How YOU Can Help

Play a significant role in this important conservation effort by adopting a nestbox today.

All adoptions receive an official certificate, magnet and annual newsletter.

$50 *Children 12 and under*
- Engage a young conservationist or nature-lover.
- Small gift included.

$100
- Supports annual upkeep and monitoring of nestboxes.

$500
- Supports annual cost of new or replacement kestrel nestboxes.
- Nestbox visit offered in June.

$1000
- Supports cost of banding materials and staff time to monitor and band nestlings at two weeks of age.
- Nestbox visit and bagged lunch offered in June.

$5000
- Supports all of the above, plus Hawk Mountain research team conducting data analysis.
- Private nestbox visit, lunch, and program for donor and 9 guests.

Adopt a Kestrel Nestbox

Fax or mail to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary.

I/we would like to adopt a kestrel nestbox:

❑ $50 ❑ $100 ❑ $500 ❑ $1,000 ❑ $5,000

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

I/we would like to adopt a kestrel nestbox as a gift for:

❑ $50 ❑ $100 ❑ $500 ❑ $1,000 ❑ $5,000

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Relationship to recipient _____

Gift Occasion _____

Additional gift of $_____ is enclosed

Send adoption package to: ❑ Me ❑ gift recipient

Payment by:

❑ Check (made payable to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary)

❑ Mastercard ❑ Visa ❑ Discover

Account # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Total Enclosed $ _____

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association
1700 Hawk Mountain Road
Kempton, PA 19529-9379
Office: 610-756-6961
www.hawkmountain.org

HAWK MOUNTAIN

Adopt a Kestrel Nestbox

Help Sponsor a Hawk Mountain Kestrel Study

Hawk Mountain has been studying the breeding, wintering, and migratory habits of American kestrels for more than 50 years. This small falcon is an excellent bioindicator of ecosystem health and is helping us learn more about how farmland habitats function. Unfortunately, kestrel numbers are declining so Hawk Mountain is working to understand reasons for the decline.

Human-altered habitats often eliminate the trees and snags that provide natural cavities for nesting birds. Artificial nestboxes can provide much-needed "nurseries" that are used by American kestrels. When nestboxes are made available, the local population of kestrels usually grows.

More than 120 kestrel nestboxes have been placed within a 25-mile radius of Hawk Mountain. Each year, the nestboxes are cleaned and monitored for signs of nesting activity. When nestlings are about two weeks old, they are sexed, banded, and counted as a measure of kestrel nesting success.

HAWK MOUNTAIN

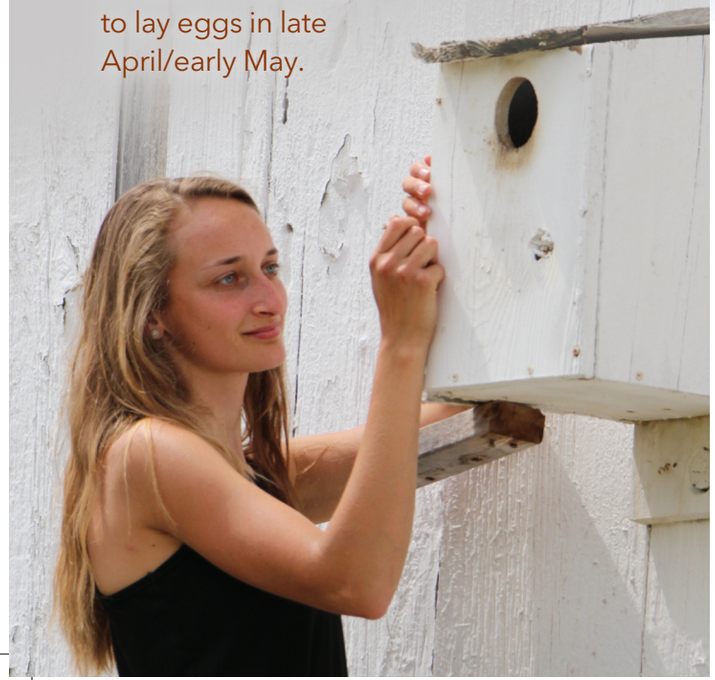
Hawk Mountain leads research and monitoring efforts, sharing the information with kestrel biologists from Canada and across the United States.

Hawk Mountain biologists report that, although once common across farmlands and fields, kestrel populations have been declining since the mid 1980's.

Alarmed by the sharp and steady decrease in populations, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary designed a campaign to educate rural landowners on the importance of nestbox placement. Since 2004, the Sanctuary has distributed more than 20,000 copies of nextbox-building instructions.

In addition to the Nestbox Program, a long term study of the overall annual life cycle of kestrels is now yielding insights into their population dynamics.

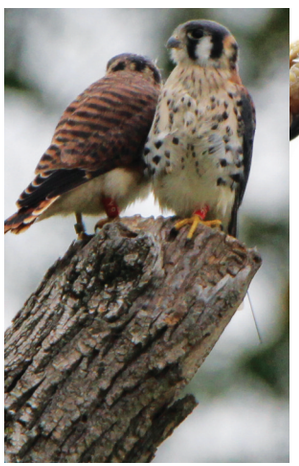
Kestrels nest in a tree cavity or nestbox and settle to lay eggs in late April/early May.



Kestrels are about the size of a blue-jay, and live in open fields, meadows, wetlands, and forest edges in urban and suburban settings. They often perch on powerlines along roads.

Chicks hatch after 28 days of incubation and fledge at about 28 days old. Hawk Mountain's biologists use color bands to monitor individuals.

Males are more brightly colored than females with blue-grey wings and have a large dark band on tail. Females show overall rufous color with dark spots and bands on the back.



With their beautiful slate blue and rufous plumage and signature sideburns, kestrels are unmistakable.