



New Video Series!

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we at Flathead Audubon Society decided to take our Conservation Education Program in a "virtually" entertaining direction, with a both light-hearted and serious video series, and with our primary bird education messages front-and-center.

Professor Avian Guano, Bir.D. is our eccentric, slightly off-the-wall narrator -- doing his own brand of "edu-tainment" for middle-school-and-up ages (you won't realize you have learned something until it's too late!). The videos feature some gorgeous bird footage gathered by Birds in Motion, a local Montana nonprofit with the goal of video-documenting all of the bird species in North America!

Here is the link to all three videos:

<https://flatheadaudubon.org/educationvideos>

"BIRDS ROCK!" (Video # 1 in the series, 15 minutes) Professor Guano outlines the seven ways that birds are critical to our survival and add joy and wonder to our lives. They are critical for insect and rodent balance, seed dispersal and pollination, first responders in the great cleanup crew, and excellent indicators of the health of our own life support system! They also *invented* music as we know it, and function as mental health "ecotherapy" Evidence is convincing that they make us happier!

"BIRD TROUBLE" (Video # 2, 29 minutes) We have not been kind to birds in the past (30% of North American birds are gone since the first Earth Day!), and their future prospects are completely dependent on our own attention to science and evidence, and the changes we make in the next few decades. Their life support system is our life support system. Professor Guano outlines the reasons why they have declined, and makes a strong case for science and evidence as our guide to a better future.

"BIRD HELP" (Video # 3, 28 minutes) The Good Professor shows us how WE, with some minor labors of love, can make a big difference in the future of birds and the future of ourselves -- at home! Restoring habitat with native plants, becoming citizen scientists, modifying our windows, keeping our kitties indoors, becoming bird-friendly consumers and perhaps even activists -- WILL determine the future of birds, and therefore ourselves. And, most of these simple changes are FUN!

Watch these videos! Pass the word to friends! Make the world better for birds! For curriculum ideas associated with these videos, and other educational tools in your life science/nature/bird education efforts, visit flatheadaudubon.org/learn.

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