

## **Welcome to Bird Town!** **What Do Those Signs Mean?**

The Bird Town program is a partnership between the PA Audubon Society and municipalities throughout the state to promote conservation and community-based



actions to create a healthier, more sustainable environment for both birds and people. New Britain Borough has become the 23<sup>rd</sup> Bird Town in Pennsylvania and the ninth in Bucks County.

As a Bird Town, the Borough is committed to working closely with Audubon to provide information to residents, businesses, and other community partners on ways to create more bird-friendly landscapes and greener yards, parks and schools. The aim of the Bird Town program is to create a culture of conservation *where everyone is a potential steward of nature in their own backyard.*

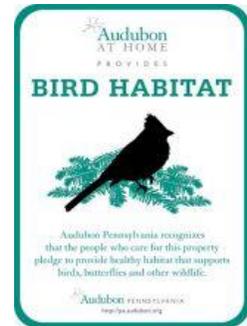
The Bird Town program is not, however, just about birds. The restoration of natural systems and native plant communities for birds, butterflies, and other wildlife, on both public and private properties, has a positive impact on storm water runoff, greenhouse gases, maintenance time, property values, community pride, and aesthetics.

### **What Can You Do?**

The real power of Bird Town comes from residents taking actions on their own

landscapes. Residents can contribute to the Borough's efforts by taking the "**Healthy Yard**" Pledge, which is a pledge to use more native plants in the landscape, remove invasive plant species, reduce storm water runoff, eliminate the use of pesticides, and provide for and protect birds.

Property owners who create bird habitat by doing the above and by installing nest boxes and bird feeders are also encouraged to register their property with PA Audubon's



**"Bird Habitat Recognition Program"**. After joining the Bird Habitat Network, you'll be provided with a yard sign and a discount card good at businesses throughout the state. Your property may already qualify.

The Borough is also looking for interested residents to serve on a new **Bird Town Committee** to promote and facilitate the goals of the Bird Town program in our community. If interested, please go to the Borough website and complete a Volunteer Information Sheet, found under Community Information / Volunteer Opportunities. You will be contacted soon about a first meeting date for this committee.

*To take the "Healthy Back Yard" pledge, register your property in the "Bird Habitat Recognition Program," or simply learn more about the Bird Town program, go to <http://pa.audubon.org/bird-town>. There is also information about the Bird Town program on the Borough website under "Committees."*