Zumbro Valley Audubon’s 3rd Annual **BIG** Birding Day - May 9, 2020

This year we are focusing on just three locations, but they are each wonderful places to see birds. We’ll walk through a variety of habitats including marshy wetlands, lake shore, woods and prairies.

**Schedule***:

1. **Eastside WMA & Silver Creek Reservoir**: 6:30 - 8:30 am
   - Meet in the Silver Creek Reservoir parking lot. We’ll divide into two groups with half traveling to Eastside WMA and half staying at Silver Creek. After about 40 minutes the groups will switch locations. We should see migrating waterfowl, rails, swallows & other birds.
   - Leaders: Lance Vrieze & Jerry Pruett

2. **Chester Woods**: 9 am - 3 pm
   - Meet at Picnic Shelter #1 where we’ll divide into at least two and up to four groups. It’s easier to see birds in smaller groups!
   - **MORNING session: 9 - 11:30** (time is approx - each trail approx 2.5 miles)
     - **Group 1A** - Brendan Lanpher
       Dam Overlook > N.Trail
     - **Group 1B** - Jim Peterson
       N. Trail > Dam overlook
     - **Group 2A** - Terry & Joyce Grier
       Chester Lake > Kisrow Trail
     - **Group 2B** - Jerry Pruett
       Kisrow Trail > Chester Lake
   - **LUNCH BREAK: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm** at Picnic Shelter #1
   - **AFTERNOON session: 12:30 - 3 pm** (time is approx - each trail approx 2.5 miles)
     - **Group 1A** - Brendan Lanpher
       Chester Lake > Kisrow Trail
     - **Group 1B** - Jim Peterson
       Kisrow Trail > Chester Lake
     - **Group 2A** - Terry & Joyce Grier
       Dam Overlook & N.Trail
     - **Group 2B** - Jerry Pruett
       N. Trail > Dam overlook

3. **After Party - Whistle Binkies South**: 4 - ? pm
   - After a long day of birding we’ll gather here to relax, talk about what we saw, and enjoy refreshments. Whistle Binkies is located at 247 Woodlake Dr SE, Rochester, MN 55904.
   - Vehicles entering Chester Woods must display an annual county park sticker ($25) OR a day pass ($5) to enter. These can be purchased at entry.

*Schedule and leaders may change due to trail conditions, etc.*

**Other notes:**

- Come to one or all of the hikes. Come and go at your own schedule. Event appropriate for teens - adults.
- Event takes place in light rain (event is canceled if thunderstorms are present).
- Bring binoculars, water, your own lunch/snacks and insect repellent if desired.
- Dress for the weather. Be prepared to hike over uneven ground.
Chester Woods Trails

- Kisrow - 1.8 mi.
- Chester Lake Trail - 1.2 mi.
- Dam Overlook - 1.2 mi.
- North Trail - 2.5 mi.
- Prairie Ridge Trail - 1.6 mi.
- North Sand Prairie Trail - 1.3 mi.
- South Sand Prairie Trail - 1.4 mi.
- Zieman Loop - 4.0 mi.
- Homestead Site - 0.2 mi.
- Links - .5 mi.

Picnic Shelter #1

Dam Overlook & North Trail Combo

Chester Lake & Kisrow Trail Combo

No Dogs Allowed on These Trails