



WESTERN CUYAHOGA AUDUBON SOCIETY

4310 Bush Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44109
Telephone: 216-741-2352
Website: www.wcasohio.org

May 2, 2007

Dear **New** IBA Observer,

Thank you for your willingness to participate as an observer for the Rocky River IBA project. The more accurate data we gather the better it will be for the statistical analyses to share with landholders regarding the conservation and management of habitats in the Rocky River watershed and ultimately, the protection of the plants, wildlife and waters.

The points sampled last year have been reflagged. This field season, additional points are being assessed in new areas ... stay tuned. The bulleted points below are just a sample of what is needed as an observer. To see further information such as the IBA observer's letter from 2006, IBA data sheet, and results from 2006 see the WCAS website, www.wcasohio.org and click on Rocky River IBA.

- Have the time to sample the 5 points, 3 times between the dates of May 25 and July 15, at least 6 days apart. Must be done in the morning before 10:30 AM.
- Using detailed maps and descriptions provided, locate the 5 points at which you will be taking your data.
- Work with a recorder to fill out the information on the data sheet and send data in.
- Identify the calls and songs of forest breeding birds.
- Estimate the distances of the songs and calls heard.
- Know where to get assistance if needed.

Consistency is important and we are here to help. We have scheduled a meeting on Sunday, May 20 at 1 PM to go over the details, as well as have field time as a "test" on the identification of songs and calls of forest breeding birds. Distance estimation will also be tested. The meeting will take place at the Rocky River Nature Center. We need to have everything done before May 25 so that we can get you your points.

Be proud that you are participating in a survey that will help protect habitat and birds. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Nancy Howell
216-231-4600 ext. 3225
nhowell@cmnh.org

Mary Anne Romito
216-741-2352
maryannetomromito@msn.com

Terri Martincic
440-759-8220
naturenut@wowway.com