

Hawk Weekend 2011 Field Trips & Workshops

Detailed Schedule

***Must pre-register for all field trips**

Offered Both Saturday 9/17 & Sunday 9/18

Park Point Field Trip

Saturday September 17 & Sunday September 18, 2011 (LIMIT 15/trip)

Cost: \$15 members/students, \$25 non-members, FREE full-weekend registrants

Leader: TBA

Meeting Location: Main parking lot at the Park Point Recreation Area. From Canal Park, travel across the lift bridge and continue on Lake Avenue / Minnesota Avenue approximately 3.75 miles to the Park Point Recreation Area.

Meeting Time: 7:00 am

Duration: 2-3 hours (walking)

Description: Visit one of Minnesota's beloved birding hotspots! We will search the lakeside for shorebirds, terns, gulls, and possible jaegers (spotting scopes useful); and check the wooded areas along the dunes for warblers and other passerines.

Advanced Hawkwatching Workshop

Saturday September 17, 2011 (LIMIT 20/workshop)

Cost: \$15 members/students, \$25 non-members, FREE full-weekend registrants (1 session)

Leader: Dave Carman is a lifelong birder and hawkwatcher, who has assisted with the fall counts at Hawk Ridge for the past 17 years and the spring count, the West Skyline Hawk Count, since its inception in 1997. He has served as a board member, treasurer, and chairperson of the Hawk Ridge Management Committee and was a founder and the first executive director of its successor, the Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory, Inc. After a long corporate career in sales and marketing management, for the past four years his day job has been as a special education teacher.

Meeting Location: Main Overlook at Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve

Meeting Time: Choose from 4 sessions (Sat. 9/17 11am or 1pm; Sun. 9/18 11am or 1pm)

Duration: 45 minutes – 1 hour

Description: The Advanced Hawk Identification Workshop will cover the many classification techniques such as using shapes, wing and tail length and shapes, flight behavior, size and plumage details and other tricks of the trade that professional hawk counters use to make quick, real time, and correct identifications of what's flying regardless of distance and altitude.

What to Bring: Bring binoculars, a chair, and reference books (if you'd like)

Offered Sat. 9/17 ONLY!

St. Louis River Estuary Field Trip

Saturday September 17, 2011 (LIMIT 15)

Cost: \$15 members/students, \$25 non-members, FREE full-weekend registrants

Leaders: Paul Dolan is a graduate student at the University of Minnesota Duluth studying ornithology, with an emphasis on warblers and habitat relationships in northern Minnesota. He has over 4 years of field work experience in Minnesota and Wisconsin, working on a National Forest monitoring project, the Lake Superior North Shore Migration project, and the Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas. In his spare time Paul enjoys hiking, drawing, and of course birding!

Ed Zlonis is currently a graduate student at University of Minnesota Duluth. His thesis work involves breeding birds in northern Minnesota. Specifically, his work compared the birds communities of areas mainly affected by natural disturbances (Boundary Waters Canoe Area) with those of areas mainly affected by logging and development (surrounding Superior National Forest). He enjoys canoeing, hunting, and photography and his favorite bird song emanates from the Swainson's Thrush.

Meeting Location: Perkins Restaurant. Take the 40th Avenue West exit off I35 and meet in the Perkins Restaurant parking lot.

Meeting Time: 7:00 am

Duration: 3-4 hours

Description: Spend a relaxing morning visiting a birding hotspot in Duluth. The morning along the St. Louis River Estuary (Audubon Important Bird Area) will take you birding along the riverfront searching for migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, warblers and other passerines.

Songbird Banding Seminar – “5W’s of Songbird Banding”

Saturday September 17, 2011 (LIMIT 15)

Cost: \$15 members/students, \$25 non-members, FREE full-weekend registrants

Leader: Dave Grosshuesch began working at Hawk Ridge in 1995 as a raptor bander. A year later he started his passerine study and bands an average of 5,400 birds each fall season. He continues to assist with songbird banding while working full time for the US Forest Service.

Meeting Location: Main Overlook at Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve

Meeting Time: 8:00 am

Duration: 1-2 hours

Description: Learn the “5 W’s” (who, what, where, when and why) about songbird banding at Hawk Ridge. Participants will be provided with an opportunity to see all aspects of songbird banding, as well as learn why songbirds are an important part of the migration at Hawk Ridge.

Lake Superior Birding Boat Trip - Cancelled

Nature Digital Photography Workshop

Saturday September 17, 2011 (LIMIT 12)

Cost: \$40 members/students, \$60 non-members

Leader: Stan Tekiela, naturalist, wildlife photographer, and author. Over the past two decades Stan has authored more than 100 field guides, nature appreciation books and wildlife audio CDs for nearly every state in the nation, presenting many species of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, trees, wildflowers and cacti. Stan will also present a fun and entertaining talk “**Uncommon Facts about Common Birds**” on Saturday evening as part of the Hawk Weekend festival benefit for Hawk Ridge. Please feel free to check out Stan’s website at: <http://www.naturesmart.com/>.

Meeting Location: TBA

Meeting Time: 1:00 pm

Duration: 3 hours

Description: Stan will share his passion for wildlife photography and teach you the tricks of the trade to capture those amazing shots. This instructional workshop will feature several live raptors, as you learn about composition, background, lighting, and working with Photoshop. You can view Stan’s beautiful work at: <http://naturesmartimages.com/>.

Requirements: Must bring 35 mm digital camera with zoom lens (i.e. 300 mm) and tripod

Offered Sun. 9/18 ONLY!

Geology Field Trip – “Ancient Volcanic Geology of Duluth's Shoreline”

Sunday September 18, 2011 (LIMIT 15)

Cost: \$15 members/students, \$25 non-members, FREE full-weekend registrants

Leader: John Green, retired geology professor at the University of Minnesota Duluth

Meeting Location: Lester River Tourism Information Center. Directions: travel east on London Road and just after crossing the Lester River, park in the parking lot for the little blue building—the tourism information center.

Meeting Time: 10:00 am

Duration: 2 hours

Description: Join John Green, an all-around naturalist and scouter for the Superior Hiking Trail, on a journey along Duluth’s shoreline. We will visit several interesting outcrops between the information center and downtown Duluth to reveal the story of ancient volcanic geology in the area.

Lester River & North Shore Field Trip

Sunday September 18, 2011 (LIMIT 15)

Cost: \$15 members/students, \$25 non-members, FREE full-weekend registrants

Leader: Jim Lind, local birder and Duluth Rare Bird Alert compiler

Meeting Location: Meet at the Lester Park parking lot, one block north of Superior St. To get there, travel east on Superior Street and turn left on the Lester River Road, located 2 blocks past 60th Ave East.

Meeting Time: 7:00 am

Duration: 3.5-4 hours (walking and carpool for North Shore portion)

Description: Join Jim Lind for an exciting field trip along the Lester River and North Shore. We will bird around the southern portion of Lester Park, the grounds of the E.P.A. lab, and the Lester River. Depending on migration conditions, we will then caravan up the North Shore of Lake Superior with potential stops at Brighton Beach/Kitchi Gammi Park and the McQuade Road Public Access.