

HELP KESTRELS THRIVE!

BECOME A KESTREL NEST BOX MONITOR



AMERICAN KESTRELS are North America's smallest falcons. Their numbers are declining in many areas, and they need safe nest sites and careful monitoring to help them rebound. You can help—right here in our community!

WHAT IS A KESTREL NEST BOX MONITOR?

As a nest box monitor, you will:

- Visit assigned nest boxes a few times during the breeding season
- Record basic information (eggs, chicks, fledging dates)
- Report your observations
- Help ensure boxes stay safe, clean, and in good condition

Training and support are provided—no birding experience necessary!

WHAT YOU'LL GAIN

A front-row seat to kestrel family life—from eggs to fluffy nestlings to first flights and a meaningful citizen-science role that directly supports conservation. You will also get time outdoors on beautiful protected lands.

WHY KESTRELS NEED OUR HELP

- They are cavity nesters. Kestrels can't dig their own nest holes; they rely on natural cavities or nest boxes in open fields and grasslands.
- They're great pest control. Kestrels eat mice, voles, large insects, and small reptiles, helping keep rodent and insect populations in check on farms and open lands.
- Monitoring matters. Nest box monitoring tells biologists where kestrels are nesting, how many chicks fledge, and what habitats are most successful—information that guides conservation work across the region.



CONTACT TO
VOLUNTEER
OR
LEARN MORE

CACIA LESH – *Little Traverse Conservancy*

231-347-0991

KELLY DAVIS – *Mackinac Straits Raptor Watch*

615-308-9086



MSRW
MACKINAC STRAITS RAPTOR WATCH