

MONTANA  
Audubon



eNewsletter — June 2011



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It's **Bird-a-thon** season! You can support Amy's bird conservation and climate programs [here](#).

#### Raptor News

We are looking for one more field technician for our fall [Bridger Migration Monitoring Project](#).

**Golden Eagle nest records needed!** If

## Happy Summer Solstice from Montana Audubon

### Annual Award Winners - Congratulations All!

At our festival in Glasgow earlier this month we presented four Montana Audubon Awards. Click on the award below to learn about these well-deserving individuals.

- [Lifetime Achievement Award](#) ~ Ron Farmer
- [Educator of the Year](#) ~ Carla Wambach
- [Conservationist of the Year](#) ~ Steve Hoffman
- [Special Achievement Award](#) - Catherine Wightman

### Cleaner Air is Just a Comment Away

Mercury, lead, dioxin, and arsenic are some of the most hazardous air pollutants in the environment today. They cause cancer, birth defects, asthma, and damage the immune system and they are devastating for the environment. We don't have to live with these dangers.

**A quick note to the EPA can help ensure Clean Air.** Comment period is open now. Please add a simple, personal note to this [Action Alert today](#).

records needed: if you know where a Golden is nesting this season, please contact [Amy](#).

Support Montana Audubon:



Interested in local Audubon Chapter activities this summer? [Visit each Chapter's website.](#)

Help conserve birds by reporting your [bird sightings](#).



Loons are particularly susceptible to mercury pollution. We don't have to accept poisoned birds, tainted fish and polluted waters. This is a problem that can be solved if tougher standards are imposed on polluters. [Take Action.](#)



THANKS for your help!

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## David Sibley ~ June Bird(er)-of-the-Month

"All birds look different to my dad." I'll never forget when Evan said that to me. It was a few summers ago on a sweltering day in the high mountains of the Front. We were on a long hike when he and I stopped to discuss the field marks of our local warblers. "Wait, what?" was my initial reaction. Evan, the eldest son of renowned artist and author David Sibley, just looked at me and smiled. What he meant was not that all bird *species* appeared different to his father, but *all individual birds*. And this gave me great pause....



I've had the pleasure of co-instructing bird workshops at Pine Butte with David for the past five seasons and it is always an illuminating experience. This is a person who has researched, studied and painted essentially every bird in North America. He understands their molt patterns, behavior, regional occurrence, and feather structure. And he recognizes all of their voices, regularly pulling birds out of thin air by their songs and calls with a precision that is uncanny. In fact, I have never been around another human being with greater visual and aural perception skills. Far from being intimidating, his gentle disposition draws one closer into a world of avian richness that few others hold the key to....

**The complete article is [HERE....](#)**

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## Summer Camps at Our Audubon Center in Billings

### Spaces are filling up fast - Register Today!

Is your child or grandchild looking for a fun way to spend time outdoors, learning, exploring, and playing? There are still spaces available in several of our week-long Adventures in Nature camps!

Visit us [here](#) for information on camp themes and age groups for each week and for links to allow you to register with Billings Parks and Recreation.

Learn about happenings at our Conservation Center: [www.mtacec.org](http://www.mtacec.org).

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## Annual Audubon Festival: What a Hoot

We had a fabulous festival earlier this month. Our ***Wings Across the Big Sky Bird Festival*** was held in Glasgow June 3-5, 2011. See our award winners (above) and we'll have photos posted soon. Thanks to the over 200 friends who found their way to Glasgow, met up with old and new friends, saw great birds, and learned about grassland and sagebrush conservation. Details [here](#).

See you next June in the Flathead!

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We're happy it finally feels like summer. Enjoy and thanks for all you do.

Amy and the Montana Audubon Staff



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Montana Audubon  
P.O. Box 595  
Helena, Montana 59624  
US

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