

Proclamation

WHEREAS, wild birds are some of the most beautiful and easily observed wildlife that share our communities, and many of us recognize and welcome wild birds as indicators of quality of life in a vibrant community, and

WHEREAS, wild birds play an important economic role in our community, controlling insect pests, generating millions in recreational dollars statewide, and Eau Claire, as a proud, designated 2021 "High Flyer" Wisconsin Bird City, recognizes the value in preserving wild bird populations, and

WHEREAS, wild birds and their habitats are declining throughout the Americas and birds face growing threats on their migration routes and in both their summer and winter homes, and those same wild bird populations have declined precipitously over the last sixty years due to stressors such as habitat destruction, predation by household cats allowed to roam outdoors, and climate crisis; and

WHEREAS, pet owners are required by city ordinance to keep household dogs and cats on their property or on leash when off property and cat owners are encouraged to keep an especially close watch on their cats during the Spring bird nesting period critical for maintaining and improving wild bird populations; and

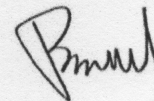
WHEREAS, public awareness and concern are crucial components of bird conservation, and the Gaylord Nelson Audubon, The National Audubon Society, The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Bird City Wisconsin, The Beaver Creek Citizen Science Center, The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Biology Department, The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Environmental Public Health Program, The Sierra Club, and The American Bird Conservancy all partner in recognizing the importance of bird conservation, and

WHEREAS, the Bird City Wisconsin designation is not only representative of an appreciation and celebration of the aesthetic and economic value of wild birds, but also a call to community action.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terry Weld, President of the Eau Claire City Council, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby with great deep appreciation, recognize and celebrate the recent designation of Eau Claire as a

"High Flyer" Wisconsin Bird City

and encourage our neighbors and visitors to support the community's efforts to protect and manage green space, educate our citizens on the importance of our wild bird population, build and erect nesting structures, landscape with native plants where possible, reduce threats to outdoor birds including keeping cats under close watch on leash or indoors especially during the Spring nesting period, and generally make local urban areas friendlier for wild birds.



Terry L. Weld, President
Eau Claire City Council

Dated,
May 11, 2021