

Lost Island Nature Center Birding Display

Project Description

The Palo Alto County Conservation Foundation Board would like to promote bird conservation at the Lost Island Nature Center with a display of local birds and adaptations.

Project Goals

The Lost Island Nature Center mission is to educate citizens about conservation of our natural resources. The Naturalist conducts programs and events to teach and encourage children and adults to explore the natural world and experience nature first-hand.

Our local prairies, marshes, lakes, and rivers are excellent resources for birders, especially during migration time. The Lost Island Nature Center focuses on public birding programs throughout the year. It is exciting to see the public come back to learn more about birds and show interest in birdwatching.

We were able to spark an interest in bird habitat and facts about different bird species by setting up a bird adaptation display, which included replica eggs of 36 common North American birds for public viewing at the Nature Center. We used the grant to purchase the egg display from Nature Watch.

Project Impact

Not only is the egg display set up in the Nature Center on a regular basis, it has also been a learning tool for kids and adults through bird programs presented by the Naturalist. The display has been taken to programs, as well as used in programs at the Center. Participants in the programs have enjoyed viewing the egg replicas and it has inspired additional questions leading to farther learning about the species of birds.

By having this display, it sparks an interest in the public to learn more about the nesting habits of different birds along with the habitats these birds might be utilizing based on egg color, size, and shape. By engaging visitors with the adaptations birds have developed with different egg types, this leads them to want to view the birds in the various habitats and develop a sense of awareness of their surroundings.