

Instructions and Guidelines

It's easy to register. You need to set up a personal Pledgelt account.

Have these on hand:

Your email address
A password
An estimation of how many species you hope to see
An estimation of how much money you want to raise
Photos to jazz up your account – optional

To sign up use this link: <https://charity.pledgeit.org/CECBirdathon2024> and choose "Register."
Follow the instructions for how you wish to participate. If you have an account from last year, you can sign in with that email address and password. If you forget your password, click on the "forgot password" tab to reset.

To Bird Solo (a team of one), choose "Fundraise on my own."

- Once you have created your personal account, you will have your personal link to email or share with your sponsors. This will allow them to make a flat donation or pledge per bird to you online. Your personal Pledgelt account will track the money you have raised.

To Captain a team, choose "Create a Team" (maximum of 6 people including captain).

- Name your team – have fun and be creative: Eagles! Woodpecker! Bird Brains! If all your team members will be birding only in the Midwest (**IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, and WI**), add "Midwest" next to your team name. If your team members plan to bird in **other states or countries**, add "Distant" next to your team name. For example, Loony Birds Midwest or Migrating Albatross Distant.
- Once you have created your team, invite your team members to join.
- Once you have created your personal account, you will have your personal link to email or share with your sponsors. This will allow them to make a flat donation or pledge per bird species to you online. Your personal Pledgelt account will track the money you have raised.

To Join a team, choose "Join a team" and select the team that your captain has registered. Then you will need to create your personal account.

Team members are to enter their FINAL bird species count on their personal page at the end of the birdathon.

If your sponsors prefer to send checks to you or CEC, have them make checks out to Cope Environmental Center and write **your name/birdathon** in the memo section.

It's all that simple!!

If you have questions or need help, please email info@visitcope.org or call 765-855-3188.