

Proposals for Birdathon Grants 2025

Organization	Amount requested	Plan for Grant
Bernheim Arboretum & Research Forest	\$2,500.00	<p>‘Birding at Bernheim’, Bernheim has several Ebird hotspot locations listed, with as many as 196 species from the highest location in the Arboretum. Since Ebird hotspot locations can be confusing as to route or key locations, we intend to create a designated Beckham Bird Club sponsored Ebird trail, which can be used for educational programming or training for young birders. This sponsored route may follow an established trail and take in several habitats and features with known bird nests or food sources.</p> <p>Collecting data on an official sponsored trail can help greatly with research, long term trends, and outreach for birds at Bernheim. We will produce signage for trailheads and markers along trail, advertising for the trail, and leading a special hike to teach about the trail that we hope could involve several Beckham Bird Club members. If it works out, we hope this can be an established go-to for programming and teaching the art and science of birding utilizing new technologies.</p>
Creasey Mahan Nature Preserve	\$1,875.00	<p>We plan to create a Savannah Habitat with Birdhouses. We have been working with an experienced Consulting Forester on a 10-year Forest Management Plan and a Design and Implementation Plan. In 2023, we began aggressively managing the acreage where the Ash trees had died, and invasive species had taken over. We are limiting this intensive management to approximately five acres a year, and we allow each managed plot up to two years as a “recovery” period. It is now time for us to plant and restore the first five-and-a-half-acre plot (mowed in 2023). We will simulate a “savannah-like” habitat by planting approximately 200 seedlings per acre. This will provide habitat, food, and shelter for birds and other wildlife, while also providing some open areas. This spring, we will plant 1,100 seedlings of Burr Oak, White Oak, Post Oak, Chestnut Oak, Southern Red Oak, and Shellbark Hickory. Additionally, across these plots and in adjoining areas, we will add different sized birdhouses to attract and support different birds.</p> <p>Finally, your past annual support has been the primary funding source for supplying food for the bird blind. In the past we’ve asked for 100% payment, but due to the large request this year, we have scaled it back to 50%.</p> <p>Funds will be used for these purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase 1100 native tree seedlings for planting \$1,575

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<p>Creasey Mahan Nature Preserve (Cont.)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special tree seedling planting equipment rental for a week \$450 • Build 20 birdhouses out of Eastern Red Cedar ~ \$20 each \$400 • Purchase ten 4"x4"x10' posts, ten 4"x4"x12' posts, and 20 QuikCrete bags \$400 • Purchase quality wild bird seed (40 lb bags) for a year \$650 • Purchase suet cakes (18 cakes-bulk purchase) for a year \$175 • Various Nyjer thistle and mealworms (limited amounts) \$100 <p style="text-align: right;">Total \$3,750.00 \$50% grant request 1,875.00</p>
<p>Jefferson Memorial Forest</p>	<p>\$1,375.00</p>	<p>Our goal is to increase bird education at JMF and in the community. We will provide bird programs in partnership with Raptor Rehab and create a bird activity kit for our partner schools to borrow for their classes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$675.00 to bring Raptor Rehab for three educational programs for schools and community. • \$700.00 for a bird activity kit to loan to school partners, including binoculars, field guides, ID posters, & books.
<p>Josephine Sculpture Park</p>	<p>\$5,000.00</p>	<p>Funding from BBC will be used to help JSP continue to conserve and restore habitats that are important to birds and provide ongoing bird-specific education to visitors of all ages.</p> <p>Habitat Restoration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • annual supplies and equipment including gloves, cut stump treatment & applicators, clippers & shears, plant propagation supplies. • Contract and/or staff time required to manage and restore habitat, including invasive plant removal, maintenance of native wildflower & grass meadows & tree planting sites. \$2,500.00 <p>Bird Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual supplies for feeder stations and nesting boxes including bird seed and replacement feeders/boxes • Staff time for recruiting and training volunteers as well as the ongoing cleaning and maintenance of feeder stations and nesting boxes

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Josephine Sculpture Park <i>(Cont.)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time for recruiting schools/classes, planning, communicating with teachers, coordinating docents/artists, field trip set up, supervision, park clean up, and project evaluation. \$2,500.00
KY Conservation Committee	\$2,500.00	<p>This year we are continuing to work on public education and policies relating to species and habitat protection, where we will continue to advise citizens in communities where energy projects may impact critical habitat. We anticipate there may be more activity in this area based on rollbacks from the incoming administration at the federal level. Additionally, due to the change this year in the U.S. Executive Branch, we will be monitoring where policies that protect wildlife are at threat.</p> <p>In addition, we successfully helped the state to launch their pilot project on wildlife corridors where we helped acquire \$1.2 million in pilot funds, and plan on continuing the input and guidance on that process.</p> <p>The requested funds will be used for research, educational presentations and online/print resources on the topics mentioned above, as well as monitoring proposals, including energy infrastructure proposals (pipelines, transmission projects) that we believe may impact healthy migration and critical habitat.</p>
KY Natural Lands Trust	\$2,500.00	<p>KNLT is committed to acquiring ecologically significant wildlands as part of our vision to grow the scale and pace of conservation efforts across Central Appalachia. In 2025 we aim to purchase hundreds of acres for protection in Bell and Harlan counties in Kentucky, as well as wildlands on Cumberland Mountain in Virginia. KNLT will conserve thousands of additional acres across the region. KNLT is also partnering with Southern Conservation Partners in 2025 to launch a five-year bird study across additional AHC (Appalachian Highlands Wildlands Corridor) preserves. The project will use ultrasonic recorders to noninvasively monitor bird species on Pine Mountain, enabling future research such as grouse drumming surveys, migratory bird surveys, winter bird counts, owl surveys, cerulean warbler surveys, and more.</p>
KY Resources Council	\$3,000.00	<p>KRC requests support for its Environmental and Community Defense program in 2025-2026, including expert environmental, pro-bono legal services towards</p>

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<p>KY Resources Council <i>(Cont.)</i></p>		<p>conservation efforts benefiting wildlife. This includes the ongoing legal fight to stop LG&E from constructing a gas pipeline through Bernheim’s Cedar Grove wildlife corridor, and work to strengthen Kentucky’s new Regional Haze State Implementation plan under the Clean Air Act.</p> <p>We are advocating for a reduction in smog pollution in the Louisville area, as well as working with the National Parks Conservation Association in continuing to push for a better Regional Haze Implementation Plan that will benefit wildlife and the health of our communities.</p> <p>We will also continue to advocate for wildlife and bird conservation as part of our legal work, as those issues arise.</p> <p>Last year, KRC provided more than \$1.75 million worth of legal services across the Commonwealth with the help of funding partners like Beckham Bird Club of Louisville.</p>
<p>Louisville Nature Center</p>	<p>\$3,055.00</p>	<p>LNC is requesting funding for improvements to our bird blind, purchase bird seed, and to bring 100 first grade students from a JCPS Title 1 school to LNC for a Birds in my Backyard field trip. This program is currently aligned with JCPS reading and science curriculum, so it continues to be a popular program</p> <p>How the funds will be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$825: bird seed for Bird Blind • \$1280: Improvements to bird blind: 1 new security door, 2 screen doors for better airflow. • \$900: field trip admission for 100 students • \$50: replenish supplies for Birds in my Backyard field trip
<p>Office of KY Nature Preserves</p>	<p>\$4,000.00</p>	<p>The Drennon Creek Project (329 acres, Henry County) and Raymond Athey Project (156 Acres, Logan County) aim to restore and enhance critical habitat for songbirds and other wildlife by implementing targeted management activities at two state nature preserves in Kentucky. These preserves provide vital nesting, foraging, and migration stopover habitat for a variety of bird species, including at-risk grassland and woodland birds.</p> <p>This grant would fund invasive species removal, forest thinning, and fire management to promote early successional habitat and improve biodiversity. The funding will contribute directly to the restoration of habitat conditions necessary for supporting both resident and migratory bird populations.</p>

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Raptor Rehab	\$5,000.00	This grant will go towards the cost of \$60,000.00 worth of lumber to continue repairs to our Bald Eagle flight enclosure.
Sunnyside Master Gardeners Bluebird Team	\$500.00	Our project includes constructing boxes & trails for Eastern Bluebirds, Carolina Chickadees, Tree Swallows, Carolina Wrens, House Wrens, Tufted Titmouse, and others. Also Gift boxes to youth master gardeners, MG Interns, and others. Also, we plan to purchase educational materials, and tools and materials to construct bird boxes.
The Parklands of Floyds Fork	\$2,000.00	<p>The Parklands Outdoor Classroom connects thousands of students of all ages to nature each year through hands-on learning experiences such as field trips, Junior Explorer events, scout programs, camps, and more. Thanks to your generosity, we enhanced these programs last year by purchasing binoculars and funding Raptor Rehab presentations at several events. Building on this success and to expand our efforts in 2025, we are requesting funding for additional binoculars to meet growing demand and another series of Raptor Rehab presentations.</p> <p>These programs proved to be very popular, often with 25-30 students participating in one class and our current supply is stretched thin. Additional binoculars would ensure all participants have the time and tools to engage with nature at their own pace.</p> <p>Raptor Rehab has become a very popular addition to our Outdoor Classroom programming. Witnessing these incredible creatures fosters a deeper understanding of their ecological importance and the need for conservation.</p> <p>The requested \$2,000 will be allocated to fund Raptor Rehab presentations at five of our Outdoor Classroom programs, totaling \$1,125, and to bring a bald eagle to one of these programs for an additional \$50. The remaining funds will be used to purchase 25 pairs of Occer 12x25 Compact Binoculars, totaling \$825.</p>
Woods and Waters Land Trust	\$6,000.00	Woods and Waters Land Trust seeks funding to improve access to the Backbone Wetland, allowing visitors to experience this unique ecosystem without disturbing its sensitive habitat. By enhancing trails and viewing areas, we will facilitate birdwatching opportunities for the community while protecting the wetland's integrity. The Backbone Wetland is adjacent to an

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<p>Woods and Waters Land Trust <i>(Cont.)</i></p>		<p>elementary school, providing an ideal setting for hands-on environmental education. As part of the project, we will create opportunities for school children to learn about local bird species and the broader ecological importance of wetlands, fostering a deeper connection to nature. The funds would be used to improve access to the Backbone Wetland, as well as supporting educational opportunities for elementary school students, including birdwatching activities and lessons on the ecological importance of wetlands.</p>
<p>Yew Dell Botanical Gardens</p>	<p>\$3,500.00</p>	<p>Yew Dell plans to improve natural areas and habitat improvement through invasive plant removal. We offer approximately 1.5 miles of publicly accessible hiking trails covering mesic meadow areas, woodlands, to lakes and ephemeral wetlands. The varied natural areas in close proximity to the cultivated gardens offer a wide diversity of habitats for local and migrating bird populations. But as is so common in this part of the country, there is significant pressure from invasive plant species on the existing native vegetation. Yew Dell uses both staff and volunteer labor to wage an ongoing battle to reduce the negative impacts of invasive plant species on local habitat. The primary focus of this effort will be to support materials and supplies purchased for removing invasive plant species and provide room for existing native plant species to repopulate the area.</p>