

Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club

2018 SPRING FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

All events are on Saturdays unless otherwise noted.



APRIL 7: WATERFOWL, RAPTORS, & EARLY MIGRANTS – Paradise Valley SWA, 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 14: CREPUSCULAR ACTIVITY at Scuppernong Prairie; aka the Woodcock Walk

Meet at 7:00 PM in the evening at the Hunter's parking Lot along Hwy N south of Wilton Rd. Look and listen after sunset for American Woodcock, Wilson's Snipe, and other crepuscular activity.

MAY 5: Spring Bird Count at Retzer Nature Center

7:00 AM – Noon Join the Benjamin Goss Bird Club in their annual spring bird count at Retzer. Teams observe and count the different species of birds found at the nature center.

SUNDAY MAY 6: MARTINS WOODS & FOX RIVER GREENWAY

Meet at 6:30 AM in the Big Bend School parking lot. We will carpool to Martin's Woods SNA and the adjacent Fox River Greenway site. ***Carpooling is required!*** Please do not drive directly to the birding location; there is only space for about 4 cars. The walk starts on level mowed trails, then continues through narrow, probably muddy trails down to the river, which can be a good spot for warblers. Footwear that can handle wet and muddy conditions is *highly recommended*. Rubber boots are a good choice. At the end, we'll take a short walk through the state natural area looking for spring ephemerals in the wet mesic environment.

MAY 12: MAY COUNT conducted by Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club

MAY 26: ENGEL CONSERVATION AREA

Meet at 6:30 AM in the parking lot on the north side of Henneberry Drive, just west of Cty Y in Muskego. We'll take a roughly 2 mile walk over mostly level terrain, but be prepared for wet and/or muddy trails. Engel can be good for a variety of migrants including flycatchers, warblers, waterfowl, and shorebirds if the water level is right.

JUNE 2: SOUTHERN KETTLE MORAINE with the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology

Meet at 6:00 AM in the parking lot of Scuppernong Ski/Hiking Trails Hwy ZZ (north side of road) - approx. 1 mile east of Hwy 67. Carpooling is advised for this trip; bring along water and snacks. This trip mixes a couple of 1/4 mile hikes along level, well groomed trails with roadside stops through habitats ranging from pinewood forests to the largest wet prairie east of the Mississippi.

JUNE 9: KAYAKING & CANOEING the ROCK RIVER (Rain Date: June 10)

Meet at 8:00 AM at Harnischfeger Park located at the end of Crawfish Road west of Ashippun. While Prothonotary Warblers can be heard from the boat launch, many more wonderful gems can be seen and heard from on the water. We will spend about 2 – 2.5 hours on the water paddling approx. 3 miles one way.

Fridays April 6 – June 29: 7:00 – 8:30 AM Join the naturalists from Retzer Nature Center and Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club as we set out to discover who's chirping on the trails. We'll explore habitats, welcome back spring migrants and check on our year-round residents. Binoculars are available on a limited basis. No reservations needed. Meet in the parking lot and pay at the front desk after the hike.

FEE: \$2.00/person goes to Retzer Nature Center.