

Conservation Forum

For and by members of PGC – Sandy Menke, Conservation Chair



The Audubon Magazine (Jan-Feb 2015) featured a page devoted to facts about the Bald and Golden Eagle that I thought was most interesting. I hope you do, too!



- 1782** The year Congress approved the Bald Eagle as the national symbol.
- 1784** The year Benjamin Franklin called the Bald Eagle a "bird of bad moral character...a rank coward."
- 9** Number of countries that claim the Golden Eagle as their national bird: Austria, Egypt, Germany, Ghana, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Romania, and Yemen.
- 00** Jersey number for Swoop, the Philadelphia Eagles' mascot. The Bald Eagle's diet consists of Falcons, cheese steaks, and soft pretzels.
- 4,000** The approximate weight, in pounds, of the largest recorded Bald Eagle nest. The nest was also 20 feet high and 9 feet wide.
- 62** Mile-per-hour winds endured by Bald Eagles on Chesapeake Bay during Hurricane Gloria in 1985.
- \$500,000** Maximum fine for poaching a Bald Eagle.
- 1960's** When DDT decimated the Bald Eagles of California's Channel Islands; Golden Eagles eventually took over the vacant territory.
- 16,571** Number of genes in the Golden Eagle's genome, the first avian genome to be fully sequenced.
- 400** In nanometers, the shortest wavelength a Golden Eagle can see, which means that UV paint is not an effective deterrent on wind turbines.
- 67** Number of Golden and Bald Eagles reported killed by wind turbines between 2008 and 2013.
- \$24,468,315** Economic losses, as estimated by the FAA, due to 174 aircraft strikes with Bald Eagles.
- 487** Estimated number of Bald Eagle nesting pairs left in the United States in the 1960's when the species was listed as endangered.
- 10,000** Estimated number of Bald Eagle nesting pairs when the bird was delisted some 40 years later, in 2007.

Wow! So thrilling to see conservation efforts really do make a big difference, no matter how small or big!!

By **Sandy Menke**, Conservation Chair

We welcome contributions to this page by members, OR if you have an idea for this page we'd love that too.

Have a fabulous yard in your neighborhood?

The **Garden Selection Committee** needs your help. They are looking for gardens west of the river for next year's garden walk. If you would like to have your garden considered or you know of one to suggest, please call or email Judy Price, Julie Griffith, Judy Schlarb or Ellen Smith. Their numbers are in your handbook.

The Committee thanks you!