



Bloodroot
by Gary Erickson

Calendar of events:

Monthly Bird Walks at Quarry Hill

April 7, May 5, & June 2: 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 12 - Woodcock Walk at Chester Woods

7:30 pm - 9:30 pm at Chester Woods Park / Leader Jim Peterson

Every spring the Woodcock perform one of the strangest and most interesting mating rituals. We hope to observe it up close, beginning at dusk. Meet in the horse corral parking lot at Chester Woods County Park (southeast of Rochester, MN) at 7:30 PM. Note: a County Parks sticker is required to enter the park.

April 21 - Rochester Reservoir Field Trip

8 am - Noon / Leader: Lance Vrieze

Meet in the east parking lot at the Heintz Center (Rochester, MN) to car pool. The flood control reservoirs around Rochester have created some of the best bird habitat in Olmsted County and are more often than not where local rarities are found. We will visit several to see what we can turn up during migration. There will only be a few short walks totaling less than a mile. Bring a scope and binoculars if you have them, otherwise some will be available to share.



Black & White Warbler
by Denise Dupras

April 28 - Root River County Park Field Trip

8:30 am - 11 am / Leader: Sandy Hokanson

We will visit Root River County Park just south of Rochester near Simpson to look for returning migrants and more. The park has nice walking trails and good diverse habitat for a wide variety of birds and spring wildflowers. Meet in the east parking lot at the Heintz Center at 8:30 am to car pool.

Schedule continued on back.



2018 YEAR OF THE BIRD

In 2018, we mark the centennial of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the most powerful and important bird-protection law ever passed. In honor of this milestone nature lovers around the world are joining forces to celebrate the "Year of the Bird" and commit to protecting birds today and for the next hundred years.

This spring ZVAS is celebrating by hosting a "BIG Birding Day" on May 5th. See complete details and the schedule on back.

April 21 - Earthfest Expo

NEW Location! RCTC Field House
10am - 4pm

There are lot's of ways to participate in this year's EarthFest. Find out about all the events happening between April 16 - 22 at www.earthfestrochestermn.org. And be sure to stop by our booth at the Expo on Saturday - the signature event of the week-long celebration. There will be lots of vendors, activities and speakers to enjoy.



**Support
our birds,
butterflies and
pollinators
with native
plants in your
garden.**

April 24 - ZVAS Monthly Program - "Wolves - what's all the howl about"

7 - 8 pm at Quarry Hill Nature Center / Presented by Misi Stine

Predator/prey relationships are incredibly complex and wolves are often times singled out as the reason why people are not seeing deer or moose. At this program we'll examine this relationship. Don't miss this fascinating program as Misi Stine, Outreach Director of the International Wolf Center, helps us understand these beautiful animals.

May 3 & 8 - Lunch with the Birds at Kutzky Park

213 13th Ave NW, Rochester, MN / Noon - 1:15 pm / Leader: Lance Vrieze

Located less than a half-mile from both St. Marys Hospital and the Mayo Building, Kutzky Park comes alive with migrating warblers, vireos, orioles, and more every May. Join us for a casual noon-time walk at the peak of migration. Arrive and leave as your schedule requires. We'll start at the picnic shelter at noon. Later arrivals can locate the group along the creek between 11th and 16th Ave NW.

May 9 - Kutzky Park Early Bird Walk

6:30 am start / Leader: Brendan Lanpher

Birds are early risers! Arrive and leave as your schedule requires. We will start at the picnic shelter at 6:30 am. Later arrivals can locate the group along the creek between 11th and 16th Ave NW.

May 12 - Plummer House Field Trip

1091 Plummer Ln, Rochester, MN 7 am start / Leader: Brendan Lanpher

Meet in the Plummer House Visitor Parking lot at 7 am. We'll tour the gardens looking for warblers. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather.

May 13 - Hok-Si-La Park Field Trip

8 am - mid-afternoon / Leaders: Terry & Joyce Grier

Meet at 8 am in the east parking lot of the Heintz Center to carpool to Lake City. Located on the Mississippi River, Hok-Si-La is a magnet for migrating birds. Bring a snack or a bag lunch. We will return mid-afternoon.

May 22 - ZVAS Monthly Program - The BS of Bites and Stings

presented by Dr. Ann McKenzie, MD

7 - 8 pm at Quarry Hill Nature Center / Leaders: Terry & Joyce Grier

Our speaker is a retired family physician with a passion for natural history. A birder, she's also active with the Minnesota Herpetological Society and various Invertebrate groups. A special interest for her has been the application of invertebrate biology to medicine. At this program she will share her knowledge of human reactions to invertebrate actions. We promise - no biting or stinging will occur during the meeting!

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



May 5, 2018

ZVAS BIG Birding Day

Join us as we spending the day birding at numerous locations throughout Rochester. Our goal is to count and tally as many species as we can find. Come to one, two or all of the sessions listed. Be prepared for the weather and bring binoculars. Participants should be able to walk on uneven ground. This event takes place rain or shine and may not be suitable for very young children.

7:00 - 8:30 am Eastside Marsh

Leader: Lance Vrieze / Meet in the Quarry Hill Parking lot to car pool.

9:00 - 10:30 am Quarry Hill Nature Center

Leaders: Terry & Joyce Grier

11:00 am - 12:30 pm Plummer House

Leader: Brendan Lanpher
Meet in the Plummer House Visitor Parking lot at 1091 Plummer Lane in Rochester. We'll tour the gardens looking for warblers.

1:00 - 2:30 pm Izaak Walton Wetlands

Leader: Sandy Hokanson & Clifford Hansen / Warblers, waterfowl and spring flowers.

3:00 - 4:30 pm Willow Creek Reservoir

Leader Joel Dunnette
This is a great site to look for migrating waterfowl.

Follow us on Facebook -
Search for Zumbro Valley Audubon.



Send your email address to editor@zumbrovalleyaudubon.org to get our monthly eNewsletter.