



BIRDATHON IS BACK!!

Yakima Valley Audubon Society performs an annual Spring Migratory Bird Count each May. We use this as a springboard for ***Birdathon***, our primary fundraiser for the year.



Clark's Nutcracker, photo: George Vlahakis

Membership dues cover the cost of being an Audubon Chapter: meeting place, speaker fees, and newsletter. ***Birdathon*** proceeds enable us to support local conservation, education, and environmental projects. Past Birdathon donations have funded the Blue Mountain Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, a Burrowing Owl population study, and aided research by biologist Dr. Taza Schaming on the Clark's Nutcracker in our Ponderosa Pine forests.



Sarah Shippen

This year, funds are sponsoring a weeklong camp for 4th – 7th graders called "Bird Brains". This camp, run by the Yakima Area Arboretum, will help the young campers learn about and explore the world of our local birds.

An important conservation effort we will be helping fund over the next few years will be the wildlife ponds at the Grandview Water Treatment facility. These ponds have become an important stopover for migrating waterfowl and shorebirds since the 1970's when they were created. The treatment facility now needs a redesign to meet current water treatment safety standards potentially threatening the water supply to the ponds. We are working with a team of public and private agencies to develop strategies to save and develop these wetlands. ***Your fund Birdathon donation will help this critical cause!***



American Avocet, photo: George Vlahkis

Urgent conservation needs often come up throughout the year and funding may be critical to their support. Your ***Birdathon*** donations allow YVAS to respond with immediate action!

Help us to support these important causes with your tax-deductible donation! Donors will receive the final Spring Migratory Bird Count report along with a donation receipt.

How to donate:

- You may *conveniently* donate online at our website: [Birdathon Donor Box](#)
- If you would like to join Yakima Valley Audubon Society, visit our website at: [Join YVAS](#)

Thank you for your help with this important work!

Sincerely,
Bill Drenguis, YVAS Board of Directors