



## Growing Wisconsin's Bluebird Population

Wisconsin's bluebird population has rebounded thanks to decades of community science, careful habitat management, and thousands of dedicated volunteers. BRAW collects and analyzes nesting data from across the state to understand trends, identify challenges, and guide conservation strategies that help bluebirds thrive.

### Community Science Program

BRAW's community science network is one of the strongest in the country. Volunteers across Wisconsin:

- Monitor nest boxes weekly
- Record eggs, hatchlings, and fledglings
- Report data using standardized forms
- Help track long-term population trends

This shared effort creates a powerful statewide dataset that drives real conservation impact.

### Annual Nesting Data

Each year, BRAW compiles thousands of nesting records to understand how bluebirds are doing across Wisconsin. Data helps identify:

- **Fledgling success rates**
- **Seasonal patterns** in nesting activity
- **Regional differences** in productivity
- **Impacts of predators, weather, and habitat**

These insights help volunteers and landowners make informed decisions that support healthy bluebird populations.

### Research & Conservation Insights

Long-term data reveals important patterns that shape BRAW's conservation strategies:

- **Habitat quality** strongly influences nesting success
- **Predator pressure** varies by region and box placement
- **Weather extremes** can affect food availability and chick survival

- **Competition from invasive species** remains a significant challenge

By understanding these factors, BRAW can recommend best practices that improve outcomes statewide.

## **How the Public Can Help**

Everyone can play a role in supporting Wisconsin's bluebirds. You can:

- Install and maintain a nest box
- Monitor a bluebird trail
- Submit nesting data to BRAW
- Create bluebird-friendly habitat
- Share conservation information with your community

Small actions add up to big results when thousands of people participate.

## **Resources & Downloads**

- Annual nesting summaries
- Statewide data reports
- Community science participation guide
- Monitoring and reporting instructions