



We Energies and Wisconsin Public Service Peregrine Falcons 2021 Early Nesting Season Report

© Greg Septon March 8, 2021



A webcam screenshot of “Beasley” (b/r) P/07, the adult peregrine male at We Energies Port Washington Generating Station (PWGS) Nov. 14, 2020. Beasley spent the entire winter at PWGS.

The 2021 Nesting Season

The snow is finally melting, and signs of spring are at hand.

With the first egg(s) of the nesting season generally laid by mid-March, that means, for peregrines at least, spring is already here.

Except for the Weston site, peregrines were present at all our power plants over the winter, and with the warmer sunny days now, activity at the nest boxes has picked up considerably.

Once again, this season, the nest box webcams are up and running and available for public viewing. These offer us a rare opportunity to follow along as peregrines return to their nest sites, lay eggs and rear their young.

So, take break when you're able and check out the We Energies and Wisconsin Public Service nest box webcams at:

<https://www.wecenergygroup.com/environment/falcons/>

In the following pages, I've provided a brief, early nesting season update for all of our nest sites.

Sincerely,

Greg Septon

Oak Creek: We Energies Oak Creek Power Plant



Nesting update

“Michael” (b/r) P/58, a male produced in 2015 at the Racine County Courthouse nest site in Racine, Wisconsin is back for his fifth year.

“Essity” (b/blu) 48/Y, produced at the Essity Paper Mill in Menasha, Wisconsin in 2018, spent the winter here with her mate, Michael. This will be her second year at OCPP.



“Essity” (b/blu) 48/Y, relaxing in the sun at the OCPP nest box March 3, 2021.

In 2020, the first egg was laid at this site March 26.

Milwaukee: We Energies Valley Power Plant



Nesting update

An unbanded adult female – likely the same female present since 2014 - was first observed here on January 17

“Hercules” (b/r) 60/R, a male produced in 2011 at the St. Joseph’s Hospital nest site in Milwaukee, spent much of the winter at VAPP. This will be his eighth year here.

In 2020, the first egg was laid here March 24.



“Hercules” (b/r) 60/R perched at his VAPP nest box Dec. 12, 2020.

Port Washington: We Energies Port Washington Generating Station



Nesting update

“**Brinn**” (b/r) **84/X**, a female produced in 2012 at Gold Hoist cliff, Split Rock State Park, Lake, Co., Minnesota, returned to PWGS on March 3. When she returned, she battled with (b/blu) **M/43**, a female produced in 2019 at the Carmeuse Lime Plant in Gary, Indiana. (b/blu) **M/43** arrived at PWGS on October 22 last year and was present all winter – until Brinn returned, drove her off and reclaimed her territory.

“**Beasley**” (b/r) **P/07**, a male produced in 2014 at We Energies Milwaukee County Power Plant in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin was present for most of the winter. This is Beasley’s fifth year at this site.

In 2020, the first egg was laid here March 21.



(b/blu) M/43 perched at the PWGS nest box Jan 10, 2021.

Rothschild: Wisconsin Public Service Weston Power Plant



Nesting update

“Rosalee” (b/r) C/94, a female produced in 2014 at the MGE Energy nest site in Madison, Wisconsin was first identified here on February 24. This will be her sixth year at this site.

“Sheldon” (b/r) 19/M, a male produced in 2013 at the UW-Oshkosh nest site in Oshkosh, Wisconsin returned on March 8. This will be his sixth year at this site.



“Rosalee” (b/r) C/94 at her nest box at the Weston site March 4, 2021.

In 2020, the first egg was laid here March 26.

Note: On March 5, “Rosalee” had a visitor. Looking back at the webcam video feed I was able to read the band number on a male peregrine named **“Charlie” (b/blu) 61/S**. Charlie was produced in 2019 at the Briess Malt & Ingredients nest site in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. It looks like Charlie was driven away by Sheldon when he returned and reclaimed his nest site.

Recent news about We Energies - produced peregrines



“Cream Puff” (b/blu) M/22, a female peregrine produced in 2020 at We Energies Oak Creek Power Plant, arrived at the UW-Oshkosh nest box on Jan. 25 and remained there until she was run off in a battle with ***“Julia” (b/r) 19/W*** who returned from her wintering grounds on Feb 26, 2021.



“Bucky” (b/r) 73/P, a male produced in 2013 at We Energies Port Washington Generating Station in Port Washington, Wisconsin was observed by Bruce Danz on March 7, 2021 at the College Avenue Bridge in Appleton, Wisconsin. Bucky was observed along with an adult female named “Symphony” (b/r) 20/X.

The image of Bucky above was taken by Bruce last year on October 26 and was also included in the 2020 nesting report.

Photo credit: Bruce Danz