



HUMANSCAPES / LANDSCAPES

This activity is created in conjunction with “Backyard Bash: Conference of the Birds.” Look for new activities each week.

Margot Lockwood’s “Anthropocene Nest” (number 5 on the map) is constructed entirely of materials from her personal waste stream and gathered from walks along the river and in area parks. She challenges us to imagine a world where trash is easier to come by than a twig or a blade of grass. As urbanization increases, Lockwood fears “that humanscapes will be more common than landscapes.”

The term “waste stream” describes the life cycle of the waste or garbage we produce. It includes the collection of waste, its journey to a landfill, reuse of recycled materials, and energy production. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, each person in America generates approximately 4.3 pounds of waste every day. More than half our waste ends up in a landfill.

DRAW OR DESCRIBE AT LEAST FIVE MATERIALS FOUND IN “ANTHROPOCENE NEST”

Post this list near your waste or recycling bins to track your waste for one week. What does your waste stream reveal?

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Which materials in your trash will you turn into art?
What steps will you take to reduce your waste?