

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Year Round: Raptor Rescue Help transport injured birds from Brandon to Lakeland and to and from The Audubon Center for Prey in Maitland. (nancy.murrah@tampaudubon.org)

February-July: Colony Watch Survey colonies of nesting wading birds, check numbers and monitor the welfare of the colonies. Twice monthly survey, short one page report each time. Contact Ann Paul (apaul@audubon.org) or Mark Rachal (mrachal@audubon.org)

March-August: Bird Stewards for beach nesting birds

- **3 Rooker Island** - The volunteer receives a free boat ride and admission to Honeymoon Island State Park and is taken to the island. Your job is to make sure that people anchoring boats at the island do not let their dogs off the boats. You simply explain the rules to the boaters. If any of them are non-compliant, law enforcement is notified. Contact John Hood (jhood2@tampabay.rr.com) of Clearwater Audubon, or Holley Short (hshort@audubon.org) of Audubon Florida.

- **Other locations** – Bird stewards are needed to educate the public about beach-nesting shorebirds and seabirds in Pinellas County from Clearwater Beach down to Ft. De Soto Park. Stewards will especially be needed during weekends and busy holidays to assist in monitoring colonies. Colony protection efforts are organized in cooperation with Audubon Florida and local Audubon chapters. Contact Holley Short at hshort@audubon.org.

- **Rooftop monitors** - Visit historic rooftop sites once a month during the breeding season from March through August to determine if there is active Least Tern nesting. Volunteers report data from each visit and help return chicks to rooftops if they begin falling. Locations in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties. Contact Jeff Liechty, Suncoast rooftop nesting coordinator at (jliechty@audubon.org).

- **Florida Shorebird Alliance** - FLShorebirdAlliance.org Anyone interested in joining to help educate beach users about the perils of feeding gulls and chasing birds or the importance of beaches for nesting birds can go to the Contact Us portion of the site and enter in their information, and it will be sent to the leaders of the local partnerships.

June 15-July 15: JayWatch - Scrub Jay Family Surveys at various locations in 8 counties. Training in April or May. Contact Jacqui Sulek (jsulek@audubon.org) in March to get list of training dates and locations. Your choice of which counts to sign up for in June/July.

October-November: Bluebird Trail Flatwoods Park Two or three strong volunteers needed on the Bluebird Trail for one or two mornings in October or November to relocate several bluebird boxes that were unoccupied this nesting season to new locations where

nesting might be more successful next season (March – August 2016). Contact Mary Miller (limpkin1945@verizon.net)

October 1-May 15: Eagle Watch Monitor eagles at their nests twice monthly for 20 minutes and complete short reports. Contact Nancy Murrah (nancy.murrah@tampaaudubon.org)

December-March: Hooked Bird Initiative Check the Sunshine Skyway Piers for entangled or hooked birds and notify rescuers. Contact Sandy Reed (sandy.reed@tampaaudubon.org)

December-January: Christmas Bird Count (CBC) Surveys are completed in numerous locations in the Tampa Bay area (and elsewhere) to assess bird populations. All level of birding skills needed for spotting and counting. Contact Mary Keith (keithma1@juno.com) for general information.

- Alafia CBC (south Hillsborough County) coordinator is Charlie Fisher (chf1shercpa@hotmail.com)
- Tampa CBC coordinator is Dave Bowman (dsbowman4@verizon.net)