



BLUEBIRD BOX MONITORING

Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery Visitor Center
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
34270 County Road 652, Mattawan, MI 49071

VOLUNTEER TIME COMMITMENT: Approximately 2- 3 hours/ week, April - August

Because of habitat loss, environmental pollution, and competition of non-native bird species (House Sparrows and European Starlings), bluebirds have suffered large declines compared to their original numbers.

However, bluebirds have been shown to thrive in areas where there is human-provided housing that is actively monitored. As a result, through the efforts of many people, bluebirds have increased in numbers in the last 10 years. Putting up nest boxes and monitoring them is the easiest and most important thing people can do to help bluebirds. Volunteers may get the opportunity to watch a pair of adults build a nest, lay eggs, and feed their young (michiganbluebirdsociety.org) The Bluebird Monitoring Project at Wolf Lake began in 2007 under the guidance of Audubon Society of Kalamazoo member Ilse Gebhard.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO:

1. Observe nesting activity of approximately 15 boxes on the grounds of the hatchery
2. Maintain boxes and work to discourage the presence of non-native bird species
3. Compile and enter data of observations

Volunteers will be provided with training and the necessary materials to conduct the project.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED? Contact the Visitor Center Interpreter, Shana McMillan by email at mcmillsk@michigan.gov or by phone at 269-668-2876