

# Saving the Bethlehem Swifts: This is a worthy cause

The Bethlehem Gadfly Environment, Swifts December 26, 2020

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

**[Save Our Swifts GoFundMe page](#)**

**Peter Saenger, President, Lehigh Valley Audubon Society (2 mins.)**



“Like many of our North American bird species, they’re under pressure . . . They’re in severe decline . . . Originally, they nested in hollow trees . . . and then we cut the forests down . . . and they adapted to nesting in chimneys . . . and now we’re capping them . . . and modern construction doesn’t have chimneys . . . So they’re habitat is going away . . . So every single spot is critical for them . . . especially migratory spots . . . for populations that still have nesting sites up in the north in the mature forests . . . I don’t know a lot about the Masonic Temple chimney . . . but during migratory seasons, spring and fall these birds gather in huge numbers . . . apparently this chimney houses 2000 birds at a time . . .

and it's critical that they have these roosting sites during migration . . . So these places are going away very quickly . . . So every one that we can replace or maintain is critical for their continued existence . . . These birds migrate from North America, Canada, all the way down to the Brazilian rain forest for the winter . . . and they come back . . . and they are very site-specific . . . so if they lose a tower, they have no place to go . . . and I would gather a good percentage would perish if they don't have the same place to go back to . . . This is a worthy cause."

*to be continued . . .*

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Save the Bethlehem Swifts:

ref: **Bethlehem's dolphins of the sky**

ref: **Gilrain gets scared**

ref: **The Noble family: "We will do everything we can to make sure that these birds are protected"**

**The Bethlehem Gadfly**