

the Utica Peregrine Falcon Project NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!



WHAT:

Monitor young peregrine falcons as they leave the nest to ensure their safety.

WHEN:

During the month of June. Precise start date TBA. Volunteers may continue through July.

WHERE:

Grace Church's upper parking lot across the street from the Adirondack Bank building.

VOLUNTEER DUTIES:

- Sign up for times that you are available
 - check in with a project director upon arrival.
- Meet in Grace Church parking lot to observe the falcons at the Adirondack Bank building
- Reach out to program directors if a young falcon appears to be in need
- Keep track of the falcons' activities

PREFERABLE BUT NOT REQUIRED:

- Ability to walk to where the fledglings land
- Own a pair of binoculars

OTHER BENEFITS:

- Great activity for social distancing with a fun group of dedicated watchers
- Unique opportunity to help a rare species
- Possibility to study urban wildlife, including other birds such as eagles, mockingbirds, and many of the prey species of the peregrines
- Great opportunity to converse with people knowledgeable about birds, wildlife rehab, nature and the environment

The Utica Peregrine Falcon Project monitors the pair of Peregrine Falcons (named Astrid and Ares) that nest in downtown Utica. Since the installation of a nest box on the 15th floor of the Adirondack Bank building, the pair have raised 19 young in the last 6 years. The several streaming video cameras in and around the nest can be monitored by anyone at UticaPeregrineFalcons.com

The object of FledgeWatch is to safeguard the Peregrine Falcon nestlings as they fledge and leave the nest, facing the dangers of busy city streets. At fledge time, volunteers gather across the street to spot young birds as they prepare to make their first flights. If or when a bird is in need of rescue, the volunteer(s) will reach out to the project directors who are always on hand and ready to intervene. Over the last 6 breeding seasons, volunteers have rescued 6 young falcons, all of whom were later released back into their parents' care.



**If you are interested in volunteering,
please contact Deb Saltis at falconwatch185@gmail.com**

In lieu of meeting for in-person training as we have done in previous years, we will make an instructional video available. Volunteers will be able to contact program directors at any time in case questions arise or in case a falcon needs rescue.