

## Bird City Wisconsin

# High Flyer Renewal Application

## Instructions

- 1) To renew as a High Flyer please complete the Preamble, the Basic Requirements, AND the High Flyer Requirements.
- 2) Submission instructions, fees, and dates:
  - a. As a conservation organization **we have a strong preference for electronic applications** when possible. Please email your completed application to **BirdCityWisconsin@gmail.com** with the subject line "Renewal: (name of your community)".
  - b. If you are unable to submit an electronic application (or can only submit a partial electronic application), please mail the relevant documents to:  
Renewal (name of your community)  
Bird City Wisconsin  
1111 E. Brown Deer Rd.  
Bayside, WI 53217
  - c. **FEES:** There is a nonrefundable application fee of \$100. Please make your check payable to "**Milwaukee Audubon Society**" and write "**Bird City**" on the memo line. Mail it to the address in 2b above. If you submit a hard copy of your application please include your payment in the same letter if possible.
  - d. **DATES:** Bird City Wisconsin's recognition year runs from April 1 to March 31. As a result, all 81 communities that were recognized prior to April 1, 2014 need to file their renewal application by **JANUARY 31, 2015** so that Bird City Wisconsin can act on all applications prior to April 1.

## What Comes with Your Bird City Renewal?

Bird City Wisconsin celebrates your Sustained Flight status by providing you with:

- Decals for Bird City street signs to mark the number of years the community has been recognized,
- An updated insert for your community's Bird City Wisconsin recognition plaque,
- A prominent announcement on Bird City Wisconsin's web site,
- An updated page devoted to your community on Bird City Wisconsin's web site,
- An electronic Bird City Wisconsin logo/emblem that can be used on appropriate municipal web sites and printed materials, as well as the web sites of partner organizations and local businesses,
- As a High Flyer you also receive special emblems for your community's street signs as well as a special insert for your community's recognition plaque that notes your High Flyer status.

## Preamble

As \_\_\_\_\_ (title - e.g. mayor, parks director, etc.) of the village/city/town/county

of \_\_\_\_\_, Wisconsin, I am applying to renew my community's designation as a Bird City Wisconsin, having again achieved the criteria set forth by the Bird City Wisconsin organization. Our community has met at least 7 of the 22 criteria below, including 3 from Category One and 1 from each of the other 4 categories, including enactment of an annual resolution recognizing International Migratory Bird Day **for the current recognition year (2015).**

# Basic Requirements

## Instructions:

- 1) Your community must meet a total of 7 (or more) of the 22 criteria below, with at least 3 from Category One (Creation and Protection of Habitat) and at least 1 from each of the other categories.
- 2) For actions that have continued unchanged since their documentation in your community's previous application:
  - a. Type/write an "X" following "Continuing"; **no new documentation is required.**
- 3) For newly met criteria or improvements/changes in previously met items:
  - a. Type/write an "X" following "New".
  - b. Provide a brief narrative containing a description of your community's action(s).
  - c. Attach appropriate documentation **for each new item.**
  - d. NOTE: If your community meets a criteria using the "Other" category your narrative will be especially important.
- 4) If your community no longer meets a criteria that you met previously please provide a brief narrative explaining the change.
- 5) Provide the requested information at the end of this form and sign and date your application.

## Category 1: Creation and Protection of Habitat

- A. Demonstrate with an attachment that your community is in compliance with Wisconsin's "Smart Growth" law for land use planning and resource management.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- B. Attach bird monitoring results and/or other data obtained from researchers or local volunteers in the local park system.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- C. Attach an ordinance or other evidence that existing bird habitat has legal protection.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- D. Document that current community planning seeks to provide additional bird habitat.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- E. Attach a copy of a local ordinance to demonstrate that the community does not restrict natural landscaping that emphasizes native plants and non-turf lawns.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- F. Show how the community offers the public information on the control and removal of invasive species.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- G. Attach a state publication showing that the community contains a segment of the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail or a designated Important Bird Area.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

- H. Demonstrate through public documents or publicity that the local Chamber of Commerce (or a similar group) takes an active role in the planning process for protecting and enlarging favorable bird habitat.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- I. OTHER: Demonstrate in an attached narrative.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

## **Category 2: Participation in Programs Promoting Effective Community Forest Management**

- A. Demonstrate that your community is a member of the National Arbor Day Foundation's program Tree City USA (<http://www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityUSA/>).  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- A. OTHER: Demonstrate in an attached narrative.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

## **Category 3: Limiting or Removing Hazards to Birds**

- A. Attach evidence or provide a community web link if your community has an educational program to control free-roaming cats and/or actively publicizes the "Cats Indoors!" program.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- B. Demonstrate that your community provides property owners with information on how to protect birds from window-strikes.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- C. OTHER: Demonstrate in an attached narrative.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

## **Category 4: Public Education**

- A. Demonstrate that schools in your community participate in Flying WILD, helping ensure that the nation's students are knowledgeable about the conservation needs of migratory and other birds.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- B. Attach a newsletter or web links to show how your community provides information to property owners on methods to create and enhance backyard habitat for birds.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- C. Provide web links that your community offers to other organizations with information on backyard habitat programs.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- D. Demonstrate that your community is represented in at least one bird monitoring program (e.g., the Christmas Bird Count, Great Backyard Bird Count, or Swift Night Out).  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- E. Demonstrate that your community sponsors an annual bird festival.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

- F. Illustrate a program that involves schools, garden clubs, or other organizations in bird conservation activities.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- G. OTHER: Demonstrate in an attached narrative.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

## Category 5: Community Celebration of International Migratory Bird Day

- A. Attach a copy of your community's officially-enacted resolution recognizing IMBD for the upcoming Bird City Wisconsin recognition year (2015) **AND** documentation of last year's (2014) local IMBD celebration.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

## High Flyer Requirements

In addition to meeting Bird City Wisconsin's Basic Requirements, our community seeks to strengthen its commitment to urban bird conservation. We herewith make application for the High Flyer Award, having also met at least 5 of the following 17 criteria from at least 2 different categories.

### Category 1: Creation and Protection of Habitat

- A. Show how and where the community has restored at least two acres of woodlands, wetlands, or prairie.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- B. Demonstrate how the community offers material assistance to property owners interested in removing invasive shrubs from woodlands.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- C. Demonstrate or document a program similar to 1(B) for helping control other types of invasive species.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- D. Document a program to support the establishment of natural lawns and native landscaping.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- E. Demonstrate the implementation of a program to preserve Chimney Swift roosting sites and/or to construct alternative Chimney Swift towers.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- F. Document the establishment of a program to promote the conservation of Purple Martins through research, state of the art management techniques, or public education.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- G. Show how the community aides the Boy/Girl Scouts and conservation groups in projects like establishing Bluebird Trails and erecting Wood Duck nesting boxes.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

- H. Demonstrate how a public golf course is managed to benefit birds.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- I. Document that the community maintains a birding trail or "hot spot" location with educational signage and/or literature.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

## **Category 2: Participation in Programs Promoting Effective Community Forest Management**

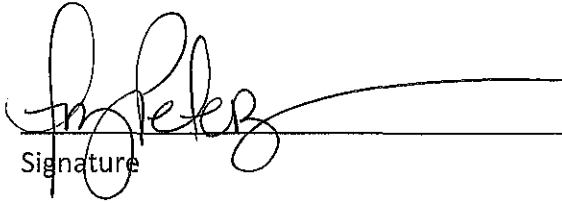
- A. Document an ongoing community program to incorporate native hardwood trees and native shrubs in public landscaping.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

## **Category 3: Limiting or Removing Hazards to Birds**

- A. Document laws or regulations in place to eliminate feral cat populations.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- B. Demonstrate that the community enforces a law or regulation that requires domestic cats to be kept indoors or in an enclosure that prevents them from preying on native birds.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- C. Show how the community regulates construction and siting of communication towers to mitigate their risk to migrating birds.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- D. Document that the community operates a "Lights Out for Birds" program to dim the lights of tall buildings to reduce collisions and save birds' lives during spring and fall migration.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- E. Show how the community supports a bird collision monitoring program and/or offers information and material for preventing window collisions in homes and commercial establishments.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )
- F. Document that your community has registered public buildings (e.g. city/town/village hall) in the Wisconsin Humane Society's *BirdSafe Business* program (read the entire page, but specifically see "For ALL Businesses": <http://www.wihumane.org/wildlife/wings/how-to-home-and-business>).  
New ( ) Continuing ( )

## **Category 4: Public Education**

- A. Demonstrate that the community is active in raising awareness of its bird assets. Examples include placing a remote web camera on a nesting platform, offering field trips to observe threatened or endangered birds, or creating a significant educational resource on the community's bird life.  
New ( ) Continuing ( )



Interim Director of Planning and Development 1/30/2015

Signature

Title

Date

Please update your contact information for the **two** parks, forestry, environmental, or other community officials who are the best follow-up contacts to deal with questions regarding this application.

Name: Lewis Kuhlman Title: Associate Planner

Address: 400 La Crosse Street City, Zip: La Crosse, WI 54601

Phone Number: 608-789-7361 E-mail: kuhlmanl@cityoflacrosse.org

Name: Amy Peterson Title: Interim Director of Planning and Development

Address: 400 La Crosse Street City, Zip: La Crosse, WI 54601

Phone Number: 608-789-7512 E-mail: petersona@cityoflacrosse.org

Conservation projects benefit from strong partnerships. Please identify your community partners, including a contact person and email for each:

Outdoor Recreation Alliance, Marvin Wanders, 608-782-7368

Coulee Region Audubon Society, Dan Jackson, 608-483-2271

WI DNR, Craig Thompson, 608-785-1277

WisCorps, Stephanie Hanna, 608-782-2494

USGS, Jennifer Herner-Thogmartin, 608-781-6348