



Name: City of Monroe

Joined Bird City: 2012

Population: 10,827

Incorporated: 1882

Area: 4.83 mi²

Online:

[City of Monroe](#)

[Official Bird City page](#)



To get involved in Bird City Monroe, 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 Monroe is compliant with Wisconsin's "Smart Growth" law for land use planning and resource management. The plan was adopted in December of 2005.

- D. *Document that current community planning seeks to provide additional bird habitat.***

The City of Monroe maintains 17 city park areas of 110 acres and a 90 acre Forest Prairie Park east of the city. Forest Prairie Park is a natural park area with prairie and wooded areas. There are several miles of mowed walking trails throughout the property. Bluebird houses have been installed and maintained along the trail in several places.

In the city, 23 acre Honey Creek Park was developed where nearly a 1/3 of the park has been developed and maintained as a prairie. This park also contains walking trails for people to observe prairie plants and a variety of birds.

The City of Monroe has also been working with the Department of Natural Resources and the Friends of the Badger State Trail to develop a trail head in Monroe for the Badger State Recreational Trail, which runs from the Illinois state line to Madison. The trail head will be maintained by the city. This facility will improve access to the trail. In the fall of 2013, a parking area and a shelter/restroom facility was completed to improve access to the trail. The DNR Master Plan for the trail lists bird watching as one of the activities for trail users.

G. Attach a state publication showing that the community contains a segment of the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail or a designated Important Bird Area.

The City of Monroe is in the Southern Savannah Region of the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail. Several areas near Monroe, such as Cadiz Springs State Park, New Glarus Woods State Park, and Muralt Prairie are included on the map of the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail.

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 Monroe continues to be recognized as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation following its initial award in 1988.

CATEGORY 3: LIMITING OR REMOVING HAZARDS TO BIRDS

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

In the 2013-2014 City Services and Community Resource Guide, information was included in the guide on the Bird City Wisconsin program and provided the link to the American Bird Conservancy website for quick and affordable ideas on how to protect birds from window strikes.

CATEGORY 4: PUBLIC EDUCATION

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

On Saturday, May 11th, 2013, the Green Rock Audubon Society and the Monroe Public Library sponsored Bird Fest in conjunction with the annual International Migratory Bird Day. The event was held at the Green County Forestry Center.

F. Illustrate a program that involves schools, garden clubs, or other organizations in bird conservation activities.

On Saturday, January 12th, 2013, the Green Rock Audubon Society and the Monroe Public Library sponsored a Discover Winter Birds program at the library.

On Saturday, April 6th, 2013, the Green Rock Audubon Society sponsored a spring Bird Walk ant Cadiz Springs State Recreation Area.

On Wednesday, April 24th, 2013, the Green Rock Audubon Society sponsored an educational program on birds at St. Victors Elementary School for 90 students.

CATEGORY 5: CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

Monroe celebrated IMBD during its second annual Bird Fest. This event, presented by the Green Rock Audubon Society and Bird City Monroe, took place on Saturday May 10 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at Twining Park. Bird Fest featured a guided habitat walk, information on Bluebirds and Bird City Monroe, tips on using binoculars, crafts for children, an oriole feeding station, and more.