

## **Saving the Birds Requires Saving the Planet!**

The Audubon Society examined how predictions for climate change may affect birds of North America. They compared existing known ranges to predicted ranges for various scenarios of accelerating climate change. Audubon looked at more than 588 species of North American birds and determined that more than half are likely to be threatened. Of these, Audubon predicts that 314 species will lose more than 50 percent of their current range by 2080.

For Iowa and Illinois, Audubon has identified 44 species that stand to lose more than 50% of their summer habitat range in the next 30 – 60 years if factors affecting climate change are not reduced. A list of these species follows. For more information, see [Climate.Audubon.org](http://Climate.Audubon.org).

Trumpeter Swan	Merlin
Scarlet Tanager	Ring-necked Duck
Gadwall	Horned Grebe
Hooded Merganser	American Redstart
Purple Finch	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Northern Harrier	Willow Flycatcher
Redhead	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Wood Thrush	Bobolink
Double-crested Cormorant	Bufflehead
Bank Swallow	White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown Creeper	Hairy Woodpecker
Mallard	Northern Shoveler
Hermit Thrush	Bald Eagle
White-throated Sparrow	Vesper Sparrow
Yellow-throated Vireo	Common Merganser
American Kestrel	Ring-billed Gull
Wood Duck	Sedge Wren
Golden-Crowned Kinglet	Swamp Sparrow
American Widgeon	Lesser Scaup
American Black Duck	Blue-winged Teal
Tree Sparrow	Common Goldeneye
Pine Siskin	Rusty Blackbird

Can we do anything to help? [Climate.Audubon.org](http://Climate.Audubon.org) lists five critical areas where we can all help with protecting our earth and our birds that live here.

1. Get talking - Share with friends and neighbors how birds are threatened by climate change and that many species may not survive to see the next century.
2. Be active - Share the importance of birds and the protection of their habitats in your community by participating in organized activities, writing letters of support to your newspapers and political leaders, work to protect area important to birds.
3. Home habitats - Make your yard, park, school grounds, or local acreages happy places for birds. Eliminate pesticides, allow dead trees to remain where possible, convert yards to native pollen-producing plants, install a bird bath, and hang a variety of bird feeders.
4. Promote emission-free energy. Check out solar opportunities available for individuals and for communities.

5. Reduce your own carbon footprint - Reuse, recycle, restore: Bring reusable bags to the grocery store and other shopping trips. Skip the bulky packaging. Use reusable water bottles and coffee mugs. Choose aluminum over plastic - aluminum is 100% recyclable whereas plastic downgrades when it gets recycled. Buy less, eat less beef and pork, walk and bike more, be the example!