

Bird City Illinois



A PUBLICATION OF THE
AUDUBON COUNCIL OF ILLINOIS



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BIRDCITY.ORG/ILLINOIS

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Congratulations to our tenth Bird City of Illinois!

We are excited to share that we have added our latest municipality to our Bird City Network.

Congratulations to the **City of Galena!**



We now have ten municipalities in our program, which also include Evanston, Freeport, Grayslake, Homewood, Lake Bluff, Libertyville, Rockford, St. Charles, and Waukegan.

Learn more about Galena on the next page and how the city achieved their designation.

In this newsletter you can expect:

The next THREE Bird Cities of Illinois!

Feature of the City of Galena (p. 2)

Bird City Illinois Celebrates 3-year anniversary (p. 3 - 4)

Time for Renewal! (p. 5)

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2025 WMBD Theme Announced!

Congratulations to the City of Galena!

On August 12, 2024, the City of Galena officially became the 10th municipality to become a Bird City of Illinois. Audubon Council President Jennifer Kuroda presented the honor to the Mayor Terry Renner during a City Council Meeting.

Galena met 14 criteria to fulfill their designation. The city achieved important criteria to meet the Habitat category including the conservation work of the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation with land preservation, the long-term establishment and success of the Bluebird Recovery Program, and educating public with presentations that support the use of native plants for landscaping.

Galena also met criteria for Reducing Threats to Birds category by supporting dark sky initiatives and using Integrated Pest Management for city green spaces. The city met criteria in the Education and Engagement Category with their amazing month-long initiative called “Galena Earth Month” with multiple programs throughout the month of April. The city held a successful first World Migratory Bird Day event celebrating the 2024 theme of Birds and Insects. The city also met criteria under Sustainability with their installation of solar panels on the roof of City Hall and municipal wastewater treatment plant, strong implementation of green transportation with their public shuttle services and bike trails, and successful glass recycling program.

The City also met the required components of the annual WMBD proclamation and passing of the Bird City Resolution on May 8, 2023.

Congratulations to the City of Galena and we look forward to seeing what you do in the coming years!



Above: Mayor Terry Renner holding the Bird City Sign



World Migratory Bird Day Event
(photo from Galena Green Team [Facebook page](#))

Bird City Illinois Reaches Three-Year Anniversary!

Since 2022, we have grown to TEN communities. While this may seem like slow progress, these ten communities have accomplished 179 actions within 4 categories – habitat, threats, engagement, and sustainability. As we have continued to grow, we joined the Bird City Network, our website has improved, newsletters are available, and communities are working together to enhance the environment for birds and people.

Being part of the Bird City Network, established by the American Bird Conservancy and Environment for the Americas, we have been able to connect with other programs across the hemisphere. Over 200 communities across 4 countries! This opportunity has brought additional resources and ideas to our program that we get to share with you.

Our goal is to continue to grow Bird City Illinois and we can't do it without your help and input. Please share with us how achieving Bird City Illinois has helped in your community, tell us how we can improve providing resources and new program information to you, and spread the word about our program. Additionally, if you would like us to come to your community and give a presentation about Bird City Illinois, please contact us.

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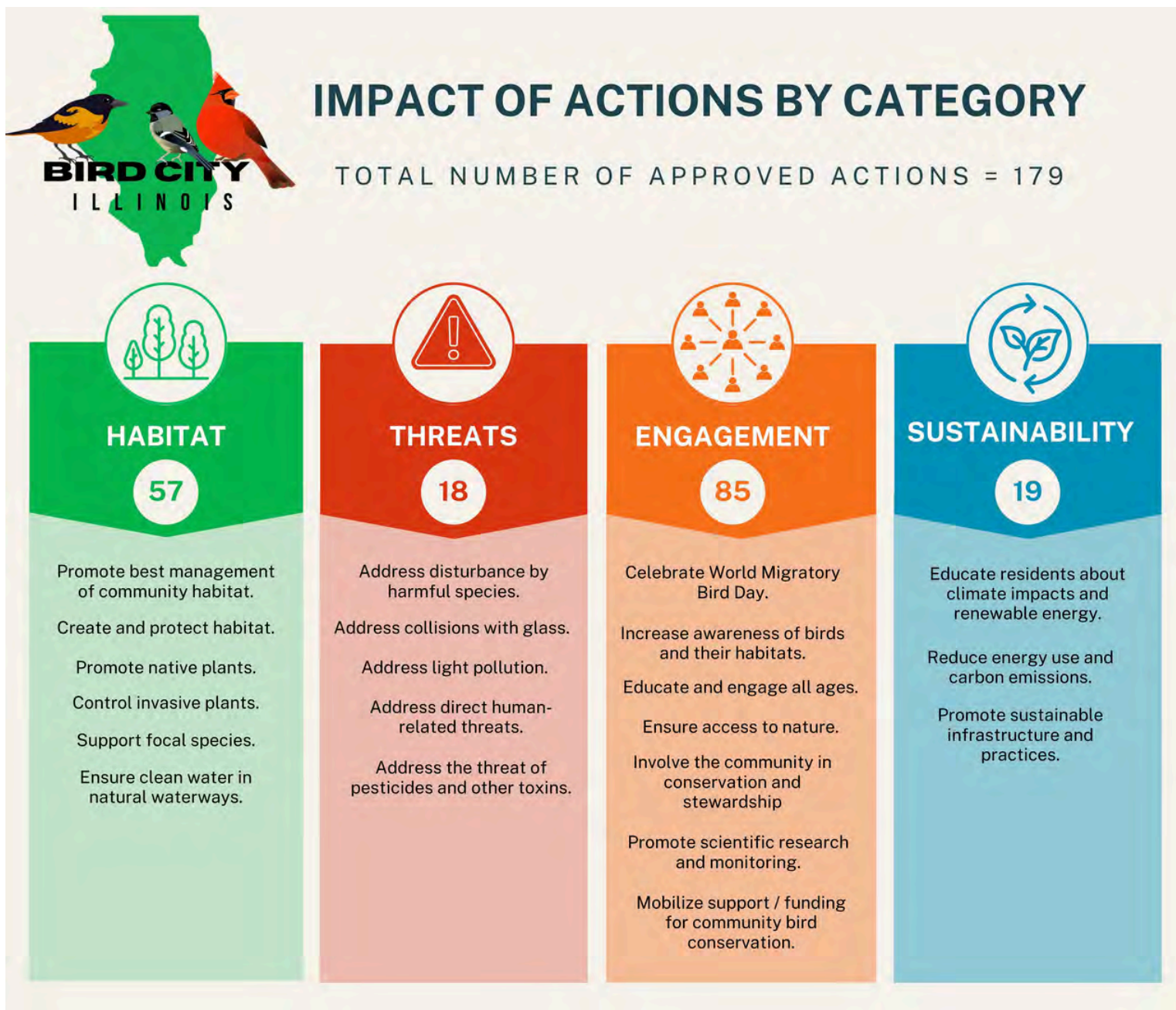


Three-Year Anniversary, continued

In the meantime, let's recognize the work for the ten communities who accomplished 179 actions! Check out the impacts below!

Congratulations to Evanston, Freeport, Galena, Grayslake, Homewood, Lake Bluff, Libertyville, Rockford, St. Charles, and Waukegan.

-Jennifer Kuroda, President of Audubon Council of Illinois



Reminder!

It is time for BIRD CITY RENEWAL for our first three municipalities!



The cities of Freeport, Rockford, and Waukegan were the first three cities to earn Bird City Designations at the start of 2022. It is time for these three cities to renew their designation by January 2025!

Municipalities can complete the renewal process the same way as the initial application.

Your **community leader** can log in to the Bird City website to update any existing criteria or enter new criteria that has been fulfilled by your municipality. World Migratory Bird Day proclamations must occur annually and Resolutions must be completed during the renewal submission.

The renewal applications will be reviewed by the Audubon Council of Illinois.

Renewals

Submission: Proclamation and WMBD event must be completed annually; Resolution must be completed every 3 years with renewal submission

Review: Applications are reviewed quarterly

Fee: \$100 triennially

Visit: <https://birdcity.org/illinois/applyAndRenew>



NETWORK NEWS



Bird City Network Establishes the First Bird City in Brazil to Promote Bird Conservation and Sustainable Development

September 26, 2024 · American Bird Conservancy

The Bird City Network is excited to designate Peruíbe as the first Bird City in Brazil. This initiative, a collaboration between American Bird Conservancy (ABC) and Environment for the Americas (EFTA), promotes bird conservation and creates healthier communities for both people and birds in Brazil.

Read more [here!](#)



Bird City Brazil. Peruíbe. Photo courtesy Environment for the Americas



The 2025 World Migratory
Bird Day theme is
announced!

We look forward to seeing
what your communities do!



WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY 2025

Check out the full press release with resources!
Click [here](#)!