



Northern Parula by
Gary Erickson

Calendar of events:

Monthly Bird Walks at Quarry Hill

April 2, May 7, & June 4. Meet at 9 am at the Quarry Hill Nature Center and join us on a casual walk thru the park. Walks usually last about one hour. Free and open to the public - no registration required. Leaders: Terry & Joyce Grier

April 14 - Woodcock Walk At Chester Woods.

Meet at 7:30 pm in the horse trailer parking lot in Chester Woods. Every spring the Woodcock perform one of the strangest mating rituals. We will observe it up close, beginning at dusk. Free program but daily or annual park sticker required to enter park. Leader: Jim Peterson

April 23 - Root River County Park Bird Walk

from 7:30 am to approx 11 am. Root River County Park, just south of Rochester near Simpson, has good diverse habitat for a wide variety of birds. Meet in the parking lot on the east side of the Heintz Center in Rochester at 7:30 am to carpool. Free program. Leader: Sandy Hokanson

April 24 - Earthfest Expo

in the Mayo Civic Center Auditorium - Visit our booth (and many others) between 10 am - 4 pm. Find out more at www.earthfestrochester.mn.org

April 26 - ZVAS Monthly Program - Minnesota

Warblers at Quarry Hill Nature Center from 7 - 8 pm. Brightly colored warblers will soon be here. Chase Davies, from the St. Paul Audubon Society, will share her sense of humor as she explains how to see, appreciate and identify more of these flying bits of confetti.

April 28 - Serenity Couture's First Trashion Show

at the Wicked Moose Bar and Grill in Rochester (1201 Eastgate Dr SE, Rochester, MN 55904). Creativity and environmentalism go hand in hand at this outrageous event which raises money for the Audubon Society. Doors open at 6pm - Show starts at 7pm ADMISSION: \$15 in advance (or \$20 at the door) VIP T: \$50 (Includes a Drink Ticket, and Aveda Goodie Bag). More at www.serenityrochester.com/trashion-show-2016.html.

MAY 3 & 5 - Lunch With The Birds at Kutzky Park,

213 13th Ave NW, Rochester, MN from Noon - 1:15 pm. Join us for a casual noon-time walk at the peak of migration. Arrive and leave as


More events on back...



Terry Grier examining an old Bluebird nest box.

We love our volunteers!

Last year our volunteers provided **934 hours** of their time and expertise. If we'd had to pay for this time - the cost at just \$10 an hour would come to a staggering \$9,340!


These dedicated individuals assisted with everything from administrative duties to leading field trips, to conducting citizen science projects, to advocating for environmental causes, and much more. 

We need weed warriors:

Help us destroy, eradicate, and remove invasive plants like garlic mustard and buckthorn that are choking out our native flora and fauna. Start your journey at this free class:

Invasive Plant Identification Class

Saturday, May 14, 2016 from 9 am - Noon
at Quarry Hill Nature Center

We'll teach you what to do and you'll work with a trained volunteer. Just come dressed in old clothes, sturdy shoes or boots and work gloves. Contact Jill Danielsen at jdanielsen@qhnc.org if you have questions. No registration needed. 

Calendar of events continued:

your schedule requires. We will start at the picnic shelter at noon. Later arrivals can locate the group along the creek between 11th and 16th Ave NW. Leader: Lance Vrieze

May 8 - Hok-Si-La Park

Field Trip. Meet at 8 am at the east parking lot of the Heintz Center to carpool to Lake City. Located along the Mississippi River, Hok-Si-La is a magnet for migrating birds. Bring a snack or a bag lunch. We will return midafternoon. Leaders: Terry & Joyce Grier

May 21 - Spring Fest

at Oxbow Park & Zollman Zoo from 11 am - 3 pm. Be sure to stop at the ZVAS booth.

May 24 - ZVAS Monthly Program - National Audubon's Best Kept Secret

at Quarry Hill Nature Center from 7 - 8 pm. Want to know how to magically produce lots of birds? Our speaker this month, Kristin Hall, Conservation Manager for Audubon MN, will talk to us about Minnesota's 57 Important Bird Areas (IBAs).

May 31 - Hayden Prairie Field Trip

- Meet at the NW part of the Fleet Farm parking lot, 4891 Maine Ave SE, Rochester to carpool. We will leave at 5:15 pm and return around 9 pm. Dress for the weather and hiking through prairie vegetation. Hayden Prairie is famed for its show of flowers in early summer. We should see thousands of Shooting Stars and many other prairie wildflowers, as well as a good assortment of prairie dependent birds. Leader: Joel Dunnette

June 11 - Whitewater State Park Family Outdoor Fair

- Noon - 3pm, free entrance to the park and lots of fun activities. Visit www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/whitewater/calendar.html for more information.

June 12 - Beginning Butterfly Watching Class at Quarry Hill Nature Center

- 2 - 4 pm Master Naturalist instructor and butterfly count leader Joel Dunnette will teach you how to view and identify butterflies in the field. A short indoor photo lecture will be followed by time in the field. Class size is limited, you must register for this event by contacting Joel at jdunnette@gmail.com or 507-269-7064.

June 26 - Damsels & Dragons at Chester Woods Park

- 3 - 5 pm. Dragonflies and damselflies are amazing creatures - ferocious predators, fantastic flyers, with incredible body shapes, beautiful colors, and a distinctive life cycle. Join us at 3 pm at the kiosk near the boat landing to catch some of these amazing creatures to examine up close. Families with children are welcome at this fun activity. Leader: Joel Dunnette

Note: Vehicles entering the park are required to display either an annual or daily entrance permit.



Got kids? Or grandkids?


Help us introduce kids to the joys of exploring nature. We need a few energetic folks to help us point kids in the right direction, be enthusiastic, and basically assist our program leader at these summer events:

Damsels & Dragons at Chester Woods Sunday, June 26, 3-5 pm

Bug Hunt at Chester Woods Sunday, July 24, 3-5 pm

No special knowledge needed - just a willingness to discover new things together!

Contact Joel Dunnette at jdunnette@gmail.com or call 507-269-7064 for more details about volunteering.

Follow us on Face Book -  Search for Zumbro Valley Audubon.

Send you email address to sandy@hokansonart.com to get our monthly eNewsletter.

Be sure to visit
ZumbroValleyAudubon.org
to confirm events and
check for changes or new
listings.