

Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory

Spring Migration Celebration Weekend!

April 26, 27 and 28, 2024

SCHEDULE

Friday, April 26- 6:30-8:00 PM

VIRTUAL Spring Migration Intro Session (via Zoom)

We will begin the workshop with an online overview session addressing the mechanics of migration, how weather impacts bird movement, and tools to use to predict bird movement, and other material better suited for online presentation. The Zoom link for the presentation will be emailed to you the week of the presentation.

Saturday, April 27- 6:30-8:30 AM

IN PERSON Park Point Field Trip

Join us bright and early Saturday morning to start our birding at Park Point and discover who's on the lake, who's in the harbor, and who's present on the land between. Park Point is one of the great birding destinations in Duluth during migration. A wide variety of waterfowl can be seen here- unusual loon species, shorebirds, and plenty of songbirds as well. Many birds migrate over the length of the point as they move through the area, which can be breathtaking! Plan to meet at Park Point Recreation Area in the main parking area across from the restroom building and community sailing dock.

Saturday, April 27- 9:30-11:30 AM

IN PERSON West Skyline Spring Count Intro Field Session

We will spend the morning at the Hawk Ridge West Skyline Spring Count. We will focus on basic ID skills by families of birds, learn about where these birds are coming from and where they are likely headed, and learn basic flight styles at the count area. Note: We will plan to meet at Twin Ponds Parking area on West Skyline Parkway and have a short hike in via the road in to the Enger count site (below Enger Park). However, if the winds are from the East or Northeast directly off the lake, we may need to change meeting location to the Thompson Hill count site (below Thompson Hill rest area) or move indoors with inclement weather. We will give notice of this change via cell phone (be sure to include cell number in your registration information, so we can contact you if needed).

Saturday, April 27- 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK (NO SESSION)

Lunch and creature comfort break. Restrooms are generally not very close- though there are usually porta-potties at Enger Park. We won't cover content formally during this time- but feel free to bring a lunch if you just want to stick around the count area during this break. Otherwise plan to meet back at the same location as the morning count session for the afternoon session.

Saturday, April 27- 1:00-2:30 or 3:00 PM

IN PERSON Continue at West Skyline Spring Count Site

We will spend the afternoon at the Hawk Ridge West Skyline Spring Count. We will take advantage of whatever happens to fly by in the afternoon, but concentrate on specific flight behaviors, natural history information, Hawk Ridge research efforts, and of course identification basics for families of raptors

covering Accipiters, Buteos, Falcons, Eagles, Vultures, Harriers, and Osprey during the weekend. Note: We will plan to meet at Twin Ponds Parking area on West Skyline Parkway and have a short hike in via the road to the Enger count site (below Enger Park). However, if the winds are from the East or Northeast directly off the lake, we may need to change meeting location to the Thompson Hill count site (below Thompson Hill rest area) or move indoors with inclement weather. We will give notice of this change via cell phone (be sure to include cell number in your registration information, so we can contact you if needed).

Saturday, April 27- 3:00-5:30 PM

IN PERSON Later Afternoon Field Trip

Late afternoon and early evening can be a good time for watching bird behaviors as they begin to settle prior to the night. Location TBD based on conditions. Specific directions for this location will be provided.

Sunday, April 28- 6:30-8:30 AM

IN PERSON Indian Point & Waabizheshikana: The Marten Trail Field Trip

Indian Point will be our destination this morning. This is a great location for exploring the arrival of early passerine species along the woody hillside that surrounds the public campground area. Wetlands and waterfowl also surround the campground area. Specific directions for this location will be provided.

Sunday, April 28- 9:30-11:30 AM

IN PERSON West Skyline Spring Count Field Session

We will spend the morning at the Hawk Ridge West Skyline Spring Count. We will of course take advantage of whatever happens to fly by in the morning, but concentrate on specific flight behaviors, natural history information, Hawk Ridge research efforts, and of course identification basics for families of raptors covering Accipiters, Buteos, Falcons, Eagles, Vultures, Harriers, and Osprey during the weekend. Note: We will plan to meet at Twin Ponds Parking area on West Skyline Parkway and have a short hike in via the road to the Enger count site (below Enger Park). However, if the winds are from the East or Northeast directly off the lake, we may need to change meeting location to the Thompson Hill count site (below Thompson Hill rest area) or move indoors with inclement weather. We will give notice of this change via cell phone (be sure to include cell number in your registration information, so we can contact you if needed).

Sunday, April 28, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK (NO SESSION)

Lunch and creature comfort break. Restrooms are generally not very close- though there are usually porta-potties at Enger Park. We won't cover content formally during this time- but feel free to bring a lunch if you just want to stick around the count area during this break. Otherwise plan to meet back at the same location as the morning count session for the afternoon session.

Sunday, April 28, 1:00-3:00 PM

IN PERSON Location TBD determined by group- either continue at Spring Count Location or bird another Duluth area location.

Specific directions for this location will be provided as needed.