

TROPICAL **AUDUBON** SOCIETY



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In the Field

Happy 4th of July!

The majestic [Bald Eagle](#), emblem bird of the United States, is a year-round Florida resident. In serious decline during much of the 20th century, this raptor has made a comeback in many areas since the 1970s. A powerful predator at times, it is not always so

majestic in its habits: it often feeds on carrion, including dead fish washed up on shore, and it steals food from Ospreys and other smaller birds. It is typically found close to water where prey is abundant.

Share the Shore to help Shorebirds Survive & Thrive!

- Give nesting birds plenty of space. Signs or volunteers usually alert us to nesting areas.
- Where pets are allowed on beaches, keep them leashed, away from birds and off dunes.
- Remove trash and food scraps, which attract foraging animals and potential predators.
- Stay on marked pathways, and do not traverse beach dunes or other nesting areas.

Regularly scheduled birding field trips will resume in September. Share your bird sightings on our [Bird Board](#) and [Facebook Bird Board](#).

Shorebird Stewards Needed Now!

A colony of [Least Terns](#) have returned to nest at the Mayan Dune, a historic Ft. Lauderdale nesting site for the small seabirds who winter on South America's northern shores. The Least Tern is listed as "Threatened" in Florida and is a federally protected seabird. *Stewards are needed immediately* to help protect these birds and their chicks, and to better educate the public. The site has been marked off by the State Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to protect the estimated 200 terns and their 70+/- nests. Volunteer stewards are most needed for shifts of two hours or more, primarily 6-9 a.m. and/or 6-10 p.m. To participate, please call Ann Wiley at 954.805.3355.

Banner Photo, above: Bald Eagle by Frank Cone



RSVP for an International Field Trip

[Charm of the Colombian Andes - Birding the Coffee Triangle FULL](#) | July 23 - 31, 2023

[Peru, Spectacles of Nature: Birding Amazonia & the Andes](#) **CANCELLED** | Sept. 13-23, 2023

[Spain - Extremadura, Doñana and Sierra de Gredos](#) | April 28 - May 12, 2025

[Birds and Marsupials of Northern Australia - Darwin, Cairns and Brisbane](#)
August 3 - 16, 2025

Photo: Laughing Kookaburra by Bellbird Tours

Featured Events

Dine-in or Take-out @Whisk Gourmet

Tuesday, July 11, 5-9pm



Make a dinner date at [Whisk Gourmet](#) Tuesday, July 11, and Whisk will feather the proverbial Tropical Audubon Society (TAS) nest with 10 percent of its dinner revenues. The beloved bastion of Southern-accented American Comfort Food offers a refreshing summer menu, and Indoor Dining or Outdoor Covered Seating options, Take-out or Curbside-pick-up. (Deliveries are not eligible for this promotion.)

No matter how you choose to dine, Executive Chef Michelle Minotti infuses generous helpings of New Orleans and Caribbean influences to her captivating signature cuisine. Check out the daily fresh fish special, experience the melt-off-the-bone BBQ glazed pork loin ribs, savor the Whisk tacos, local Tropical Audubon mango salad, salmon cake with green apple slaw, shrimp remoulade (*pictured above*), fried conch appetizers, and don't miss the local Tropical Audubon mango cheesecake (*pictured below*).



Despite hurricanes, restaurant ownership changes, and even the global pandemic, Whisk has been a generous TAS ally every summer since 2011. The annual “Dine Out” series helps TAS protect the places South Floridians cherish — Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay and The Everglades.

[RESERVATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED](#) for all on-site dining. Call 786.268.8350

Save August 8 for the Summer 2023 "Dine Out" finale — it's for the Birds!

This event takes place at [Whisk Gourmet 7382 SW 56 Avenue Miami FL 33143](#)
Limited onsite free parking available.

Advocate for the Birds!

Become a Tropical Audubon Ambassador

Register Now for the 2023 Program:

“Solutions for South Florida’s Future”

Registration Deadline, Friday, August 18



Become a lifelong champion for birds, other wildlife and South Florida's natural places.

Registration is now open for our 2023 Tropical Audubon Ambassador Program! Sign up today to learn how to be a more engaged, educated and effective environmental advocate.

New this August — Virtual Sessions en Español!

All virtual sessions will now feature a Spanish-language interpreter to engage and empower our Spanish-speaking community. [Click here to read the English-language version of our media advisory.](#) [Lea la versión en español de este aviso de prensa.](#)

Our 2023 program features online sessions, field trips, deep dives with local experts and advocacy campaigns.

Bonus: Thanks to the financial support of our Funding Partners — **The Miami Foundation, Everglades Foundation, Ocean Reef Conservation Association, and the Audubon Collaborative Grant** — the Tropical Audubon Ambassador Program is free!

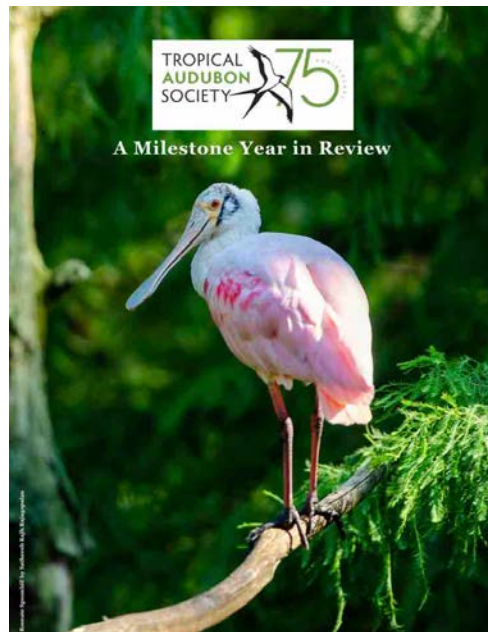
Join a network of like-minded environmental advocates and participate in deep-dive Q&As with regional experts in their respective fields. [Learn More](#).

Photo: Snail kite by Georgia Wilson

Register

Chirping About

Tropical Audubon's 75th Anniversary *Year in Review* — celebrating bird conservation, Biscayne Bay, Everglades & Pine Rocklands, is now [LIVE!](#)



Our **75th Anniversary *Year in Review*** report is live! [Click here to read about a year of conservation wins and our impactful programming, Cape Florida Banding Station and Capital Campaign.](#)

Keep "South Florida's Voice of Conservation" clear and strong in 2023! Help Tropical Audubon Society protect water resources and habitat for birds and people, too. Your contribution will have a lasting impact.

Donate Now

Pernod Ricard volunteers brave heat to beautify SNC grounds!



More than 70 [Pernod Ricard](#) employees braved heat and mosquitoes to contribute their time, energy and sweat equity to Tropical Audubon Society on a recent June morning. The small army of enthusiastic volunteers from firm's Miami-based Travel Retail Americas/CCA Caribbean and Central America/Florida US Teams removed invasive plants and helped groom our network of nature trails.

The prestigious global Wine & Spirits company chose to pitch in on our wooded 2.2-acre Steinberg Nature Center grounds as part of a team-building service project organized by [Visit.org](#), which helps companies “better the world one social impact experience at a time.” In addition to doing some gratifying gardening work, participants enjoyed yoga and other wellness activities at our 2.2-acre green oasis 1 block east of downtown South Miami.

Tiffany Pittman of [Visit.org](#), the event facilitator, told the group, “You are making a tremendous impact on your community!”

Greg Ford, General Manager of Pernod Ricard Travel Retail Americas, added this about the company’s global community service day: “We’re very happy to be here at Tropical Audubon Society today. It’s a great opportunity for us to contribute to our local community ... as well as to be able to work on our own wellbeing.”

Tropical Audubon Society Events/Grounds Director Amy Creekmur, TAS Board Member DeBlois Milledge, Cape Florida Banding Station Director Michelle Davis and volunteer Martha Kent were on site to mentor the volunteers and make sure everyone stayed hydrated. Amy estimates the Pernod-Ricard team pulled thousands of Potato Vines, a massive effort that, if contracted to an outside grounds crew, would have cost thousands of dollars.

Heartfelt thanks to the entire Pernod-Ricard team for their generosity toward the Birds and their enthusiastic service despite the stifling heat and humidity.

Plants for Birds

Bird-Friendly Gardening Day @TAS!

Dig in Saturday, July 15, 9am-Noon



Help steward our Bird-Friendly Demonstration Garden and Steinberg Nature Center grounds! Get hands-on experience creating wildlife habitat under the expert guidance of our resident Master Gardeners. Learn how to establish a Bird-Friendly garden in your own yard, patio or balcony, and get familiar with the principles of Florida-Friendly Landscaping.

Volunteers are needed to help remove invasives and tidy the grounds (rake leaves, wrangle fallen branches and clear our network of trails).

Photo: Native Cinnamon bark shrub by Ana Lima

RSVP for Bird-friendly Gardening Day

Healthy Habitat for Happy Birds



[Click here](#) to read "Environmental Conservation in Your Own Backyard" by Jose C. Romano, which appeared in the *Kendall Gazette* last month. With rainy season in full swing it's a quick, timely read. To create a healthy habitat for birds and other wildlife, we recommend [Galloway Farm Nursery](#) as a local resource for native plants, as well as the [Fairchild Connect to Protect Program](#).

Photo: Black-throated Blue Warbler by Will Stuart

The Birds Thank ...

Green Wise Group

Arboricultural Management





The BIRDS Thank ... **Gene Sherwood of Green Wise Group**, who volunteered his esteemed Arboricultural Management service to help steward our 2.2-acre Steinberg Nature Center grounds. Gene is graciously filling the void left by tree surgeon and former Advisory Board member Mark Howell, who recently moved upstate.

Along with helping Grounds Director Amy Creekmur with strategic pruning of our native canopy and removal of potential “widow-makers” (dangerous dead limbs that can drop unexpectedly), Gene’s company also provides all-natural untreated mulch to assist in protecting tree roots, nurturing soil, moisture retention and tamping down invasive weeds. Additionally, the ISA Certified Arborist was voted onto the Advisory Board at the annual Members Migration meeting on April 30.

Gene is no stranger to the neighborhood. The Miami native and Redland resident serves as the official Arborist at the University of Miami’s highly regarded Gifford Arboretum, which, like Tropical Audubon’s Steinberg Nature Center, is considered a “green island” by both birds and biologists. Green islands are essential in an urban landscape where habitat required by birds and other wildlife is sparse due to development. Because of their size and near proximity to each other, these two green islands serve crucial roles, and the birds appreciate the short flight between both sites.

Gene is a passionate and knowledgeable steward of our community’s natural landscape who cares deeply about nurturing hospitable habitat for wildlife. He has been trimming

trees locally for 30+ years, initially as the owner-operator of Sherwood Forest Tree Service from 1991-2007. He and his wife, Jeanne, founded [Green Wise Group](#) in 2009; their arboricultural services include tree and palm trimming, tree removal, stump grinding, arborist inspections, landscape planning and more.

If you haven't gotten your trees ready for hurricane season yet, don't delay! Call or email Green Wise for your FREE tree evaluation.

786.521.6501

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www.greenwisegroup.com

Supporting those vendors who support TAS is an easy way to contribute to our Mission. The Birds will thank you!

Support Birds

Become a Member

www.tropicalaudubon.org



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