



November 2021



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## November in the Field

November provides South Floridians with the final opportunity to experience Fall Migration as the last transient songbirds journey south and our winter visitors arrive. By month-end, waterfowl diversity will reach its peak, with more than a dozen duck species joining our resident ducks. Any freshwater lake or pond, even in urban areas, can potentially host small flocks of visiting Ring-necked Ducks during winter. In Everglades wetlands, the early-arriving Blue-winged Teal may be joined by Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, Hooded Merganser and Ruddy Duck. Off of our beaches and in Biscayne Bay, keep watch for Black Scoter and Red-breasted Merganser. Gull diversity at local beaches also increases notably this month.

See what other birders are posting and share your birding highlights on our [Bird Board](#) and [Facebook Bird Board](#). Birders of every level are invited to join one of our November field trips listed below. To view our entire Fall 2021-Winter 2022 trip schedule visit our [website calendar](#). Please note that [REGISTRATION](#) is required for all trips.

*Banner Photo: Green-winged Teal by Sylwia Hunt*

### RSVP for a November Field Trip

- [Southern Palm Beach Birding](#) | Saturday, November 6, 7:30am-3pm
- [Everglades National Park Birding](#) | Saturday, November 13, 7:30am-3pm
- [Phoebes Birding at Matheson Hammock Park](#) | Sunday, November 14, 7:30-10am
- [Crandon Park Bird Walk](#) | Saturday, November 20, 7:30-11am

## Featured Events



Be part of the most exciting annual giving event of the year. Let's flock together and break our previous #GiveMiamiDay (GMD) fundraising record!

Your GMD gift to TAS of \$25 or more will be enhanced via The Miami Foundation with the generous support of Knight Foundation. Your generosity will help us fulfill our

the generous support of Knight Foundation, your generosity will help us fund our Mission to "Conserve and restore South Florida ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats." Early Bird Giving: The donation portal will be open for 3 days, so your gift has wings November 15-18! [Save this link to Tropical Audubon Society's Give Miami Day page!](#)

## Tour the Historic Doc Thomas House Saturday, November 6, 3pm



Tropical Audubon Society is pleased to again host a public tour of our historic Doc Thomas House headquarters. Visit our charming 1932 cottage, which has recently undergone extensive structural repair, for a captivating, 45-minute guided tour led by a Tropical Audubon docent. Learn about TAS patron and area pioneer Arden Hayes "Doc" Thomas and Robert Fitch Smith, the architect commissioned to design the charming Florida vernacular cottage, distinguished by its native woods and oolitic limestone features.

Bonus: Explore our society's Bird-friendly pollinator gardens and near-native Steinberg Nature Center campus.

Directions: 5530 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143; limited onsite parking via the SW 55 Avenue auto gate. [Registration Required HERE.](#)

## "Members Gratitude Concert" *Featuring Jazz & Folk Artist DeBlois Milledge* Saturday, November 27 Gates Open 6pm, Music Begins 7pm



We invite our members to a complementary "Members Gratitude Concert" featuring homegrown singer-songwriter DeBlois Milledge. Her intimate concert marks the return of live music events to our 2.2-acre near-native Steinberg Nature Center campus after a 21-month hiatus. The Coral Gables native and Tropical Audubon Society board member is critically acclaimed for her repertoire of Jazz- and Folk-inspired originals infused with her authentic "soul meets song" storytelling that also reflects her conservation ethos.

Attendees can pack a picnic or order Take-out/Delivery from our nearby Community Partner restaurants, *Whisk Gourment*, *Spris*, *Sports Grill* and *Gringo's*. Wash it all down with wine and brew at the RNDC donation Bird Bar (masks must be worn while ordering).

Don't miss out on this wonderful evening of song and renewal! [Click here for Tickets.](#)

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## Conservation News

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Join "Lights Out Miami" &  
Help Birds Survive Fall Migration!  
**Volunteers Needed!**



Migrant songbirds who fly over Miami generally rest and forage during the day and travel at night, using the stars as a navigational aids. Brightly lit cities impede birds' night vision though, confusing and disorienting them, steering them off course and potentially causing them to collide with a building. We recently launched the [Lights Out Miami](#) initiative, which includes a Bird Collision Monitoring Campaign within Miami-Dade County and [Bird-Safe Buildings Act](#) legislation advocacy.

*You can help!* We encourage homeowners and building managers to turn off unnecessary lights during fall (August-November) and spring (February-May) migrations. [Volunteer](#) as a bird collision data collector. **Learn simple steps to reduce building collisions and take the [Lights Out Miami Homeowner's Pledge](#).**

*Photo: Miami Skyline*

## TAS Files Notice of Appeal Challenging Governor & Cabinet's SR-836 Extension Order



Update: Following our June [SR836 announcement](#), Tropical Audubon Society filed a Notice of Appeal to the Third District Court of Appeal on October 19 challenging Governor Ron DeSantis and the Florida Cabinet's Final Order that paves the way for Miami-Dade County's proposed SR-836 extension. If built, the tollway extension would breach the county's Urban Development Boundary and intrude into Everglades Wetlands.

Your support is crucial! With your help TAS can continue to challenge the Governor and Cabinet's misguided decision, and also continue critical work to ensure the proposed tollway extension does not get permitted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. [Donate to Protect Wetlands, Wildlife and Water Security!](#)

*Photo: Wood Stork by Larry Temple*

## Cape Florida Banding Station 1,000+ birds Fall Migration Banding



Volunteers at the Cape Florida Banding Station (CFBS) on Key Biscayne banded their 1,000th Fall Migration season bird — a Swainson's Warbler — on October 10 and have

recently had some surprising visitors, too, including a Ruby-crowned Kinglet! Learn how this long-running community science project helps birds by following [CFBS here](#).

*Photo: Swainson's Warbler banded at CFBS by Miriam Avella*

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## Plants for Birds

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Bird-Friendly Gardening Day @TAS!  
Dig in Saturday, November 13, 9am-Noon  
**(Second Saturday this month only!)**



Join us in stewarding 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!](#)

*Photo: A Florida-endangered Atala drinks nectar from a native Butterfly Bush at our Steinberg Nature Center.*



### “Attracting Birds to your South Florida Garden”

Talk with Kirsten Hines  
Saturday, November 13, 10am

This free pollinator talk at Coral Gables Memorial Youth Center will be led by Tropical Audubon Society Board Member and native plant expert Kirsten Hines, the co-author of “[Attracting Birds to South Florida Gardens](#).” [Learn More.](#)

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## TAS Job Opportunities

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### We're Hiring!

We are growing our Tropical Audubon Society team, and presently have two open positions to fill: Senior Conservation Director and Bookkeeper/Office Manager. [Learn More.](#)

*Photo: Burrowing Owls by Dan Dietrich*

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## Green Things to Do

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### Visit Florida Keys Hawkwatch Thru November 30

Florida Keys Hawkwatch is dedicated to promoting the appreciation and conservation of birds by committing to the long-term study of their migration through the Florida Keys. Visitors are welcome 9am to 4pm daily through November 7; 8am to 3pm through November

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## The Birds Thank ...

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... The Miami Foundation for funding our award-winning Tropical Audubon Ambassador Program, a free environmental education course for South Floridians 18 and older who are interested in becoming more engaged, educated and effective environmental advocates. [The Miami Foundation](#) builds the philanthropic, civic and leadership backbone for Greater Miami.

[Support Birds](#)

[Become a Member](#)

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



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