

Oak Openings Van Trip

See red markings on maps indicating the best birding options at each location. Please note that you are not limited to these areas, they are just the areas we feel will be most productive.

The follow list includes some of the best birding locations at Oak Openings Metropark. It is good to stop at the Buehner Center first since there are restrooms there. Also, if you are driving and the leader is Elliot Tramer, you will be meeting him here once you arrive at Oak Openings.

1. Buehner Center

This should be your first stop when you arrive at Oak Openings. Participants can use the restroom here and the group can check the Window on Wildlife.

2. Oak Openings Lodge / “Tornado Alley”

Park at the Oak Openings Lodge and take the trail at the east end of the parking lot. This trail will take you to an area that had a tornado in 2008. It has led to some great scrub type habitat where you can find Red-headed Woodpecker, Summer Tanager, Lark Sparrow, Yellow-breasted Chat, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Broad-winged Hawk, as well as many other species. Be sure to check around the Oak Openings Lodge for Pine and Yellow-throated Warblers.

3. Intersection of Reed Road / Girdham Road

There is room to park at a pull off near the intersection. Walk along Girdham Road looking for Lark Sparrow, Blue Grosbeak, Orchard Oriole, Yellow-throated Vireo, Summer Tanager, and Red-headed Woodpecker.

4. Horse Rider Center

Across Jeffers Road from the Horse Rider Center is good habitat for Lark Sparrows and Blue Grosbeaks. Birding along Jeffers Road can also be very good especially near the intersection with Reed Road.

5. Sager Road

This road is on the north end of the property. It can be good for many grassland species but doesn't have much room for the van to pull over. You can park along Sagar Road but stay away the east end of the road near the end of the runway at Toledo Express Airport.

6. White Oak Area

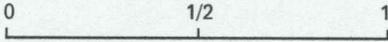
The White Oak Area has some great forest habitat. It can be a good area to look for Barred Owl, Yellow-throated Vireo, Hooded Warbler, Red-shouldered Hawk, and migrants.

7. Bridge over Swan Creek on Reed Road

This area is a great place to look for migrants.

Oak Openings Preserve

3,765 Acres



Scale in Miles

Trails



Walking (no bikes or horses)

Round Trip Miles

Silver	Ridge Trail		3.2
Yellow	Horseshoe Lake Trail		1.5
Red	Sand Dunes Trail		2.0
Blue	Ferns & Lakes Trail		2.7
Aqua	Mallard Lake Loop		0.6
Orange	Evergreen Trail		2.2
Teal	Springbrook Lake Trail		1.0
Green	Evergreen Lake Trail		1.4



Hiking

Oak Openings Hiking Trail		15.11
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Horse

Horse Trail		22.1
Wabash-Cannonball Horse Trail Connector		
Horses restricted to designated trail. Trailer parking on Jeffers Rd.		



All-Purpose

Paved bicycle trail; No horses		5.3
Wabash-Cannonball Trail		
Wabash-Cannonball Trail Connector		



Paved paths lead to the public facilities and all around Mallard Lake.



Cross-Country Skiing

- Trailhead at Evergreen Lake.
- Ski trail is marked and maintained during winter months.
- All trails in this park may be used for cross-country skiing.

Grasslands & Prairies

Evergreen Forest

Woodland & Savanna

Trailhead

Map

