



SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY

2023 Birdathon

Saturday, May 20 – Tuesday, June 27, 2023

How does a Birdathon Work?

A Birdathon is similar to a walk-a-thon, but instead of collecting pledges per mile walked, you spend a great spring day outdoors with fellow birders, scanning skies, trees, shrubs, fields and water - even your backyard feeder - for birds. The challenge is to identify as many bird species as possible within one 24 hour period between May 20th and June 27th. You collect pledges per bird species and the money raised benefits Southwestern Montana birds and other wildlife.

To add to the fun - by participating you could win prizes and awards. Check-out the Birdathon Rules and Prize & Award information sheets in the Birdathon Kit you can find online at www.sacajaweaaudubon.org or call (406) 600-6666.

How Can You Participate in the Birdathon?

Participation is easier: You don't have to be an expert - some people even do Birdathons by counting the visitors to their feeder. Others cover dozens of miles in a day, racking up over 100 species. The key to Birdathon is to have fun!

- Join a Team

Contact the Birdathon Committee, we have birdathon teams that would love for you to join them. Even if you can't tell a goose from a grouse, we can teach you how. We also, have celebrity birder teams.

- Form a Team

Get a few of your birding friends together and schedule a 24 hour period to go birding. Contact us for a Birdathon Kit and register your team. (*see registration form for details*)

- Take a Business "Bird Break"

Trade in your briefcase for binoculars, grab co-workers and count birds on your lunch hour! Contact us for more information on getting your business involved in Sacajawea Birdathon - becoming an event sponsor, creating a company team, or specific levels and benefits of event sponsorship.

- Be a Backyard Birder

Gather pledges and watch birds in your neighborhood park, or at your own backyard feeder. Compete for our "Sitting Duck" award. Contact us or go online at www.sacajaweaaudubon.org for a Birdathon Kit.

- Sponsor a Team Member

Support your favorite team or team participant by making a pledge.

The Birdathon Committee has maps, field guides, fundraising tips, and plenty of experience to share. Contact Loreene Reid at (406) 600-6666 or loreener@@sacajaweaaudubon.org.

Award Categories

Most Species Identified: This award recognizes the team that identifies the most species in a 24-hour period. All members of the team must see or hear 95% of the birds reported.

Most Species Identified In A Half Day: This award recognizes the team that identifies the most species in a morning or evening. All members of the team must see or hear 95% of the birds reported.

Most Money Raised: This award recognizes the team that raises the highest total dollar amount in donations.

Most Pledges Collected: This award recognizes the team that solicits the highest number of individual pledges.

Sacajawea Audubon Award: This award recognizes the team that sees the most Hawks on their Birdathon Day.

Most Magpies Award: This award recognizes the team that see the most Magpies on their Birdathon Day

Best Bird Award: This award recognizes the team that records the "best" bird as determined by an outside judge. This could be a rare bird for a specific habitat or a bird that is difficult to find in its habitat.

Important Bird Area (IBA) Sighting Award: This award recognizes the team that observes the most bird species in a Montana IBA. The Team Report submitted must indicate on which IBAs the birds were seen.

Sitting Duck Award: This award is given to the team whose members identify the highest number of species while staying within an imaginary circle 200 feet in diameter during their count.

Carbon Neutral Award: This award is given to the team who is the most energy efficient or the smallest carbon footprint.

Mentor Award - Each Team Leader will be entered for a prize.

Rookie Award - If you're new to birdwatching you will be eligible for a prize at the awards celebration

Sacajawea Audubon Birdathon

... the most fun you'll ever have helping to protect Southwest Montana's natural heritage.

For a Birdathon Kit or more information:
sacajaweaaudubon.org or
contact Loreene Reid at loreener5@gmail.com or 600-6666.