

June 2022



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## Share the Shore

### Attention Beachgoers!

As we're having fun in the summer sun, it's also easy to respectfully share the sand with the shorebirds who nest in our area at this time of year – specifically, the Wilson's Plover, Least Tern and Black Skimmer. Helping these beach denizens safely hatch and raise their chicks is deeply meaningful, and a captivating teaching opportunity for kids.

### Tips 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.

[More information from National Audubon Society about how to become a bird-friendly beachgoer.](#)

**Cautionary Note:** Avian influenza has now been confirmed in wild birds found sick or dead in Florida, including waterfowl and other waterbirds, birds of prey and scavengers such as vultures, gulls and crows. There have been no cases of human infection to date, but it is currently recommended that *no one handle sick or dead birds or other wildlife*. For the most current information on the Florida outbreak and where to report bird mortalities, visit the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's [Avian Influenza](#) page. Read National Audubon Society's report on the spread of this disease in North America [here](#).

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



### RSVP for an International Field Trip

[Costa Rica: Birder's Paradise](#) | August 7 - 17, 2022 **ONE SPOT LEFT!**

[Kenya Birding and Wildlife Tour](#) | May 13 - 28, 2023

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

Photo: Masked Trogon (Colombia Trip) by @Birding by Bus

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## Featured Events

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Go-Native Plant Sale @TAS (Rain or Shine)  
Saturday, June 4, 9am-4pm



Our annual **Go-Native Plant Sale** makes it easy for area residents to nurture and shelter birds, bees and butterflies, and create their own native habitat at home. Select from hundreds of native plants on offer — which can include Slash pine, Coontie, Peperomia, Beautyberry Bush, bird and butterfly attractors, and more — and get cultivation tips from experts. Find inspiration on our 2.2-acre near-native Steinberg Nature Center campus. Learn how to transform your yard, balcony or patio into an hospitable, nurturing oasis for indigenous and migrating birds, other pollinators and area wildlife.

**Bonus buys:** Limited quantities of wild “Tropical Honey” produced in on-campus beehives and harvested/bottled by TAS board member Kirsten Hines. Books for admiring/inspiring, to include *Gardens of Miami* and *Attracting Birds to South Florida Gardens*.

**Bonus activities:** Take a 9am Bird Walk; attend a 10am Gardening for Wildlife Walk; visit the Bird-friendly Demonstration Garden; explore Pine Rockland and Tropical Hardwood Hammock forests; tour the historic Doc Thomas House; pack breakfast or lunch to enjoy in the shady picnic grove.

Net proceeds support upkeep of the bird-friendly gardens and grounds.

**Photo:** *Black-throated Blue Warbler in native American Beautyberry Bush by Will Stuart*

RSVP for our Go-Native Plant Sale

Dine-in or Take-out @Whisk Gourmet  
Tuesday, June 14, 5-9pm



Make a dinner date at [Whisk Gourmet](#) and, in turn, *Whisk* will feather the proverbial TAS nest with 10 percent of its dinner revenues. The local bastion of Southern-accented American Comfort Food offers a refreshing summer menu, with 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, you'll want to experience the *Whisk* menu authored by sensational Executive Chef Michelle Minotti (*pictured*), who infuses generous helpings of New Orleans and Caribbean influences to a beloved menu studded with time-tested house favorites. Born in Venezuela to Italian and American parents, Chef Michelle's colorful heritage and kitchen repertoire are simpatico with *Whisk's* always bright, boldly flavored seasonal cuisine.

Check out the daily fresh fish special, experience the melt-off-the-bone BBQ glazed pork loin ribs, savor the luscious shrimp and avocado salad, and don't miss the famous fried green tomatoes. It's for the Birds!

RESERVATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED for all on-site dining.

**Save July 12 and August 9 for two more opportunities to Dine Out for the Birds!**

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

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## Conservation News

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Cape Florida Banding Station wraps up Spring Migration Season



Cape Florida Banding Station (CFBS) concluded its 2022 Spring Migration season on May 17 with 1,261 birds banded, 27 of which were return visitors from previous seasons. While spring activity started off quietly due to wind patterns, the first half of May yielded an excellent movement of birds. The station broke records for two species: Bicknell's Thrush with 6 banded, and an astonishing 22 Connecticut Warblers banded! On one particular morning banders observed several of the usually elusive Connecticut Warblers foraging on the grass – a behavior normally seen in Palm Warblers. [Check out the latest CFBS blog](#) for a rundown of all of the season's visitors.

Spring Migration slows to a trickle in early June, as these transitory winter and migratory birds arrive at their summer breeding grounds, announcing their presence with song and foraging among the new flush of leaves in Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern forests. Among our year-round South Florida residents, the Northern Cardinals are busy instructing their fledglings as we head into our steamy summer.

*Photo: Male Connecticut Warbler by Nasim Mahomir*

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## Plants for Birds

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Bird-Friendly Gardening Day @TAS!  
Dig in Saturday, June 18, 9am-Noon



Help steward our Bird-Friendly Demonstration Garden and near-native Steinberg Nature Center grounds. Get hands-on experience creating wildlife habitat under the guidance of our resident Master Gardeners. Learn how to establish a bird-friendly garden in your own yard, patio or balcony. [Sign Up!](#)

Interested in setting up an organized Gardening Event at our Steinberg Nature Center? We welcome groups seeking a meaningful outdoor experience. We were delighted to host

members of "Bumble," the popular online dating app, in conjunction with Visit.org, at our Bird-friendly Gardening Day in May.

*Photo: TAS Master Gardener Amy Creekmur (lower left), volunteers and members of Bumble gather at the Steiner Nature Center before digging in on Bird-friendly Gardening Day May 21. By Federico Acevedo*

## The Birds Thank ...



The Birds thank our most extraordinary 2022 lineup of inordinately generous, talented bands and solo acts for filling our Winter/Spring concert playbill to overflowing with an eclectic array of fantabulous music.

After a 22-month pandemic hiatus **Take Sixx** inaugurated our signature Conservation Concert series in January with a compelling mix of classic and contemporary hits. Standing O for members Dr. Steve Bukowski, Dr. Steve Chavoustie, Dr. Enrique Hernandez, Dr. Ron Sancetta, Janet Scarpatetti and Aaron Whitman.

Their volunteerism set the tempo for the season.

Hard-driving **Been There Done That** filled the night air with enduring classic rock covers in February. Standing O for members Phil Allen, Jose Arencibia, Burt Bruton, Steve Casell, Jerry Cohn and Denise Margolesky.

The beat went on in March when **Plan B** delivered a repertoire of classic and contemporary Rock 'n' Roll standards. Standing O for members Alvaro Gomez, Dr. Scott Kenward, Al Larcada, Alex Leeds and Al Roque.

Four acts comprised April's much-ballyhooed all-acoustic **Birdstock** jam. Standing O for solo songbird DeBlois Milledge; Lyin' Fish duo John Holcombe and Eric Wagner; solo artist Andy Waks; and Acoustic Therapy's Phil Allen, Burt Bruton and Tony Sinatra, and guest Bruce Turkel.

Standing O for solo folk artist and South Florida storyteller **Grant Livingston**, who so graciously opened our Sunday April 24 Members Migration gathering with an enchanting concert.

Door proceeds of \$13,262 set a Conservation Concert Season record, and will help fund completion of the Tropical Audubon chickee.

Support Birds

Become a Member

[www.tropicalaudubon.org](http://www.tropicalaudubon.org)



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