



LOWER TEXAS COAST

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE MAGAZINE GRACKLE & SOUTH TEXAS ECOTOURISM CENTER

**HOW TO PLAY:** As you see the bird(s) identified on the card, tag them with an "X" or some other mark. Cover a row of birds in any of three directions (horizontally, vertically or diagonally) and you've got a bird bingo! Email a photo of your completed bird bingo card to **lowercoast@texasbirdbingo.com** and we'll send you a Texas Bird Bingo sticker. You'll also be entered to win four passes to the 2026 Birding the Border Festival. For complete rules and information, visit *texasbirdbingo.com* 



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ADDITIONAL BIRD BINGO CARDS

## Texas Bird Bingo is brought to you by Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine and our friends at



**Earthx2025** returns to Dallas, Texas with a 5-day premiere forum convening a diverse group of leaders to engage and advance the latest sustainability solutions.

Each day of the event focuses on a specific topic including The Future of Energy (Monday-Tuesday), The Circular Economy (Tuesday-Wednesday, Brave New Oceans (Thursday) and "New Perspectives on Texas Conservation" on Wednesday, April 23rd.

Rapid development is causing Texas to lose about 20 football fields of open space per hour. Not only does this severely challenge the states' rich natural habitats and biodiversity, but it places a strain on resource conservation, especially water, that urban Texans rely on. "New Perspectives on Texas Conservation" will look at the costs of the loss of Texas' wild and open spaces and identify collaborative solutions that can help establish Texas a model for conservation best practices nationwide. The conservation conference will feature two sessions including, "The State of Texas Water" and "Passing the Torch: What Are the Pressing Challenges and Opportunities for The Next Generation of Conservation Leaders? A collaborative discussion between distinguished figures in global conservation new visionaries"

The question so many people ask is, "how is EarthX 2025 different from other environmentally focused events?"

EarthX 2025 sets itself apart from other environmentally focused events through its commitment to inclusivity and collaboration across diverse sectors and ideologies. Unlike many conferences that cater to specific industries or political agendas, EarthX 2025 emphasizes a cross-disciplinary approach. By bringing together participants from energy, finance, technology, and policy, attendees benefit from a rich tapestry of perspectives aimed at finding comprehensive environmental solutions. The event is designed to facilitate meaningful connections fostering opportunities for engagement that could lead to impactful collaborations.

Free events that are open to the public will be held during the event. Go to **EarthX.org** for more information.





Whole Earth is a family owned, homegrown Texas original with six stores in four cities: Austin, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio. For 54 years, Whole Earth has been outfitting adventurers, travelers, families, backyard loungers and active urbanites with high quality clothing, shoes, accessories, toys, books, gifts, gadgets and gear for everyday living and adventures near and far. Shop in-store 7 days a week and online anytime at WholeEarthProvision.com.

Whether you've been a birdwatcher for years or just starting out, get ready for fun! Try to find all the birds on your card, and you'll make some great memories visiting different habitats and adding new birds to your life list, not to mention a chance to win an awesome prize. Birdwatching is more than ticking off names from a list. Birds are our neighbors, and it can be entertaining watching them as they go about their daily lives.

A good pair of binoculars lets us take a closer look. Whole Earth offers a range of binoculars from a child's first to high quality pairs from Nocs, Celestron and Nikon. We can help you find the pair that's right for you. When deciding on a pair of binoculars, consider the two numbers that describe them, such as 8x25, referring to the magnification factor (8) and the diameter of the main lenses in millimeters (25). Generally, a lower magnification factor provides a wider field of view and will allow the user to track motion like birds moving from tree to tree, while a higher magnification will provide more detail. Another consideration is weight. How much is comfortable around your neck or in a pack?

Be sure to check out Cornell Lab's site and apps. They can help with identification and answers to FAQs. Enjoy exploring and playing Texas Bird Bingo!





The South Texas Ecotourism Center (STEC) is located in beautiful Laguna Vista, Texas known for its rich natural surroundings and close proximity to the Laguna Madre Bay, the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge and South Padre Island, Opening its doors in 2022. STEC is a County operated outdoor Nature Museum and Information Center interpreting and promoting the five ecosystems of South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley. The Center consists of ten acres of trails, interpretive exhibits and panels, and a twenty-five-foot tall viewing pavilion that looks out into the Bahia Grande Unit of the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge. A wide variety of coastal, inland and migratory birds such as aplomado falcon, banded green kingfisher, reddish egrets, green herons and other unique and endangered bird species can be seen here. There is a large pond where water fowl can be viewed such as roseate spoon bills, many types of egrets and herons, shore birds and ducks. There is also a bird blind and outdoor classroom for viewing wildlife. We have butterfly gardens, a watershed feature, educational lab with hands on projects and small exhibits. We have twenty-two metal sculpture of native birds and other native wildlife. We have a meeting room where we offer "Coffee with the Birds" where we serve free shade grown coffee from South America distributed by a local vendor. Bird feeders and bird baths are located adjacent to the meeting room for great viewing. We participate with the Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival as a stop for birders to visit and view birds. We are members of ebird and other bird viewing organizations and programs. Many birders from around the world visit us. The STEC is opened seven days a week except holidays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and has free admission.



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