

Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club

Spring 2022 Field Trip Schedule



Here are over 30 events to choose from, or be there for them all, and really get your birding skills in tune.

- All events are open to the public.
- All events are scheduled for Saturdays unless otherwise noted. Note: meet time as some may be in the evening.
- Many areas besides Retzer have no restrooms.
- Watch your email, club web page, and club Facebook page for details.

April 1st to June 10th Friday Bird Walks: 7:00 AM. Meet in the parking lot of Retzer Nature Center for 2 to 2 1/2 hour hike around the property. We hope to see many different birds as they migrate through or return home. We have seen 50+ species on a single hike in the past. Bring Binoculars.

March 26: Lower Phantom Lake and surrounding area 7:00 AM : Nick Mimier will lead us on our quest to spot and ID as many early migrants and waterfowl as are possible. Meet at Phantom Glen Park in Mukwonago, at the west end of Andrews Street, just off of Main Street.

April 2: Paradise Valley, Bark River Unit: Meet at 7:00 AM in the parking area located at the end of Kincaid Lane, two-miles west of Dousman. We will gather at the viewing platform and scope for waterfowl, raptors, and early migrants before slow-walking 0.6 miles or so on level terrain out into the wetlands along old farm lanes. Jim Toft will be our lead person for this fun and exciting location.

April 9th 7:00 PM Saturday: Annual Woodcock Walk - Mark your calendar for this Event at Scuppernong Prairie. Meet at the Hunter's Parking Lot along Hwy N just south of Wilton Rd. This area is in the town of Eagle, not far from Paradise Springs. Wilson's Snipe, and American bittern, and various owls are possible. This low-key field trip is a fun and entertaining event not to be missed.

April 16th: Area Lakes and Ducks. Meet field trip leader Tim Hahn at 8:00 AM at Brewers Two Coffee Shop on Wisconsin Ave. in Pewaukee. We will begin by checking Pewaukee Lake and then proceed to scope other area lakes for ducks and early migrants. If you have a scope please bring it, and if not, we will have some to share.

April 23rd: Vernon Marsh: Meet at 7:00 AM in the parking lot at the end of Frog Alley Rd. (& maybe later to Benson Rd.). We will be hiking a fair way for this one and keep in mind there are no bathrooms in the area. This is the largest marsh in Waukesha County and a migratory hotspot with a vast variety of both waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors and much more. Details TBA. (Tentative Leaders Pat Horn, Jim Toft)

April 30th: Kettle Moraine State Forest - Mukwonago River Unit (old Rainbow Springs property): Meet at 7:30 AM in the parking lot off Hwy LO just east of Hwy E in Eagle. This large piece of land has a river, streams, several ponds, two lakes and much more. Birds of all sorts call this place home or migrate thru it. Over 160 species have been spotted on this land which lies in both Waukesha and Walworth Counties.

May 1st (Sunday) Whip-poor-will Walk: 7:30 PM Piper Rd. horse trails: Meet at the horse trail crossing on Piper Rd. 1.3 miles east of Hwy 67. Anne Moretti will lead us in our quest to find Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows along with a couple others. The chances to hear the Eastern Whip-poor-will is a special treat. In 2020 Anne and the group heard three and possibly five of them, so don't miss this one folks.

May 7th: Saturday: Ben Goss Bird Club – Waukesha Spring Bird Count: Jasonn Weber is the coordinator of this annual event covering a 15-mile diameter circle divided into many sections with leaders for each. This is a great way for less experienced birders to go birding with and learn from the veterans and share in our common joy of birding. This event technically starts at midnight for those birders that seek owls, and goes until 11:59 that night, but most birders begin in the morning and bird until they have covered the area or run out of steam, so come for whatever part you want.

May 8th: Sunday: Waukesha Retzer Nature Center property Community Spring Bird Count: 7:00 AM to Noon – Recommended for ages 8+, registration not required. Coordinated by Spence Stehno. (Goss Members please contact him if you can join in for a few hours that morning.) Join us to scout all areas at Retzer Nature Center for year-round and migrating bird species during the Annual Retzer Spring Bird Count. All skill levels are welcome. Bring your own binoculars or use Retzer's (limited quantity available). Meet at 7:00 AM in the parking lot area nearest the learning center building.

May 14th: Dorothy Carnes County Park Rose Lake SWA): Melanie Krause will be our leader for this one. For those not familiar with this property, it is located west of Fort Atkinson just north of Hwy 12. It is also called Rose Lake SWA. Details will be coming in the future. Everything from Bald Eagles to Black-neck Stilt call this place home.

May 21st: Paradise Valley: Meet at 7:00 AM in the parking area located at the end of Kincaid Lane, two-miles west of Dousman. We will gather at the viewing platform and scope for waterfowl, raptors, and early migrants before walking 0.6 miles or so on level terrain out into the wetlands along old farm lanes. Spence Stehno will be our lead person for this fun and exciting location a couple months after initial spring visit with full migration occurring.

May 28th: Engel Conservation Area and more: Patrick Horn will lead us on this event. Time and meeting location will be coming later.

June 4th: Where the Birds Are: Paula Stich is leading this event. The time and location will be announced as much in advance as we can once we find out "Where the BIRDS Are", hence the name.

June 11th: Horicon Marsh: TBD – To Be Determined as we see what kind of activities are occurring in the Horicon Marsh area with this year's migration and water levels.

June 18th: Adam Birding Conservancy: This privately-owned property is a real gem. If you have never been there, be prepared for a treat. Over 200 species of birds, river Otters, Badgers, White-tailed deer are among the things calling this place home. Our Thanks to the Adam family for allowing us access. Melanie Krause will head up this event. Details TBA.

June 25th: Retzer Nature Center: 7:00 AM - Back to our home base for a nice stroll around the property. Meet in the parking lot at 7:00 AM. Ann Ferrell will be waiting to lead you on a morning of birding that is always fun. The Bobolinks could be holding flight school for their young around that time, preparing them for their long migration south. See you there!

2022 Spring – Summer Midweek Events: We are trying something new here. For those who can't make the weekend events or for those spots hopefully less crowded than weekends, we will be holding 3 or 4 events.

- One will be along the **Ice Age Trail in Hartland** for spring warblers lead by Paula Stich
- Another will be at **Fox River Sanctuary** Tuesday, May 10 lead by Colleen Resendiz.
- Other locations and dates will be determined by the leaders and announced with advance notice.