

BIRD OF THE MONTH - MARCH 2022

AMERICAN KESTREL



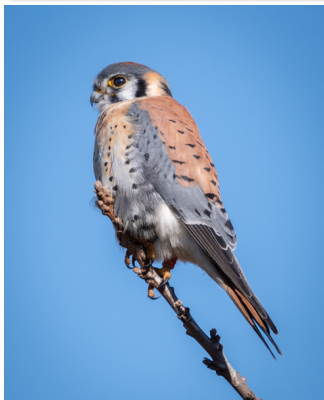
The American Kestrel is our smallest, most abundant, and most vibrantly colorful Falcon. You'll notice our pair of year-round resident Kestrels perched on posts in the hilltop preserved Raptor Foraging Area, surveying the field for grasshoppers, lizards, and small rodents comprising their customary prey.

The more colorful male has a solid rusty back & tail with a wide black tip and contrasting blue-gray wings. Both male and female of these fiercely striking Birds of Prey sport two distinctive dark vertical face stripes.

Watch for their dramatic aerial show of slow hovering mid-air facing into the wind, flapping and adjusting their long tails to stay in place before rapidly diving to seize unwitting prey in their powerful talons.



A dedicated team of birders survey and tally all the birds and bird species each month producing a report viewable on the website. It's accompanied by extraordinary photos that can be a useful learning tool when preparing for a visit to the Urban Forest. It's great to know what birds can be expected each month, and a thrill to encounter them on your own.



To learn more about the fascinating range of distinctive birds appearing in the Urban Forest and along the Shipley to Shore Nature Trail, visit:

hbtrees.org/urban-forest-2/bird-watching-in-the-urban-forest