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“The Most Important Thing I Learned at Conservation Field Days”
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Do you think Woods ducks need help to be protected? Well many people don't think about these things, but you should. Theodore Roosevelt said “The conservation of natural resources is a fundamental problem. Unless we solve that problem it will avail us little to solve all others”. The most important thing I learned at the Conservation Field Days is about how Wood Ducks were endangered, and are now protected.

The wood duck population went down a lot 100 years ago. The US even made the Migratory Bird Treaty Act where you couldn't kill the ducks in 1980. Then once the population got better it ended. But some people were still concerned. So a group was made to help these birds. This group put up wooden houses in trees. They would put shredded wood on the inside. The ducks could lay there eggs inside and could have a place to stay. He told us that we could make one too, but you have to spread them out so that birds don't get confused if they did they could lay their eggs on another ducks and they wouldn't all hatch. You need to make sure that you put them up in the winter so they have them when they return from flying south. Also you have to make sure to check on the houses and clean them out every once in a while.

These ducks can fly 50 feet up in a tree because that's where they will live. And as there name says these ducks really like wooded areas. They usually never are near the beach to stay away from predators. The male ducks are colorful and bright but the females are mostly brown and white. A duck lays about 10 eggs but the ducks leave the nest about a month after they hatch. He told us that they migrate to the Carolinas or Gulf Coast. This duck one of the most studied duck on the continent. The wetland are protected because of these ducks .

Overall I learned so much at Emerson Park about Wood Ducks. Before this I barely even knew anything about these ducks, but it was the most interesting station I went to all day. I now know that Wood ducks have had a rough past and that you should help something not for a reward but for the sake changing a life.