



Hello, Broomfield Bird Club members!

It's a startling fact: Each year, more than 1 billion wild birds die when they collide with glass windows, walls, and doors. Often, this occurs during migration, when night-flying birds, drawn off course by artificial light, fly full-speed into buildings.

Why do they crash? The Cornell Lab of Ornithology notes that clear glass is invisible to birds; they try to fly right through it. Reflections can make a picture window or glass wall appear to be just another part of the tree canopy or garden – a destination rather than a danger. At night, artificial lights disorient migrating birds and draw them closer to buildings and glass.

Bird strikes on skyscrapers get lots of attention, but 99 percent of collisions occur at homes and mid-rise buildings.

We can help. These simple steps make life safer for wild birds.

- **In daytime:** Make glass more visible to birds by adding screens, decals, or other patterns to the outside of windows. [See a range of solutions here](#). Locate feeders and bird baths within 3 feet of windows or at least 20-30 feet away. [Find out why](#).
- **At night:** Turn off nonessential outdoor lights, especially during the spring (March-June) and fall (August-November) migration periods. Close curtains or shades after dark, and choose outdoor lighting fixtures that direct light downward, not into the night sky. [Learn more](#).

About 80% of migratory bird species, including some of our favorite Colorado songbirds, travel primarily at night. [See which birds are at greatest risk](#). “Porch lights off after dark” is a simple message to share. As birds begin migrating to their winter habitats, let's do what we can to make their journeys safer.

AUGUST BIRD WALKS

“Easy does it” is the theme as we round out summer with two close-to-home outings.

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5: Alexx and Michael's Pond

Get to know one of Broomfield's lesser-known birding hotspots on this evening walk with leader Karen Clark. In less than a mile, we'll pass through wooded and marshy habitats where species including Wood Duck, Great Egret, and a variety of shorebirds have been sighted.

8 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25: Birds and Coffee at Erie Wetlands

Leader Deb Durand introduces us to the paths and boardwalks on this 10-acre site that opened officially last fall. We'll explore the half-mile trail, spend time observing birds and other wildlife from the shaded deck, and end the morning with coffee in Erie's historic downtown.

Registration is required for all field trips. We limit the number of attendees to provide a quality experience for everyone; members are given preference. [See bird walk details and sign up here.](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Look for our club's bright blue tent at **Naturefest, from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, August 15**, at Metzger Farm, near the intersection of 120th and Lowell Avenues. This free, family-focused event brings dozens of nature-focused organizations together for a morning of hands-on learning and outdoor fun. Stop by and say hello!

In September, we'll be at **Lafayette's 13th annual Migratory Birds Festival**, from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13, at Waneka Park, and at **Broomfield Days** from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19.

[See all our events here.](#) To volunteer for a two-hour shift greeting the public at our Broomfield Days booth, please email Christine at ckindl@gmail.com using the subject line "BBC volunteer."

Happy birding!

Christine Kindl

President, Broomfield Bird Club