



# *Osprey Monitor Training*

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The Audubon Society of Rhode Island



**Audubon Society  
of Rhode Island**



Photo by John Arnold, 2019.

# *Agenda*

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1. Osprey Natural History
2. Program Overview
3. Monitoring
  1. Collecting Observations
  2. Submitting Observations Online
  3. Nest Selection
4. Questions / Open Discussion

# *Natural History*

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- Broad habitat use



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- Females are ~20% larger than males
- Build nests atop tall trees, cliffs, and man-made structures
  - High nest-site fidelity



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  - Prior to the 1940s there were 1000 nesting pairs of Osprey in Southern NE
  - Between 1940 – 1970, this number dropped to 109
  - In RI, only 13 pairs were left



CITY OF WACO  
ENGINEERING & REPAIR CENTER  
**DDT**





"DDT is good for me-e-e!" ♪♪



# *Program Overview - History*

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- How does DDT affect Osprey?
  - After rain events, DDT residues enter our waterways
  - Fish consume DDT through respiration, and are then consumed by Osprey
  - DDT exposure leads to eggshell thinning and poisoning

*Good News!*

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## *Good News!*

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- *How do we know this?*

# *Program Overview - Goals*

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- Document breeding success of Osprey in Rhode Island

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- Keep an active record of all Osprey nests in Rhode Island
- Document breeding success of Osprey in Rhode Island
- Be the voice of the Osprey!

EAST BAY

# RI Energy: Osprey nests to blame for intermittent power outages

by: [Michael DeFusco](#)  
Posted: Apr 23, 2023 / 09:10 PM EDT  
Updated: Apr 24, 2023 / 04:25 AM EDT



SHARE    ...

EAST PROVIDENCE, R.I. (WPRI) — Rhode Island Energy says the on-and-off power outages happening in parts of the East Bay on Sunday were caused by osprey nests.

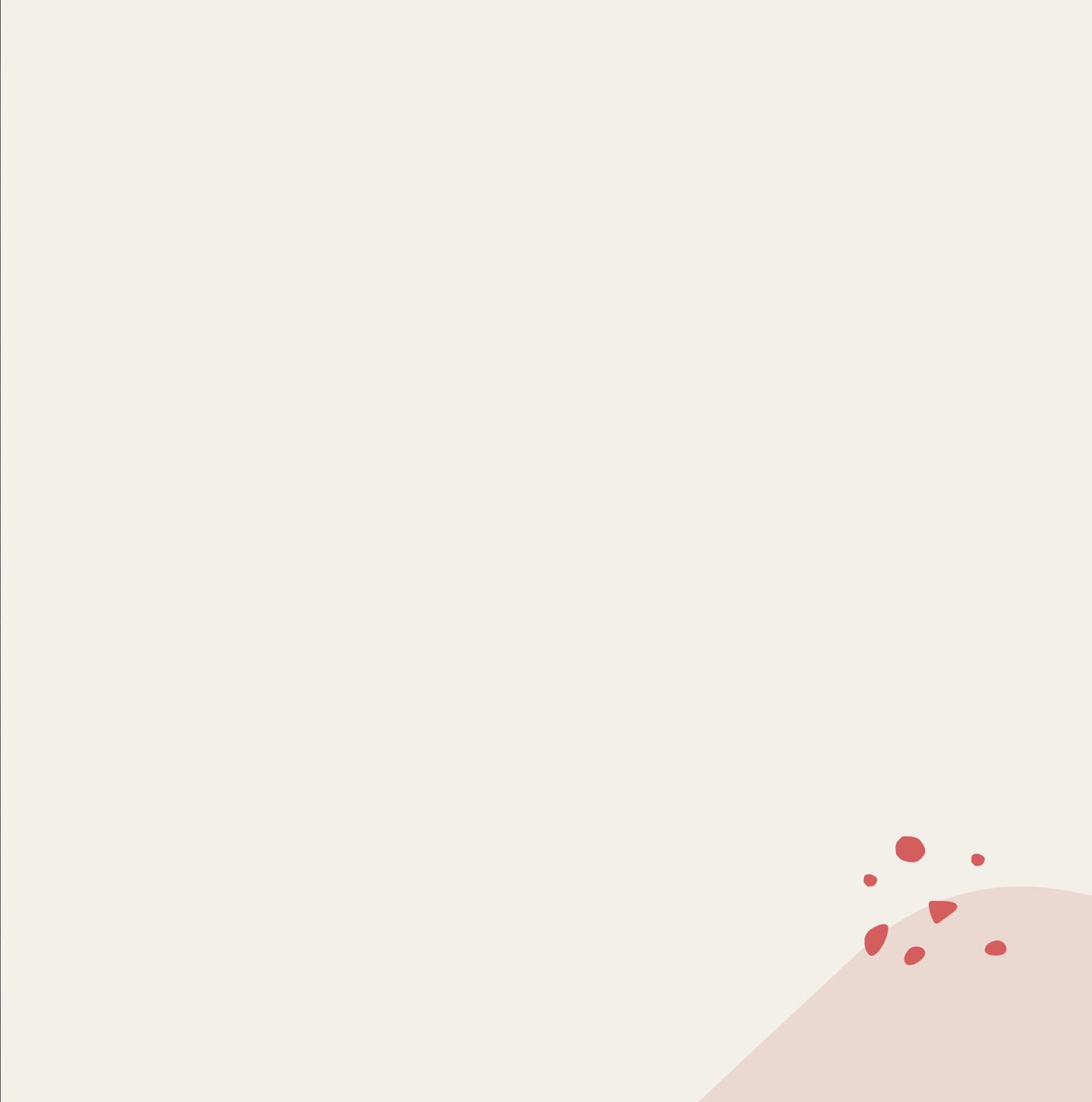
A spokesperson with RI Energy said they discovered “a couple of nests” on a transmission line at their Warren substation, which caused intermittent power outages throughout the day for those living in the area.

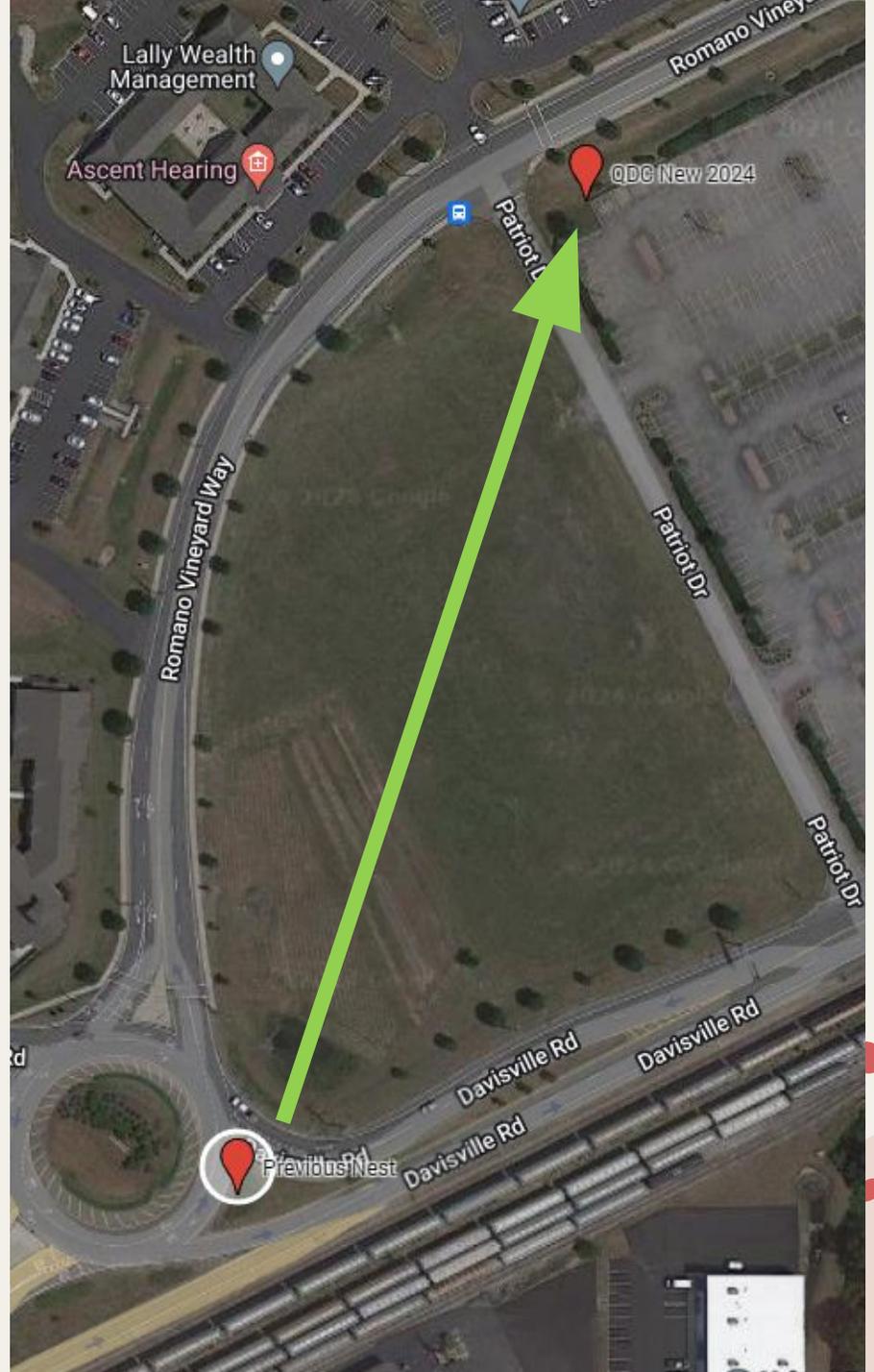
[| LIVE UPDATES: Power Outage Tracker >](#)

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Is DDT still being used to kill  
leaves



# *Monitoring – Observing Activity*

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# *Monitoring – Observing Activity*

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- Roosting / Resting



Photo by Christine Benson, 2023

# *Monitoring – Observing Activity*

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- Nest Building



Photo by Christine Benson, 2023

# *Monitoring – Observing Activity*

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- Male bringing food to female



<http://ospreys.weebly.com/index.html>

# *Monitoring – Observing Activity*

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- Copulation / Breeding



*Kim Smith*

Photo by Kim Smith, 2021

# *Monitoring – Observing Activity*

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- Incubation

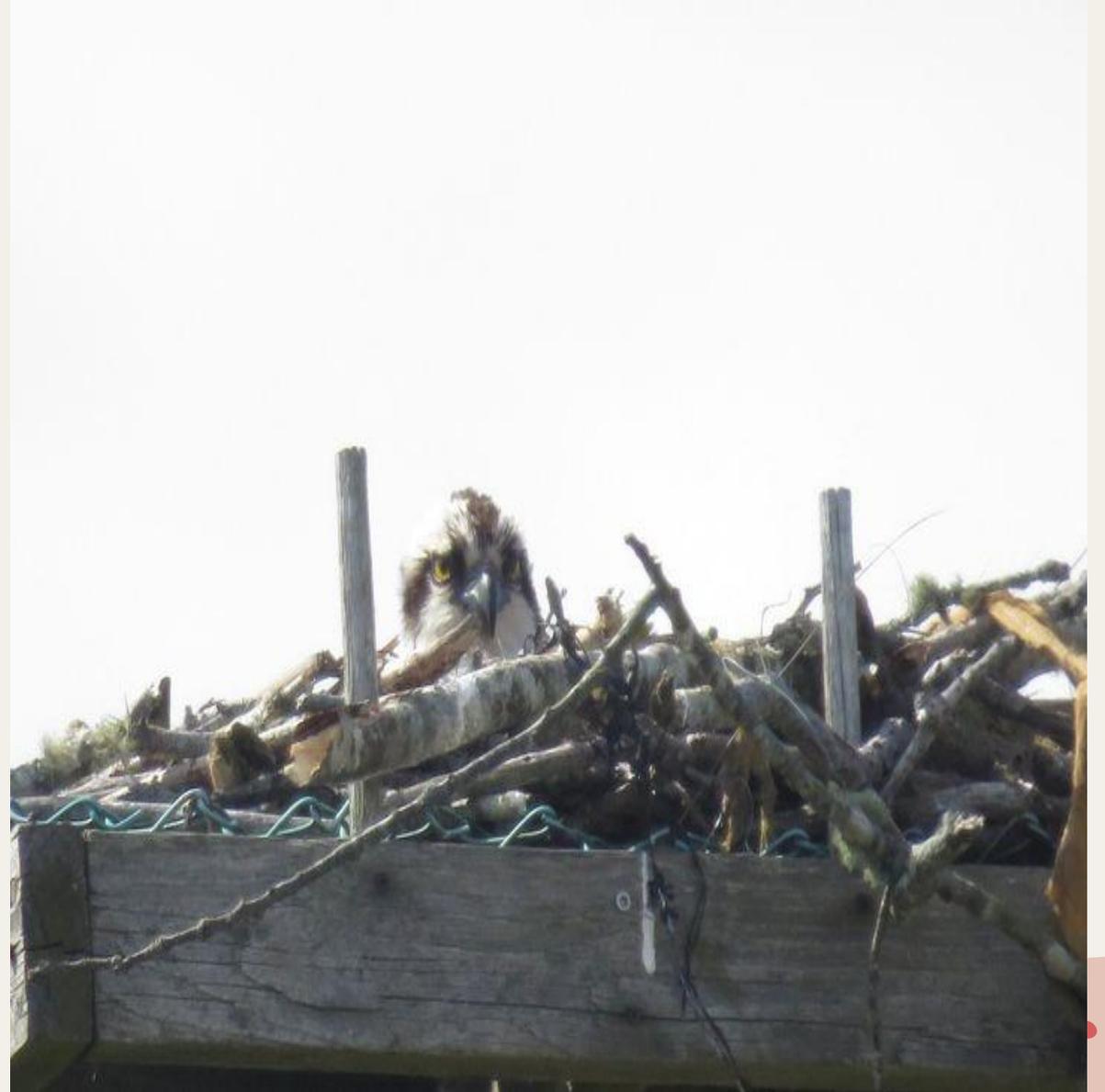


Photo by Maura Sheldon Bonafede, 2020

# *Monitoring – Observing Activity*

- Nestlings



Photo by Jim O'Neill, 2023

# *Monitoring – Observing Activity*

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- Fledglings



Photo by Bonnie Turano, 2022

# *Monitoring – Observing Activity*

- Adult Feeding Young



<https://www.friendsofblackwater.org/osprey-facts.html>

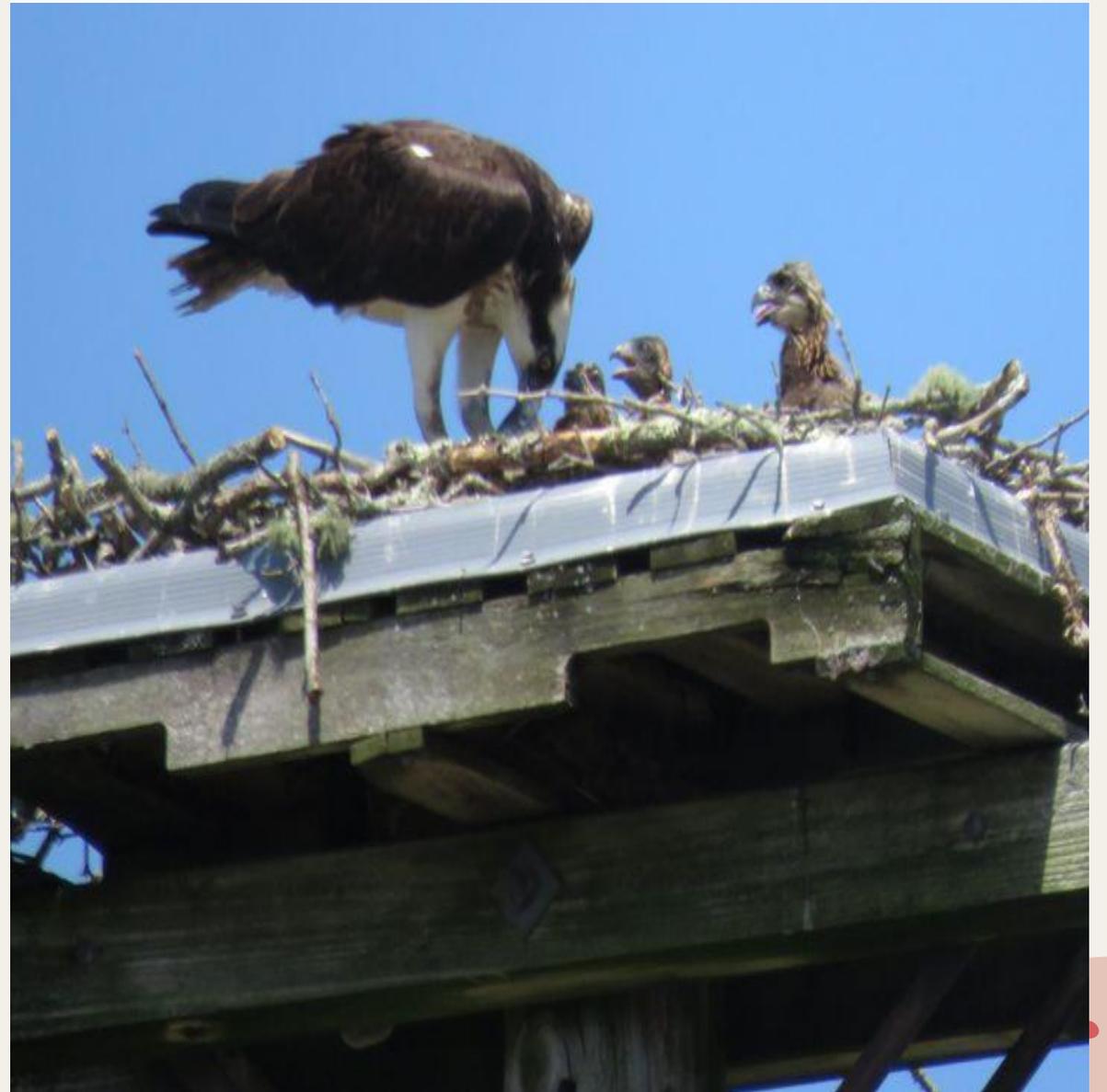


Photo by Maura Sheldon Bonafede, 2020

# *Submitting Nest Observations Online*

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# Rhode Island Osprey Monitoring Program

An Audubon Society of Rhode Island  
Community Science Program



Audubon Society  
of Rhode Island



[Home](#) [About the Project](#) [Submit Data](#) [Map of Osprey Nest Sites](#) [Report a New Nest](#)

## Osprey Monitoring Updates and Trainings

Posted on [January 16, 2024](#) by [Lincoln Dark - Audubon](#)

*I hope you are all staying warm on this snowy day! I am emailing you with some important program updates regarding the Osprey Monitoring Program. First, I am underway with preparing all of our spreadsheets and forms for data collection for the 2024 Osprey Monitoring season. Some of you have met with our great web-developer volunteers, Serena Entezary and Mary Lueder to share your thoughts and opinions on the program and how we can make it better than ever for this season. Serena, Mary, and I are working on updating our data submission methods and improving our web presence. I will share more updates as we go!*

*Second, registration for monitoring training sessions is now open! Below are registration links for each training session. You will only need to register for a single 90-minute training session. Also, given the changes to data submission, all monitors, regardless of experience, will need to register for a training session. It will also be greatly appreciated for experienced monitors to share their experiences with newer monitors during these sessions!*

*Registration Links:*

*2/10/2024 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM at Audubon's Education Center and Aquarium in Bristol,*

*RI: <https://asri.doubleknot.com/registration/calendardetail.aspx?>*

## Osprey Photos



**Warwick**  
May 2019, Photo by Claire G.

## Recent Posts

- [Osprey Monitoring Updates and Trainings](#)
- [Osprey Rescue Article.](#)
- [The Results are in!](#)
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## Informational Resources

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# *Submitting Nest Observations Online*

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Section 1 of 31

# Osprey Nest Observation Form

Please enter password under the login prompt to access the form.

**Login**  
Short answer text

After section 1 Continue to next section

Section 2 of 31

## Section title (optional)

Please enter data for one nest and one visit per form.

- + Add question
- 📄 Add section
- 🔍 Search
- 🖼️ Add image
- 📺 Add video
- ☰ Add grid

Questions Responses Settings

Please enter data for one nest and one visit per form.

**Monitor Name \***

Short answer text

**Date of Observation \***

Month, day, year

**Nest Town \***

1. Barrington
2. Block Island
3. Bristol
4. Charlestown
5. Coventry
6. Cranston
7. East Greenwich
8. East Providence

+  
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🔍  
🖼️  
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☰

Section 5 of 31

**Bristol**  
Description (optional)

- Nest Name \***
1. Audubon Center End of Boardwalk
  2. Audubon Center Mid Boardwalk
  3. Bristol Sports Complex
  4. Castle Rock (Formerly Bristol Harbor Rock)
  5. Colt State Park Mill Cove
  6. Colt State Park Mill Gut
  7. Colt State Park Mill Gut Peninsula
  8. Colt State Park Mill Gut Tree Nest
  9. Colt State Park Office Chimney
  10. Colt State Park Office Platform
  11. Columban Fathers (Private)
  12. Columban Fathers 2 (Private)

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Section 31 of 31

**Observation Data**  
Please enter data for one nest and one visit per form.

**Time Spent Observing Nest\***

- Less than 15 Minutes
- 15 - 30 Minutes
- 31 - 45 Minutes
- 46 - 60 Minutes
- Over 60 Minutes

**What is the nest status and are there ospreys present at or around the nest?\***

- There IS a nest, and there ARE osprey(s)
- There IS a nest, but NO ospreys
- There is NOT a nest, but there ARE osprey(s)
- There is NOT a nest, and NO ospreys

+  
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🎥  
☰

Did the ospreys engage in any breeding behaviors during this monitoring session? If yes, select which ones. If no, select "No breeding behaviors observed"

No breeding behaviors observed (may include resting / roosting)



Nest Building



Male Bringing Food to Female



Copulation/Breeding



Rich text editor toolbar with icons for adding, undo, redo, bold, italic, link, unlink, and list.

Nestlings have fledged

### Number of Nestlings Visible \*

An Osprey is considered a "nestling" when it has first hatched and lacks flight feathers, is brown in color, and considerably smaller than the adults.



- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
-

Questions Responses Settings

### Number of Fledglings Visible

A fledgling is a "grown-up" version of a nestling; these birds are still young, but are closer in size and coloration to the adults. However, fledglings often have spotted wings, unlike the sleek black wings of the adults. They also tend to have an orange-colored eye, while adults have a yellow-colored eye.



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Questions Responses Settings



0 1 2 3 4 5

Observation Details

Paragraph

Long answer text

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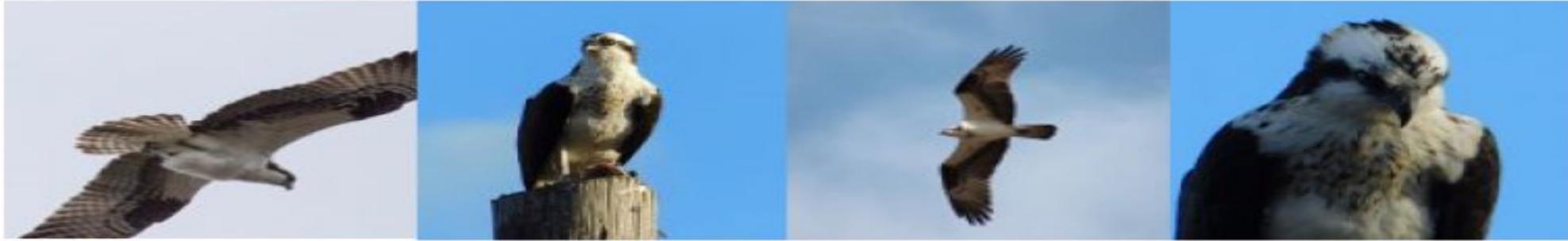
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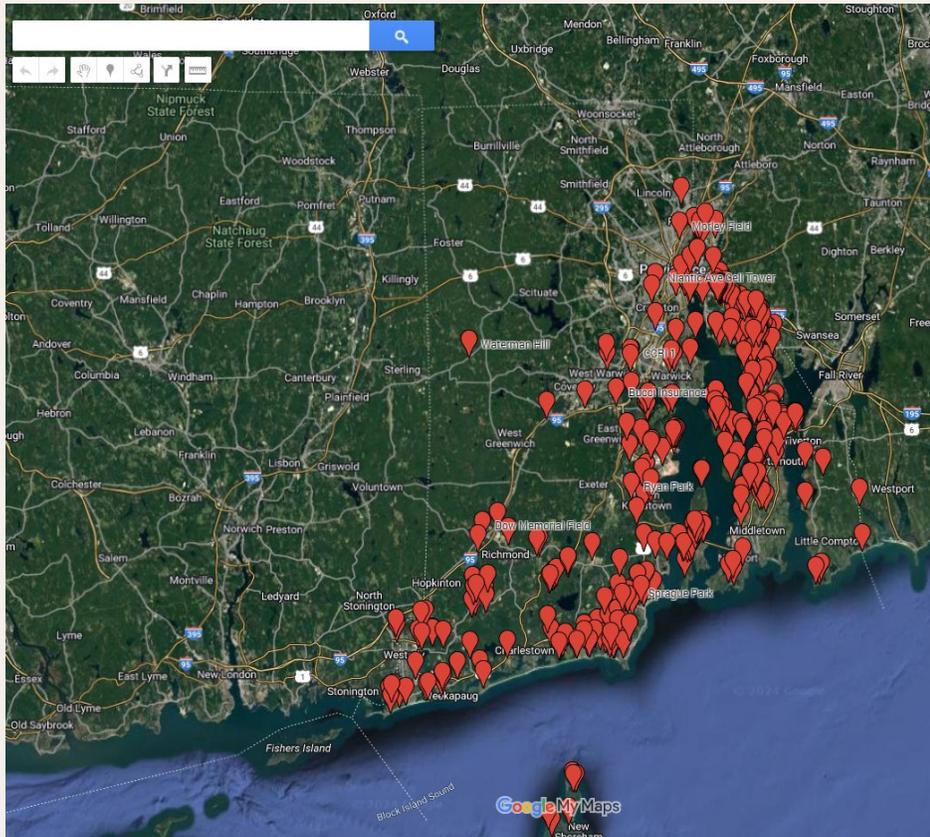
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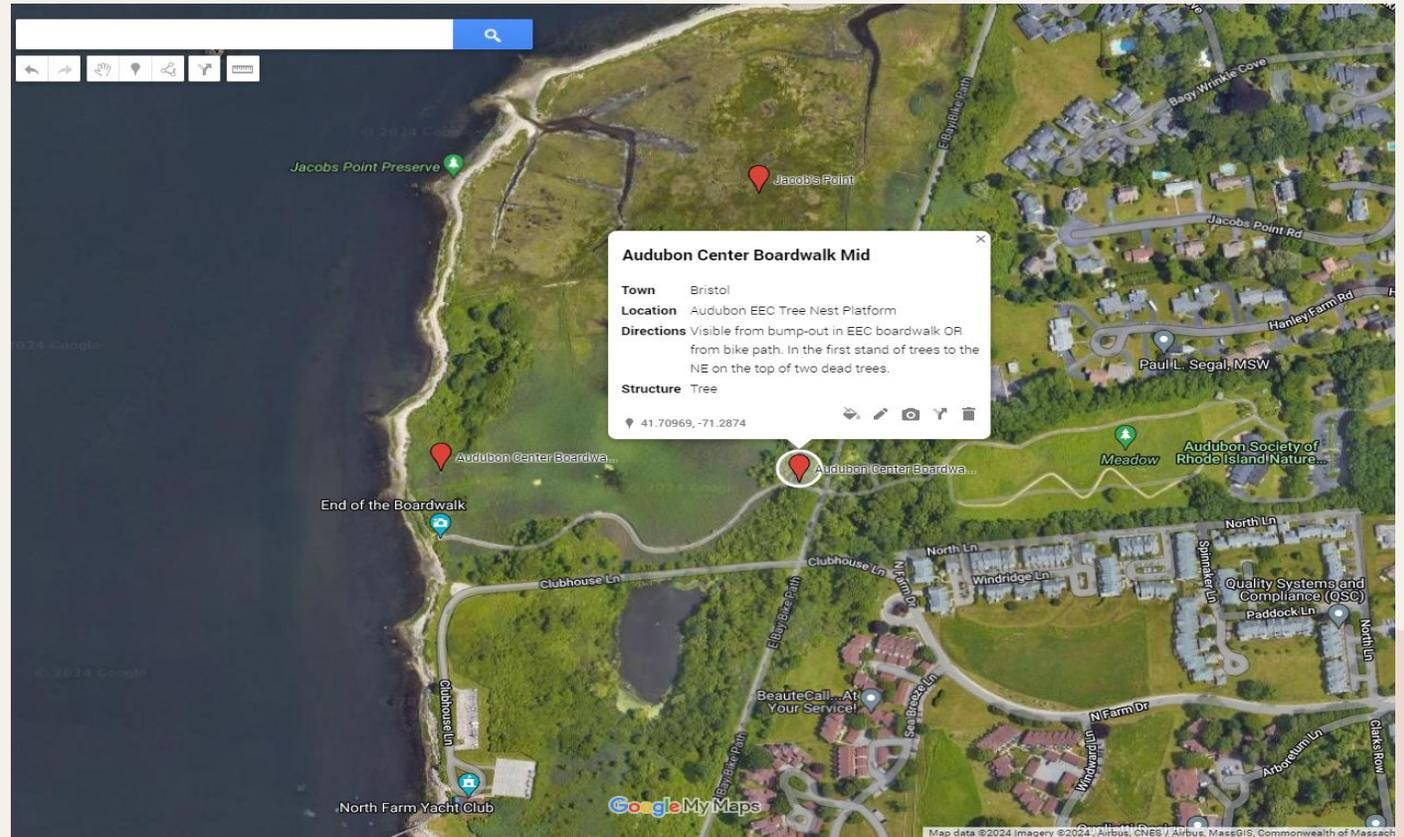
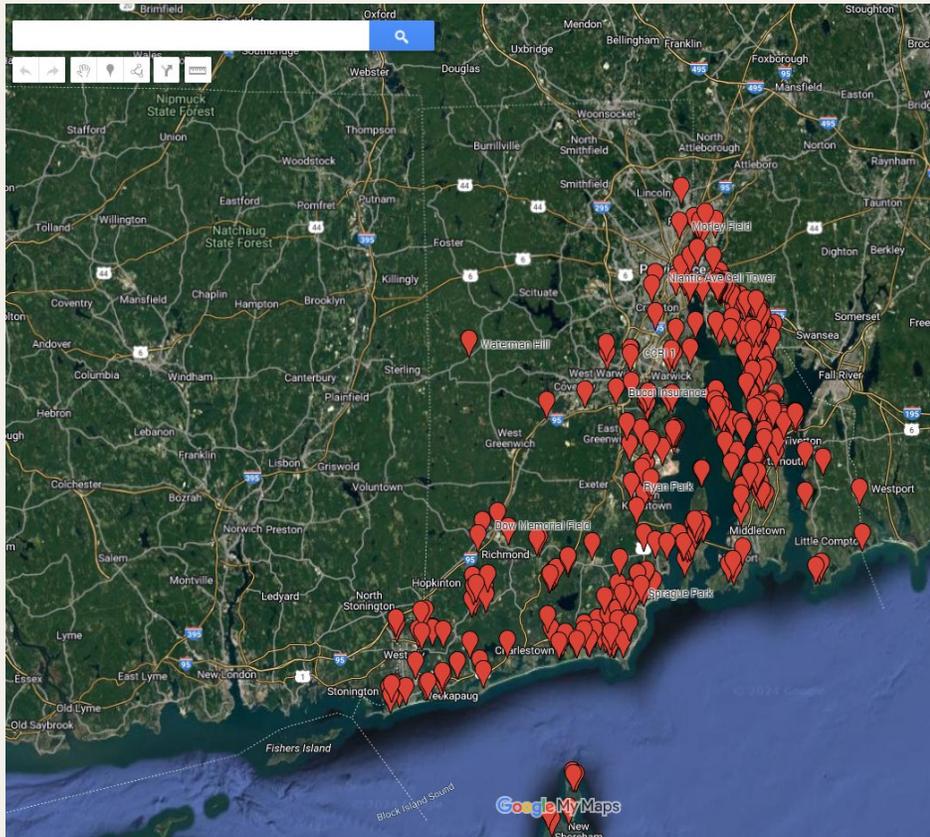
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# Monitoring – Nest Selection



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# *Questions / Open Discussion*

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