

A photograph of a hummingbird perched on a red hummingbird feeder. The feeder has a clear reservoir and four yellow nectar dispensers. The bird is on the right side, facing left. The background is a dense green bush.

“Preserving our Bird Species: Ways that We Can Help Birds”

Lauren D. Pharr

Graduate Research Assistant

Fisheries, Wildlife, & Conservation Biology

Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources



- Graduated from Wingate University with my B.S. in Environmental Biology.
- Currently pursuing my M.S. in Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology from North Carolina State University.
- Science Communicator; have been a guest blogger with BSWCD since July 2020.



Scenario

+

Problem

=

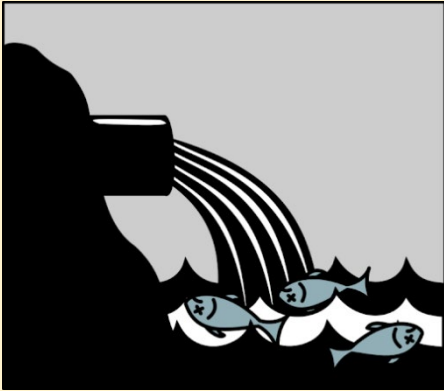
Outcome

Rivers



Support a
Diverse
Ecosystem.

+



Pollution
Affects the
Ecosystem and
Water Quality.

=



Birds who
depend on
rivers will be
impacted.



**Carolina Madtom Catfish made of
Trash collected in Walnut Creek in
Raleigh, NC.**



- Be weary of your yard and household practices; dispose of chemicals properly.
- Be sure to not displace rocks in rivers; you may be destroying someone's habitat.
- Become an advocate and participate in stream, lake, and river cleanups.

Native Plants



Are important
to the
lifestyles of
native bird
species.

+



Deforestation and
Habitat
Fragmentation affect
the dispersal of seeds.

=



New Native
plants don't
get the chance
to grow.

- You can decide to promote native vegetation anytime:
 - Create a native habitat with native plants for bird species.
 - Some native species include: Sunflowers, Elderberries, oaks, pines, cherries, and birches.



Oregon Monkey Flower and the Yellow-rumped Warbler, two native species to Oregon and the Willamette Valley.

Migration



Birds seek food and nesting locations when both become low.

+



=



Can be a lethal barrier for migrating birds
(140,000 to 500,000 bird deaths per year).

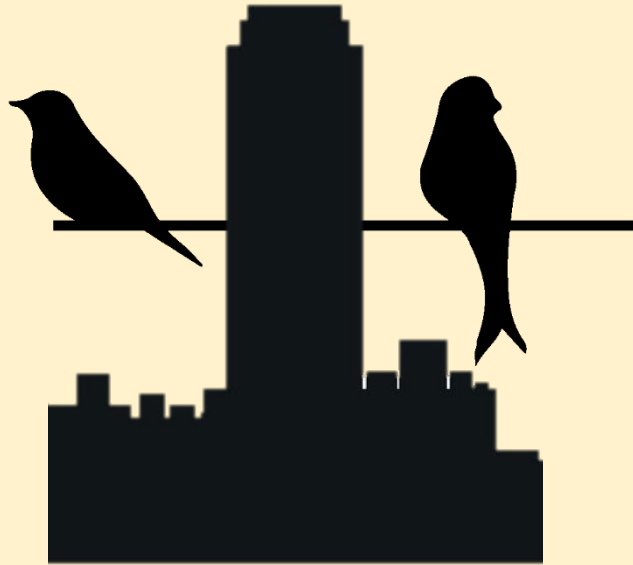
Are important to the lifestyles of native species.



- Treat you Windows:
 - Apply things such as decals, curtains, tempera paint, and insect screens.

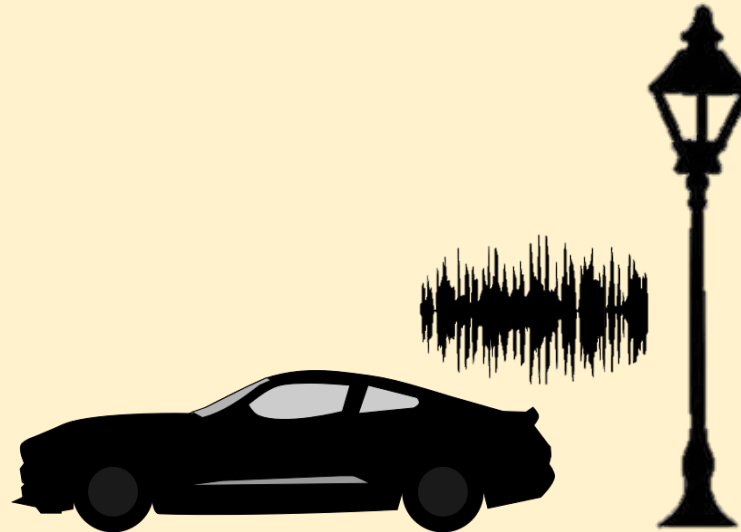
Urbanization

(Noise and Light Pollution)



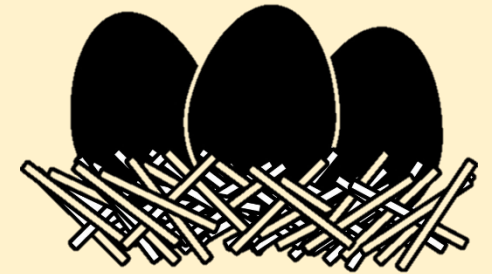
Some birds inhabit urban and suburban areas.

+



Noise from our cars and lights from streetlamps create pollution.

=



This pollution affects bird behavior, growth, development, and more.

Ways to Reduce Noise

Pollution:

- Noise reducing barriers.
- Environmental assessments.



Ways to Reduce Light

Pollution:

- Installing motion sensor lights.
- Fixing outdoor fixtures to minimize glare.
- Can join and contribute to science conducted by researchers through community science projects.



Skyglow.

How do I Help Birds?

Citizen (or Community) Science:

Neighborhood Nestwatch allows for participation from individuals to assist with data collection.

Bird Banding:

Scientists and Researchers collect high-quality data that build a strong and reliable dataset to address specific scientific questions, contribute to conservation efforts, and/or contribute new information about the natural history of birds.



PC. Brian Evans



Resources

- Blog Posts
 - [Author Archives: Lauren Pharr](#) (additional resources included at the end of each blog post).
- Madtom Catfish Sculpture
 - [“Plastic, Plastic, Everywhere.”](#)
- Citizen Science Projects
 - [Neighborhood Nestwatch](#)
 - [Dark Sky Meter](#)
 - [Globe at Night](#)



Lauren D. Pharr
lpharr@ncsu.edu
www.lpharr.com



@ldpharr