

Name: City of Kaukauna

Joined Bird City: 2015 Population: 15,462

Incorporated: 1885

Area: 8.06 mi²

Online:

City of Kaukauna



To get involved in Bird City Kaukauna, please email us at birdcitywisconsin@gmail.com.

Application Highlights

CATEGORY 1: CREATION AND PROTECTION OF HABITAT

A. Demonstrate with an attachment that your community is in compliance with Wisconsin's "Smart Growth" law for land use planning and resource management.

The City of Kaukauna is in compliance with Wisconsin's "Smart Growth" law for land use planning and resource management. The most recent plan was adopted by the Common Council in January of 2013.

B. Attach bird monitoring results and/or other data obtained from researchers or local volunteers in the local park system.

The City has a number of natural areas within its park system with habitat for birds including the 1000 Islands Conservancy Zone, Konkapot Creek Trail, Konkapot Preserve and Nature View Park to name a few. Evidence of this comes from an eBird article written by Kaukauna resident and avid birder as well as his patch life list from the community.

C. Attach ordinance or other evidence that existing bird habitat has legal protection.

The City's main bird habitat, <u>1000 Islands Conservancy Zone</u>, was set aside in 1969 and continues to be protected from development. The property, including a nature center, is governed by a 9 member committee appointed by the mayor. 1000 Islands Conservancy Zone was also featured in an eBird article entitled "August Hotspot of the Month".

CATEGORY 2: PROMOTING EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT

A. Demonstrate that your community is a member of the National Arbor Day Foundation's program *Tree City USA*.

The City of Kaukauna continues to be recognized as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation following its initial award in 1993.

CATEGORY 3: LIMITING OR REMOVING HAZARDS TO BIRDS

A. Attach evidence or provide a community web link if your community has an educational program to control free-roaming cats and/or actively publicizes the "Cats Indoors!" program.

The American Bird Conservancy program, "Cats Indoors" is promoted on the 1000 Islands website. There is a link from the City of Kaukauna website as well as the 1000 Islands Environmental Center website, providing the information for the entire community. 1000 Islands also regularly hosts wildlife rehabilitators to come in for educational programming often including the importance of keeping cats inside.

B. Demonstrate that your community provides property owners with information on how to protect birds from window-strikes.

The City of Kaukauna as well as 1000 Islands Environmental Center website includes a page of information for property owners and other individuals regarding protecting birds from window strikes as well as contact information for licensed wildlife rehabilitators in the area to seek help for window strike or other bird and wildlife injuries. Beginning with our International Migratory Bird Day celebration we have also begun to stock Window Alert clings in our small gift shop so that city residents and visitors have access to window-strike deterrents.

CATEGORY 4: PUBLIC EDUCATION

D. Demonstrate that your community is represented in at least one bird monitoring program (e.g., the Christmas Bird Count, Great Backyard Bird Count, or Swift Night Out).

The western portion of the City is included in the Appleton Christmas Bird Count Circle (WIAP). Although 1000 Islands is not technically within the circle, it is still included in the count annually, as the data is helpful to the research and geographically, it is difficult to include the remaining portion of the

city in a circle without overlapping with the neighboring Green Bay (WIGB), Stockbridge (WISE) and Menchalville (WIMV) circles.

E. Demonstrate that your community sponsors an annual bird festival.

The City of Kaukauna hosts an annual celebration of the Bald Eagles that winter along the Fox River. The Eagle Days celebration began in 2012 and is a free public education event for people throughout the local, regional communities to view and learn more about bald eagles. The annual celebration focuses on viewing sites, formal presentations on the past, present and future of bald eagles, and live bird programs.

CATEGORY 5: CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

The City of Kaukauna Common Council approved resolution no. 3905 designating May 9, 2015 as International Migratory Bird Day. On May 2 the 1000 Islands Environmental Center held an International Migratory Bird Day Celebration. The celebration consisted of several Project Flying Wild activities set up for visitors to participate in. In keeping with the Restore Habitat, Restore Birds, we invited a member from the Fox Valley Area chapter of Wild Ones to speak on the benefits of native landscaping in order to encourage people to landscape their own yards with native plants, giving better bird habitat throughout the city. To top off the day, we offered complimentary certified Bird Friendly coffee with a display of the benefits of Bird Friendly coffee as well as stocking Window Alert clings as an encouragement for individuals to embrace small changes that can be made in every household to support migratory birds.