

Purple Martin Conservation Association Affiliates Program

Introduction

The Purple Martin is one of the best-known and most appreciated birds in North America. The Purple Martin Conservation Association (PMCA) is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit with a headquarters office and staff located at Erie, PA, and an extension office at Corpus Christi, TX. The mission of the PMCA is to promote the conservation of Purple Martins through scientific research, state-of-the-art wildlife management techniques, and public education. Other Purple Martin organizations with similar missions and interests exist in the U. S. and Canada. They encourage and mentor new landlords, promote best Purple Martin management practices, host Purple Martin events, educate the general public about Purple Martins, and advocate for Purple Martins in local/regional conservation issues. Some of these organizations function as working groups, some are incorporated as nonprofits, and others are informal clubs. Many have web sites, publish newsletters, host forums and otherwise engage Purple Martin landlords at the grass roots level. These organizations support Purple Martin conservation and foster a sense of community among Purple Martin enthusiasts.

The purposes of the PMCA Affiliates Program are to promote coordination, communication and recognition among these other Purple Martin organizations, and to foster partnerships between them and PMCA. Good partnerships between Affiliates and the PMCA are important to the future of the Purple Martins, Purple Martin landlords, and the organizations that support them.

The following policy will guide the establishment and operation of a PMCA Affiliates program, define the working relationships between Affiliates and the PMCA, and serve as basis for eligibility of affiliates. This policy and document are intended to be living instruments, subject to periodic review by the PMCA, and subject to change or termination at any time at the discretion of the PMCA Board of Directors.

PMCA Affiliates Policy

Goals and Objectives: The over arching goal of the PMCA Affiliates program and policy is to advance the conservation and perpetuation of Purple Martins. The objectives are to:

- Maintain or increase Purple Martin populations
- Foster community spirit among Purple Martin enthusiasts
- Educate landlords and the general public about Purple Martins, best management practices and conservation
- Increase memberships in the PMCA and its Affiliate organizations
- Provide opportunity for member involvement in PMCA and Affiliate activities
- Jointly address local and regional conservation issues involving Purple Martins
- Participate in cooperative research and monitoring projects

Membership: Membership in the PMCA Affiliates program shall be open to any organization, club, working group or other entity whose missions, goals, and activities are consistent with, compatible with, the mission of the PMCA, i.e., promoting the conservation of Purple Martins through scientific research, state-of-the-art wildlife management techniques, and public education. Additionally, the Affiliates program shall be open to like organizations devoted to the conservation of other native cavity-nesting birds.

Mutual agreements, benefits and recognition:

The PMCA and the Affiliate member shall strive to:

- Promote a stewardship ethic among Purple Martin landlords by teaching best management practices and conservation through workshops, educational programs and news media.
- Educate the general public about Purple Martins and their conservation, emphasizing facts and dispelling myths, through programs, news media, and participation in birding and conservation festivals, and other community events.
- Recruit new landlords and members.
- Provide opportunity for member involvement in PMCA and the Affiliate's activities, maintaining active communication and outreach to all members.
- Encourage participation in surveys and research projects e.g., Project Martinwatch and Project Martinroost.
- Apprise, advise and assist each other on current and emerging conservation issues and opportunities involving Purple Martins.

The PMCA and Affiliates shall exchange complimentary memberships, i.e., each organization shall be a member of the other's organization. These complimentary memberships shall include publications and other member benefits, including the members' discounts on products sold by the PMCA. However, the benefits do not apply to individual members of Affiliate organizations unless they are also members of the PMCA. Regarding individual members of PMCA and Affiliates, cross membership shall be encouraged, but individual members of Affiliate organizations are not required to be members of the PMCA, and vice versa, members of the PMCA are not required to be members of an Affiliate.

The PMCA and Affiliates shall link to each other's web sites. On its website and in its publications and communications, the Affiliate shall publicize its affiliation with the PMCA, and on its web site, the PMCA shall list the Affiliate and provide page space for information and latest news from the Affiliate. The PMCA shall also, space permitting,

accommodate news and other items from the Affiliate in its quarterly magazine, the *Purple Martin Update*.

An effective and mutually beneficial affiliates program will depend on responsive communication between the PMCA and Affiliates. Each shall designate a primary contact for communications to address shared concerns, opportunities, and updates on activities.

Application for Affiliate membership: Organizations, clubs, working groups, or other entities whose missions, goals, and activities, etc., are compatible with those of PMCA, may apply for Affiliate membership in PMCA (Appendix 1). The purpose of a formal application is to assist the PMCA Board of Directors in determining the applicant's compatibility with the PMCA's mission. In reviewing applications, the PMCA shall consider history, missions, goals, philosophies, programs, and activities of the applicant. Exact duplication of PMCA's mission, goals, philosophies, programs, and activities is not expected; rather, evidence of mutual interest in promoting conservation of Purple Martins is sought. Neither the PMCA nor the Affiliate member can or will bear responsibility for the views, actions, etc., of other. The PMCA reserves the right to accept or reject applications at its discretion.

Dissolving PMCA Affiliations: Circumstances may arise under which either an Affiliate or PMCA may choose to reconsider their relationship. These situations include, but are not limited to: (i) an Affiliate becoming inactive or ceasing operations, (ii) an Affiliate choosing to adopt policies or pursue activities that are in conflict with the PMCA, or (iii), the Affiliate simply decides to terminate its affiliation with PMCA. In the event that conflict underlies the reconsideration, both the PMCA and the Affiliate will negotiate in good faith to maintain their relationship. However, if that is not possible, either the PMCA or the Affiliate may terminate the Affiliate relationship at any time, for any reason or no reason.

Appendix 1: PMCA Affiliate Member Application

Name of applying entity:

Name of applying officer, director or other responsible individual:

Mailing address:

Telephone:

Email address:

Website:

Principal contact person:

Mailing address:

Telephone:

Email address:

Is the organization incorporated as a nonprofit? If yes, please, provide details:

Is the organization a member organization? If yes, please provide details:

History of the organization:

Mission, goals, objectives:

Recent activities:

Other: Please include anything else thought to be relevant to the application:

THANK YOU for applying for affiliate membership in the PMCA,

and, a special thank you for all that you do for Purple Martins!

Certification and Ratification

We, the undersigned, hereby apply for affiliate membership in the Purple Martin Conservation Association and agree to the mutual terms of Affiliates Policy described above.

Signed:

Name:

Title:

Organization:

Date:

We, the Purple Martin Conservation Association, approve and welcome the ... name of organization... as an Affiliate member of the Association and agree to the mutual terms of the Affiliates policy described above.

Signed:

Name:

Title: President

Purple Martin Conservation Association

Date: