



ANGUILLA NATIONAL TRUST

Preservation For Generations

Press Release

Anguilla Joins the Caribbean-Wide Endemic Bird Festival

On 22 April, the Anguilla National Trust joined conservation organisations throughout the Caribbean as they launched a month-long celebration of the unique birds found in the region.

The Caribbean Endemic Bird Festival (CEBF), coordinated by the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds (SCSCB), runs from 22 April (Earth Day) to 22 May (International Biodiversity Day). Over the last four years, over 20 000 people have participated directly in the CEBF, while thousands of others have learned about the bird life and overall biodiversity of the Caribbean through regional media houses.

In Anguilla, the Anguilla National Trust has organised a series of activities to mark this important event. Activities include a wetland bird count of all 25 of the island's saltponds, a public bird watching tour of Road Pond, and a photo exhibit at the Trust office of some of the birds found in Anguilla.

The Festival was established to celebrate the diversity and beauty of bird life found throughout the Caribbean. It highlights the fact that the region is one of the top three areas on the planet in terms of biodiversity – primarily because of the high number of plant and animal species that are found here and nowhere else in the world. Unfortunately, despite the area's importance, widespread destruction of key feeding and nesting habitats has made the birds of the Caribbean more threatened today than ever before.

As the Trust works to conserve and preserve Anguilla's natural heritage, including those resources and areas on which birds of this island depend, it is hoped that Anguillians and visitors alike will participate in the Festival. To learn more about Anguilla's beautiful natural environment, its birds, or the CEBF, more information can be found at the Trust office in The Valley or by calling 497 5297.

About the Anguilla National Trust

The Anguilla National Trust was established in 1993 to act as custodian of Anguilla's heritage, preserving and promoting the island's natural environment and its archaeological, historical and cultural resources for present and future generations. It is in the business of ensuring the sustainability of Anguilla's heritage. The ANT is a dynamic people-centred organisation working in collaboration with public and private sector entities to manage Anguilla's natural social and cultural heritage.

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