

Nature Talks:
Elm Street tower hosts peregrines for fifth year

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Nature Talks from Down on the Farm

THEY'RE BACK! According to the Audubon Society of New Hampshire, Manchester's famous pair of peregrine falcons are again nesting. On March 24, their first egg was laid just in time for Easter.

The peregrine nest box is located on the Brady-Sullivan Tower in downtown Manchester. Using a properly programmed computer, one can see a streaming video available on the Audubon Web site. The society invites anyone to visit www.nh.audubon.org to see the falcons and learn more about this state-listed endangered bird of prey.

Audubon reports the peregrines lay their eggs in a nest box placed on the 13th floor of the Brady-Sullivan Tower at 1750 Elm St. In 2003, thanks to a donation from Spectra Access Inc., two video cameras were installed to allow visitors to Audubon's Web site to view the nest box throughout the breeding season that ends around June 15, when the chicks take flight.

This is the fifth consecutive year peregrines have used the tower as a place to raise young. Although they traditionally prefer a cliff or rock face as a nest site, peregrines nest on bridges, buildings or smokestacks at many locations around the country. The Manchester pair was the first to successfully nest in an urban setting in New Hampshire, Maine or Vermont.