

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP MATTERS

Many different species of birds pass through, breed or reside year-round at or near Race Track Nature Preserve. The variety of habitats, especially wetlands, at the Preserve attract an unusually high number of birds ranging from the common species like the Northern Cardinal, to the increasingly less seen Olive-Sided Flycatcher. The habitats there, such as the cattail marsh, little bluestem grass field, and bordering hardwoods provide shelter, hunting perches and food.

Documented in years past have been Solitary Sandpipers resting by small pools of water before continuing to the Canadian Boreal Forest for nesting, brilliant Indigo Buntings which arrive in the spring from the Caribbean and Central America to find mates and to raise a family, and several types of Woodpecker which stay all year at or near the Preserve enjoying the insects and roosting holes in the dead, fallen or dying trees deliberately left on site to serve as habitats for birds and other wildlife.

The Tuxedo Park Tree Advisory Board (TPTAB) takes advantage of the opportunity to enjoy the continuing parade of birds by organizing periodic bird walks. The first in 2017 was led by Tuxedo Park resident, Doug Ewing, MD, at the end of May. The list of birds, and butterflies, seen or heard, at or near the Race Track Nature Preserve follows.

Another bird walk will be held during the fall migration.

Tuxedo Park Tree Advisory Board Bird Walk: At and Around Race Track Bird and Butterfly List

May 27, 2017 8 AM Led by Douglas Ewing, MD

Turkey Vulture Unidentified Raptor Pileated Woodpecker Northern Rough-Winged Swallow American Goldfinch Carolina Wren* Wood Thrush* American Robin Grey Catbird Blue Jay Red-Eyed Vireo Hooded Warbler* Blackpoll Warbler American Redstart** Indigo Bunting Song Sparrow*** Northern Oriole

Monarch Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Cabbage Whites

* Heard

** Nesting

*** One with a big juicy green caterpillar in its beak