



OZAUKEE INTERURBAN TRAIL
ADVISORY COUNCIL

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P.O. Box 994
Port Washington, WI 53074-0994
www.interurbantrail.us

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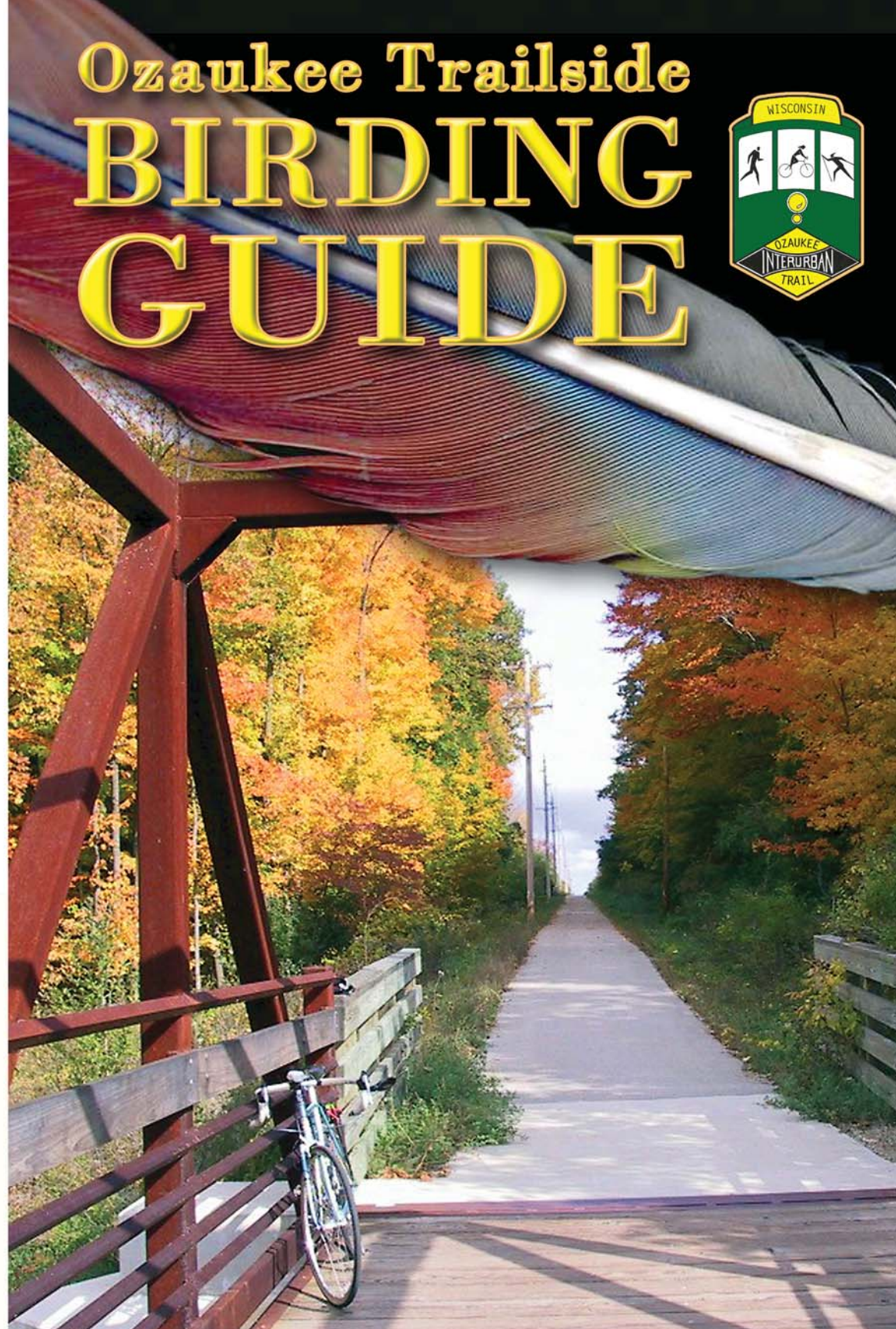
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Ozaukee Trailside BIRDING GUIDE



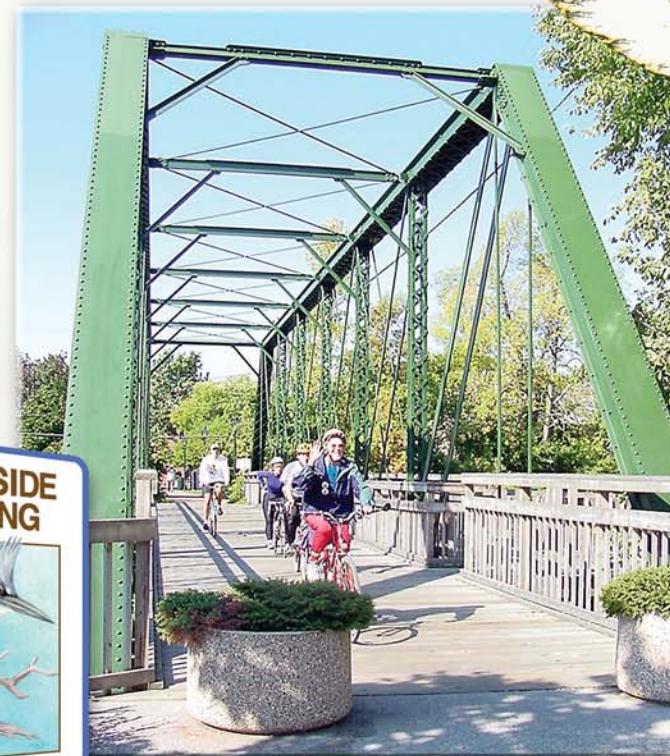
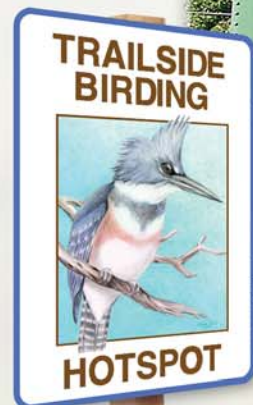
Welcome from the Trail Advisory Council

"The Ozaukee Interurban Trail Advisory Council was formed to assist in the planning and implementation of the Trail. The Council, whose mission is to promote and facilitate the safe public use of the Ozaukee Interurban Trail for transportation, recreation, health, education, economic development, and enjoyment of Ozaukee County's unique cultural, historical and natural resources, encourages the exploration of these unique natural habitats up close and in person using this wonderful off-road Trail. For more information, visit the Ozaukee Interurban Trail website at: www.interurbantrail.us."

It is certainly true that Ozaukee County is for the birds. Our geographic location and divergent land uses create a great environment for birds and for bird watching. Some of the best birding in Wisconsin, throughout the year, is done at key locations in the County. During migration, the Lake Michigan shoreline guides numerous species of ducks, geese, gulls, hawks, shorebirds, and many Neotropical migrant landbirds to their breeding and wintering sites within, and far away from, Ozaukee County.

The Milwaukee River corridor provides important feeding and resting habitat to a multitude of migrating warblers, sparrows, thrushes, and wrens. The fields, forests, and farmsteads also serve as breeding habitat for many of these species. We also have our resident woodpeckers, cardinals, finches, chickadees, and jays that brave the winter and stay fed at our feeders.

The hospitality in Ozaukee County is second to none. While visiting, enjoy wonderful lodging, restaurant, and retail establishments, along with amazing views and plentiful birding opportunities.



Historic Interurban Bridge over Cedar Creek in the City of Cedarburg.

The Ozaukee Interurban Trail is a 30-mile regional, paved, transportation and recreation shared-use trail spanning the length of Ozaukee County, through diverse habitats including hardwood woodlands, wetlands, farmlands, Cedar Creek, the Milwaukee River, and Lake Michigan. The Trail connects the Ozaukee County communities of Mequon, Thiensville, Cedarburg, Grafton, Port Washington, and Belgium along the historic Interurban Electric Railway right-of-way owned by We Energies.

Birds found along the Trail are a reflection of the habitat that it passes, so be prepared to add raptors, waterfowl, shorebirds, warblers, and other songbirds to your list. The map of birding hotspots included in this guide, along with the kingfisher logo signs, are intended to direct you to the locations that offer the greatest birding success. So pack your binoculars and field guide, and head outdoors to hike, bike, in-line skate, or cross-country ski to see your favorite species.





ON-TRAIL BIRDING HOTSPOTS

- 1. Trinity Creek Wildlife Habitat** (wetland habitat)–*City of Mequon*
Species: shorebirds, waterfowl, marsh birds, cranes, swallows
Directions: (MM 0-0.5) County Line Rd. west to Riebs Ln, north to dead end (.5 mi.)
Amenities: small parking lot and short hiking loop with educational signage
- 2. Pigeon Creek Bridge** (riverine habitat)–*Village of Thiensville and City of Mequon*
Species: Eastern Phoebe, Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warbler
Directions: (MM 3.5-4) Trail bridge in Thiensville, between Freistadt and Highland Rds.
Amenities: just west of downtown Thiensville, coffee shops, bike shop, and restaurants.
- 3. Highland Woods** (woodland habitat)–*City of Mequon*
Species: migrant warblers and vireos, kinglets, woodpeckers and nuthatches
Directions: (MM 4-4.5) Exit Trail east on Highland Rd., to Green Bay Rd. south (.5 mi.)
Amenities: parking lot, hiking loops of varying lengths, and benches
- 4. Milwaukee River Trail Bridge** (riverine habitat)–*Village of Grafton and Town of Grafton*
Species: Wood Duck and other waterfowl, Belted Kingfisher, herons, swallows
Directions: (MM 11.5-12) Just past Green Bay Rd. in Grafton
Amenities: Trail kiosk, benches, playground, and nearby parking
- 5. Bratt Woods** (woodland habitat)–*Town of Grafton*
Species: Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, migrant warblers, woodpeckers
Directions: (MM 11.5-12) Just past Milw. River bridge, look for OWLT sign on west side
Amenities: hiking Trail through property
- 6. I-43 Trail Bridge Woodlands** (woodland habitat)–*Town of Grafton*
Species: Baltimore Oriole, Brown Thrasher, Wood Thrush, other migrant songbirds
Directions: (MM 13-14) Terminal Rd. north to I-43 bridge, I-43 bridge east to Ridgewood
Amenities: benches
- 7. Ridgewood Wetland** (wetland habitat)–*Town of Grafton*
Species: waterfowl, Green Heron, Cedar Waxwing, Red-winged Blackbird
Directions: (MM 14-14.5) Just past Ridgewood Rd. along east side of Trail
Amenities: benches
- 8. Port Washington Harbor** (Lake Michigan habitat)–*City of Port Washington*
Species: 16 species of gulls, waterfowl, shorebirds, Peregrine Falcon
Directions: (MM 17-18) Follow Trail or Hwy. 32/33 (W. Grand Ave.) straight east to Lake
Amenities: located in business district, many restaurants, restrooms, parking, bike shop/rental, lodging, historic buildings, and beach
- 9. Port Washington Ravine** (woodland habitat)–*City of Port Washington*
Species: migrant flycatchers, vireos, warblers, Carolina Wren
Directions: (MM 17.5-18.5) Along Trail north of Jackson St.
Amenities: Trail kiosk and benches
- 10. Upper Lake Park** (Lake Michigan habitat)–*City of Port Washington*
Species: migrant loons, scoters and other waterfowl, gulls, swallows
Directions: (MM 17.5-18) Take Lake St. north from the harbor at Jackson St.
Amenities: picnic tables, bathrooms, playground, pavilion, and overlook
- 11. Cedar Grove WPA** (wetland habitat)–*Town of Belgium*
Species: Sandhill Crane, Bobolink, Indigo Bunting, Green Heron, flycatchers
Directions: (MM 29-29.5) Northern end of the Trail at Hwy. K, on east side

Note: MM = Trail Mile Marker



OFF-TRAIL BIRDING HOTSPOTS

- A. Mequon Nature Preserve** (open/grassland habitat)
–*City of Mequon*
Species: E. Bluebird, Indigo Bunting, N. Flicker, Horned Lark, shorebirds, ducks
Directions: exit Trail on Donges Bay west to Swan Rd. south. Parking lot on left, just north of County Line Rd. (2 mi.)
Amenities: parking lot, hiking trails, observation tower, education center.
- B. Mee-Kwon County Park and Golf Course** (woodland habitat)–*City of Mequon*
Species: migrant warblers and vireos, Baltimore Oriole, dabbling ducks, kinglets, nuthatches, woodpeckers, wild turkey
Directions: exit Trail east on Highland Rd. to Green Bay Rd. north. Park entrance to west (.8 mi. to parking lot)
Amenities: parking lot by pond, picnic tables, portable toilets and public restaurant at clubhouse
- C. Grafton Veteran's Memorial Park** (riverine habitat)–*Village of Grafton*
Species: ducks, geese, Belted Kingfisher, herons, egrets, swallows, N. Flicker
Directions: from Hwy. 60 crossing at 11th Ave. go 2 blocks east, park to north
Amenities: parking, picnic shelter, restrooms, playground, basketball hoop, near downtown retail, and bike shop/rental
- D. Blue Wing WPA** (wetland habitat)–*Town of Grafton*
Species: Amer. Bittern, Green Heron, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Amer. Kestrel
Directions: from 11th Ave. in Grafton take Hwy. 60/Q east, Hwy. C north, property on west. (3 mi.)
- E. Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve** (Lake Michigan habitat)–*Town of Grafton*
Species: migrant warblers, hawk migration, Clay-colored Sparrow, flycatchers
Directions: from Blue-wing WPA take Hwy. C north, Highbluff Dr. east to preserve (additional .9 mi.)
Amenities: parking lot, bike rack, portable toilets, series of trail loops, handicapped access boardwalks and main Trail, picnic tables, overlook, staircase and bridge to Lake Michigan.
- F. Ulaow WPA** (wetland habitat)–*Town of Grafton*
Species: Common Moorhen, Sora, Orchard Oriole, Bobolink, flycatchers
Directions: Property adjacent to Lion's Den Gorge, off 1st. small grassed parking lot
- G. Stonecroft Pond** (wetland habitat)–*Town of Grafton*
Species: 110 species including waterfowl, herons, and shorebirds
Directions: from Lion's Den Gorge take Hwy. C north, Stonecroft Dr. west (1 additional mi.)
- H. Harrington Beach State Park** (Lake Michigan habitat)–*Town of Belgium*
Species: diving ducks, migrant hawks, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat
Directions: Hwy. A east, Lake Church Rd. north, Hwy. D east, entrance south (4.5 mi.)
Amenities: ranger station, parking, pit and flush toilets, picnic areas, grills, hiking trails, summer concessions, weekend shuttle, camping and pavilion
- I. Armin O. Schwengel WPA** (open/grassland habitat)–*Town of Belgium*
Species: Bobolink, Dickcissel, Eastern Meadowlark, Short-eared and Snowy Owl
Directions: Silver Beach Rd. west, Six Mile Rd. north, property to west. Return to Trail on Jay Rd. east. (4.3 mi. loop)





Bald Eagle



Bonaparte's Gull

Typical Bird Species: (Shores/Woods)

Belted Kingfisher
 Bitterns
 Herons
 Kinglets
 Migrant Raptors, 16 species
 (Such as hawks, owls)
 Migrant Warblers, 25 species
 Plovers
 Rails, 4 species
 Sandpipers, 21 species
 (Such as Sanderling, Dunlin)
 Swallows

Many migratory bird species are threatened by habitat destruction both at their wintering grounds in Central and South America and their breeding areas in the northern U.S. and Canada. In addition, these birds must pass twice yearly above a continent experiencing substantial development pressures, offering fewer productive stopover sites for resting and refueling. Lake Michigan and its shoreline serve as a vital waystation for migrant songbirds, shorebirds, waterfowl, gulls, and raptors to successfully accomplish their long-distance journeys. Habitat protection and enhancement of the open spaces along Lake Michigan is critical to the continued survival of bird species migrating through the Midwest.



HOTSPOTS

8. Port Washington Harbor – The harbor, breakwater, and boat slips are a magnet for ducks; 16 gull species have been recorded. Birders from all over the state and Midwest have made the journey to Port Washington to view rarities such as Ivory Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, King Eider, Harlequin Duck, or Ross' Goose.

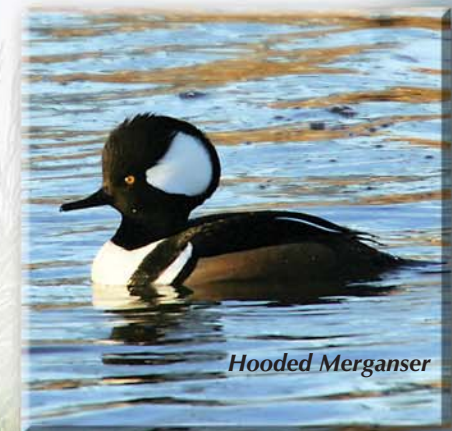
10. Upper Lake Park – This bluff-top park provides a panoramic view of the Port Washington Harbor, and is an excellent location to scope for migrant loons, grebes, waterfowl, gulls, and terns.

F. Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve – Diverse grassland, wet meadow, woodland, wetland, and bluff habitats, along with a spectacular Lake Michigan view, make birding at this 73-acre county property ideal. During peak spring migration, over 20 species of warblers can be found within a short walk from the parking lot. The boardwalks offer views of species such as rails, Least Bittern, Green Heron, Pied-billed Grebe, Ring-necked and Wood Duck. The 100-foot bluff-top and approximately one mile of shoreline provide a great vantage point for viewing loons, scoters, herons, and other waterfowl, as well as spring and fall raptor migration.

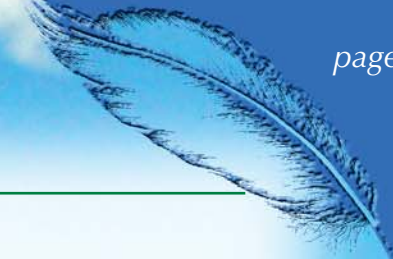
H. Harrington Beach State Park – This 638-acre park has one mile of Lake Michigan frontage and boasts a bird list of 256 species, making it one of the best places to bird watch in the state. Spring and fall migrations bring spectacular concentrations of waterfowl offshore, shorebirds along the beach, and nearly every species of warbler in the wooded areas. Significant numbers of hawks can be viewed during fall migration.

Typical Bird Species: (Open water)

Common and Red-throated Loon
 Dabbling ducks, 9 species
 (Such as Gadwall, Northern Pintail)
 Diving ducks, 15 species
 (Such as Canvasback, Bufflehead)
 Double-crested Cormorant
 Grebes
 Gulls, 16 species
 (Such as Herring, Bonaparte's)
 Mergansers
 All 3 scoters
 Terns



Hooded Merganser



HOTSPOTS

2. Pigeon Creek Bridge – The Pigeon Creek watershed contains natural areas of local significance that harbor six state listed plant species including snow trillium and twinleaf. This little oasis supports nesting Eastern Phoebes and provides excellent habitat for migrant Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers.

4. The Milwaukee River Trail Bridge provides an excellent vantage point for spotting Belted Kingfishers, Great Blue Herons, and Great Egrets, as well as migrating warblers in the wooded areas north of the river. Bald Eagles and Ospreys have passed through the area in recent years.

C. With its restrooms, play area, and picnic shelter along the Milwaukee River, **Grafton Veteran's Memorial Park** makes a great lunch stop. In spring, waterfowl families and swooping swallows provide plentiful tableside entertainment.

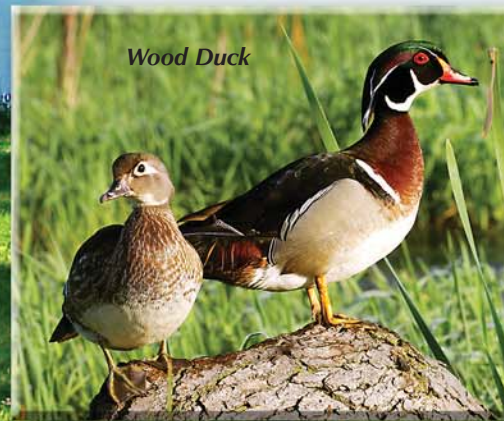
Typical Bird Species: (Open water and shore)

- Bank Swallow
- Barn Swallow
- Belted Kingfisher
- Cliff Swallow
- Great Blue Heron
- Great Egret
- Green Heron
- Mallard
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow
- Spotted Sandpiper
- Tree Swallow
- Wood Duck

Great Blue Heron



Wood Duck



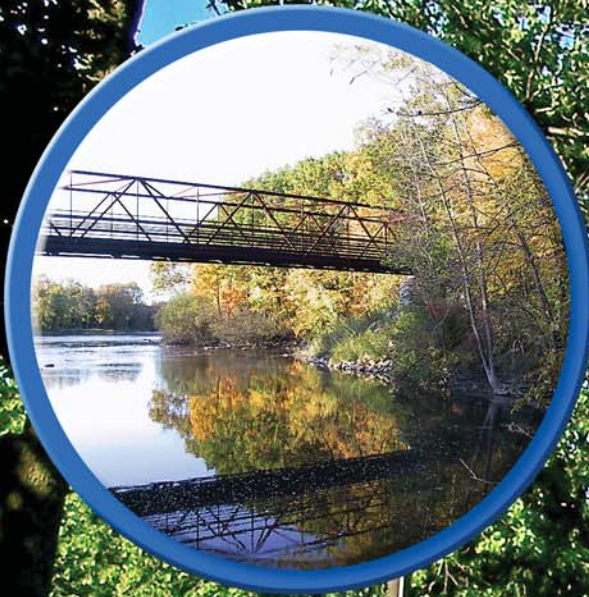
Some of southeast Wisconsin's most important natural resources are concentrated along the Milwaukee River corridor. The combination of trees, shrubs, grasses, and water make the river a natural highway for wildlife moving locally or across the continent during migration. Sandpipers, herons, and gulls are often spotted strolling along the shores. Resident waterfowl, such as Mallard and Wood Duck, raise their young along the riverbanks. Thrushes, vireos, and warblers migrate vast distances in spring and fall, and depend on the river corridor habitats to feed and rest.

In addition to providing wildlife habitat, vegetative buffers along river corridors are vital to protecting water quality and controlling flooding.

Typical Bird Species: (Woods)

- American Redstart
- Baltimore Oriole
- Barred Owl
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
- Brown Creeper
- Eastern Phoebe
- Great-Crested Flycatcher
- Northern Cardinal
- Northern Flicker
- Red-bellied Woodpecker
- Veery
- Warbling Vireo

Green Heron





HOTSPOTS



3. Highland Woods: This City of Mequon park provides a series of hiking trails that wind through a 12-acre forest remnant that boasts spring wildflower displays and views of resident nuthatches, woodpeckers, migrant kinglets, thrushes, vireos, and warblers.

5. Bratt Woods is an Ozaukee Washington Land Trust parcel of hardwood forest along the Milwaukee River that hosts spring blooming Dutchman's breeches, dogtooth violet, and jack-in-the-pulpit. Just off the Interurban Trail, a hike through the woods is rewarded with a variety of migrant warblers, thrushes, tanagers, vireos, and woodpeckers.

6. I-43 Trail Bridge Woodlands: This new section of trail, which traverses small wetlands, woodlands, and shrublands, is good for viewing American Goldfinch, Song Sparrow, Wood Thrush, Brown Thrasher, Baltimore Oriole, Cedar Waxwing, and American Kestrel.

9. The Port Washington Ravine provides refuge for a wide variety of migrant songbirds when winds are brisk off of Lake Michigan. Birds you might encounter here include Carolina Wren, orioles, tanagers, and a number of warbler, vireo, and sparrow species.

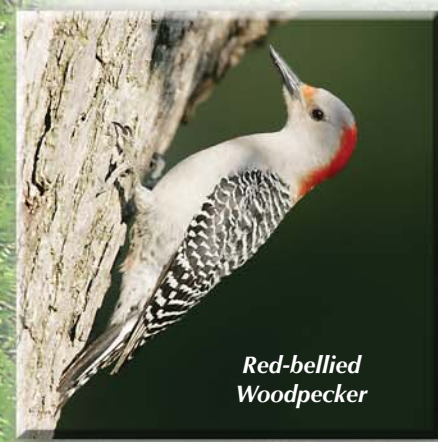
Before European settlement, old growth, Sugar Maple-American Beech-Basswood forests originally covered nearly 3.5 million acres in Wisconsin. Through fragmentation and conversion to farmland, only about 50,000 acres of this forest remain. A significant percentage of Wisconsin's native flora and fauna is associated with forest habitats. Some forest birds, such as the Scarlet Tanager, depend on the interior of large unbroken tracts of forest, and as a result have decreased in recent decades. Area land trusts and government agencies are working to improve habitat for forest interior species through land acquisitions, conservation easements with landowners and ambitious long-term restorations such as the Mequon Nature Preserve.

WOODLAND HABITAT



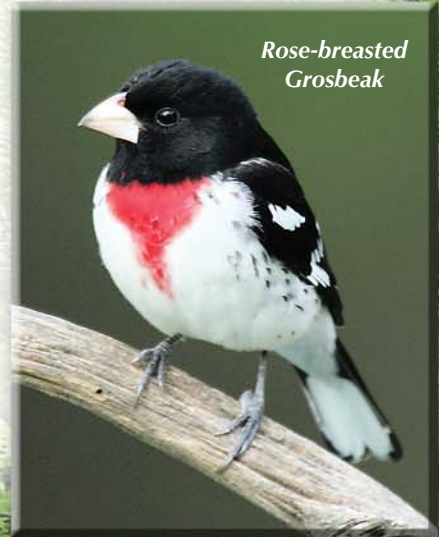
Baltimore Oriole

- Typical Bird Species:**
- American Redstart
 - Baltimore Oriole
 - Black-capped Chickadee
 - Blue Jay
 - Cooper's Hawk
 - Downy Woodpecker
 - Eastern Wood Pewee
 - Great Crested Flycatcher
 - Great Horned Owl
 - Hairy Woodpecker
 - Indigo Bunting
 - Migrant warblers

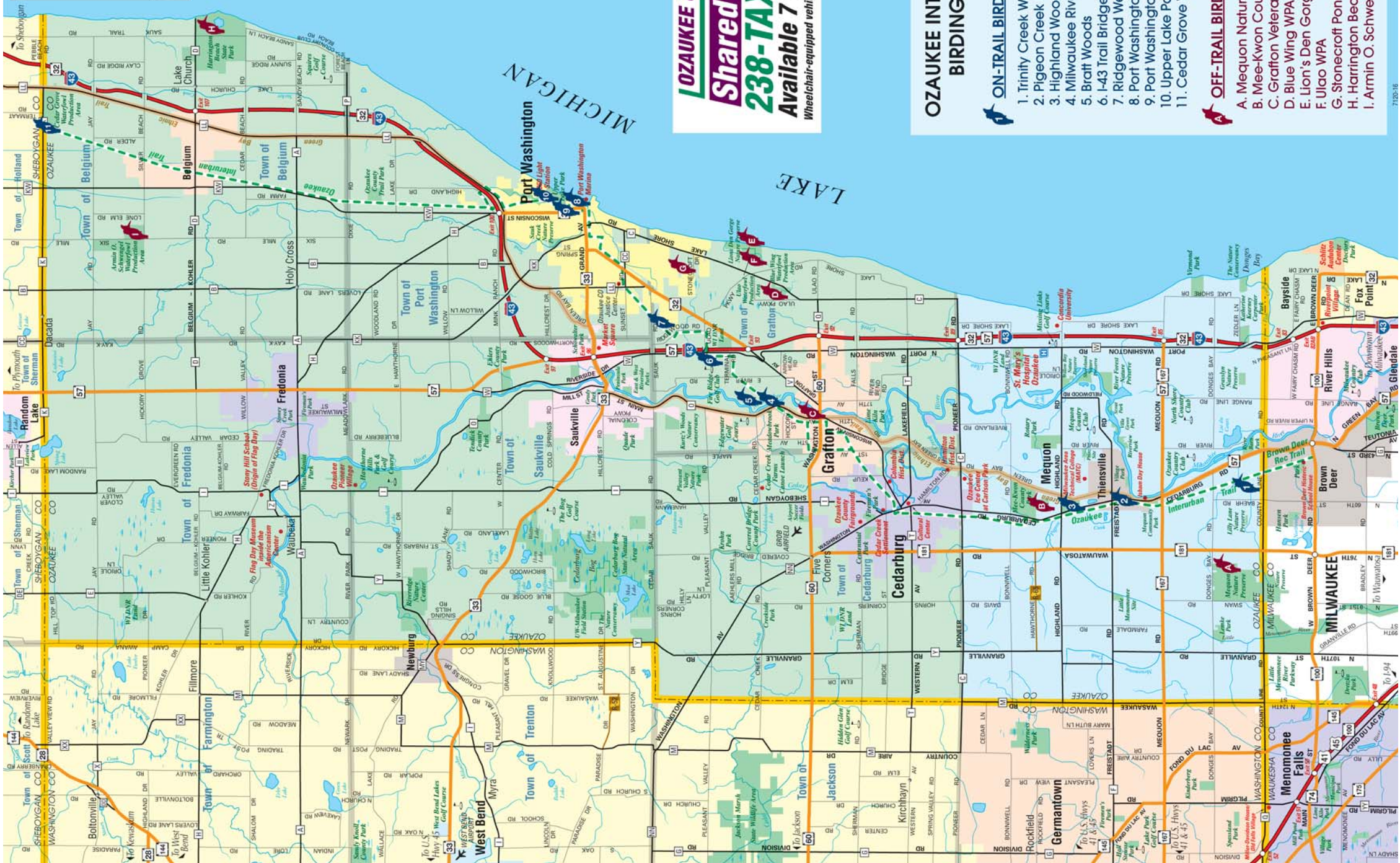


Red-bellied Woodpecker

- Typical Bird Species:**
- Ovenbird
 - Red-bellied Woodpecker
 - Red-eyed Vireo
 - Red-tailed Hawk
 - Rose-breasted Grosbeak
 - Scarlet Tanager
 - White-breasted Nuthatch
 - Wood Thrush



Rose-breasted Grosbeak



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OZAUKEE INTERURBAN TRAIL BIRDING HOTSPOTS



ON-TRAIL BIRDING HOTSPOTS

1. Trinity Creek Wildlife Habitat
2. Pigeon Creek Bridge
3. Highland Woods
4. Milwaukee River Trail Bridge
5. Bratt Woods
6. I-43 Trail Bridge Woodlands
7. Ridgewood Wetland
8. Port Washington Harbor
9. Upper Lake Park
10. Cedar Grove WPA



OFF-TRAIL BIRDING HOTSPOTS

- A. Mequon Nature Preserve
- B. Mee-Kwon County Park & Golf Course
- C. Grafton Veteran's Memorial Park
- D. Blue Wing WPA
- E. Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve
- F. Ujao WPA
- G. Stonecroft Pond
- H. Harrington Beach State Park
- I. Armin O. Schwengel WPA



HOTSPOTS



Typical Bird Species: (Water birds)

- American and Least Bittern
- American Coot
- Black-crowned Night-Heron
- Great Blue and Green Heron
- Great Egret
- Pied-billed Grebe

Early explorers called Wisconsin “the great swamp”, since the territory was covered with 10 million acres of wetlands – lands where water stands for at least part of the year. Wetland ecosystems are extremely valuable to wildlife, supporting a greater number of animals than any other type of habitat. Thirty-five percent of endangered and threatened birds in the U.S. either live in or depend on wetlands in some way.

Wetlands also absorb floodwaters; filter chemicals, sediments, and other impurities out of drinking water; and recharge groundwater. Widespread ditching and draining through the 1980s led to the loss of 50 percent of Wisconsin’s original wetlands. Ozaukee County is actively engaged in private and public wetland restorations and has created, enhanced, or restored 300+ wetlands to date.

1. Trinity Creek Wildlife Habitat is a 35-acre restored stream and wetland system designed to provide floodwater storage, improve water quality, and provide habitat for northern pike spawning, as well as for shorebirds and waterfowl. A trail loop allows for great views of species such as sandpipers, Blue-winged Teal, herons, and egrets.

7. Ridgewood Wetland – Part of the Ulao Creek subwatershed, this area supports waterfowl and marsh species such as Green Heron and Red-winged Blackbird.

11. Cedar Grove WPA – This 120-acre property boasts 87 acres of warm-season grasses that provide habitat for nesting Mallards and Blue-winged Teal, as well as other grassland species. Seven wetlands support a myriad of aquatic bird species.

D. Blue Wing WPA – At this 54-acre property, species such as American Bittern and Green Heron share the wetland area with Yellow-headed and Red-winged Blackbirds, while Rough-legged Hawks and American Kestrels survey the grasslands for rodents. Other grassland species such as Sedge Wren and Common Yellowthroat can frequently be found on the site.

E. Ulao WPA – This 44-acre property provides feeding and resting habitat for many migratory bird species following the Lake Michigan coastline. The 14-acre main wetland area hosts a variety of waterfowl and marsh birds like Common Moorhen, Sora, and Willow Flycatcher. The 25 acres of grasslands provide habitat for species such as Upland Sandpiper and Bobolink.

G. Stonecroft Pond – As many as 110 species, including a rich variety of water birds, have been sighted from this 11-acre wetland and adjacent 24 acres of grassland. Rarities include Snowy and Cattle Egret and Little Blue Heron.



American Bittern

Typical Bird Species: (Waterfowl)

- American Black Duck
- American Wigeon
- Blue-winged Teal
- Canada Goose
- Gadwall
- Green-winged Teal
- Mallard
- Northern Pintail
- Ruddy Duck



Blue-winged Teal

Typical Bird Species: (Marsh birds)

- Black and Forster’s Tern
- Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs
- Sandhill Crane
- Sedge and Marsh Wren
- Solitary and Spotted Sandpiper
- Sora
- Wilson’s Snipe
- Yellow-headed Blackbird
- Yellow Rail



Lesser Yellowlegs



HOTSPOTS

I. Armin O. Schwengel WPA – At 278 acres, the Schwengel WPA is the best grassland habitat in Ozaukee County. Located at the junction of Six Mile and Jay Roads, the property is named for local conservationist Armin Schwengel, who was instrumental in the construction of the grassland and wetland restorations on the property and numerous private lands throughout Ozaukee County. As a result, Bobolinks and meadowlarks fill the spring air with song, and shorebirds, marsh birds, and ducks can be found on the ponds and wetlands. Short-eared Owls are frequent winter visitors.

A. Mequon Nature Preserve is a long-term forest and wetland restoration project aimed at restoring the 550-acre property to the hardwood forest of maple, basswood, oak, and beech trees that existed before European settlement. Eastern Bluebirds and Tree Swallows tend their young from nest boxes that skirt the trail from Stauss Woods to the observation tower, where one can view the shorebirds and waterfowl returning to the recent wetland restorations. A series of trails will soon be completed to offer a variety of passive recreational activities including biking, hiking and birding.



Sandhill Crane

Typical Bird Species:

- Horned Lark
- Killdeer
- Lapland Longspur
- Northern Harrier
- Northern Shrike
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Sandhill Crane
- Savannah Sparrow
- Sedge and Marsh Wren
- Short-eared Owl
- Snow Bunting
- Upland Sandpiper
- Vesper Sparrow
- Wild Turkey
- Yellow-headed Blackbird



Bobolink

Prairies once covered 2 million acres in southern Wisconsin. While these open, fertile grasslands were converted to croplands, early agricultural practices that interspersed crop fields with fallow lands and hedgerows provided sufficient habitat for grassland birds. Many grassland birds have suffered steep declines in recent years due to increasingly mechanized and chemical intensive farming practices. The early and frequent mowing of alfalfa, for example, leaves no interval long enough for ground nests and broods to succeed.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) offers cost-share assistance for landowners to remove environmentally sensitive lands from agricultural production and restore native vegetation, providing critical habitat for grassland nesting species such as Bobolinks.

Typical Bird Species:

- American Kestrel
- American Goldfinch
- Barn and Tree Swallow
- Bobolink
- Brewer's Blackbird
- Common Yellowthroat
- Dickcissel
- Eastern Bluebird
- Eastern Meadowlark
- Field Sparrow
- Gray Partridge
- Henslow's Sparrow



Eastern Bluebird

Wisconsin Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program

Important Bird Areas (IBAs) are sites that provide essential habitat to one or more species of birds at any stage in their life cycle (breeding, feeding, wintering, or migration). Sites may vary in size but are usually discrete and distinguishable in character, habitat, or ornithological importance from surrounding areas. They may include public or private land. In general, an IBA should exist as an actual or potential protected area, with or without buffer zones, or should have the potential to be managed in some way for birds and general nature conservation. An IBA, whenever possible, should be large enough to supply all or most of the requirements of the bird(s) during the season for which it is important. Although the program places special emphasis on birds, the designation of a site as an IBA can also benefit many other species that share the same habitat. The Ozaukee County IBAs are **Harrington Beach** and **Ozaukee-Bight Lakeshore Migration Corridors**, as well as the **Cedarburg Bog State Natural Area**. A full-color book featuring detailed descriptions and photographs of 86 Wisconsin Important Bird Areas can be purchased through the IBA Coordinator, yoyi.steele@wisconsin.gov, 608/266-8169.

Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs) – 98 cents out of every dollar generated from the sale of the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) goes directly to purchase or lease wetland and upland habitat critical to waterfowl and other wildlife. These lands, called Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), are part of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Besides serving as a hunting license and a conservation tool, a current year's Federal Duck Stamp also serves as an entrance pass for National Wildlife Refuges where admission is normally charged. Ozaukee County has four WPAs that are managed by the Leopold Management District of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

*“There is symbolic
as well as actual beauty
in the migration of birds...”*

*There is something
infinitely healing in
the repeated refrains
of nature—
the assurance that
dawn comes after night,
and spring after winter.”*

-Rachel Carson

How to Help Birds

At Home

- Help migrants find safe winter homes by waking up with shade grown coffee
- Conserve water and electricity
- Reduce, reuse, recycle
- Recycle plastic six-pack rings and plastic bags
- Hang bird silhouettes in large windows
- Buy “green” paper and wood products from forests that were harvested sustainably
- Learn about the native flora and fauna in your region
- Keep your cat indoors and spay or neuter

Create Backyard Habitat

- Provide food with native plants and feeders
- Remove invasive plant species
- Furnish clean water
- Leave tree snags and brush piles for shelter
- Supply nest sites and boxes

Think before you spray

- Exercise prevention first
- Use non-chemical controls such as weeding and mulching
- Use low-impact pesticides

In Your Community

- Make gas mileage and low emissions important criteria in buying a car
- Buy a duck stamp to support habitat conservation
- Participate in citizen science
- Support conservation organizations
- Donate old binoculars and field guides
- Volunteer at a refuge or park
- Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day
- Get involved in community land use planning
- Take political action
- Think about the many ways that birds have enriched your life and share them with others

From *101 Ways to Help Birds*, by Laura Erickson



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For the Birds

Citizen Science:

Breeding Bird Survey, <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/BBS/>
 Christmas Bird Count, <http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/index.html>
 Cornell Lab of Ornithology, <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/>
 Great Backyard Bird Count, <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>
 Project FeederWatch, <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw/>

State Programs:

Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin, <http://www.braw.org/>
 Gathering Waters Conservancy, Wisconsin Land Trusts,
<http://www.gatheringwaters.org/wilandtrusts.php>
 Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail, www.wisconsinbirds.org/Trail/
 Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative, www.wisconsinbirds.org
 Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas, www.uwgb.edu/birds/wbba/
 Wisconsin eBird, <http://ebird.org/content/wi/>
 Wisconsin Endangered Resources Fund,
http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/support/how_you_can_help.htm
 Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, www.wsobirds.org/

National Programs:

American Bird Conservancy, <http://www.abcbirds.org/>
 Birds and Buildings, <http://birdsandbuildings.org/>
 Conservation Reserve Program,
<http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/crp.html>
 Duck Stamp, <http://www.fws.gov/duckstamps/Info/Stamps/stampinfo.htm>
 National Audubon Society, <http://www.audubon.org/>
 National Wildlife Federation, <http://www.nwf.org/>
 Nature Conservancy, <http://www.nature.org>
 Sierra Club, <http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/gwg/>
 Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center,
<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/ConservationAndScience/MigratoryBirds/>
 Wetlands Reserve Program, <http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/wrp.html>

International Programs:

Birdlife International, <http://www.birdlife.org/>
 Conservation International, <http://www.conservation.org>
 International Migratory Bird Day, <http://www.birdday.org/>
 International Crane Foundation, <http://www.savingcranes.org/>
 Partners in Flight, <http://www.partnersinflight.org/>
 The Peregrine Fund, <http://www.peregrinefund.org>
 World Wildlife Fund, <http://www.worldwildlife.org/>



Birding Ethics

Promote the welfare of birds and other wildlife.

- Observe and photograph birds without disturbing them in significant ways.
- Limit the use of recordings and other methods of attracting birds.
- Avoid chasing or repeatedly flushing birds.
- Keep an appropriate distance from nests so as not to disturb them or expose them to danger.
- Refrain from handling birds or eggs.
- Limit feeding to backyard bird feeders.

Respect wildlife habitat.

- Stay on the Interurban Trail right-of-way or park property designated trails to avoid disturbing fragile habitat.
- Leave all habitat in as good a condition as you found it or better.

Show consideration for other viewers.

- Yield to pedestrians.
- Respect the interests, rights, and skills of fellow birders, as well as people participating in other legitimate outdoor activities.
- Practice common courtesy in contacts with other people, behaving in a manner that will enhance the image of the birding community.
- Teach others birding ethics by word and example.

Observe all laws, rules, and regulations.

- Follow regulations regarding pet leashing and waste disposal on public property.
- Respect private property and do not trespass.

Credits:

Project Director – Janice Sinur (Nature Tourism and Environmental Education Consultant)
 Project Advisors – Noel Cutright (Riveredge Bird Club)
 Andrew T. Struck (Ozaukee Interurban Trail Advisory Council)
 Graphic Design – Steve Bothe (Landmark Publishing)
 Trail Map – John Limbach (Novoprint USA, Inc.)
 Cover photograph – Paul P. Gutelius, ©2005, used by permission
 Featured bird photography – Jack Bartholmai
 Featured habitat photography – Kate Redmond
 Habitat inset photographs – Paul G. Gutelius (riverine)
 Andrew T. Struck (woodland and grassland)
 Kingfisher Hotspot sign drawing – Janice Sinur

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This project was made possible by the Ozaukee Interurban Trail Advisory Council.

Eagle Sponsor:

We Energies
www.we-energies.com

Heron Sponsors:

Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department
121 W. Main St. PO Box 994,
Port Washington, WI 53074 262/238-8275,
www.co.ozaukee.wi.us

Mission: To provide an organized framework for Ozaukee County residents and visitors of Ozaukee County to appreciate and enjoy the natural and cultural resources, local ecology, recreational experiences, well planned sustainable growth, and improved quality of life in Ozaukee County.

Milwaukee Audubon Society

8460 N. Fielding Road, Bayside, WI 53217
414/352-2437

www.milwaukeeaudubon.org

The mission of the Milwaukee Audubon Society is to protect and restore Wisconsin's natural heritage through education, advocacy, and stewardship.

Grafton Area Chamber of Commerce

1624 Wisconsin Ave., PO Box 132
Grafton, WI 53024, 262/377-1650
www.grafton-wi.org Grafton area – a great place for family, commercial and industrial growth!

Port Washington Tourism Council

P.O. Box 153, Port Washington, WI, 53074
800/719-4881
www.portwashingtontourism.com Port Washington, Wisconsin – a combination of New England charm and Midwestern friendliness nestled among seven hills on the shore of Lake Michigan.

Kingfisher Sponsors:**Wisconsin Audubon Council**

222 S. Hamilton St. #1, Madison, WI 53703
608/327-0129, www.wisconsinaudubon.org
The Wisconsin Audubon Council promotes, fosters and encourages the conservation, preservation, and study of all wildlife, plants, soil, water, air, and other natural resources for the benefit of nature and society.

Wings Over Wisconsin – Ozaukee Chapter,

P.O. Box 123, Port Washington, WI 53074
970/590-1493, www.wingsoverwisconsin.org
Wings Over Wisconsin is a nonprofit organization dedicated to natural resource preservation and education through youth and community involvement.

Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (WSO)

www.wsobirds.org
The WSO was founded in 1939 to encourage the appreciation and study of Wisconsin birds through programs in research, education, conservation, and publication.

Bobolink Sponsors:**Pheasants Forever Ozaukee County Chapter 680**

P.O. Box 201, Grafton, WI, 53024
262/284-7268, www.ozpf.com
Dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the ring-necked pheasant and other farmland wildlife.

**Riveredge Bird Club**

3352 Knollwood,
West Bend, WI 53095
262/675-2443

The club brings together those who enjoy observing and learning more about birds and sharing these interests with others through monthly meetings and field trips.

**Laacke and Joys**

1515 W. Mequon Rd.,
Mequon, WI 53092
262/241-4500, www.laackeandjoys.com
With locations in Downtown Milwaukee, Brookfield, and Mequon, Laacke & Joys is the area's oldest and most experienced outdoor store featuring camping, canoeing, kayaking, ski/snowboarding equipment, clothing and accessories, along with patio furniture.

**Whitetails Unlimited, Cedar Creek Chapter**

1155 Fredonia Ave.
Fredonia, WI 53021,
262/692-2825
www.whitetailsunlimited.com
The Cedar Creek Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting wildlife habitat, hunter safety education, disabled hunting opportunities, and more.

**Port Washington Inn**

308 W. Washington St.,
Port Washington, WI 53074,
262/284-5583
www.port-washington-inn.com
The 1903 historic Port Washington Inn, certified by Travel Green Wisconsin, offers its guests serenity, elegance, and comfort, delectable food prepared from scratch, and Lake Michigan views!

**Fiscal Receiver:****Ozaukee County Historical Society**

www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/OCHS
"Preserving and sharing the past for today...and future generations!"

**Lodging****Holiday Inn Harborview**

135 E. Grand,
Port Washington, WI 53074
262/284-9461 www.holidayinn.com/ptwashington
Located on Lake Michigan in the center of charming downtown Port Washington, adjacent to numerous restaurants, shops and the marina, the Holiday Inn Harborview is the only Milwaukee area hotel to offer beautiful lake-view rooms and suites.

**Washington House Inn**

W62 N573 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262/375-3550
www.washingtonhouseinn.com
The ultimate in bed and breakfast accommodations located in the heart of Cedarburg's historic district.

**Stagecoach Inn Bed and Breakfast**

W61 N520 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012, 262/375-0208
www.stagecoach-inn-wi.com

Welcome, HOME Bed and Breakfast

4260 W. Hawthorne Dr.
Newburg, WI 53060, 262/ 675-2525
<http://www.hnet.net/~welcomehome/>

Restaurants**Chocolate Factory Subs and Ice Cream**

W62 N577 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012, 262/377-8877
www.subsandicecream.com

Dockside Deli

218 E. Main St., Port Washington, WI 53074
262/284-9440

Retail Establishments**Cedar Creek Pottery**

N70 W6340 Bridge Rd.,
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262/375-1226
www.cedarcreekpottery.com
An elegant blend of art and function.

**Wild Birds Unlimited**

11004 N. Port Washington Rd.
Mequon, WI 53092, 262/241-8483
www.wbu.com
Your backyard birdfeeding specialists.

**Attractions****Cedar Creek Winery**

N70 W6340 Bridge Rd.,
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262/377-8020, www.cedarcreekwinery.com
Tour, taste and enjoy award-winning Wisconsin wine.

**Organizations****Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP)**

PO Box 93, Cedarburg, WI 53012
262/375-6180, www.apbp.org
APBP members are leaders in making places sustainable, healthy, and economically viable through the creation of walkable, bicycle-friendly communities.

**Ozaukee Washington Land Trust, Inc.**

P.O. Box 917, West Bend, WI 53095
262/338-1794, www.owlt.org
The mission of the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust is to protect and preserve the natural areas, open spaces, and rural character of Ozaukee and Washington Counties.

**Pine View Wildlife Rehabilitation Center**

W4953 Hwy. H,
Fredonia, WI 53021
262/692-9021, www.pineviewwrc.org
Pine View serves Ozaukee and its surrounding counties as a rehabilitation hospital and educational center, to protect and conserve Wisconsin's wildlife and environment.

**Riveredge Nature Center**

4458 W. Hawthorne Dr.,
Newburg, WI 53060
800/287-8098
www.riveredgenaturecenter.org
As one of the oldest and largest nature centers in southeastern Wisconsin, Riveredge's 370-acre sanctuary is a premiere birding location, offering bird walks, programs, and an active bird club that meets monthly.

**Ulaos Creek Partnership, Inc.**

121 W. Main St.,
Port Washington, WI 53074
262/284-8270, www.ulaocreek.org
The mission of the UCP, a nonprofit conservation organization, is to form an alliance of concerned citizens, landowners, and public and private organizations to protect and improve the water quality and natural habitats in the Ulaos Creek watershed.

**Wisconsin Walks**

PO Box 2454,
Madison, WI 53701-2454
608/784-3212,
www.wisconsinwalks.org
Wisconsin Walks is a membership organization focusing on Safe Routes to School and Community Walkability programs, policies, and projects.

