



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Photos** to accompany this article and a MS Word version of this press release are available for download in [this folder](#).

**BIRDS GEORGIA CELEBRATES 100 YEARS IN 2026**

**(ATLANTA, GA) January 9, 2026** – In 2026, Birds Georgia celebrates its centennial, marking 100 years of protecting birds, restoring habitats, and inspiring communities across Georgia. The year-long Centennial Celebration will honor a legacy of conservation while launching the next century of impact through events, education, and action across Georgia.

“For a century, Birds Georgia has shown what’s possible when people come together for birds and the places they need to thrive,” said **Adam Betuel, executive director of Birds Georgia**. “Our centennial is both a celebration of the progress we’ve made and a call to action for the next 100 years – because the future of birds in Georgia depends on what we accomplish today.”

Throughout 2026, Birds Georgia will host a wide range of signature programs and special centennial events, including guided birding trips, habitat restoration workdays, festivals, and community gatherings designed to welcome birders and nature lovers of all experience levels.

**2026 Centennial Events Include:**

- **Soaring Into Service: MLK Jr. Weekend** (January 17 to 19)
- **2026 Georgia Bird Fest** (April 10 to May 10)
- **Georgia Bird Fest Summit at the Atlanta Botanical Garden** (April 26)
- **2026 Fall Flyway Festival** (September 1 to 30)
- **Fall Flyway Festival Round Robin at the State Botanical Garden** (September 19)
- **Birds and Brews** events throughout the year

Founded on March 15, 1926 as the Atlanta Bird Club, Birds Georgia has grown from a fledgling group of bird enthusiasts into a statewide force for bird conservation. To commemorate this history, Birds Georgia has launched an interactive ArcGIS StoryMap timeline that brings its century-long story to life through historic photographs and archival materials from the University of Georgia, the Atlanta History Center, and Birds Georgia's own scrapbook collection.

As part of the Centennial celebration, Birds Georgia will donate its historic scrapbook to the Cherokee Garden Library at the Atlanta History Center during a private ceremony on January 13, 2026.

**Explore the Centennial Timeline:**

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/42750398fdbc4f4eb263933357b0dc65>

While the Centennial is a time to reflect on conservation successes, it is also a pivotal moment to invest in the future. Birds Georgia is proud to announce its centennial legacy project: the **Georgia Birding Trail**. This statewide network of birding hotspots will protect critical habitats, expand access to birding, boost eco-tourism, and inspire the next generation of conservationists. From the mountains to the coast and everywhere in between, the [Georgia Birding Trail](#) will showcase Georgia's remarkable birdlife. The first trail sites will be announced in early 2026.

"The Georgia Birding Trail is about connecting people to nature while protecting the habitats birds depend on," said Betuel. "By highlighting exceptional birding sites across the state, we're creating new opportunities for conservation, education, and sustainable tourism – benefiting both birds and communities for generations to come."

For 100 years, Birds Georgia has led efforts in habitat restoration, bird-friendly policies, and education programs that empower action – helping to ensure a future for iconic species like the Painted Bunting and Bald Eagle. The Centennial Celebration will bring Georgians together to honor the past and shape a future where birds and people thrive.

For more information on Birds Georgia visit <https://www.birdsgeorgia.org>.

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**About Birds Georgia:** *Birds Georgia is building places where birds and people thrive. We create bird-friendly communities through conservation, education, and community engagement. Founded in 1926 as the Atlanta Bird Club, the organization became a chapter of the National Audubon Society in 1973 and continues today as an independent Audubon chapter. Learn more at <https://www.birdsgeorgia.org/>.*