

Here Birdie,



Wood duck.

Birdie, Birdie...

Photos by Craig Nowack



Blue heron.

Go to your closet and get out your binoculars, bird-watching guide, a cooler filled with your favorite beverages, sunglasses and the most comfortable chair to sit in. It's time for Audubon International's sixth annual North American Birdwatching Open.

*In May 2002,
four area golf
courses participated
in the Birdwatching
Open, collectively
identifying some 100
different species of
birds. Let's increase
the MAGCS partici-
pation rate during
this year's event
on May 10!*

Audubon International is inviting everyone—and that includes golf course superintendents—to participate in the Open on International Migratory Bird Day, this Saturday, May 10. Over the course of 24 hours, participants identify as many different birds as they can on their properties. The data we gather provides useful information about bird species commonly found on different types of properties, in our case, golf courses! Members are encouraged to invite someone experienced in bird identification to help, if needed, to contribute to a more accurate count.

To participate, you may register right online at www.audubonintl.org under "Special Projects" then "Birdwatching Open." You can download rules and information, as well as a bird checklist. If you don't have Internet access, please call Jennifer Batza at 518-767-9051, extension 12, to register. OR—you may contact me (Gary Hearn) and I will take care of that information; either way, I would like to know who among our MAGCS membership has registered. Contact me at 630-773-4790 or via e-mail at Scgaryhgc@aol.com. Feel free to call me if you have any questions about the Open.

Don't forget the checklist and the rules. After the tally, please send your checklist to my attention at fax 630-773-0484. I will act as clearinghouse for channeling MAGCS members' results back to Audubon International, and they prefer to get results as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for your participation; enjoy the day and may the sun gods be good to us!

