

## Adopt-a-Hawk

This program is a way in which one can contribute to the raptor banding and research efforts of BBRR, and receive a special gift in return. Adopt a species of raptor from BBRR and receive a certificate with a photo and information about a specific bird that was captured and banded at Braddock Bay. If the bird is ever recovered, an update will be sent on the status of that bird. Sponsorships are available year round.

### Species available for sponsorship:

◇ Sharp-shinned Hawk	\$20
◇ American Kestrel	\$20
◇ Cooper's Hawk	\$25
◇ Northern Saw-Whet Owl	\$25
◇ Red-Tailed Hawk	\$30
◇ Rough-legged Hawk	\$30
◇ Red-Shouldered Hawk	\$30
◇ Merlin	\$30
◇ Broad-winged Hawk	\$35
◇ Northern Goshawk	\$35

Recipient Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Recipient Address: \_\_\_\_\_

This sponsorship is a gift from: \_\_\_\_\_

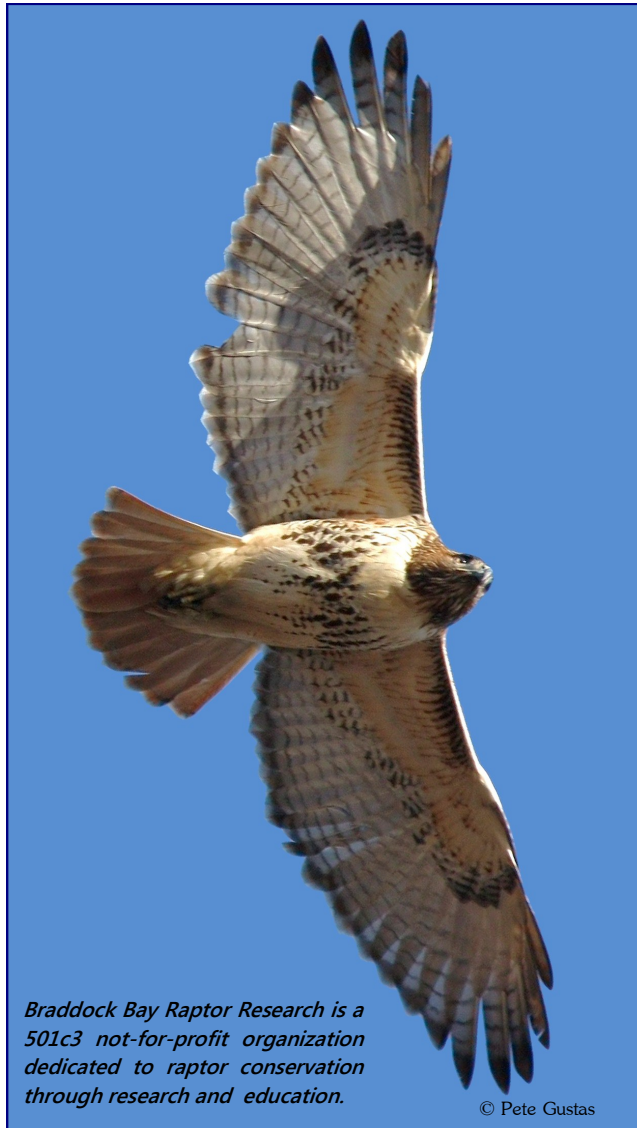
Please check off the specie(s) you would like to adopt, then include the name and address of the recipient, and a check made out to:

Braddock Bay Raptor Research  
Adopt-A-Hawk Program  
43 Overland Trail  
West Henrietta, NY 14586

Or Visit us on-line at [www.bbrr.org](http://www.bbrr.org).

# BRADDOCK BAY

## RAPTOR RESEARCH



*Braddock Bay Raptor Research is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to raptor conservation through research and education.*

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West Henrietta, NY 14586

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Website: [www.bbrr.org](http://www.bbrr.org)

## About Braddock Bay Raptor Research

Braddock Bay is a bird migration "hot spot" located on the southern shore of Lake Ontario just northwest of Rochester, New York. Millions of birds migrate through the area every spring as they head north to their breeding grounds.

Braddock Bay Raptor Research (BBRR), an all volunteer organization, has been in existence since 1986 working towards preserving the area's natural resources by focusing research and education activities on the spectacular raptor migration. Research at Braddock Bay focuses on a range of topics important to conservation efforts, including the daily and seasonal distribution of raptors according to species, age and sex, and the behavior of raptors in migration. Educational programs are offered throughout the year and aim to expose people to the wonderful world of raptors through field experiences as well as off site visits.



Northern Saw-whet Owls are a regular migrant visitor to Braddock Bay.

### How to Get to Braddock Bay:

#### **The Hawkwatch at Braddock Bay Park**

##### *From the South*

Take route 390 north to the Lake Ontario State Parkway. Travel west on the parkway to the **2nd exit** for East Manitou Road/Braddock Bay Park. Turn right onto East Manitou Road. The entrance to Braddock Bay Park is the first left.

#### **The Main Raptor Banding Station & Owl Migration Trail on Manitou Beach Road**

##### *From the South*

Take route 390 north to the Lake Ontario State Parkway. Travel west on the parkway to the **3rd exit** for Manitou Beach Road. Turn right onto Manitou Beach Road. Immediately on your right there is a small parking lot (park here). The trail head for the Owl Trail and path to Main Banding Station is across the road from this parking lot.

# BBRR Activities

## Braddock Bay Hawkwatch

A spring hawk count has been conducted at Braddock Bay since 1977. Currently the count is conducted by an experienced hawk counter from March through May. Daily counts (including hourly totals) are submitted to the Hawk Migration Association of North America (HMANA), an organization that maintains the data of members throughout North America. Daily totals from the hawkwatch can be found by following the link to this database from our website [www.bbrr.org](http://www.bbrr.org). To see how hawk watch data has been put to use for analyzing the status of raptor populations, visit the Raptor Population Index at <http://rpi-project.org/>.

The hawk counts conducted at Braddock Bay number in the thousands with the highest recorded count of over 140,000 raptors in 1996.



Broad-winged Hawks are our most common migrating hawk.

With such impressive numbers of raptors passing through this area, migration is certainly an exciting time. Visitors are always welcome at the hawk watch platform which is easily accessible at Braddock Bay Park. The platform provides an ideal location for hawk watching at any skill level and includes some identification tools for watchers just starting out.

## Raptor Banding

Each year licensed banders safely capture and release raptors, including hawks and owls, at Braddock Bay. During their short time in captivity valuable biological data is collected from each bird. Before release, each bird is fitted with an aluminum leg band containing a unique identification number. All data is submitted to the Federal Bird Banding Laboratory in Maryland. If a banded bird is later recovered, the number on the band can be reported to the Bird Banding Laboratory by calling 1-800-327-BAND. In return, the caller will receive all of the recorded information about the bird.

Hawk banding operations at Braddock Bay are conducted from March through May and again in August. Visitors are always welcome at the main banding station, even without an appointment or invitation. We only ask that visitors follow banding station etiquette. Please yell "clear" at the designated location along the trail before entering the blind. Then wait to be invited into the blind by the bander once there is no chance of interrupting a capture. We also request reservations for larger groups who wish to visit the banding station.

Owl Banding operations are conducted during a slightly smaller window of time from late March through early May. Rather than capturing owls from a wildlife blind, they are captured using mist nets. Both Northern Saw-whet Owls and Long-eared Owls are banded here.

## Education

For individuals or groups interested in learning from skilled volunteer interpreters, a number of education programs are available. BBRR volunteers are dedicated to teaching the public about raptors and their roles and importance in our environment. Educational programs are regularly offered for audiences of all ages and cover a variety of topics including natural history, adaptations, migration and conservation.

Each spring BBRR offers field programs including Owl Prowls, Banding Station Tours and Hawkwatch Interpretation. Our biggest annual event, *Bird of Prey Days*, happens at the peak of migration towards the end of April. Various other public programs are offered throughout the year. Check our website for a current schedule. Group tours and programs are also offered to schools, scouts and any other organization wishing to learn about raptors and Braddock Bay. Contact us to find out more.



Visitors watch as a banded Cooper's Hawk is prepared for release.

# Support BBRR

## Become a Member

Help support all research, conservation and education efforts of BBRR by becoming a member today. Members receive a subscription to our newsletter "*Inside the Kettle*" and will be notified of upcoming events. Memberships also make great gifts for anyone interested in raptor conservation.

### Membership Levels:

◇ American Kestrel (Individual)	\$15
◇ Cooper's Hawk (Family)	\$30
◇ Northern Harrier	\$50
◇ Red-tailed Hawk	\$100
◇ Bald Eagle—Life	\$500

Please check the appropriate membership category and fill out the following information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send my newsletter via e-mail.

Contributions are tax deductible.

Send check and membership form to:

Braddock Bay Raptor Research  
43 Overland Trail  
West Henrietta, NY 14586

Or

Pay for your membership on-line with Pay Pal at [www.bbrr.org](http://www.bbrr.org).