



Hastings Area BIRDING FESTIVAL



Hosted by Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center
12805 St. Croix Trail S, Hastings, MN 55033



Saturday, April 23rd, 2016

\$5.00 per person OR \$15.00 with box lunch

Advanced Registration Preferred- Call CNC at 651.437.4359

Walk-in registration at CNC on festival day is welcome

Basic Festival Schedule

Open to all Birding Festival participants. Attend these sessions, and then customize your day with classes and field trips or the Youth Big Day Birding Competition!

7:00 - 12:00 - Registration

8:00 - 8:15 - Opening Welcome Address

8:30 - 9:15 - Keynote Speaker - Jonathan Moore from the NPS St. Croix National Scenic Riverway and the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area - "Find Your Park, Find Your Song."

9:15 - 12:00 - Bird Banding Demonstration

12:00 - Lunch (Box lunches must be ordered with advanced registration)

12:00 - 12:40 - "Bird Habitat and Management in Dakota County"

Presented by Dakota County Land Conservation Manager Al Singer

4:00 - Awards Presentation & Wrap-Up Meeting



Field Trips

Carpool to excellent birding locations in the Hastings area and receive a guided tour!

9:30-11:30 - Morning Field Trip- Hastings River Flats, Afton State Park, or extended trip to Lake Byllesby

1:00-3:30 - Afternoon Field Trip- 180th St. Marsh, Afton State Park, or CP Adams Park/ Hastings SNA/ Sand Coulee SNA

Classes

Learn birding skills from Hastings area experts. Beginning and long-time birders welcome!

9:30-10:30 - Beginner Birding Class- Hastings area species identification

10:35- 11:30 - Beginner Birding Hike at Carpenter Nature Center

1:00-1:30 - Raptor Program - Learn about and meet LIVE birds of prey!

3:00-3:30 - Keeping Your Bird List- Methods for keeping your life and big day bird lists



Youth Big Day Birding Competition

Team up with friends and/or siblings to try and see the most bird species in one day!

Age groups: 15 years & under OR 16-18 years

Pre-registration required. Competition rules on back of poster.

7:30 - 7:50 - Orientation (Attendance is Optional)

6:00 - 4:00 - Competition

4:00 - Awards



**THANK YOU
to our sponsors!**



HASTINGS AREA BIRDING DAY

Youth Birding Competition Rules

1. Teams must register in one of two divisions.

Participants in the 16 year old and up division are allowed to have an adult chaperone/driver but must identify birds on their own – Adults must not help locating or identifying birds.

Participants in the 15 year old and less division must bird with adult supervision at CNC during the morning and join adult lead field trips in the afternoon.

2. If a team comes to a consensus on the identification of a bird, and the adult knows it is wrong, they can strike the specie from the list. Teams cannot count that individual bird again, though if they encounter the species again and correctly identify it, it can go on the list. This helps avoid the identification becoming a “guessing game” until they hit upon the correct identification.
3. Teams must have at least 2 participants and not more than 5.
4. Teams must compete within the age division of their oldest participant.
5. Team members must stay within voice contact of each other at all times. (Except bathroom breaks)
5. All birds counted must be identified by at least 2 team members.
6. Count only full species (as listed on official Minnesota State Checklist).
7. Birds must be conclusively identified by sight or sound. A bird only identified to group (i.e. scaup, either greater or lesser) may be counted as a species, if no other bird from that group appears on the list. Use common sense: if in doubt about the bird’s identity, don’t count it.
8. Birds counted must be alive, wild, unrestrained and within Hastings Birding Area (<http://www.hastingsmn.gov/visitors/things-to-do/birding>) plus Afton State Park & Prescott, Wisconsin.
9. Participants must follow the American Birding Association (ABA) code of Birding Ethics

Obey all access rules to public lands, and acquire permission to access private land.

Follow all existing local, state and federal laws. Please use common sense to stay safe during the competition.
10. Electronic or recorded birdcalls may be used (within ABA code of birding ethics) - i.e. not used with rare or endangered species, or in areas where their use is prohibited (some National Wildlife Refuges).
11. Flushing birds from their nest or cavity is not allowed.
12. Teams can travel as much of the Hastings Birding Area as they want.
13. Birds can only be counted during the day of the event starting at 6:00 am and ending at 3:30 pm on April 23, 2016.
14. During the Count, teams must make every reasonable effort to avoid receiving bird-finding help from non-participants. Phone and radio contacts and pre-arranged field encounters are not permitted. Participants may not travel with or walk any substantial distance with non-participants, except with guided field trips for lower (1.b.) division participants. When other birders are encountered accidentally, participants may not solicit bird-finding information and should avoid receiving any information from them, to the extent that common courtesy allows. If despite all precautions information is received during an accidental encounter, the team may use it. Any information received prior to the Count may be used during the Count.
15. Upper division (1.a.) teams that start before 8:00 am must be fully pre-registered.
16. The team must submit the checklist to the judges no later than 3:30 PM Saturday, April 23th.
17. Totals are considered final once lists are submitted.
18. The decision of the judges in all rulings is final.