

Bluebird Nest Box Monitoring Spring/Summer 2016

Submitted by Bruce Billings

During the spring and summer months of 2016, members of the Piedmont Bird Club volunteered their time to monitor bluebird nest boxes in Greensboro's Country Park. Once a week volunteers checked each nest box to log any activity, clean out old nests, or remove nesting deterrents. Using resources and a system created by Cal Weimer, volunteer tag-teams tracked multiple clutches of birds while maintaining consistency in the observational data.



Over the course of the season, the team observed 130 native bird eggs laid in the 26 nest boxes. These clutches of eggs resulted in:

- 105 fledged Eastern Bluebirds
- 10 fledged Carolina Chickadees
- 6 fledged Brown-Headed Nuthatches



The compiled 2016 data was sent to the NC Bluebird Society and will be included in state statistics that will be sent on to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

The conservation committee and the PBC hope to continue this citizen science project in the years to come. However, for this program to continue we need volunteers. If you'd like to get an intimate look at native bird nesting and fledging, consider bluebird nest box monitoring with the PBC.

The weekly nest box monitoring begins in March and ends in August.

Volunteers can choose to monitor the nest boxes for one or several months. It's a great activity to share with a spouse, friend or student. Contact Bruce Billings to sign up for the 2017 nesting season.