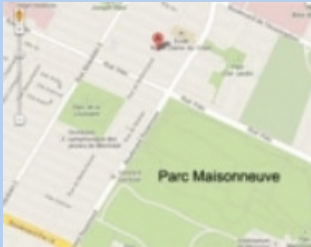




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Come and visit us!

5120 rue de Bellechasse

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514-351-5496

Hello everyone,

Autumn is a beautiful season to enjoy both the wonders of our natural world and the completion of special projects before the winter months. With the arrival of this cooler weather, we now have a perfect window of opportunity to prepare and maintain -- and especially clean -- our feeding stations. We encourage you to take apart your feeders and clean them according to the manufacturer's instructions: this may include using a brush to scrub them clean with warm water and dish washing soap: a water and vinegar solution (or a water and mild bleach solution, especially for feeders made of wood); or, putting the appropriate parts in the dishwasher. As we support our bird populations, please remember that clean feeders promote good bird health!

In this newsletter, you will improve your knowledge of shorebirds with an informative article and short quiz. You will also learn about the benefits of the versatile 6x binoculars, a liquidation sale on Eagle Optics products, and our new products and suggestions.

Enjoy the read and happy birding!

Alain and Dara Goulet, Owners and bird enthusiasts

1-855-OIS-EAUX
(1-855-647-3289)

Opening hours:

Sunday - Monday
Closed

Tuesday - Wednesday

9:30am to 6:00pm

Thursday - Friday

9:30am to 7:00pm

Saturday

9:30am to 5:00pm



Online store open

24-7

Autumn migration is well underway, and despite our recent warm weather, some insectivorous birds, such as warblers, are already on their way south. Two major factors trigger autumn migration: the lack of food associated with falling temperatures and the biological clock of several migrants which dictates when to leave in order to reach their wintering grounds.

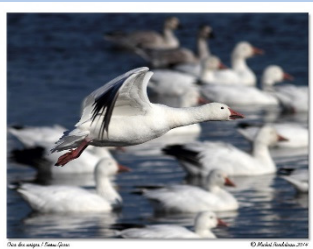
At Nature Expert, we consider fall to be a perfect time to install a feeding station. The mild temperatures benefit our hands and fingers (so they don't freeze while working outside) and the birds! As the weather changes, birds look for dependable food sources, which includes clean and well-maintained bird feeders, in preparation for the coming winter. Several species of birds, such as the Northern Cardinal, Blue Jay and Black-capped Chickadee, will use your feeding stations. They are fond of seeds, meal worms, suet and water.



Calendar of events

Fête des oiseaux migrateurs - Danville

October 7-9th, 2017



Festival

Victo et ses oies

October 21 and 22nd, 2017



Come and visit us at the Danville and Victoriaville birding festivals. Meet talented artists and enjoy the thousands of Snow Geese and other migratory birds that make a stop-over on their way south.

Shorebirds



Autumn is also a prime time to observe shorebirds. These birds are known as being great travelers, but do not all migrate during the same period. Birds born during the year will travel with their juvenile plumage while adults will molt during migration. This makes it a real challenge for birders as different types of plumage will be seen within the same flock. Birds of these species can be seen in a wide variety of habitats such as flooded fields, mudflats, and rocky shores. By browsing **eBird** on the internet, you will be able to plan your outings according to current reports listed by other birders.

Here is a shorebird quiz that will put your knowledge to the test:

1. Which shorebird has the longest migration?
 - a. Pectoral Sandpiper
 - b. Least Sandpiper
 - c. Buff-breasted Sandpiper
 - d. Upland Sandpiper
2. What are the best places to observe migrating shorebirds?
 - a. In flooded fields
 - b. On rocky shores
 - c. In mudflats
 - d. All of the above

Black Friday Sale

Do not miss our Black Friday sale. You will find savings of up to 80% on a wide variety of birding items in store.

3. What is the most common breeding species in all inhabited regions of Quebec?

- a. Semipalmated Plover
- b. Piping Plover
- c. Kildeer
- d. Black-bellied Plover

4. Which species of sandpiper feeds in deep water?

- a. American Woodcock
- b. Red Knot
- c. Ruddy Turnstone
- d. Red-necked Phalarope

5. Which bird, when it shows up in our region, causes many birders to go looking for it?

- a. Purple Sandpiper
- b. Upland Sandpiper
- c. Ruff
- d. Wilson's Snipe

You will find the answers at the end of the bulletin.

6-power binoculars....Why?

What are 6-power binoculars used for, compared to a pair of 8x or 10x binoculars? Why do binocular manufacturers make 6x models? The 6x binoculars, or 6-power binoculars, magnify or move you closer by a factor of 6 times. They also have a specific use. Binoculars with magnification smaller than 8x or 10x binoculars have several advantages: they have a wider field of view and greatly reduce the chance of having blurry images caused by shaking hands or movement .

6-power binoculars will also give you brighter images compared to 8x and 10x binoculars.

Binocular Exchange Program



Binocular Exchange

Canada is a project that aims to engage more people in outdoor activities and to find a use for older, but working birding equipment.

At Nature Expert, we will accept any equipment that would help a birder in an outdoor observation situation: binoculars; spotting scopes; backpacks; field guides (from anywhere in the world); cameras; tripods; ornithology textbooks; etc.

Upon reception of the donation we will estimate the value of the equipment and Earthvalues will issue a charitable tax receipt, if desired.

Earthvalues Institute is the organization under which the project is run.

www.earthvalues.org

Earthvalues

Children are among those who can fully enjoy all the benefits of 6x binoculars. They will find it easier to spot birds with a wider field of view and will be more likely to develop their passion by successfully spotting birds. Children who start with 8x and 10x binoculars usually have a harder time locating birds with their binoculars.

Those who only watch birds at their feeders in their backyard will also enjoy 6-power binoculars because a larger magnification is not needed in order to see birds clearly. High-magnification binoculars will increase the negative effects of trembling hands and will not provide sharp images. By using 6x binoculars, people who tremble more than average can still enjoy birding, including the elderly who may have mistakenly believed birding was no longer possible.

Here are 2 popular models that are currently on sale:



Raptor 6.5x32

\$125 (Regular \$139)



Viper HD 6x32

\$549 (Regular \$839)

These 2 models come with a Lifetime No-Fault warranty.

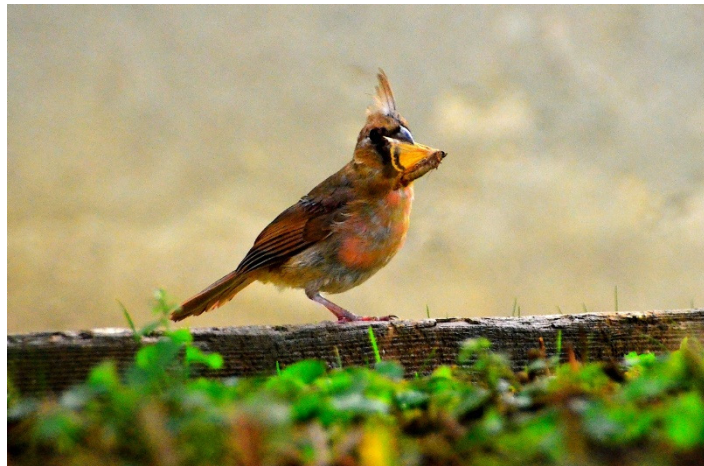


You enjoy traveling to look for birds?

Join Serge Beaudette. His trips are breathtaking I, Alain Goulet, went on one of his trips and simply loved it.

You will find all his travel destinations on his website: PITPITPIT.COM

Have a nice trip! You will be in good hands.



Young cardinal with butterfly. Photo: Pierre Morin



Liquidation sale

To our customers who have purchased Eagle Optics products at

Nature Expert:

We would like to inform you that

Eagle Optics will definitively cease operations on December 31st, 2017.



Fou des oiseaux

(In French and well-worth watching)

The second season of this excellent birding show is now airing on UNI

from September 4 to

December 31st:

Monday 7:00 PM

Monday 2:00 AM

Tuesday 11:00 AM

Saturday 3:30 PM

Sunday 5:30 PM

The third season will air in January 2018. Don't miss it!

Nevertheless, products sold under the Eagle Optics brand carry an unconditional lifetime warranty. Therefore, we hope you will be reassured that this warranty will be covered by Vortex Canada as of January 1st, 2018.

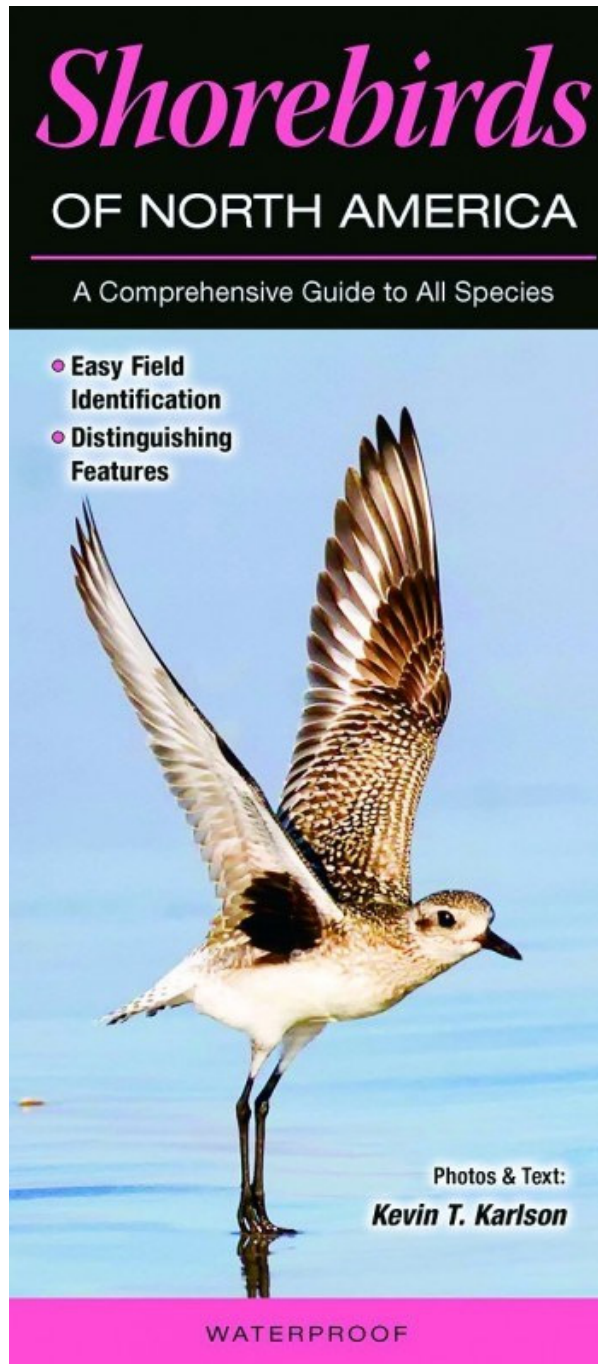
Given that Nature Expert carries the Vortex brand, we will also respect and respond to this warranty. This means that for whatever Eagle Optics repair service you require in the future, please don't hesitate to contact us to obtain the service needed and covered by this warranty.

All Eagle Optics products are now on sale at Nature Expert. You can see items on sale here at: [Eagle Optics sale](#)

Quantities are Limited.

New Products and Suggestions

Shorebirds of North America



A fold-out pamphlet

Shorebirds of North America contains over 200 color photos of all the breeding and commonly occurring shorebird species found in North America.

Species accounts show breeding and nonbreeding plumages when differences occur, as well as many immature and juvenile plumages. Some similar species are shown side by side to allow for easier ID comparison, such as the dowitchers, yellowlegs and willets.

Each featured species includes a brief description of their physical and plumage features, body and wingspan measurements, and preferred habitats. The status of each species, including seasonal frequency, resident or migrant occurrence, breeding location, and habitats are also noted.

These guides differ from other similar products by the increased number of photos for each species, which allows readers to compare a variety of individuals on the same page. This laminated, waterproof, folding field guide is a must for anyone who wants to identify shorebirds anywhere in North America—and it fits in your back pocket when you complete your ID conclusion. You've tried the rest; now try the best quick reference guide for North American shorebirds.

Razor HD 85mm angled

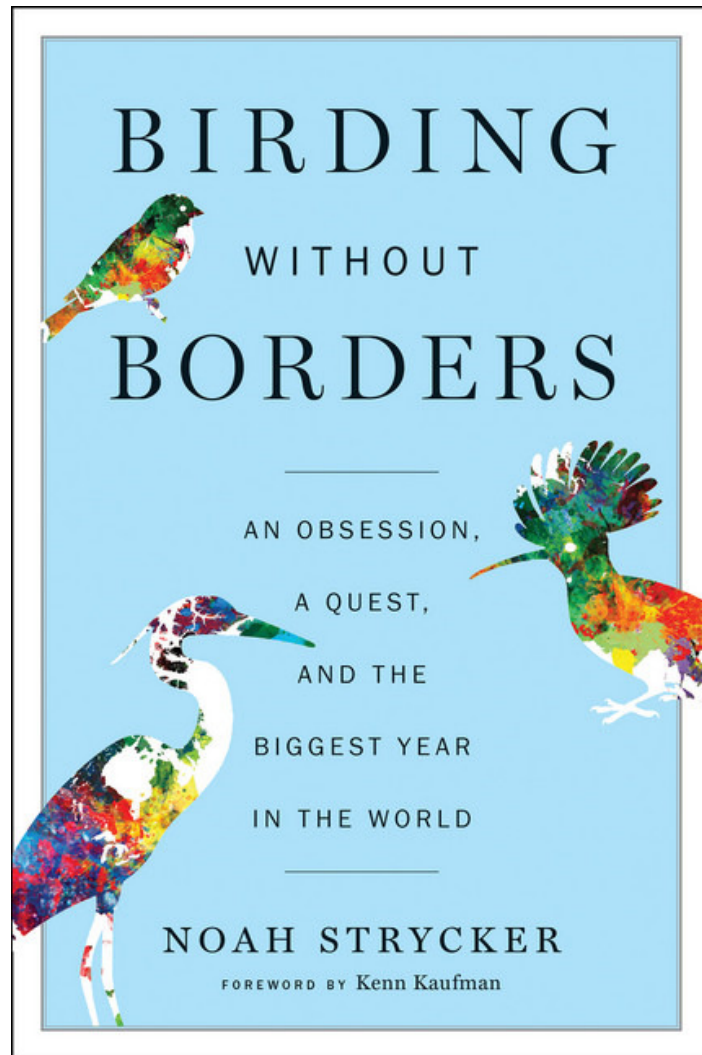
Vortex's famous Razor HD 85mm spotting scope is available in limited quantities.

We offer this discount, while supplies last, to make room for the new model.

Discount available in angled version only.



Birding without borders



An obsession, a quest and the biggest year in the world.

Traveling to 41 countries in 2015 with a backpack and binoculars, Noah Strycker became the first person to see more than half the world's 10,000 species of birds in one year.

In 2015, Noah Strycker set himself a lofty goal: to become the first person to see half the world's birds in one year. For 365 days, with a backpack, binoculars, and a series of one-way tickets, he traveled across forty-one countries and all seven continents, eventually spotting 6,042 species—by far the biggest birding year on record.

This is no travelogue or glorified checklist. Noah ventures deep into a world

of blood-sucking leeches, chronic sleep deprivation, airline snafus, breakdowns, mudslides, floods, war zones, ecologic devastation, conservation triumphs, common and iconic species, and scores of passionate bird lovers around the globe. By pursuing the freest creatures on the planet, Noah gains a unique perspective on the world they share with us—and offers a hopeful message that even as many birds face an uncertain future, more people than ever are working to protect them.

Noah Strycker Lecture

The author, **Noah Strycker**, will be present in Montreal on **November 6th, 2017** for a conference on his epic big year. You will find all the details on [Bird Protection Quebec's website: Noah Strycker 's Lecture](#)

Answers to the shorebird quiz:

1 a) The **Pectoral Sandpiper** has the longest migration of all shorebirds. It nests in the Arctic and winters in South America, all the way down to Argentina. We can observe it in Quebec more commonly during the fall migration. Interestingly, the male starts its migration before the female.



2 d) **All of the above.** Shorebirds are found in all these habitats in order to feed. For example, we find Pectoral Sandpipers in flooded fields where they find terrestrial insects and invertebrates. Dunlins feed on mollusks, crustaceans and marine worms on muddy shores, mudflats and flooded fields. Finally, we find Purple Sandpipers on rocky shores.

3 c) **Kildeer** is the shorebird that nests in all inhabited regions of Quebec.

The people of Magdalen Islands have the privilege of observing nesting Piping Plovers. It is the only place in Quebec where it is possible to observe Piping Plovers during the breeding season. The Black-bellied Plover nests in the Arctic tundra. Semipalmated Plovers nest in Northern Quebec, Anticosti and the Magdalen Islands.



4 d) **Red-necked Phalarope**, along with Wilson's and Red Phalaropes, rotate while swimming, creating a whirlwind that causes insect larvae, worms and shrimp to come to the surface where phalaropes can catch them. Woodcocks catch insects in the ground and in flight. Ruddy Turnstones, hence its name, turn stones on the shore and feed on the larvae and mollusks that it finds.



5 c) The **Ruff** may occasionally be observed in Quebec, and usually in migration, as it nests in Europe. It comes from northern Europe and Asia. The Purple Sandpiper is found mostly in the coastal regions of eastern Quebec and the Maritimes. The Upland Sandpiper nests in hay fields and short-grass habitats such as pastures. Fields that are close to marshes and bogs are the favorite nesting sites for Wilson's Snipes.



Shorebird photos by Michel Bordeleau

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