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**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**9 years in a Row  
Corpus Christi Wins 'America's Birdiest City' Award!**

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX – (June 21, 2011) The results are in and Corpus Christi once again celebrates the title of 'America's Birdiest City', awarded by Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries. Corpus Christi has held the title consecutively each year since 2003.

The 2011 results declared Corpus Christi the overall winner as 'America's Birdiest City'. San Diego, California came in second place with 195 species of birds. Nueces County was named the Birdiest Coastal County along the Gulf Coast with 255 birds.

"Corpus Christi and Nueces County offer some of the best birding sites in the world. Being named America's Birdiest City, for the ninth time, and the Gulf Coast's Birdiest County, are recognitions of the quality experiences we have to offer, in addition to being great marketing tools to enhance our Nature Tourism marketing program," said Keith Arnold, CEO of the Corpus Christi CVB.

The annual nationwide contest determines the best city for birding after hundreds of avid birders from around the country count the number of species seen in a given time period. Cities and counties selected a 72-hour window between April 30th through May 2nd, to count birds, making it a fast-paced competition, somewhat like a scavenger hunt.

Local birders united again this year and counted a total of 239 species of birds in the city. The team is made up of members from the Audubon Outdoor Club, Coastal Bend Audubon Society and many other birders. "The fact that we have won the America's Birdiest City Contest so often shows what a great resource Corpus Christi and the Coastal Bend has and the tremendous potential for ecotourism," said Larry Jordan, Team Leader.

The annual event, in its eleventh year, encourages participating cities and counties to round up as many birders as they wish during their count. The coordinator in each city and, or county then compiles and compares the logs and write-ups from each team or participant before submitting their results no later than May 31.

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*The Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau's mission is "to drive overnight visitor\$ to the Corpus Christi Area". For more information about the Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau or to plan your next trip to Corpus Christi, visit [www.VisitCorpusChristiTX.org](http://www.VisitCorpusChristiTX.org) or call 1-800-788-BEACH*