

SANDUSKY BAY/ PICKEREL CREEK

Guided Van Trip

6:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Brought to you by Black Swamp Bird Observatory

Greater Yellowlegs

Field Trip Information

About

The south side of Sandusky Bay has multiple excellent birding sites that host a diverse array of migrant and breeding birds. The wooded sections of these sites provide an ideal stopover habitat for migrant songbirds, including warblers, vireos, tanagers, orioles, and more. Depending on water levels, marsh habitat and lakefront viewing will help diversify the day with waders, waterfowl, gulls, terns, American White Pelicans, and shorebirds. The beautiful parks and diverse habitats make for a great day of birding!

Accessibility

This van trip covers up to six locations, time and birding permitting. Willow Point Wildlife Area consists of a flat gravel road that the group will walk up and down, which has potholes and other damage due to erosion. Pit/vault, accessible restrooms are available at Castalia Quarry Park, roughly 10 minutes down the road. There is a 0.15-mile walk on an uphill trail with loose gravel to reach the restrooms. The birding at Resthaven Wildlife Area takes place along paved parking lots, mowed grassy trails, or packed gravel roads. All of these options are flat but may show some wear and unevenness. Pickerel Creek is all grassy paths running between wetland cells with some short but steep inclines to get to them. They are flat once on top. Tall grass may make holes and uneven areas hard to see. Boggy Bottoms involves birding along a flat gravel road. Blue Heron Reserve has a somewhat warped, uneven boardwalk with no railing or lip.



American White Pelicans



Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Van Trip Information

This van trip departs from Maumee Bay State Park Lodge promptly at 6:00 a.m. and returns at 3:00 p.m. Please note that this trip has a Port Clinton pickup stop as well. Participants taking advantage of this service are to arrive at the parking lot for the Ottawa County Municipal Court at 6:30 a.m., and vans will arrive shortly after. For information regarding Port Clinton Pickup, please see the page in this document with directions and instructions, and scan the QR code here for maps. The trip will return to the Port Clinton pickup site around 1:20 - 1:30 p.m. for an on-time arrival at Maumee Bay State Park Lodge at 2:00 p.m.



41.5133, -82.9112

**SCAN QR CODE
FOR DIRECTIONS**

Birding Information

Target Species

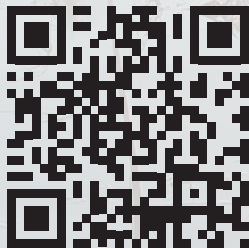
The different habitats visited on this field trip can produce a diverse species total for the day. Wooded habitats along Sandusky Bay provide good stopover and breeding habitats for various warblers, vireos, tanagers, orioles, flycatchers, thrushes, and more. The Sandusky Bay is a significant staging ground for migrant waterbirds. Marsh habitat provides opportunities for lingering and breeding waterfowl, waders, gulls, terns, and American White Pelicans. If wetland units are low enough, there may be habitat for shorebirds at some sites like Pickerel Creek and Boggy Bottoms.

eBird Protocol

Your field trip leaders are responsible for eBirding all of The Biggest Week In American Birding field trips. They will be keeping lists during the day for all sites visited. These will become available for participants to add to their eBird accounts. Please be patient as our dedicated festival volunteers sort the checklists that are being submitted and upload them to The Biggest Week In American Birding website. Please allow a few days for this process to take place. You can check the status of your eBird lists by visiting biggestweekinamericanbirding.com and clicking "Area Info" in the top menu and selecting "Field Trips" and then "eBird Checklists" from the dropdown menu. Select the day of your field trip from our menu and look for the trip you attended. There you will find all of the links to the different eBird lists submitted by your field trip leader.



Yellow-breasted Chat



Willow Point WA
eBird Page



Resthaven WA
eBird Page



Pickerel Creek WA
eBird Page

Port Clinton Pickup Information

The Port Clinton Pickup for The Biggest Week In American Birding is located in the parking lot for the Ottawa County Municipal Court. When mapping to the GPS pin provided or scanning the QR code, as you turn off of 163 towards the Ottawa County Municipal Court, watch for the Biggest Week Port Clinton Pickup Signs that will be along the road and in the parking lot.

