



# Centre de conservation de la faune ailée

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## In this issue :

- Tips and tricks for bird watching
- Québec Breeding Bird Atlas
- The falcons
- Our new products and suggestions
- Bird Quiz (New)

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## Hours of operation

Tue. / Wed. 9:30 – 18:00  
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Sat. 9:30 – 17:00

Hello everyone,

The nesting season is well underway so for this newsletter we have placed the emphasis on observation and on nesting birds. Would you like to make better observations and see more birds? Our tips will help you to accomplish this task. You will also find information on the most popular newborns in Montreal: the young peregrine falcons nesting at the U of M. You can also test your bird knowledge with our new Quiz that you will find in the margin of the second page.

Following our first Newsletter, several people have asked how to keep cats out of their yards and gardens. The CatStop is very effective and you will find it in our new products section. Finally, you will find information on the **Atlas of Breeding Birds of Québec** and on how to get involved. You do not need to be an expert to participate.

Happy birding!  
*Alain Goulet, owner*

## Tips and tricks for bird watching

There are several ways to observe birds, whether on outings or at home. Here are some tips to help you when you go out birding. Before leaving on an outing, avoid wearing brightly coloured clothing. Instead, wear the colours that blend in with the environment you are in. If you want to see birds more easily, you must be in the field as early as possible. Indeed, birds are most active at daybreak and they will be easier to spot.

If several observers are in the field, although it is tempting to share your comments or talk about a new pair of binoculars, we must avoid speaking loudly. The noise scares the birds so if you want to chat, it is best to whisper.

A good way to find birds is

to scan the horizon. You can then identify birds of prey, ducks and herons in flight.

If you see a bird fly into a bush, use your binoculars and focus directly on the bush. This way, you will be ready when the bird comes out. When you walk in the woods, if you hear blue jays or black-capped chickadees calling insistently for a short period of time, pay special attention to these cries because they often reveal the presence of raptors.

It is also a very good idea to become familiar with the songs of birds. In fact, it is easier to identify a bird by its song than by sight, especially when the leaves are out. If you hear something you do not know, then you can look

for it and try to identify it.

Another simple trick is to always have a pair of compact binoculars in your car. These small binoculars are not very expensive and you will be very happy if you ever want to make an unexpected observation with your extra pair of binoculars.



Photo : Simon Duval

# Québec Breeding Bird Atlas

**What is a Breeding Bird Atlas?** A Breeding Bird Atlas is a collection of maps showing the distribution of breeding birds throughout a given territory. In Quebec, the first atlas was conducted from 1984 to 1989. Work on the second Atlas started January 1st 2010 and will continue until 2014.

**Who can participate?** Any birdwatchers, whether experienced or beginner.

**How to participate?** You must first register on the website of the Atlas (the address is at the bottom of this article). Then you just have to start collecting data.

**What type of data is it?** Data collected is either breeding evidence or point count data. The breeding evidence is classified and it helps establish if a given species breeds in a survey square.

Breeding evidence could be the presence of a singing male, the construction of a nest or the observation of a parent feeding young fresh out of the nest.



Photo : Simon Duval

**What is a parcel?** It is a 10x10 km square within which data is collected. For now, the project prioritizes southern Québec which includes 5509 squares.

**What is the best time to collect data?** Generally speaking, the months of June and July are more suitable since it is during that period that most of the Québec species nest and raise their young. It is possible to begin collecting data in May (sometimes in April) for some species that breed early.

For more information, visit the Atlas website at the following address: <http://www.atlas-oiseaux.qc.ca>

## Quiz

What bird has the slowest powered flight without hovering or gliding?

The answer will be in our next newsletter.



## Young peregrine falcons at UdeM

Despite the experts' predictions who said that the chances of hatching were greatly reduced due to the many disruptions caused by Polly, a young falcon from last year's brood, this year's first chick came out of its shell on Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. A second was born Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, while the third was born Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, one disappeared but the other two have been nurtured by Spirit and Roger.

The young peregrines have grown really fast since they hatched. Banding of the young occurred on May 26<sup>th</sup> and was done by Simon Duval and Eve Belisle. It was then determined that we had a male, named Horus and a female named Eve.

In the next weeks, they will take their first flight and learn to hunt by themselves.

You can follow them on the web cameras at the following address: <http://www.ornithologie.ca/faucons/>



# Our new products and suggestions

## Father's Day Special

Many in-store discounts on optics.

Valid until June 20, 2010

## Friends

Join us on Facebook! It's a great way to ask us questions.

## Unsubscribe

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please reply by e-mail and we'll remove your name at your request.

**Préférez vous recevoir une version française de notre bulletin?**

**Avisez-nous par courriel :**

ccfa@videotron.ca

## CatStop



Protect your garden, plants or sandbox without chemicals or fences. When cats come within range, the **CatStop®** automatic outdoor cat deterrent emits a sudden burst of ultrasonic sound (at a frequency most humans can't hear) - the sound startles cats, and teaches them to stay away. Installation is easy - just place the CatStop in the garden or outdoor area that you want to protect, and it's ready to go.

### The CatStop:

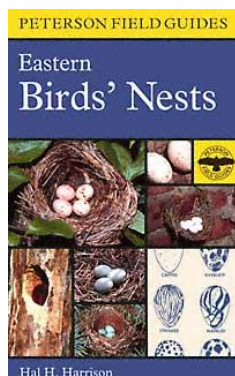
- provides a safe but effective deterrence
- protects gardens day and night without chemicals or unsightly barriers
- monitors up to 280 square feet (26 square meters)
- operates for up to six months on a single 9-volt battery

## Olympus 7x21 PC III



This new classic version of the popular **7x21 PC III** features a stylish Classic Blue body colour and features new rubber grips for a steady and comfortable performance. With built-in dioptic correction and a compact, portable design that makes it ideal for all-around outdoor use including bird watching, hiking, and traveling.

## Eastern Birds' Nests



With the start of the Québec Breeding Bird Atlas, a good book for identifying birds' nests is essential. The book **Eastern Birds' Nests** from the Peterson series excels in this area. It contains the nest and eggs of 285 North America bird species. A description of the breeding range, the time of year, habitat, nest and eggs is provided for each species. 222 color photos compliment and facilitate the use of the guide. It really is a must for all lovers of ornithology wishing to deepen their knowledge.