



hawk ridge is one of the top migration viewing locations in north america

become a member

You'll receive special member discounts and behind-the-scenes tours as well as the satisfaction of knowing that your support helps make our programs possible.

Please begin renew my Hawk Ridge membership

- Steward (\$1000)
- Supporting (\$500)
- Sustaining (\$100)
- Family (\$50)
- Individual (\$30)
- Student ((\$15)

Help Fund Education Programs

- \$125 for a 4th grade "Raptors in the Classroom" outreach lesson
- \$175 for a 5th grade "Experience Hawk Ridge" lesson
- \$150 for the Yellow Bus Fund

Help Fund Research (per day)

- \$125 Raptor Banding
- \$80 Raptor Count
- \$40 Owl Research
- \$75 Songbird Banding

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____

I want to volunteer, please contact me

WE DO NOT RENT, SELL, OR TRADE MAILING LISTS

Please make checks payable to Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory

hawk ridge bird observatory

P.O. Box 3006 • Duluth, MN 55803-3006
 mail@hawkridge.org • www.hawkridge.org
 218.428.6209

Grab your binoculars and head to Duluth!

it's time to get out and watch the hawks fly

Starting in August, thousands of raptors and songbirds pass through Duluth on the way to their southern wintering grounds. Each year nearly 100,000 raptors are spotted from Duluth's Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve, including Bald and Golden Eagles, Merlins and Peregrines, Northern Goshawks and Rough-legged Hawks.

Birds travel this "highway in the sky" every day through mid-December, depending on the weather (birds generally don't migrate when it's foggy or raining).

why duluth?

Geography is what makes Duluth one of the top places to experience bird migration. Lake Superior to the east and the ridges to the west combine to create the perfect flyway.

The lake acts as a barrier, forcing migrants reluctant to fly across large bodies of water to head southwest along Minnesota's North Shore ridges until they reach their point of greatest concentration in Duluth.

thermals

The ridges and hills, when heated by the sun, create "thermals" (columns of warm, rising air). Soaring birds "ride" these thermals to gain altitude without having to flap their wings. They continue to conserve energy by gliding from one thermal to the next as they migrate south.

watch the weather

Weather plays an important role in migration. Cold fronts moving from the north and west create ideal conditions for viewing migrants by concentrating them along the North Shore.

Good flights often occur just before a cold front moves through, and can last for days after an especially strong front.

programs

In September and October, Hawk Ridge education and volunteer staff are on-site daily to answer questions, help visitors identify hawks, and display some of the birds captured by the researchers banding at the Ridge.

Be sure to check our website for our program offerings and special events.

september big numbers

- 100,000+ Broad-winged Hawks
- 1,500+ Sharp-shinned Hawks
- 800+ Turkey Vultures
- 100+ Red-tailed Hawks
- 750+ American Kestrels

october big diversity

- 325+ Bald Eagles
- 2,000+ Sharp-shinned Hawks
- 1,200+ Red-tailed Hawks
- 150+ Northern Goshawks
- 50+ Northern Harriers

november big birds & big chill

- 740+ Bald Eagles
- 75+ Northern Goshawks
- 240+ Red-tailed Hawks
- 45+ Rough-legged Hawks
- 30+ Golden Eagles

 **Audubon**
 IMPORTANT BIRD AREA
 Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve has been designated Minnesota's first Important Bird Area.
 More information on the Important Bird Area program: www.audubon.org/bird/iba

photo copyrights above, left to right: Heidi Hughes, Heidi Hughes, Michael Furtman, Michael Furtman, Heidi Hughes, Brent Alan Kauth

big day tallies

directions to hawk ridge

from downtown duluth:

Drive northeast on Superior Street to 45th Avenue East. Turn left from Superior Street onto 45th Avenue East and drive to the stop sign at Glenwood Street. Turn left onto Glenwood Street. Drive on Glenwood to the top of the first hill to Skyline Parkway. This is a sharp right turn and it is easy to miss! Turn right onto Skyline Parkway and drive about 1 mile to the Main Overlook.

from I35 traveling north:

Take the 26th Avenue East/London Road exit. Turn right onto London Road, which is also Highway 61. Turn left onto 45th Avenue East and drive to the stop sign at Glenwood Street. Turn left onto Glenwood Street. Drive on Glenwood to the top of the first hill to Skyline Parkway. This is a sharp right turn and it is easy to miss! Turn right onto Skyline Parkway and drive about 1 mile to the Main Overlook.

from hwy 61 traveling south:

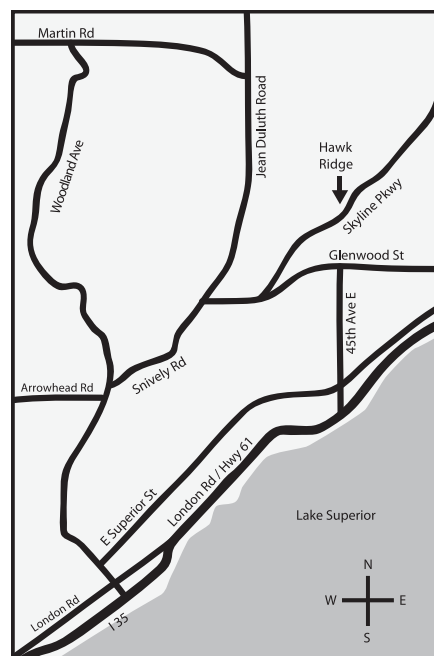
In Duluth Hwy 61 is also London Road. Turn right onto 45th Avenue East and drive to the stop sign at Glenwood Street. Turn left onto Glenwood Street. Drive on Glenwood to the top of the first hill to Skyline Parkway. This is a sharp right turn and it is easy to miss! Turn right onto Skyline Parkway and drive about 1 mile to the Main Overlook.

from hwy 53 traveling south, TWO WAYS:

1. At the junction of Midway Rd and Hwy 53 (just north of Duluth), turn left onto Midway Road. At the stop sign at Martin Road, turn right and drive until the stop sign at Jean Duluth Road. Turn right onto Jean Duluth Road and drive until the stop sign at Glenwood Street. Turn left onto Glenwood Street and watch for Skyline Parkway which will be on your left. Turn left onto Skyline Parkway and drive about 1 mile to the Main Overlook.

2. Follow Hwy 53 south of the mall; the highway turns right just past the Miller Hill Mall. Follow Hwy 53 to I35 and head north on I35. Take the 26th Avenue East / London Road exit. Turn right onto London Road, which is also Highway 61. Turn left onto 45th Avenue East and drive to the stop sign at Glenwood Street. Turn left onto Glenwood Street. Drive on Glenwood to the top of the first hill to Skyline Parkway. This is a sharp right turn and it is easy to miss! Turn right onto Skyline Parkway and drive about 1 mile to the Main Overlook.

****Note: There is a lower overlook on Skyline Parkway at 1/2 mile. Drive 1/2 mile past this first overlook to get to Hawk Ridge.**



the fall season

The hawk count and other research begins in mid-August and continues through the end of November. Education and volunteer staff are available daily during Sept. and Oct. For up-to-date info about programs and special events, please call or visit our website.

admission

Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve is a natural area within the City of Duluth, and has no admission charge. The Main Overlook is located along Skyline Parkway. Tax deductible donations to Hawk Ridge are gratefully accepted.

accessibility

The Main Overlook is located on a level road. Access is by car and (free) parking is available along the road. No climbing or hiking is required.

amenities

The Hawk Ridge Grill is open on weekends. Bring your lawn chairs, or there are a limited amount of large rocks. A portable toilet is available during the fall season.

planning your visit

bring binoculars

dress in layers

wear a hat

bring sunscreen

midday is the best time (10am - 2pm)

big numbers come with west and northwest winds



“The Best Place to Bird Watch in Minnesota”

City Pages, 2003

Red-tailed Hawk © Heidi Hughes

hawk ridge

duluth, mn

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