

A seminar on the Swifts

The Bethlehem Gadfly Environment, Swifts March 9, 2021

🦉 *Latest in a series of posts on the Swifts* 🦉

The Swifts are the official City Bird of Bethlehem
They need your help



GoFundMe

Chimney Swifts.org

On February 17, Josh Berk and BAPL hosted **“Chimney Swifts and their Adaptation to Urban Habitats,”** the first forum in the 3-part series **“S.O.S. Save Our Swifts by Saving their Urban Habitat: Telling the Story of the Chimney Swifts and their Connection to Our City.”**

Jennie Gilrain moderated as Peter Saenger from the Lehigh Valley Audubon Society presented a brief overview of the Swifts **(video, mins 17:40-33:30)** and then answered questions from Jennie, Josh, and the audience.

Here is an audio clip of Peter’s presentation with a few of his slides, but see link to the full video above.

Audio Player not available in this archive



Small: 5-6"
in length

Can you see the bird's claws?
Swifts are not physically made for walking but for clinging.



3-5 eggs in a
nest glued to
the surface
with their
saliva

Nesting

Swifts adapted



Inside the chimney

Neotropical migrants

Our swifts fly about 3,500 miles each way



Next (SHIFT+N)
Shake Out 2021

Far travelers

Without hollow trees or chimneys, swifts are forced to use locations that leave them in danger from predators and the weather



If they have no chimneys . . .

Many designs and sizes of towers



Art work — something to think about if we foster towers in our parks



**Save Our Swifts
GoFundMe**

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