



Volunteer Welcome Packet



Welcome!



Welcome to the Flock!

We're so glad you're here.

By joining Denver Audubon's volunteer team, you've become part of a passionate, conservation-minded community that's working every day to protect Colorado's birds, wildlife, and wild places. Whether you're an experienced birder or just starting to discover the magic of the natural world, your time and energy are deeply appreciated—and deeply needed.

As a volunteer, you are an essential part of our mission. You might be leading bird walks, supporting youth programs, planting in our native gardens, or helping behind the scenes—but no matter how you contribute, you're helping us inspire wonder, grow stewardship, and make Denver more bird-friendly.

Inside this folder, you'll find a few helpful tools to get you started:

- **Elevator Speech** – A short and meaningful way to share who we are and why our work matters.
- **Team Support Contact Sheet** – A list of friendly faces you can reach out to anytime with questions, ideas, or if you just want to share a great bird sighting.

We're here for you every step of the way. If something sparks your curiosity or you want to get more involved, just let us know. We love hearing from you—and we love having you as part of this flock.

Thank you for giving your time, your energy, and your heart to this work. Together, we're creating a brighter, more bird-friendly future for Colorado.

With gratitude,
The Denver Audubon Team

Elevator Speech - Sharing the Message

Key Talking Points for Volunteers

Use these core ideas to guide your conversations with guests and visitors. You don't need to memorize anything—just speak from the heart, share what you know, and feel free to add your personal connection!

Who We Are

- Denver Audubon is a locally focused, independent chapter of National Audubon.
- We've been active in Colorado since 1969—more than 56 years of connecting people with birds and nature.
- We're a nonprofit organization supported by local members, donors, volunteers, and partners like the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD).

What We Do

Our mission:

Inspiring actions that protect birds, other wildlife, and their habitats through education, conservation, and research.

Our vision:

To make Denver the most bird-friendly city in the United States.

We focus on:

- Education: Public and school bird banding, classes, nature-based programs
- Conservation: Habitat projects, bird-friendly practices, local action
- Research: Lois Webster Fund grants for Colorado wildlife studies
- Community Science: Guided walks, bird monitoring, and public engagement

How We Do It

- We have 10 paid staff members, a volunteer Board of Directors, and 140+ active volunteers.
- We rely on local support—our work is rooted in the Denver metro area and made possible through community involvement.

Why It Matters

- Birds help us understand the health of our ecosystems.
- Connecting people to nature builds a culture of stewardship and care.
- Every visitor, class, and volunteer contributes to a more bird-friendly Colorado.



Elevator Speech (continued)

Your Story Matters

End your conversations with a personal touch!

Share:

- Why you love birds or nature
- What volunteering means to you
- A favorite moment at the nature center

Your passion is powerful—visitors remember your stories more than facts!

Sample Elevator Speech (assuming you are at the Nature Center)

Welcome to the Denver Audubon Kingery Nature Center! Denver Audubon an independent nonprofit that's been around for over 50 years. Our mission is to inspire people to protect birds, other wildlife, and their habitats through education, conservation, and research.

We focus on local efforts right here in the Denver metro area—like bird banding programs, guided bird walks, and wildlife research. Our big vision is to make Denver the most bird-friendly city in the country.

We're powered by a small staff and a big team of volunteers, and there are lots of ways to get involved. Personally, I love [insert personal reason—e.g., 'watching kids get excited during bird banding' or 'the peaceful moments out on the trails']—it's a special place to connect with nature."

Want a little inspiration for your personalization? Plug-and-Play Endings:

Feel free to start with:

"Personally, I love..." or "What inspires me most is..."

Nature Connection

"...how peaceful it is to walk the trails and just listen to the birds."

"...seeing people light up when they spot a bird for the first time."

"...the way this place helps people slow down and reconnect with nature."

Birding Enthusiasm

"...how much I've learned about birds—every visit I see or hear something new."

"...watching migrations and realizing how connected we are to nature's rhythms."

"...the thrill of identifying a new bird species on a walk."

Education & Community

"...watching kids get excited during our school bird banding programs."

"...the way families come together to learn out here—it's really heartwarming."

"...being part of a community that truly cares about wildlife."

Volunteering Experience

"...how welcoming and passionate the volunteer team is—it's a great group."

"...knowing that my time here supports real conservation work."

"...feeling like I'm making a difference, even in small ways."



AUDUBON CENTER AT CHATFIELD STATE PARK

