

'Mr. President' and 'The First Lady' Have Laid An Egg... Watch LIVE in High Definition at EAGLES.ORG

Animal Lovers Can Now View Live-Streaming Cameras Featuring Wild Bald Eagle Family in National Arboretum (Washington D.C.)

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Photo Caption: Viewers from all over the world can now watch the nest of "Mr. President" and "The First Lady," a pair of Bald Eagles nesting in Washington DC at the U.S. National Arboretum. Every special family moment can be viewed 24/7 via two live-streaming high-definition video cameras at eagles.org/dceaglecam. Photo © American Eagle Foundation. All Rights Reserved. Screenshots Captured by Sue Greeley and Julia Cecere

WASHINGTON DC - Eagle Nest Cams have become a nationwide sensation over the past decade, providing biologists with new information about the nesting habits and activities of Bald Eagles and giving the viewing public a new source of inspirational nature entertainment. Now, the not-for-profit American Eagle Foundation (AEF) in cooperation with the United States National Arboretum (USNA) is proud to announce the most patriotic Nest Cam project of them all.

Viewers from all over the world can now watch the wild nest of 'Mr. President' and 'The First Lady,' a pair of Bald Eagles nesting in the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington DC.

In recent months these adult Eagles have been seen mating and adding sticks to their existing nest structure. On February 10th, around 3:00 pm E.S.T. The First Lady laid an egg! It is possible, although not guaranteed, that she will lay a second egg within the next 24-48 hours. Bald Eagle pairs typically lay 1-3 eggs each annual nesting season. [Update: a second egg was laid Valentine's Day morning].

Every intimate family moment can be viewed 24/7 via two live-streaming high-definition video cameras at eagles.org/dceaglecam.

"The opportunity to sponsor a project of this nature is such an honor," says AEF Founder and President Al Cecere. "Video nest cams featuring our National Symbol nesting *in* our Nation's Capital...you just can't get much more patriotic than that. It's going to be a fantastic addition to our growing Eagle Nest Cam Educational Outreach Program."

In October 2014, this bonded pair of Eagles chose a prime location for their nest: a tall Tulip Poplar tree amongst the National Arboretum's blooming Azalea collection overlooking the fish-filled Anacostia River. They are the first Bald Eagle pair that has nested in this location since 1947. Had they chosen a tree just a little further up Mount Hamilton, the U.S. Capital Building would be in their direct line of sight. These birds successfully raised one healthy Eaglet during the Spring/Summer of 2015.

During the Spring of 2015, the American Eagle Foundation and their celebrity non-releasable educational Bald Eagle 'Challenger' had the privilege of visiting the Arboretum, where they first learned about this idyllic nest site. Soon afterwards, the non-profit AEF and USNA entered into a partnership to place two HD video cameras on two sides of the nest.

After the Eagle pair left their nest in August 2015 for their annual migration, Al Cecere, Julia Cecere, and Spencer Williams of the AEF traveled to DC to install cameras and other related equipment in-and-around the nest tree with the help of experienced tree climbers. The USNA ran about a half mile of fiber optic cable to the cameras' control box located about 200 feet from the base of the tree. The entire system is powered by a large solar array designed and built by students and staff from Alfred State, SUNY College of Technology.

"Bald Eagles don't always return to their first year nest. We took a huge risk investing in this project and partnering with the Arboretum without any type of certainty that the Eagles would actually return," says AEF's P.R. Coordinator Julia Cecere, "It was happy day for everyone when both Eagles were spotted back on the nest this past October."

Ramon Jordan and Sue Greeley of the USNA have been keeping a close eye on the Eagles ever since they chose the Arboretum as their home in 2014. Dan Rauch with the District Department of the Environment (DDOE) has been documenting the activities of the Eagles since then as well. This summer, USFWS raptor biologist Craig Koppie plans to climb into the

nest to place leg bands on and collect blood samples from any Eaglets that may hatch during 2016. Earth Conservation Corps (ECC) volunteers have also been involved in monitoring the nest in the past.

About the American Eagle Foundation

The American Eagle Foundation is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to care for, restore, and protect the USA's living symbol of Freedom, the Bald Eagle, and other birds of prey. The AEF is celebrating its 30th year of carrying out its mission through Education, Repopulation, Conservation, & Rehabilitation. The public charity is headquartered at the Dollywood family theme park in Pigeon Forge, TN. Its famous Bald Eagle "Challenger" has performed free-flight demonstration at more than 370 events across the U.S. over the past 20 years, all in an effort to educate and inspire the public. Learn more at www.eagles.org

About the U.S. National Arboretum

The U.S. National Arboretum, which encompasses more than 446 acres of land in northeast Washington and also has worksites in Beltsville, MD, and McMinville, TN, is one of the world's premier woody plant research facilities and public gardens. The Arboretum was established by Congress in 1927 to serve the public's need for scientific research, environmental education, and gardens that conserve and showcase plants. For more information please see the Arboretum's web site at www.usna.usda.gov.

About Alfred State, SUNY College of Technology

Alfred State, SUNY College of Technology, a residential college of technology located in Wellsville, NY, provides career-focused education enriched by the liberal arts to produce job- and transfer-ready graduates.

About District Department of Energy and Environment

The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) is the leading authority on energy and environmental issues affecting the District of Columbia. Using a combination of regulations, outreach, education, and incentives, this agency administers programs and services to fulfill their mission. They work collaboratively with other government agencies, residents, businesses, and institutions to promote environmentally responsible behavior that will lead to a more sustainable urban environment.

About United States Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the premiere federal agency charged with protecting and enhancing America's treasured fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats and works for the perpetuation of diverse and abundant wildlife because biodiversity is essential to maintaining the health of our environment, our families, and our economy. The USFWS assists in the development and application of an environmental stewardship ethic for our society based on ecological principles, scientific knowledge of fish and wildlife, and a sense of moral responsibility. It guides the conservation, development, and management of the Nation's fish and wildlife resources and administers a national program to provide the public with opportunities to understand, appreciate, and wisely use fish and wildlife resources.

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