***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

Contact: Citizens for Conservation

 (847) 382-7283

**Autumn bird hikes begin**

BARRINGTON, IL - *September 5, 2018* - Fall bird hikes, sponsored by Citizens for Conservation and Audubon Great Lakes, begin this month. Barrington-area naturalist Wendy Paulson will lead the hikes, which include:

September 7, 7:30 a.m. - Flint Creek Savanna (CFC Headquarters), 459 W. Hwy. 22

September 14, 7:30 a.m. - Crabtree Nature Center; 3 Stover Road, off Palatine Road

September 21, 8 a.m. - Beverly Lake (parking lot is on the north side of Higgins Road/Rt. 72, west of Sutton Road)

September 28, 8 a.m. - Deer Grove East (entrance on the north side of Dundee Road, west of Hicks Road, east of Smith Street. Go to farthest parking area)

October 19, 8:30 a.m. - Cuba Marsh (Park in the parking lot off the east side of Lake Zurich Road, just south of the CN railroad tracks. Lake Zurich Road runs between Rt. 14 and Cuba Road)

October 26, 8:30 a.m. - Galloping Hill (Park at Penny Road Pond parking lot in Barrington Hills)

November 2, 9 a.m. - Crabtree Nature Center

The walks on September 7 and 21 and October 26 are more strenuous hikes. Walks are free and open to the public although spaces are limited and RSVPs are required. Good walking shoes are strongly recommended - and don't forget your binoculars.

RSVP to Daniel Wear at 312-453-0230, Ext. 2010 or dwear@audubon.org; include how best to contact you should that be necessary.

Before you head out, be sure to check CFC’s website, [www.citizensforconservation.org](http://www.citizensforconservation.org), for last-minute changes or cancellations.

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 847-382-7283

**October program features bats at their best**

BARRINGTON, IL - *September 5, 2018* - Bats are the world's only true flying mammals, and they eat garden and crop pests and lower the risk of West Nile virus by consuming thousands of mosquitoes on a single night.

Learn more about the environmental services native bats perform at “Incredible Bats,” Tuesday, October 9 at 7 p.m., at the Barrington Area Library, 505 N. Northwest Highway, Barrington.

The program, cosponsored by Field and Flower Garden Club, Green Thumbs Garden Club, and Citizens for Conservation, will feature educators Sharon and Dan Peterson, who have promoted bat education in the Midwest since 1996. Sharon is an elementary school teacher and librarian trained by Bat Conservation International; Dan is a bat naturalist.

The program is free; registration is available on CFC’s website at <http://bit.ly/2O24vHO> . For more information, call CFC at 847-382-7283.

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**Collect seeds with the Barrington Greenway Initiative**

BARRINGTON, IL - *September 5, 2018* - Help the Barrington Greenway Initiative’s conservation and restoration efforts by collecting seed at BGI’s Explore and Restore September program.

The group will meet at Citizens for Conservation’s headquarters at 459 W. Highway 22, Lake Barrington, on Saturday, September 22 from 9-11 a.m.

Work alongside knowledgeable volunteer stewards and staff from CFC, Audubon Great Lakes, Friends of the Forest Preserves, Forest Preserves of Cook County, and Lake County Forest Preserves. Meet in CFC’s parking lot; wear sturdy shoes, long pants, and mosquito repellant and bring water if it is a hot day. All ages are welcome.

BGI is a long-term plan, created and led by Citizens for Conservation, to expand and link fragmented natural habitats, increase biodiversity and advance ecosystems in the greater Barrington community from approximately Popular Creek north to Roberts Road. This partnership between CFC and other conservation groups and volunteers will link more than 14,000 acres of prairies, wetlands and forest preserves for conservation success and benefits to area residents.

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**CFC workdays offer volunteer opportunities**

BARRINGTON, IL - *September 5, 2018* - Experienced and new volunteers of all ages are always welcome at Citizens for Conservation’s restoration workdays on Thursdays and Saturdays from 9 - 11 a.m., and Sundays from 3:30-5 p.m. September and October workdays will focus on seed collecting.

Meet at CFC’s office, 459 W. Highway 22, Lake Barrington, across from Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital. Bring work gloves, wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather.

For more information, call CFC at 847-382-SAVE (7283) or visit [www.citizensforconservation.org](http://www.citizensforconservation.org/).

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