



Hello, Broomfield Bird Club members!

There's a LOT going on this month, including a chance to watch birds being banded, two community events, and a "beaky" online presentation by one of our favorite walk leaders. Check it out!

ONLINE TALK: 'BILLS WITH SKILLS'

Longtime birder Pete Ruprecht has always been fascinated by birds' beaks. In **Bills with Skills: The incredible beaks of Colorado's cone-eating birds**, Pete looks at birds like crossbills and Clark's Nutcrackers, who use their bills to pry seeds from evergreen cones.

These birds have evolved special features that let them thrive in coniferous forests – and they, in turn, are causing changes in the forest itself.

Find out how this co-evolution may help to explain the unexpected arrival of a **completely new bird species** in Colorado. Join us via Zoom for this special online talk.

When: 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 8

Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85280264821?pwd=eMeNlYuwVWWsazfJvUGwr4aS4982s.1>

Meeting ID: 852 8026 4821

Passcode: 002378

SEPTEMBER BIRD WALKS

- **10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 5: Bird Banding at Barr Lake State Park, Brighton**

Experience science in action as you watch a wildlife biologist examine and band wild birds. We'll see the birds up close as we learn about migration, habitat challenges, and how the annual bird banding project contributes to a growing body of knowledge. Lucky participants may even get to briefly hold a bird! There is a \$7 fee for this event, a contribution to Bird Conservancy of the Rockies; a Colorado State Park Pass (or additional small fee) is required for each vehicle entering the park. [See details and register here.](#)

- **8 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30: Bird ID at Waneka State Park, Lafayette**

Brush up on your bird identification skills with renowned birder Ted Floyd, editor of *Birding* magazine and author of numerous books, including *The American Birding Association Field Guide to the Birds of Colorado*. Birders at all levels are sure to learn something new as we explore this 147-acre suburban park.

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **1-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13: Lafayette Migratory Birds Festival at Waneka Lake Park**

Celebrate the start of fall migration with us at Lafayette's 13th annual Migratory Birds Festival. We'll be highlighting Broomfield's birding hot spots and enjoying the festival's many activities, crafts, and demos, including live birds of prey.

- **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19: Broomfield Days, Midway Park**

Look for our bright blue tent when you visit Broomfield's annual community celebration. Bring your birding questions, take our Bird Nest Challenge, or just stop and say hello! ***Volunteer shifts are still available. If you can lend a hand, email ckindl@gmail.com; put BBC Volunteer in the subject line.***

BEFORE YOU GO ...

Like most birders, I keep a "life list" – a record of all the bird species I've seen over the years. It started as scribbled notes tucked inside my very first field guide, then grew into a slightly more formal, handwritten checklist. When I moved from the East Coast to Colorado, I began listing western species encountered for the first time, and I noted birds that visited my new backyard.

There is no "right" way to keep a life list. And every one tells a story.

I know a birder who divides her Colorado list by county, and another whose list documents his travels overseas. I've seen lists kept as spreadsheets and Word docs, as entries on the [eBird app](#), as meticulous notes penciled into a thick reference book, and as checkmarks in the margins of a well-worn pocket field guide.

A new [Chirps blog post](#) describes birds that have visited one member's backyard. Each name on Karen Clark's list evokes a memory and reminds us why backyard birding is so rewarding. Don't miss this lovely [story](#).

Please tell us: *What keeps YOU interested in birding?* In three or four sentences, let us know how long you've been birding and why you enjoy it. Send an email to karenbirdclub@yahoo.com, and your response may find its way into a new Chirps story.

Happy birding!

Christine Kindl

President, Broomfield Bird Club