

STUDENT GROUPS

The opportunity to join the birdbanding team is available to all students with a passion for wildlife. Our federally licensed team of researchers is willing to teach newcomers all phases of birdbanding research:

- Setting up and taking down mist-nets
- Capturing, handling and releasing wild birds
- Taking birds from nets
- Identifying, aging and sexing each bird
- Weighing and measuring birds
- Documenting research into the federal data bank
- Documenting with photography

Numerous Auburn students, apprenticing for several years, have earned their own prestigious federal birdbanding research permits. This research accomplishment has proved very important to them in college admissions.

Our adult and student birdbanding staff is there to help you, if you want to come for the day, or should you want to become part of the program! Unlike any other national program - it's free and students are welcome!

auburnbirdbanding.org

Child Safety

Parents are welcome to bring their children to the research station, but remember that the researchers are there to research and educate, not to baby-sit. They are not responsible for taking care of any children.

The Auburn Birdbanding Research Station operates entirely with a staff of volunteers. All of them have worked together closely, adult and youth, for years, and parents in the past have been welcome to stay and join us.

Bird Safety

The entire team is patiently trained to safely handle birds. Visitors are allowed under supervision to release birds only. Only trained staff remove birds from nets and handle them for data collection. Apprentices begin handling the tougher species of birds, graduating to the delicate species like warblers, flycatchers, and thrushes. We have recaptured dozens of birds that have returned over seven years in a row from their wintering grounds in the tropics, a tribute to the careful skills of the researchers.

Bird Hygiene

To date, there have been NO records of bird-human transmitted diseases, like Avian Flu in North America. Nevertheless, students handling birds are advised to use a hand-sanitizer after handling birds, and to wash their hands if a bird excretes on them during release.

Inquiries? Contact us at:
auburnbirdbander@aol.com
or visit our website at:
auburnbirdbanding.org

AUBURN BIRDBANDING RESEARCH STATION

*Bringing People
Closer to Nature*



Open: 8-11 a.m.
Saturdays and Sundays
Spring and Fall
Weather Permitting
AUBURN SPORTSMAN'S CLUB
50 Elm St.
Auburn, MA 01501



"A bird in the hand is worth considerably more than two in the bush to a birdbanding researcher."

Mark Blazis
Research Station Director

WHAT TO BRING

Camera
Bug Spray and Sunscreen
Boots or shoes that can get muddy
Clothes you don't mind getting dirty



AUBURN BIRDBANDING RESEARCH STATION

Assistant Research Directors

* Helen Blazis * Gary Hetel *
* Keith MacAdams *

* Dr. Larry Reich * Dr. Richard Weagle *

Federally Permitted Research Staff

*Stephanie Donaldson * Jill Hetel * Sarah Reich * Dan Semenuk * Brian Sheridan *
* Mattie VandenBoom *

Officers

President and Master Bander	Mark Blazis
Vice President and Subpermitee	Keith MacAdams
Treasurer	Marcia Reich
Secretary	Colleen Morin

OUR SCHEDULE

The ABBRS program runs every weekend during Spring and Fall migration (late April-June and again mid-August-early October). Visitors wishing to see the most should arrive no later than 8 a.m. when the first batch of captured, documented birds is released. Action is often constant until about 11 a.m., after which nets are closed.

Birdbanding is postponed in rainy weather or if temperatures get too cold or hot. The research is intended to help the birds. Adverse conditions are consequently avoided.

In October, once the neo-tropical migrants have left our region, the ABBRS begins its Saw-whet Owl research, capturing migrating Saw-whet Owls in the evening.

The Auburn Birdbanding Research Station operates with the approval of, and at the site of, the Auburn Sportsman's Club. Some of ASC's members are also active with our bird program. We are their guests and make every effort to keep the area clean and neat, so as not to affect others' enjoyment of the facility.

We are a federally recognized non-profit organization and all donations made to the Auburn Birdbanding Research Station are tax deductible.

Inquiries? Contact us at:
auburnbirdbander@aol.com
or visit our website at:
auburnbirdbanding.org

History of the Auburn Birdbanding Research Station

For over twenty-five years, Mr. Blazis, Master Bander and Director of the Auburn Research Station, has directed birdbanding research in our region, (as well as in Maine, Tennessee, South Carolina, Panama, and the Amazon of Bolivia and Ecuador, frequently working with internationally acclaimed scientists trying to understand and save endangered species.) Well over ten thousand students and adults have participated in his wonderful Auburn program.

Research connections with the station have included Harvard University School of Public Health, the Maine Medical Center of Portland, and Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine (all working with us on understanding bird migration, ticks, and Lyme disease.) Students who show exceptional promise are afforded the opportunity to band with Mr. Blazis in the Amazon in a program called THE RAINFOREST CONNECTION. The station has captured over 10,000 neo-tropical migrants, showing how this little gem of an ecological site in Auburn is priceless in its value for migratory birds as well as the endemic species.

Teaching children and adults a conservation ethic, the importance for preserving open space, and the value and use of scientific research skills are the passions which he strives to share with all of his team and participants. Thanks to Dr. Weagle, the Auburn Sportsman's Club has agreed for many years to provide a free, outdoor classroom for students and adults of the Auburn community to study birds. This cooperation of sportsmen and environmental scientists for the benefit of children and wildlife is unique in our country, offering an extraordinary opportunity for education in our community.