

MAUMEE BAY STATE PARK

YOU DRIVE / WE LEAD

8:00 - 11:00 a.m.



Brought to you by Black Swamp Bird Observatory

Wood Thrush

Location Information

About

Maumee Bay State Park is the home base for The Biggest Week In American Birding Festival and a fantastic birding location! The You Drive/We Lead trip will meet at parking lot #7 near The Hill towards the beach. The wooded section of the trail provides good opportunities for many of the migrant songbirds passing through the area. If time permits, the group can drive to the parking lot for both the main and inland beaches. This site is often an excellent stopover site for many gulls, shorebirds, and waders. This variety of habitats can allow for a diverse species list for the morning. There's no telling what surprises await birders along the lakefront on this outing!

Accessibility

On this You Drive/We Lead trip, you will spend the duration of the time away from the vehicles. The main trail surrounding the hill is a flat, wide, and paved trail. This trail is 1.7 miles in length. However, there is the opportunity to cut the distance in half by taking one of the grass trails that cuts back through the paved loop. Grass trails are flat and about 0.25 miles in total. If the trip continues to the beach, the paved sidewalk will allow easy viewing of the main and inland beaches.



Red-headed Woodpecker



Blackpoll Warbler

You Drive / We Lead Information

You will meet your guide in parking lot #7 of Maumee Bay State Park. This is the parking lot labeled for "The Hill." You will find the GPS coordinates and a QR code to scan for directions below. When entering Maumee Bay State Park off of N. Curtice Road, keep left at the split in the road, and head towards the beach. Turn left on the road towards the campground. Turn right into the parking lot. Once you arrive in the parking lot, look for the Biggest Week in American Birding "Event Site" sign. Your field trip leaders will be wearing golden guide caps.



41.6822, -83.3826

**SCAN QR CODE
FOR DIRECTIONS**

Birding Information

Target Species

The diversity of habitats at Maumee Bay State Park can provide great birding all times of year. This field trip will cover forested areas that are often good for a wide array of migrant warblers, vireos, thrushes, flycatchers, and more! The forest floor here is often wet and can be particularly good for species such as Northern Waterthrush, Rusty Blackbird, and potentially Mourning Warbler. Early in the morning, there is the chance for singing Eastern Whip-poor-wills. The field and edge habitat can be a great spot to search for Field, White-crowned, Lincoln's, and Swamp Sparrows. If the group has the time to check the beaches, there is the possibility to add quite a few more species. This is often where more highly sought-after gull species such as Franklin's and Lesser Black-backed Gulls show up. Trumpeter Swan, Sanderling, Ruddy Turnstone, and Dunlin are among some of the other target species here. Oftentimes, gulls, terns, ducks, and cormorants can be seen flying along the lakefront.



Prothonotary Warbler

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 "*Festival Schedule*" 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.



Maumee Bay State Park
eBird Page

All images by Tyler Ficker

Maumee Bay State Park Hotspot Map



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