

## Proposals for Birdathon Grants 2024

Organization	Amount requested	Plan for Grant
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bernheim arboretum &amp; Research Forest</b></p>	<p>\$5,000.00</p>	<p>Bernheim will use the funds to invest in new and existing bird programming supplies &amp; equipment. In addition to books, binoculars, and other equipment, we will enhance two popular features of our birding program: Bernheim’s wildlife viewing room &amp; Purple Martin house program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bernheim recently re-opened our Wildlife Viewing area for programming. Adding bird feeders to this area will attract more species and provide opportunities for programs utilizing this unique space.</li> <li>• Bernheim has been home to colonies of Purple Martins for over 18 years. Our staff &amp; volunteers have identified modifications &amp; repairs needed to access the houses more safely for maintenance.</li> </ul> <p>Needs and costs breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional feeders &amp; seed for wildlife viewing room: \$2,000.00</li> <li>• Binoculars &amp; Birding guides for programs: \$2,000.00</li> <li>• Repairs for Purple Martin houses: \$500.00</li> <li>• Support for training and hosting bird team volunteer events &amp; meetings: \$500.00</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Creasey Mahan Nature Preserve</b></p>	<p>\$1,805.00</p>	<p>Creasey Mahan is asking for matching funds (50%) to help convert a three-acre area, currently filled with Johnson grass and weeds, into a short (six inches to three feet in height) prairie planting with native grasses and wildflowers. The proposed acreage will be planted with twenty-two species of wildflowers and four grasses. This prairie will provide food, protection from predators, nesting material and sites for birds, butterflies, bees and other invertebrates, as well as supporting many other species of wildlife. The matching funds are in the process of being raised. Creasey Mahan will provide labor, equipment, fire management oversight, herbicide certification and applications (if needed), site prep and signage. The grant funds will be used to purchase 30 lbs. of native grass and wildflower seeds (applied at 10 lbs. per acre).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Floracliff Nature Sanctuary</b></p>	<p>\$2,474.00</p>	<p>Floracliff coordinates and participates in various community science projects to document biodiversity and monitor stream and forest health. The data collected from these projects is submitted to local, national, and international programs.</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This grant will support monitoring of water quality in the Elk Lick Creek watershed, which supports a variety of wildlife, including birds that depend on clean and healthy streams. Birds such as the Louisiana Waterthrush and Belted Kingfisher. \$1,624.00 will be used for a quality water monitoring probe. This probe monitors up to 12 parameters with efficiency and accuracy. This probe will save time and manpower, as well as provide more information about stream health than what we have gotten in the past. It will also support educational programs on water quality and aquatic/riparian wildlife.</li> <li>• We also plan to improve habitat and provide food in the Trail's End Bird Watching Station. \$500.00 will be used to purchase locally sourced native plants for the Trail's End Water Feature. This feature was added to the Trail's End Bird watching Station in 2023 to provide a water source for birds and other wildlife. The plan is to landscape around the water feature with bird-friendly native plants that can provide additional food and cover.</li> <li>• \$350.00 will cover the cost of bird seed, nuts, and suet for the bird watching station.</li> </ul>
<b>Jefferson Memorial Forest</b>	\$1,600.00	<p>Our goal is to increase bird education and habitat at JMF. We will provide bird programs in partnership with Raptor Rehab, expand the bird habitat at our Environmental Education center, and purchase new binoculars for use in our programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 900.00 for Raptor Rehab</li> <li>• 200.00 for native shrubs to be planted in the bird gardens of JMF</li> <li>• \$500.00 for twelve new binoculars for use in educational programs</li> </ul>
<b>Josephine Sculpture Park</b>	\$5,000.00	<p>Funding from Beckham Bird Club will be used to conserve and restore habitats that are important to birds and provide ongoing bird-specific education to visitors of all ages.</p> <p><b>Habitat Restoration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage vegetation throughout the park to attract birds for feeding and shelter.</li> <li>• Remove invasive plant species throughout the park.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 3 native tree saplings planted in 2018 to maximize survival.</li> <li>• Maintain 3 native plant meadows, each at different stages of installation &amp; management.</li> </ul> <p><b>Bird Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and monitor an 11-box bluebird trail including a data station in the visitor center to see nest box data in real time. Develop 2-3 educational blog articles as well as social media posts related to bluebird trail &amp; supporting landscapes for cavity nesting birds.</li> <li>• Boost volunteer recruitment strategies. Volunteers will maintain bird feeder stations, nest boxes and bird blinds.</li> <li>• Develop and feature new educational signage around the park describing the wildlife habitat restorations and environmental impact.</li> <li>• Partner with birding-related organizations and businesses- such as Frankfort Audubon Society, Wild Birds Unlimited (Frankfort), Bluebirds of Central KY, and Raptor Rehab of KY, Inc.- to offer birding opportunities and increased community outreach.</li> </ul>
<p><b>KY Conservation Committee</b></p>	<p>\$2,500.00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are continuing to work on public education and policies relating to species and habitat protection, where we advise citizens in communities where energy projects may impact critical habitat. We are now monitoring over 40 large-scale solar projects, and we are also now looking at the transmission project process and how it intersects with bird habitat.</li> <li>• We are also continuing our advocacy work on migration corridors and how they work alongside good transportation planning and energy infrastructure planning.</li> <li>• This is also part of our overall effort to promote the implementation of individual components of the Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and similar new federal initiatives that can benefit wildlife through state-based initiatives.</li> </ul> <p>The requested funds will be used for research, educational presentations and online/print resources on the topics mentioned in the project description.</p>

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<b>KY Natural Lands Trust</b>	\$2,500.00	KNLT's primary commitment to conservation involves acquiring wildlands. KNLT has identified over 4,000 acres in Eastern Kentucky for acquisition, strategically chosen to safeguard areas with high biodiversity that are also climate resilient. These wildlands are critical to sustaining natural systems, plants, and animals. Our project area is within the Appalachian Mountains Bird Conservation area (US North American Bird Conservation Initiative), a priority for forest birds such as Cerulean Warblers and Black-Throated Blue Warblers. Pine Mountain is part of a continental scale wildway through Eastern North America that serves as crucial summer nesting sites and migratory routes for birds returning from their wintering grounds. The support from the Beckham Bird Club will contribute to KNLT's work in safeguarding, connecting, and restoring Pine Mountain Wildlands Corridor.
<b>KY Resources Council</b>	3,000.00	KRC again requests support for its environmental and Community Defense program in Fiscal Year 2023-2024. *Our work in FY 2024 will include continued legal work in the ongoing legal fight to stop LG&E from running a gas pipeline through Bernheim's Cedar Grove wildlife corridor- now on appeal to the KY Court of Appeals, as well as continuing our work to enforce the Endangered Species Act. We anticipate further legal action this summer/fall to protect endangered bats and their habitat in the path of the pipeline. *We will also be working to strengthen KY's new Regional Haze State Implementation Plan under the Clean Air Act- which is long overdue from the KY Department of Environmental Protection and is now expected in spring of 2024. This act can have a positive impact on Mammoth Cave National Parks air quality and visibility. *We will also continue to advocate for wildlife and bird conservation as part of our legal work, as those issues arise.
<b>Louisville Nature Center</b>	\$3,150.00	Funding is requested for improvements to our bird blind, purchase bird seed, and bring 100 first grade students from a JCS Title 1 school to LNC for a Birds in my Backyard field trip. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bird seed- \$600.00</li> <li>• Improvements to bird blind: 1 new security door, 2 screen doors for better airflow- \$1,280.00</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field trip admission for 100 students- \$900.00</li> <li>• Two school buses to transport students- \$370.00</li> </ul>
<b>Office of KY Nature Preserves</b>	\$5,000.00	Our project focuses on the conservation and expansion of glades and grasslands within the Steele Hollow State Natural Area, with an emphasis on Little South Fork SNA, Eastview Barrens SNP, Rush Island Bottoms, Jim Scudder SNP, Lone Oak Barrens SNP, and Raymond Athey Barrens SNP. The overarching goal is to enhance the ecological integrity of these areas through strategic management practices such as invasive species treatments, eastern red cedar removal, and prescribed fires. The grant funds would be allocated to support these critical conservation efforts.
<b>Raptor Rehab</b>	\$2,000.00	New Mew enclosure to house fledgling American Kestrel chicks. Each year, the number of Kestrel chicks needing to come to us for rehab from cat attacks, or orphaned due to nest destruction increases. We are in need of building a second mew to serve as a bird nursery for young Kestrels. The funds will go directly towards the cost of lumber and hardware needed for building the mew.
<b>Sunnyside Master Gardeners Blue Bird Team</b>	\$1,000.00	We plan to construct new nest boxes and trails to continue providing a nesting place for primarily Eastern Bluebirds, Carolina Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, Carolina Wrens, House Wrens and others. Also, we plan to make houses to gift to Youth Master Gardeners. The grant would be used for the purchase of materials to make Nest boxes, Trails and Educational materials.
<b>The Nature Conservancy in KY</b>	\$5,000.00	TNC's nature preserves provide a habitat for many bird species and an educational opportunity for birdwatchers and other wildlife enthusiasts. TNC currently has eight open preserves, all free to the public. A gift of support from BBC would make a difference for our preserve management and stewardship. Encompassing trail maintenance, fire management, invasive species removal, and much more. Stewardship practices within our nature preserves protect critical biodiversity, conserve wildlife habitat, and ultimately benefit both people and nature.

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<p><b>The Parklands of Floyds Fork</b></p>	<p>\$1,550.00</p>	<p>Our mission is to foster a deep appreciation for the environment, encourage a love for learning, and instill a lifelong connection to nature. Each year, we host over 16,000 educational experiences. The Outdoor Classroom serves as an inclusive space for students of all ages and the broader community to explore and appreciate the wonders of nature. Recognizing the financial barriers that hinder access to the Outdoor Classroom, we established the S.E.E.D Program (Stewardship, Education, Exploration, &amp; Discovery) This initiative addresses economic disparities by covering all costs associated with class visits to The Parklands for Title-1 schools and organizations serving families in need. \$1,200.00 would be used to host Raptor Rehab for six educational events throughout The Parklands including Outdoor Adventure Summer Camps and the Junior Explorer program.</p> <p>The remaining \$350.00 will be used to purchase new student binoculars. These will be used with all types of programming but primarily with our field trip and S.E.E.D programs to aid the students to identify bird species in The Parklands.</p>
<p><b>Woods and Waters Land Trust</b></p>	<p>\$3,000.00</p>	<p>WWLT is working to conserve several tracts adjacent to the Elkhorn Creek in Franklin County-ultimately protecting more than a mile of stream frontage in 2024. This forested corridor is vital for migratory birds, provides important habitat for species such as the Green Heron (State Wildlife Action Plan), and hosts nest sites for the charismatic Bald Eagle (SWAP).</p> <p>Funds will be used for due diligence activities related to conservation easements- including title search, bird surveys, baseline documentation reports, etc. WWLT conservation easements are perpetual. These lands are protected permanently.</p>