

# Sylvan Heights Bird Park EV Charging Station

Ribbon Cutting - DAQ Site Visit October 1, 2021

NCDEQ, Division of Air Quality



## Site Overview

In 1981, founders Mike and Ali Lubbock moved to the United States from England and founded Sylvan Heights Waterfowl in the mountain town of Sylva, North Carolina and began breeding rare waterfowl from around the world. In 1989, they moved their entire collection to Scotland Neck, North Carolina, in the northeast corner of the state and it became known as the Sylvan Heights Avian Breeding Center and grew the largest collection of unique waterfowl in the world. The Sylvan Heights Bird Park opened in 2006 and is one of Halifax County's most popular educational and tourist destinations, receiving over 55,000 visitors annually from across the country. The Sylvan Heights Bird Park EV Charging Station project was one of 77 Level 2 infrastructure projects selected for funding in Phase 1 of the NC Volkswagen (VW) Settlement Program. This project received a Phase 1 VW rebate of \$8,000 for the installation of one Level 2

dual-port charger. The charger is in the park's overflow parking lot to allow visitors 24/7 access.

## Level 2 Charging Infrastructure Program Information

In Phase 1 of the NC VW Settlement program there was \$1.1 million was available for Level 2 charging infrastructure projects. Along with the other Phase 1 VW DEQ funded ZEV infrastructure projects to be installed, these projects will help create ZEV routes from the mountains to the coast in North Carolina. The primary goal is to increase use of ZEVs in place of gas-powered cars to mitigate nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, and greenhouse gas emissions in the state.

## Executive Order 80

North Carolina has committed to allocate the full fifteen percent allowed by the Volkswagen consent decree to light duty vehicle charging infrastructure projects and this will help to fulfill one of Governor Roy Cooper's goals of Executive Order 80 (increasing the number of registered, zero-emission vehicles to at least 80,000 by 2025). Increasing the availability of electric vehicle charging infrastructure helps to alleviate range anxiety for drivers of electric vehicles and influence more ZEV sales in the state.

## N.C. Division of Air Quality

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## Additional Site Photos



## Additional Program Details

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality administers the \$92 million allocation of Volkswagen Mitigation Settlement funds for North Carolina. This project was funded in Phase 1 of the program. Phase 2 of the program will combine the originally planned phases two and three into one final phase with the full fifteen percent allowed allocated to ZEV infrastructure projects. The primary goal of the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Infrastructure Program is to increase use of ZEVs in place of gas-powered cars to mitigate nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, and greenhouse gas emissions in the state. To achieve that goal, the program will emphasize adding new ZEV charging infrastructure in underserved areas, extend the existing light-duty ZEV infrastructure across the state, encourage intrastate and interstate ZEV vehicle usage at North Carolina's diverse geographic, historic and tourist attractions and highlight the environmental benefits of ZEVs.

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