

## **Augusta-Aiken Audubon Society Walker Conservation Grant**

**Grant Overview:** The mission of Augusta-Aiken Audubon Society (AAAS) is to educate the public about birds, wildlife, habitat, and to provide opportunities for our community to appreciate the natural world around us. Alice and Doug Walker, who both passed away in 2024, were dedicated and passionate board members that were involved with Augusta-Aiken for many years. We are excited to offer an annual conservation grant in their honor to help grassroots efforts that align with our mission. This includes individuals or groups wishing to conduct local scientific research, bird or habitat monitoring, habitat improvement, and/or environmental education.

**Application Period:** Grants will be awarded twice per year. The deadline for spring applications is February 28 and the deadline for fall applications is July 31. Grantees will be announced by March 15 and August 15.

**Grant amount:** up to \$500

**Eligible Applicants:** Any individual or group wishing to conduct bird-related research, habitat improvement projects, environmental education/outreach, or community engagement within the Central Savannah River Area, with a particular interest in projects occurring in Augusta or Aiken.

**Grantee Requirements:** If awarded, grantees must complete a write-up of their project that can be shared on our website and on social media. Grantees will be required to provide a summary or short presentation upon completion of their project during one of our bi-monthly meetings (either virtually or in-person).

**Application and Instructions:** Please review the rubric below before submitting your application. Reviewers will use this rubric to score all applications. Applicants must submit the following:

- (1) A project narrative that includes a description of the project, its importance to the environment and/or the community, and a list of measurable outcomes and how they will be achieved.
- (2) A paragraph describing your organization, or if an individual is applying, a description of relevant background experience.
- (3) An itemized budget. No match funding is required, but please include if applicable.

Please submit your materials to **[heather@augustaaikenaudubon.org](mailto:heather@augustaaikenaudubon.org)**.

## Walker Conservation Grant Application Rubric

[For internal use]

**Applicant's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Fill in the Score column for each Category to evaluate how the application addresses the corresponding Description. Note that some descriptions have an OR stipulation such that fulfilling either criterion merits full marks.

Category	Description	Score
Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Application aligns with Augusta-Audubon Society mission statement.</li></ul>	/15
Project Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Research or monitoring efforts contribute to greater body of knowledge.</li></ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Project focuses on effective community education or outreach.</li></ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Project addresses conservation need within the community.</li></ul>	/15
Measurable Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Application clearly outlines objectives and how they will be measured.</li></ul>	/15
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The project can be feasibly conducted given the funding and timeline.</li></ul>	/15
Bonus Points (award one point per item)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Project has the potential for a future AAAS partnership</li><li>Project has the potential for a future AAAS speaker</li><li>Project reaches underrepresented communities</li><li>Project has a multidisciplinary approach that combines at least two of the following: research, monitoring, outreach/ education</li></ul>	/5