

BEN GOSS FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2017

All trips are scheduled for Saturdays, with Sundays being a rain date.
In addition to this schedule, join the club for a pre-meeting bird hike
a couple hours before each Sunday meeting this spring!

APRIL 1: PARADISE VALLEY, BARK RIVER UNIT: Meet at 7 AM in the parking lot at the end of Kincaid lane, 2 miles west of Dousman. We will gather at the viewing platform and scope for waterfowl, raptors and early migrants before hiking a half mile or more into the wetland complex.

APRIL 8: OUR ANNUAL WOODCOCK FIELD TRIP AT THE SCUPPERNONG PRAIRIE:: Meet at 7:00 PM at the Hunter's parking Lot along Hwy N south of Wilton Rd. This is the same day as the Sandhill Crane Count which takes place in the morning. (In 2015 we had one land 10 ft away from our group!)

APRIL 15: HARTLAND MARSH: Meet at the parking lot on the west side of Cottonwood Ave at 7:00 AM. A tower for migrating chimney swifts has been erected at the site. The habitat consists of a 1-mile boardwalk through the marsh, plus walking trails through stands of hardwoods. Shootingstar and other spring ephemerals should be in bloom.

APRIL 29: BADERTSCHER PRESERVE: Meet at 7 AM Badertscher Preserve is over 130 acres of former farmland featuring foot trails for hiking the wetlands, woodlands, oak savanna, hills, and prairies. The site covers rolling glacial topography and has artesian springs which give rise to Spring Creek, the highest quality stream in Muskego and a major tributary to the Little Muskego Lake. The property is located on Field Dr. in Muskego. Ample parking is available in the lot on the north side of the road.

MAY 6: Spring Bird Count at Retzer Nature Center

MAY 13: MAY COUNT conducted by Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club

MAY 20: MONCHES WOODS: Monches Woods is a unique property containing both the Oconomowoc and Little Oconomowoc Rivers. While our main goal will be to find a singing Louisiana Waterthrush, nesting Blue-winged Warblers and Acadian Flycatchers call this their summer home, and there's an outside shot for a Red-shouldered Hawk sighting, so this is a bird hike you don't want to miss! While much of the topography is quite hilly and can be a difficult hike for some folks, this year we will be guided by John Winze whose family owns property lending us a "back door" entrance to the woods with fewer hills to climb! Directions/time to follow.

MAY 27: VERNON MARSH: Meet at 7 AM Waukesha County's biggest marsh is a migratory hot spot and breeding oasis for many species, especially marsh birds. We will hike either from the Benson Ave. entrance or Frog Alley entrance, so stay tuned for updates.

JUNE 4 (Sunday): BEULAH BOG: Meet at 7 AM Beulah Bog lies in a series of four kettle holes and features an undisturbed bog with many unusual plants more typical of northern bogs. Anne Moretti has been surveying this location for the WBBA II, and will lead us on a hike to enjoy this unique natural place.

June 10: Bio Blitz at Fox River Park