

Let's go birding!



Early Spring Group Birding Events - 2020

Join us for one or more of the **Berrien Birding Club** outings listed below this spring. **Our groups are friendly and fun!** Park entry fees may be in effect at some locations, but otherwise there are no fees required to participate. If you have questions about an outing or need directions, please call **(269) 471-2617** or send an email to lovecreek@berriencounty.org a day or two in advance.

Saturday, March 7 - 9:00 a.m. Southwest Berrien Waterfowl Watching.

We'll kick off the field trip season with a search for waterfowl at a couple of favored locations in southwest Berrien County. We'll start at the New Buffalo Public Beach with a check of the outer harbor and Lake Michigan for grebes and diving ducks. Then we'll head inland to check the marsh at Galien River County Park and "The Ponds at Three Oaks" for other ducks and waterfowl. Bring warm, wind resistant clothing and meet at the New Buffalo Public Beach.

Saturday, March 14 - 9:00 a.m. "Leader's Choice" Waterfowl Watch.

Today we'll enjoy waterfowl watching at a few north and/or central locations in Berrien County. We'll begin at Silver Beach in St. Joseph where we'll be able to check Lake Michigan and the mouth of the St. Joseph River for diving ducks, grebes, gulls and others. From here we'll visit one or more "to be determined" locations. This could include additional lakefront parks, Sarett Nature Center's Brown Sanctuary, or the Grand Mere area's North Lake Park. Bring warm, wind resistant clothing and meet in the north parking lot at Silver Beach County Park.

Saturday, March 21 - 6:30 p.m. Woodcock Watch at Love Creek.

Join us for an easy evening on the trails at Love Creek County Park watching the crazy courtship display of the American Woodcock. Always a fun way to kick off spring and if you've never seen this before - well, you **need** to see this! We'll start with a short "Woodcock 101" session in the nature center and then head out to a location on the trails. Bring binoculars, a small flashlight for the walk back, and wear warm, darkish colored clothing.

Saturday, March 28 - 9:00 a.m. North Lake Park and Vicinity.

This morning we'll check North Lake in Lincoln Township for waterfowl and early wetland species. From here we'll either explore locations in the adjacent Grand Mere State Park or along the entrance road of the nearby Lincoln Township Beach. Meet at North Lake Township Park. (Directly west of Exit 22 on I-94.)

Saturday, April 4 - 9:00 a.m. Galien River County Park.

For today's outing we'll search for early woodland and wetland migrants along the trails, walkways and boardwalks of Galien River County Park in New Buffalo Township. We'll start with a walk on the canopy walkway and a scan from the end of the 60' high marsh tower, before looping through the woods and down to the river's edge via the marsh boardwalk. Later we may check inland locations along the Galien River. Meet at the main trailhead in the parking lot.

Tuesday, April 7 - 9:00 a.m. Southwest Berrien Birding. See March 9 for description.

Saturday, April 11 - 9:00 a.m. Michiana Marsh Meander.

Today we intend to explore wetlands on both sides of the Stateline for waterfowl and wetland birds. We'll start at Galien River County Park, where we'll check for birds from the canopy walkway and marsh boardwalk. From here we'll head south into Indiana to explore the Beverly Shores area of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, where public access to the Great Marsh is available. Meet at Galien River County Park.

Sunday April 19th - 9:00 a.m. "North" Warren Dunes State Park.

This is a good time to watch for mid-spring woodland migrants such as Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Winter Wren. Wind conditions permitting, we may also head into the open dunes to watch or migrating hawks. Meet at the youth camp/trailhead parking lot on Floral Lane and note some muddy/wet trail conditions could exist. State Park entry fee or Recreation Passport may be required for parking.

Tuesday, April 21 - 9:00 a.m. Waterfall Fowl watching at Notre Dame

Today we'll head south of the border to Notre Dame! We will explore St. Mary's and St. Joseph's lake where there is a potential for Waterfowl and Warblers. Take 933 south and turn left on Dorr Rd. Park in the first lot just past WNDU on the left hand side (D6 North Lot). Meet next to the brown building in the parking lot. No charge.

Saturday, April 25 - 9:00 a.m. St. Joe Lakeshore and Riverview Park.

We'll start by checking the lakeshore for migrant loons, diving ducks and others. Then we'll head inland to explore woodlands along the St. Joseph River at Riverview Park. The wet forest here can be good for both resident woodland species and early migrants. Meet in the north parking lot at Silver Beach County Park.



The Berrien Birding Club also sponsors two email lists: BBCBirds and BBCChat.

Information available at:

<http://lists.berrienbirding.org/lists>

Additional web resources of the

Berrien Birding Club

available at:

<http://www.berriencounty.org/434/Birding>