

St Louis Audubon Society  
Strategic Plan  
2008 - 2010

Through its history, the St Louis Audubon Society's principle goal has been to educate about the wonders of the natural world. Every year, our Education Committee reaches out to the community, especially young people. We annually make presentations to 2,000 schoolchildren and 800 adults. The Committee engages its audiences with a diversity of subjects, including bird identification and migration, plus special topics such as owls, bats and avian adaptations.

The St Louis Audubon Society, in partnership with federal and state environmental agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), have participated in a variety of other educational programs. Including:

Eagle Days

International Migratory Bird Week

The Back Yard Birding Festival, sponsored by the Missouri Botanical Garden

The Wings of Spring Confluence Birding Festival at Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary

Moreover, to support education, the Society sponsors a substantial scholarship program for graduate students studying ecology and those undertaking science teacher training.

In addition to the wonderful work of the Education Committee, the Society offers monthly program meetings covering topics of interest in natural history and conservation. These meetings are always free and open to the public.

The St Louis Audubon Society has an active conservation program, supporting bird and wildlife surveys under the sponsorship of the Missouri Department of Conservation and other governmental agencies. The Conservation Committee has submitted important comments and position letters to agencies and lawmakers on a host of vital issues. This includes the health of our national forests, the management of the Mississippi River, and the development of local parks and wildlife conservation areas. In addition, the Society has funded special projects, including the construction of Chimney Swift towers and Barn Owl nest boxes on Missouri Department of Conservation properties.

In response to requests from the government for the help of citizen scientists, the Society has met the challenge. We've made new partnerships to support the Missouri Bird Conservation Initiative and the Conservation Area Checklist, (CACHE) as well as the State Parks Checklist (SPARKS) projects.

The Society continues to sponsor its popular field trips, with 25-30 scheduled every year. Trips include outside the St Louis metropolitan area. For example, field trips to U&S HS Dunn Ranch in northwest Missouri to study Greater Prairie-Chickens. Again, education is emphasized and the newest birder is the most important.

Having origins dating to 1915, the St Louis Audubon Society has a noteworthy history. As the first chapter of the national organization, the Society has supported the programs and projects of the National Audubon Society since 1943.

The St Louis Audubon Society is proud to present its Strategic Plan 2008-2010 as a blueprint for advancing its Mission and Goals through the next four years.