

Dear Friend,

In a few short months, 2.1 billion migratory birds will be crossing over the Gulf of Mexico as they head north to their breeding grounds. As they make this difficult, draining, and dangerous journey-a journey that their ancestors have been making for thousands of years-they depend on the Texas coast to be their safe-haven. Unfortunately, many of our birds in the  $21^{\rm st}$  century are met with major obstacles from lack of safe spaces due to land development and loss of prairie habitat to disorientation from lights and extreme weather events.

As an accredited land trust, Houston Audubon has been committed to creating and maintaining safe and sustainable habitats for birds for the last 55 years. And we're so grateful for the generosity of supporters like you who walk alongside us to protect and preserve the integrity of the land for the birds, the people, and all wildlife for generations to come.

This year, with your support, Houston Audubon has been able to:

- Provide and maintain over **4,100 acres** of protected sanctuary for wildlife all around the Greater Houston Gulf Coast region.
- Operate a **Natives Nursery** which this year alone sold and donated over 9,000 native plants, helping transform city and suburban spaces into **Bird Friendly Spaces**.
- Launch a comprehensive **community outreach** program which will expand wildlife and land conservation initiatives to underserved communities and schools and provide **nature programing** to people of all ages.
- Continue to expand our signature program, **Lights Out for Birds**, partnering with local businesses, buildings and citizens to decrease light pollution during peak migration times.

We couldn't do it without you by our side. But there's still work to be done, and it starts with you.

When you continue your support for Houston Audubon, we all make a difference together. It only takes a few minutes to send your gift, but the effects are long-lasting. Can we count on you to make a year-end gift to help us carry out our mission?

We appreciate your commitment to Houston Audubon and our mission to protect birds and their environment on the Upper Texas Coast. Thank you for joining forces with us to create a haven for both wildlife and people.

Sincerely,

Pam Smolen

Interim President & CEO

Pam Smolen