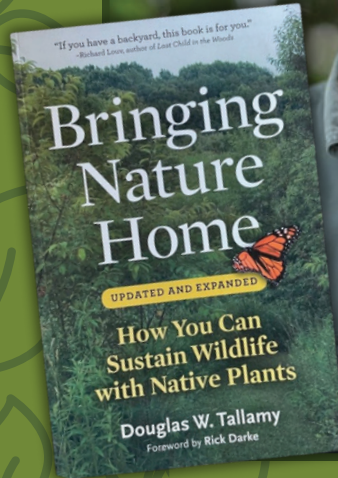
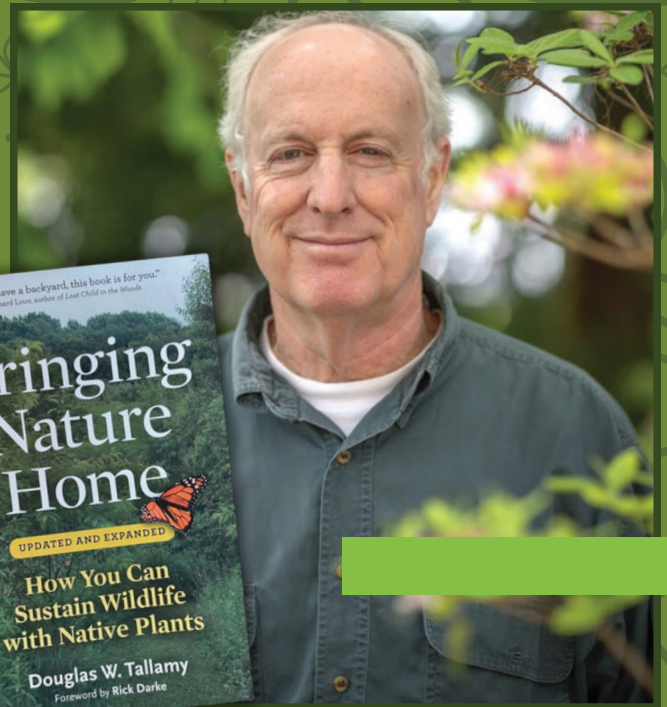
Fall Horticulture Expo

Saturday
October 19th
10am - 4pm

Keynote Speaker Doug Tallamy

Grow Your Own ...
Homegrown National Park
2 pm

Achroma County Agriculture
& Equestrian Center, Newberry



- Free and Open to Public
- Fall Plant Sale
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping Ideas
- Learn About Insects Birds & More
- Food Trucks
- Children’s Activities
- Ask A Master Gardener



“ Regenerate Biodiversity -
Plant Native! ”
- Homegrown National Park

An Equal Opportunity Institution



Kestrel Corner

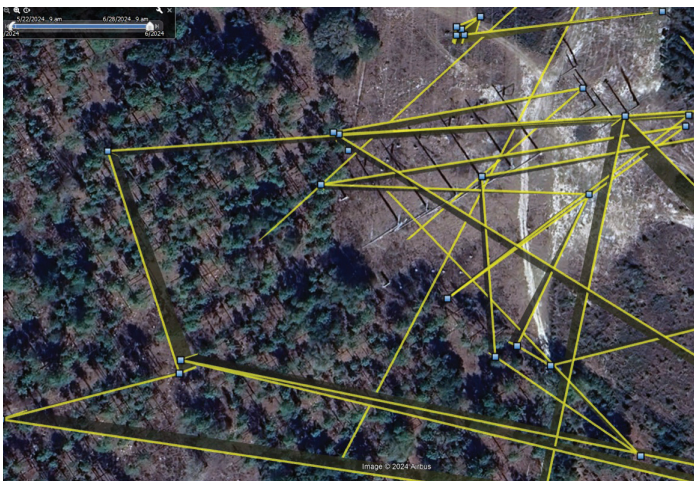
by Bill Chitty

September 5, 2024

While our Kestrel box project did not produce quite the impressive numbers as in a few of the years past, we are now producing better research data than ever and perhaps as good as produced anywhere in relation to American Kestrel individual movement after fledging. The Avian Research and Conservation Institute's (ARCI) radio tagging young Kestrels in our boxes in Etoniah Creek State Forest (ECSF) allowed us to watch as the fledglings spread their wings and find new home territories of their own.



Of the five nestlings tagged on ECSF, three are still producing continuous data. One of the five stopped moving just days after fledging and the fifth was last heard from on August 20th, about 90 days after fledging. These survival numbers are consistent with the results ARCI has gathered for the 26 other Kestrels tracked in four other counties, and for the survival rate thought to be average for the American Kestrel.



In my view, the most interesting aspect of what we are seeing is the range of movement of the young Kestrels. The maximum distance from a home box is 13.6 miles, and from maximum distance in one direction to the maximum distance in another direction is 23 miles. In terms of area, the largest home range is 240 square miles. This demonstration of the tracking capabilities of ARCI's new device is an exciting development. Equally important is that lessons from prior year's work applied to this year's tagging are likely going to result in being able to track these Kestrels well into late 2025.

Again, thank you to Dr. Ken Meyer and the Avian Research and Conservation Institute (ARCI) for their collaboration on banding and attaching radio telemetry devices on our Kestrels.

To learn more about ARCI and to donate to the kestrel project visit their website: www.arcinst.org

SAVE THESE DATES

SPEAKER SERIES PROGRAMS 2024 - 2025

October 8, 2024 ----- **BATS** speaker Donna Bear

November 12, 2024 --- **AMERICAN KESTRELS** speaker Karl Miller

December 10, 2024 --- To be announced

January 14, 2025 ----- **BIRDS OF THE EVERGLADES** speaker Richard Rathe

February 11, 2025 ----- To be announced

March 11, 2025 ----- **CONSERVATIONIST AWARD • ELECTION OF OFFICERS • PHOTO SHOW**

April 8, 2025 ----- To be announced

May 13, 2025 ----- To be announced

*You do not need to be a Santa Fe Audubon Society chapter member to attend our Speaker Series programs. All are welcome!
Program topics and speakers are subject to change at the last minute for various reasons.*

FIELD TRIPS 2024 - 2025

Reservations will be required. Field trips are subject to date change or cancellation due to weather, etc.

Saturday, October 12, 2024 ----- **Cones Dyke Paynes Prairie** - Micanopy, FL
For migrating warblers

Saturday, November 16, 2024 ----- **Cones Dyke Paynes Prairie** - Micanopy, FL
For wintering sparrows

Saturday, January 10 & 11, 2025 -- **Boat Trips on Santa Fe Lake** - Melrose, FL
For wintering waterfowl and gulls

Saturday, February 22, 2025 ----- To be announced

Saturday, March 29, 2025 ----- **O'Leno State Park** - High Springs, FL
For spring migration

Friday, April 18, 2025 ----- **Sweetwater Wetlands Park** - Gainesville, FL
For Bobolinks and more

May 2025 ----- To be announced