



*We champion stewardship of
the land and waters.*

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contact:
Kristine Snowdeal
kris@kickapoovsn.org
608-637-3615

Valley Stewardship Network presents *What Birds Tell You About Your Land* Workshop
Two opportunities to engage and connect.

VIROQUA, WI May 6, 2016 – Valley Stewardship Network (VSN) is proud to offer two workshop opportunities to learn about managing private lands for bird conservation. The first will be held at Nature Nooks Retreat in Viroqua on May 21st from 7 am – 2 pm. The second, at Maggie Jones and David Linton’s property in Blue River, Crawford County on June 11th from 7 am – 2 pm. The SW Wisconsin Driftless area provides critical habitat for neo-tropical and other threatened bird species. Join VSN and regional experts to learn how to enhance your local bird habitat to support and strengthen global biodiversity conservation efforts.



In this unique offering, participants will learn from experts about the principles of bird habitat management, network with other land owners and bird conservationists, and experience a cross-section of Driftless habitats: grassland, woodland, and wetland. “Managing land for birds is deeply satisfying and has the added benefit of enhancing habitat and biodiversity for many more species in addition to local migratory birds. It all starts with promoting native plants that host our native insects.” explains Maggie Jones, regional bird expert and Crawford County workshop host.

The workshop provides both hands-on, indoor and outdoor training. Workshop sessions will be led by Wisconsin DNR specialists, Michael Mossman, Yoyi Steele and Craig Thompson, and will feature the experience of our hosts: Tom Lukens, Nature Nooks Retreat and Maggie Jones, Lower Kickapoo Initiative. Speakers from Mississippi Valley Conservancy will offer information and resources for land conservation options. Other collaborating partners include The Prairie Enthusiasts, Kickapoo Woods Cooperative, and Community Conservation. Bird survey and habitat assistance will be available as well as a wide array of resources.

Our local habitats support numerous migratory bird species. From the red-eyed vireo, to the whippoorwill, bobolink, and willow flycatchers, our diverse habitats are the foundation of our vast diversity of birds. This workshop will give the information you will need to begin managing your land with bird conservation in mind.

The cost of this workshop is \$10 per participant. Space is limited. Contact VSN today to reserve your spot. Contact us via email: info@kickapoovsn.org or by phone: [608-637-3615](tel:608-637-3615).

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Valley Stewardship Network is celebrating 15 years of land and water stewardship in the Kickapoo Valley and adjacent watersheds. Best known for its water quality monitoring programs, VSN also offers outreach and education programs to help farmers, landowners, residents and visitors understand and support our local ecology for the health of our communities. More at www.valleystewardshipnetwork.org