

## Volunteers Needed for Lorain County Bluebird Program

Black River Audubon Society Bluebird Program is in need of volunteers who are interested in helping with our very active bluebird program.

1. **Bluebird trail monitors.** There are several bluebird trails in Lorain County that will need someone to monitor them next year. This is an amazing and very rewarding volunteer opportunity – you will be making a real difference in the success of nesting bluebirds and other native cavity nesters. **We need monitors next year for people who live near our bluebird trails in Oberlin and Elyria.**

Being a trail monitor involves attending a 2 hour instructional program in Jan/ Feb to learn how to monitor bluebird boxes. Then starting in April through the end of July you would be driving to your assigned bluebird trail at least once weekly (total of 16-20 visits) in order to check and record any nesting activities in each box. Usually a trail monitor can complete checking all the boxes on their trail in approx. an hour. Mentoring is available as desired or needed.

2. **Bluebird nest box and trail maintenance.** Our bluebird program has over 450 bluebird boxes throughout Lorain County. The maintenance program involves periodic replacement or repair of nest boxes, relocation to different sites, adding or replacing predator guards, plus occasional weed and brush control around nest box poles. This volunteer work is intermittent and most of the work occurs in early spring or fall.

**If you have an interest in helping with bluebird conservation and would like to volunteer in any of the above areas please call or email the Bluebird Program Coordinators Fritz and Penny Brandau at 440-670-3684 or email at [pennybrandau@gmail.com](mailto:pennybrandau@gmail.com). Please visit [www.blackriveraudubon.org](http://www.blackriveraudubon.org) for more information about volunteering, programs or becoming a member.**