



**Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds:
United States Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of Interior,
City of Hartford, Connecticut Audubon Society, and regional Signatory Partners.**

The parties recognize:

City of Hartford is within the Lower Connecticut River, the Silvio O. Conte National Fish & Wildlife Refuge, the ancestral homelands of multiple Tribal Nations, and is within the Atlantic Flyway through which millions of native birds migrate. All birds traveling through the Atlantic Flyway are protected by the United States Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918.

Intact ecosystems, forests, wildflower meadows, streams, ponds, wetlands, and floodplain landscapes, throughout City of Hartford provide essential habitat (food, shelter, and clean water) for resident and migratory birds and other wildlife that enrich our quality of life through cultural, educational, scientific, and aesthetic experiences;

Birds are excellent indicators of healthy local ecosystems and irreplaceable natural regional environments of the Earth that provide critical benefits to current and future generations of Hartford residents; For most people, especially those living in urban areas, birds are a primary, often daily contact with wildlife.

Birds connect all of us to the environment;

City of Hartford municipal staff and communities have actively advanced goals established in 2011 as the eighth designated U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Urban Bird Treaty (UBT) city within a growing national network, and which supports the Silvio O. Conte National Fish & Wildlife Refuge Act of 1991.

Migratory birds, like people, travel across ecosystems and government boundaries, thus protecting them must be a cooperative effort among international cities, states, local communities, educational institutions, environmental organizations, businesses, and federal agencies;

Migratory birds face serious challenges. Many species are in decline from a variety of causes, especially habitat loss and degradation, introduction of invasive plants and animals (*including outdoor and feral cats*), pesticides, light pollution, as well as with collisions with buildings, communication towers, cars, and energy infrastructure (*transmission lines, stacks, and windmills*).

Convinced of the urgency of taking appropriate measures to protect and promote migratory birds, on this day of May 19, 2023, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and City of Hartford recognize their Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds and so reaffirm the importance of local partnerships to achieve migratory bird conservation throughout the Greater Hartford metropolitan region, benefiting the region's residents especially those in diverse and under-resourced communities, and economy.

The City of Hartford will continue to advance implementation of urban planning and management practices that increase migratory bird habitat throughout City parks, and open spaces, especially along riparian corridors. The City will continue to refine management practices such as identification of low mow meadow areas, minimizing night light pollution as well as investing in learning programs that increase awareness of resident and migratory bird habitat.

US Fish & Wildlife Service

City of Hartford

Connecticut Audubon Society

Scott Kahan
Acting Deputy Regional Director, Northeast Region

Luke Bronin
Mayor

Patrick Comins
Executive Director

Keney Park, Hartford Connecticut - Friday, May 19, 2023



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and the following regional Signatory Partners:**

City Hartford Department of Public Works
City of Hartford Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission
Community First School
Ct Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
Connecticut Audubon Society
Ct Forest & Park Association
Connecticut Land Conservation Council
Connecticut Ornithological Association
Ct League of Conservation Voters
Connecticut River Conservancy
Dark Sky, Connecticut Chapter
Ebony Horsewomen
Friends of Silvio O. Conte Refuge
Friends of Keney Park
The Richard P. Garmany Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
Hartford Audubon Society
The Hartford Garden Club
Hartford Public Library
Keney Park Sustainability Project
Knox
North Central Conservation District
Park Watershed
Rivers Alliance of Connecticut
Riverfront Recapture
Roaring Brook Nature Center
Saukiog Communities
Sierra Club Connecticut Chapter
ReGreen Springfield
Trinity College
Trust for Public Land
University of Saint Joseph
Audubon Connecticut
Silvio O. Conte National Fish & Wildlife Refuge

Keney Park, Hartford Connecticut - Friday, May 19, 2023