

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

GRADUATE EXIT SEMINAR

LANA MILBERN

Habitat usage of breeding songbirds in urban Columbus, Ohio

Urbanization can have profound influences shaping patterns of songbird diversity. For many species urbanization poses considerable challenges yet for in many instances urban areas provide important habitat for songbirds, most notably riparian urban areas. With renewed interest to maintain functioning urban forests, understanding the interactions between songbirds and their urban environments is critical to making informed land management decisions. My research addresses habitat usage of breeding urban songbirds in Columbus, Ohio, focusing on the relationship between urban songbird presence and behavior and the vegetation in urban riparian forests. Previous songbird studies have been conducted in the Columbus metropolitan area since 2001 and have focused primarily on the impacts of urbanization on abundance, nesting, and survival. However, songbird breeding territory densities and foraging behavior have yet to be examined. My goals for this study were to elucidate potential correlations between songbird territory density and structural vegetative characteristics in urban forests and to investigate the foraging strategies of urban songbirds.

Advisor: Stephen Matthews

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020 1:00 P.M.

Join the seminar via Zoom: https://osu.zoom.us/j/397725424

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