2016 State of Stopover Symposium  
Working Group III – Education, Outreach, and Ecotourism Agenda  

Wednesday, October 5  

2 PM  Welcome and Introduction – Kim Grveles, WDNR and Susan Bonfield, Environment for the Americas  

2:10 PM  What's in Your Toolkit? Finding Resources for Your Programs – Susan Bonfield  

2:40 PM  Bird City Wisconsin: Encouraging local conservation education and ecotourism – Carl Schwartz, Bird City Wisconsin, WGLBBO, WSO  

3:10 PM  Break  

3:25 PM  Wisconsin Stopover Initiative: engaging citizens and professionals in migratory bird conservation – Kim Grveles  

3:55 PM  Birds and Windows / Building a safer community, Joanna Eckles, Audubon Minnesota  

4:25 PM  Closing thoughts for the day; preview of Thursday – Susan and Kim  

4:30 PM  Dismiss for the day – Enjoy the evening!  

Thursday, October 6  

10 AM  Welcome back and Introduction to today – Susan and Kim  

10:05 AM  Urban habitats for all: Developing and managing urban habitats for wildlife and humans, Matthew Freer, Chicago Park District  

10:35 AM  Migratory bird habitat at Willmette Gillson Bird Sanctuary, a lakefront bird sanctuary in a multi-use Chicago park, Judy Pollock and Heidi Natura, Living Habitats  

11:05 AM  Bird the Preserves: Connecting People to Nature through Birding, Jacqui Ulrich and Lydia Uhlir, Forest Preserves of Cook County  

11:35 AM  Panel discussion, Q & A – Susan and Kim, facilitating; group participation  

12:05 PM  Lunch break
1:05 PM   Our Toolkits: what do we have, what are the gaps, how do we fill them? – group participation

1:50 PM   Engaging Communities: brainstorming project ideas – group participation

Our speakers provided several examples of how they are encouraging people in their communities to care about migratory birds and the conservation issues of concern during migration and stopovers. Are there other ideas for outreach and education strategies that could be added to this list? What are the ways we can best support existing programs? Can we expand them to areas currently without programs? Would it enhance the work we do if we were to connect communities across political boundaries (e.g., along a Great Lakes shore, or those living in Great Lakes metropolitan areas, etc.) by developing a regional program or regional ecotourism event?

3:00 PM   Break

3:15 PM   Complete our brainstorming list of projects and/or program ideas

3:30 PM   Prioritize the list of projects/programs for short-term and long-term implementation

4:00 PM   Outline a draft plan for implementation of priority projects

4:30 PM   Identify action plan lead(s) and a timeline for plan completion