

# Alton Audubon Eagle Ice Festival

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On Saturday, 2 January 2021, the Rivers Project Office and National Great Rivers Museum in partnership with the Audubon Center at Riverlands and Great Rivers & Routes hosted the Annual Alton Audubon Eagle Ice Festival.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was held virtually, but still provided ample opportunities to learn about eagles. Activities included meet and greets with Liberty, a live bald eagle from the World Bird Sanctuary, eagle crafts, an eagle watching panel which included guest speakers from a variety of organizations, live ice carving demonstrations and ranger reviews of eagle watching hot spots.

In all, the virtual event reached over 120,000 people and was a great kick off to another eagle watching season in Alton, Illinois.



## Eagle Watch Event at General Dean Recreation Area Carlyle Lake

On Saturday January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the staff at Carlyle Lake hosted the annual Eagle Watch event at the General Dean Recreation Area. The World Bird Sanctuary had a live Bald Eagle on display for public viewing in a heated tent. To ensure visitor safety during the event, face coverings were required when entering the tent. The General Dean Recreation Area is one of the best spots around Carlyle Lake to view Bald Eagles in their natural habitat.

If you have any questions about the event, contact the Carlyle Lake Project Office at (618) 594-2484 or email at [carlylelake@usace.army.mil](mailto:carlylelake@usace.army.mil).



*Photo Above: It was a cold, wet day for the Carlyle Eagle Watch, but participants braved the weather, followed safety guidelines and enjoyed learning about Bald Eagles.*

Photos (Top to Bottom): Liberty from the World Bird Sanctuary was available for viewer to get an up-close view of a live eagle and have any of their bald eagle questions answered. Members of USACE, Audubon Center at Riverlands, Pere Marquette State Park, and Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge were part of an eagle watching panel that discussed eagle watching basics including the best times and locations. Ranger provided live updates throughout the day at known eagle watching hot spots. Bald eagle activity kits were available for pre-order and pick up the morning of the event. Ice carving demonstrations concluded with an incredible ice sculpture of an eagle.