

Orange Audubon, a Central Florida chapter of the National Audubon Society, has begun work on a nature center and birding park at the entrance to the popular Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive. The restoration project and long-term lease agreement with the City of Apopka was announced in March 2024 by the City. Orange Audubon will convert an existing building into a lowcarbon, sustainability-focused educational visitor's center with surrounding habitat of native plants, birdwatching observation sites, and walking trails.

The architectural firm Little Diversified Architectural Consulting has designed a state-of-the-art, energy-efficient building. Originally 2400 square feet, it will be expanded to 3400 square feet and will cost approximately \$1.8 million. Orange Audubon hopes to begin construction in 2026. We need your help with volunteer manpower, ideas, and funding.





Some specific needs are:

\$350,000 for Birding Observatory with direct views into the east bird habitats

\$250,000 for flexible educational classroom and meeting space

\$100,000 for the solar array (or donate for individual panels - \$500 each)

\$100,000 for exterior birding porches / \$45,000 for educational displays / \$20,000 for fencing

\$10,000 for water cisterns, \$7,500 for a water feature

Smaller donations for native plants, bird feeding stations, a chimney swift tower, bat houses, Purple Martin house, raptor poles, benches, bird blinds and gardening/mowing tools

Please email info@orangeaudubonfl.org or call 407-637-2525 to begin the conversation. Your gift will be prominently recognized. Thank you!

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