

PURPOSE OF BIG DAY BIRDATHON

Our PCAS mission with **Big Day BIRDATHON** is to raise money to support PCAS programming throughout the year, to support our scholarship program, and especially to contribute to our long-term goal of developing a nature center in Stillwater.



BIG DAY RULES AND REGS

- This will be our local day to celebrate [International Migratory Bird Day](#)
- For this first year of what we hope to be an annual event, we will conduct a less than literal "day." The competition will begin at 12:01 AM and will conclude at 6:01 PM April 16th, so will include a maximum of 18 hours of birding.
- Teams must pre-register with [Timothy O'Connell](#), event Coordinator by Wednesday April 13th.
- Teams may begin anywhere in the state, but they must end their BIG Day at O'Connell's house on North Jefferson.
- Each team must have a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 5 members. Each species recorded must be observed (or heard) by at least 50% of the team members. For odd numbered teams: 2 of 3 on a team of 3; 3 of 4 on a team of 4; and 3 of 5 on a team of 5. If there are only two team members *both* must see/hear the bird.
- Team members cannot split up to cover more ground; as a general guide, members should never be more than 100 m away from each other.
- No decoys, electronic devices, tapes, ipods, CDs, Audubon tweeters, or any such calling or other attractant can be used to lure birds in. Birders must abide by the ABA code of ethics. Feeders are OK, as are farm ponds with permanent decoys. It is also legal to do any human-generated calls you like. Participants are allowed to use recorded bird songs and calls to aid in problematic ID, you just can't broadcast those calls to attract birds.
- Only American Birding Association (ABA) "countable" North American species can be included, e.g., no "domestic chickens."
- Team members must follow the [ABA Code of Ethics](#).
- The Payne County Audubon Society assumes no liability for damage or injury incurred as part of this event. Competing teams are required to abide by posted traffic signs and speed limits at all times.
- The BIG Day event will conclude at 6:01 PM on April 16th with a Tally Rally and cookout at PCAS President Tim O'Connell's house, 1115 North Jefferson St., Stillwater. All birding must stop at 6:01 PM and all teams must head to O'Connell's house at that time.
- At 6:30 PM team totals will be posted and awards announced for this BIG Day part of our fundraising competition. Winners will have their photos taken and added to the yearly website archive.

AWARDS

- Teams may conduct *both* a BIG Day Birdathon *and* a Traditional Birdathon if they desire. Awards will be given to BIG Day Competitors and to Traditional Birdathon competitors, with the Grand Prize eligible to both groups of participants.

GRAND PRIZE

Individual who raises the most funds over \$1000
(New Nikon Monarch ATB 8x42 Fogproof/Waterproof Binoculars)

(Note: We will not know who our Grand Prize winner is until Traditional Birdathon and the entire fundraising event concludes May 31st.)

BIG DAY BIRDATHON AWARDS

1st Place

Team with highest number of species observed

2nd Place

Team with highest number of species observed just in Payne County

3rd Place

Team with highest number of species observed while on foot only

Note: If a team spends all their time walking, stays in Payne County, and records the highest total species sightings of all teams, it is possible that this team will scoop all three awards.