

# CATAWBA / MARBLEHEAD

**Guided Van Trip**

6:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Brought to you by Black Swamp Bird Observatory

*Black-throated Blue Warbler*

# FIELD TRIP INFORMATION

## About

The Catawba Island / Marblehead Peninsula region can be one of the most exciting sites to bird in Ohio during spring migration. The right weather patterns can funnel incredible numbers of birds into the hotspots in the area. This field trip will cover several of the best migrant trap hotspots, marshes, and lake access points highlighted by East Harbor State Park - the primary stop for the morning. The diversity of habitats and nature of migrant trap woodlots can lead to an exciting and extensive list of species possible for this trip. Additionally, the group will have the opportunity to visit the historic Marblehead Lighthouse and view the only natural US population of the rare Lakeside Daisy! It's sure to be an exciting day!



## Accessibility

This field trip visits up to eight sites, each with differing physical accessibility. Catawba Point Preserve has a short trail system with slight slopes for about 400' to the loose crushed stone trails. The trails at Cedar Meadows Preserve consist of loose crushed gravel and mowed grass. East Harbor State Park will involve birding on grass, gravel, and paved trails. This is the largest site and longest stop on the trip and has permanent facilities that are open seasonally; however, they may be closed at this time of year, in which case there will be standard-size portable restrooms available. Great Egret Marsh has a half-mile each-way trail on well-packed crushed stone. Meadowbrook Marsh provides wide asphalt trails with an observation deck accessed by an ADA-compliant ramp. With all of the different sites and multiple stops at East Harbor, this trip will involve getting in and out of the van nearly ten times.

## 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 2:20 - 2:30 p.m. for an on-time arrival at Maumee Bay State Park Lodge at 3:00 p.m.



41.5133, -82.9112

**SCAN QR CODE  
FOR DIRECTIONS**

# BIRDING INFORMATION

## Target Species

The various locations birded on this trip can result in a very diverse species list. Many of the small woodlots in these properties concentrate good numbers and diversity of warblers, vireos, sparrows, thrushes, flycatchers, and more. The open scrub habitat provides breeding habitat for Orchard Orioles, Brown Thrashers, and Gray Catbirds. The different access points to the lake and marshes can help diversify the total species list for the day by providing opportunities for waterfowl, gulls, terns, waders, and American White Pelicans. As is the case anywhere in the festival's region, there is no telling what you could find during migration! This field trip covers many sites that aren't as heavily birded otherwise, allowing you to turn something unusual up at any time!



## 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](http://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.



# 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.

