



THE PARK PRESS

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Here Kitty, Kitty! The Importance of Birds

Each year wildlife rehabilitation centres see countless numbers of song-birds and small mammals injured and killed by domestic cats. Birds are often an indicator species; changes in their populations provide warnings and valuable information about environmental changes. Birds are also an important part of food chains and contribute to the biodiversity of an area.

Losing birds to domestic cats is unnecessary and easily preventable. For information about how to keep your cat indoors and other ways to protect your backyard bird habitat go to <https://www.ecologyaction.ca/alliedcats>

Q: What do you get when you cross a Golden Eagle with a razor?

A: A Bald Eagle!

Q: What do you get if you cross a cat with a tree?

A: A cat-a-logue!

Q: What do you get when you cross a chicken with an alarm?

A. An alarm cluck!



Show the
bird the
way back
to the nest!



Featured Park Friend: Red Tailed Hawk



Red Tailed Hawk on Perch

Staff Photo

Name: Red Tailed Hawk

Scientific Name: *Buteo jamaicensis*

Size: 45cm-65cm

Wing Span – 1.1m-1.3m

Weight – 0.69kg-1.46kg

Colour: There are many variations among the 14 subspecies. The brick red tail gives this hawk its name.

Lifespan: 21 years

Habitat: Prefers open areas with high perches for accessible hunting. Found near open fields, often perching on power poles. Makes nests using sticks high above the ground.

Range: All of North America

Feeding: Carnivore. Most of the diet consists of small rodents.

Breeding: Pairs mate for life. The female lays 1-5 eggs which are incubated by both parents for about 4 weeks.

Fun Facts:

-Most common hawk found in North America.

-Used for falconry in the United States.

-Breeding flights can last for 10 minutes.

-Territory spread as forest were cleared

-Often seen along roads and do not seem to be frightened by human activity.

-Great Horned Owls will move into the nests of Red Tailed Hawks.

-World wide population estimated to be 2 million



Red Tailed Hawk

Staff Photo

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<http://wildlifepark.gov.ns.ca>

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Upcoming Events

Guest

Speaker Saturdays

Join us for a Free Educational Experience on the Fourth Saturday of the Month from **1:00-2:30pm** at the DUC Wetland Centre.

Apr 26 - Emily Gratton, DNR

Learn to Camp

May 24 - Jana Cheverie, DUC

**Conservation and Wetland
Success Stories**

For more information e-mail:

legacycentre@gov.ns.ca

No registration necessary.

Presentations are geared for mature audiences.

Follow Shubie Sam
on Twitter
[@ShubenacadieSam](https://twitter.com/ShubenacadieSam)



Share your Park
Photos with us on
Facebook!

Whose Egg Is It?



May 17, 2014

1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Join us at the Greenwing Legacy Centre and see who hatches! We have been incubating eggs and the chicks will be ready to hatch. Learn about nesting, hatching, and brooding in the wild, while meeting the new arrivals!

Wetland Walk with Mi'kmaq Elder

May 31, 2014 10:00 am

Please join Tuma Young, Mi'kmaq elder and Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies at the Unama'ki College (Cape Breton University) for a special insight into our wetlands. Professor Young will guide us with an emphasis on Mi'kmaq ethnobotany and ornithology. Learn more about the historical and continuing importance of wetlands to the First Peoples of Nova Scotia.

For more information on special events, please call 902-758-5316 or email legacycentre@gov.ns.ca.


NOVA SCOTIA