

In honor of another spring season of bird activity, this month's newsletter is a special edition all about creating **Forests for the Birds**. This newsletter highlights some of the stunning birds that live within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed like the eastern whippoorwill, sharp-shinned hawk, and cerulean warbler. Read on for four special articles written by Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay staff featuring these birds and how to support them.

## "Egg-sighting" Stories



### A Sharp Encounter

Sharp-shinned hawks dwell within forest interiors and close encounters with these "pursuit hawks" can leave a memorable impression. Using their small size and mobility to capture prey, sharp-shinned hawks are formidable predators in Chesapeake Bay Watershed forests.

[Read the Full Story](#)



### Why So Blue? The Plight of the Cerulean Warbler

Large old canopy trees are an essential habitat requirement for birds like the cerulean warbler; these neo-tropical migrants travel thousands of miles just to return to these rapidly disappearing conditions in our local watershed.

[Read the Full Story](#)



### Beneficial Trees for Birds, Your Appetite, and Your Creative Side

American persimmon, wild American plum, common serviceberry, black chokeberry, eastern redcedar, and red-osier dogwood all provide our local bird populations with food and shelter. These trees and shrubs can also be used by humans for consumption and other projects!

[Read the Full Story](#)



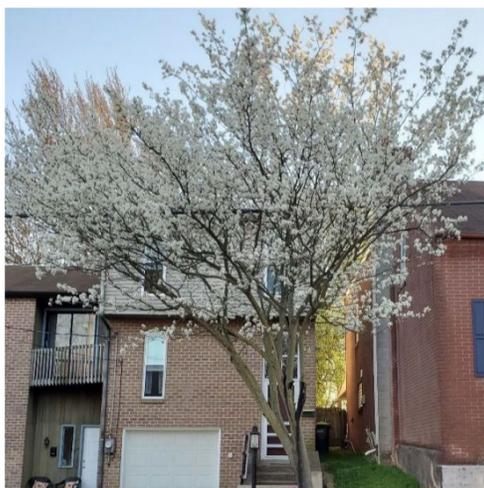
### Longer than the Song of the Whippoorwill

Nocturnal birds, like the eastern whippoorwill, have unique physical features that allow them to feed and fly at night. Hearing the whippoorwill's call means you are in a unique forested habitat that provides proper cover, nesting, and food resources.

[Read the Full Story](#)

Looking for additional information about the birds of our Chesapeake Bay Watershed? Check out the [Forests for the Birds landing page](#).

## Trivia



### April Trivia Reveal

American serviceberry (*Amelanchier canadensis*), a wonderful spring-flowering tree, is commonly found in the understories of northeastern forests. Its white blooms are a signal that spring has arrived; it is also called shadbush as its blooms correspond with the spawning migration of shad within some of our local rivers. As pictured, it can also be used as a street tree and serves as the preferred alternative to the highly invasive Bradford pear. The purple-red pome of the serviceberry appears around June, earning it another common name of Juneberry. This fruit is loved by many bird species including the cedar waxwing and gray catbird. The most widely used common name, serviceberry, is rumored to have originated from European settlers' use of the tree's springtime blooms to signal that the ground would be soft enough for graves to be dug and funeral services could resume.

[Congrats to Forests for the Bay member T. Gliem for the correct answer!]

Look for the next trivia question in the June newsletter!