



**MEDIA ALERT** | For Immediate Release

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Contact: Connie George

Mobile: 412.638.7029

[GeorgeC@CarnegieScienceCenter.org](mailto:GeorgeC@CarnegieScienceCenter.org)

Contact: Jill Rible

Office: 412.237.3442 / Mobile: 412.738.0475

[RibleJ@CarnegieScienceCenter.org](mailto:RibleJ@CarnegieScienceCenter.org)

## **NEXT CAFÉ SCI LOOKS AT MAKING SKIES A SAFER PLACE TO FLY**

### ***RESEARCHER DISCUSSES REDUCING WINDOW COLLISIONS WITH BIRD-FRIENDLY GLASS***

PITTSBURGH, March 23, 2017 — Glass windows are the second greatest human-related cause of mortality to North American birds, accounting for nearly 1 billion deaths annually. On **Monday, May 1**, from 7 – 9 pm, Carnegie Museum of Natural History Urban Bird Conservation Coordinator Matt Webb will discuss how researchers are looking for ways to reduce collisions by making glass more visible to birds.

Webb is involved in research at Powdermill Nature Reserve, the Carnegie Museum of Natural History's field research station located in the Ligonier valley. He and fellow Powdermill avian researchers are using an innovative flight tunnel to safely test bird-friendly glass prototypes to use on new buildings.

Webb also started BirdSafe Pittsburgh in 2014, a local partnership of organizations dedicated to bird conservation in southwestern Pennsylvania. Teams of BirdSafe Pittsburgh volunteers spend the early hours of each day through the spring and fall migration combing the sidewalks of Pittsburgh, looking for birds that have collided with windows. Data is collected about each collision found and dead birds are brought back to the Carnegie Museum of Natural History to become a part of the permanent museum collection. Birds that survived a collision are captured and brought to Animal Rescue League's wildlife center for rehabilitation and release. Citizen scientists also monitor the windows of personal homes, helping researchers learn more about what makes some bird-friendly window products more effective than others.

Webb has studied birds with the Carnegie Museum of Natural History for the past four years. He holds a bachelor's degree in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University, in Fort Collins, Colorado.

After the talk, audience members will be invited to ask questions and become part of the discussion.

Admission to Café Sci is free. Food and drinks are available for purchase. Doors open at 6 pm. The evening includes time for informal discussion, eating, and drinking.

For more information and to register, visit [CarnegieScienceCenter.org](http://CarnegieScienceCenter.org) or call 412.237.3400.

**About Carnegie Science Center**

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

**About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**

Established in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. In 2016, the museums reached more than 1.4 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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