

CONSERVATION

BEV SILKWOOD

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Bev Ferguson

Recycle Montana: \$250 was given to Recycle Montana to purchase an educational trunk for teachers in School District #2 to use with their conservation/recycling units. Another \$240 was given to purchase reusable produce bags to be given to club members and \$10 was given as a donation.

Zoo Montana: \$1000 was donated to Zoo Montana in order to adopt the grizzly bear and bald eagle.

Montana Audubon Center: \$1000 was donated to Montana Audubon Center for scholarships to be given to girls for educational summer programs.

Billings Parks and Recreation: 3 members participated in Billings Parks and Recreation Arbor Day Celebration at Optimist Park. We volunteered with scraping bleachers to get them ready for fresh paint and digging holes for planting trees. There were 500plus fourth graders and 23 stations for them to visit. Our committee donated \$250 in 2017 for this event.

WJH Bird Resources: \$250 was donated to WJH - a non- profit facility devoted to rehabilitating and breeding scarce and endangered waterfowl along with educational and conservation awareness.

Billings Climate Change Committee: one member spent 8 hours collecting trash along Blue Creek Road.

***Ronald McDonald House:** ensures that children have access to quality health care and their families are able to better comfort and support them. Members saved 5 gallons of pop-tops to donate to their cause.

Summer University Events:

Several GFWC members met for summer university opportunities organized by the Conservation Committee. The first was at Shiloh Conservation Area on August 7th where we strolled around looking for birds and reading the signs about the importance of wetlands.

The Bat Night Hike was on August 17th at the Montana Audubon Center.

A bat expert from Fish Wildlife and Parks gave a presentation, then we walked around the Center with special acoustical equipment to find bats. It was a windy night, and we didn't see any, but there's always next year.