

BIRDFEST 2018



**Join us for one or more bird walks.
You may develop a new and lifelong
healthy obsession.**

MUST PRE-REGISTER

**Call 301-387-7067 to sign up for the
bird walks.**

Early May is the perfect time to see birds migrating through the area. Most migrants have returned but the leaves haven't grown enough to block your view of them in the tree tops. We spend a lot of time listening to and learning bird songs but viewing them is a priority.

Friend's Delight at Sang Run Friday, May 4, 8:00 a.m.

Leader: Connie Skipper This walk of 1 ½ miles is through woodland, field, edge and by a river. You may see American Kestrel, Pileated Woodpecker, Wild Turkey, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Northern Parula, American Redstart and many more (53 species in 2016). Meet at the Sang Run kayak put in. Difficulty: moderate.

Herrington Manor State Park Friday, May 4, 5:30 p.m.

Leader: Aaron Graham Herrington Manor State Park has a variety of habitats resulting in a good bird list. Expect to see and hear swallows, barred owl, and newly arrived migrants. Participants can listen for owls and amphibians as nature's chorus transitions through the evening. Meet at the Herrington Manor State Park Lake House. Difficulty: easy.

Jennings Randolph Reservoir Saturday, May 5, 6:30 a.m.

Leader: Mikey Lutmerding This trip yields many hard to find warblers. Possibilities include Cerulean, Hooded, Golden-winged and Kentucky Warblers. You will check the lake for eagles, loons and waterfowl. Last year we found 73 bird species. Meet at the Deep Creek Lake Discovery Center and carpool to the Reservoir, or meet us there. Mikey is a great birder and awesome leader. 1 mile. Difficulty: moderate.

A Day of Garrett Birding Saturday, May 5, 6:30 a.m.

Leader: Aaron Graham Meet at Swallow Falls State Park. From there birders will carpool to many of Garrett County's birding hotspots. This trip yielded 120 species in 2017. Possibilities include Winter Wren, Pine Siskin, Vesper and Henslow's Sparrows, Golden-winged, Prothonotary, Blackburnian and Yellow-throated Warblers. Bring snacks and a lunch. There will be restrooms at multiple stops and one stop at Sheetz. Some stops will have moderate walking but on easy terrain. This will be a relaxed big day where you'll take time to enjoy the great birds! The trip will end at 5:00 p.m.

Herrington Manor State Park Saturday, May 5, 1:00 p.m.

Leader: Gwen Brewer Herrington Manor has a variety of habitats resulting in a good bird list. You may see the resident Bald Eagles. Other possibilities include Red-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, Magnolia Warbler and Blackburnian Warbler. Meet at the Herrington Manor State Park Lake House. 1 mile Difficulty: easy.

The Glades Saturday, May 5, 1:00 p.m.

Leader: Kevin Dodge Nature Conservancy bog. Meet at the Discovery Center to carpool to the Glades. You may see Alder Flycatcher, Swamp Sparrow, Northern Waterthrush, and Nashville Warbler. If time permits, the group will check out the pond at Peat Moss Road. Be prepared for irregular, soggy footing. The walk is somewhat challenging. 1 ½ mile

Feathers in Focus Saturday, May 5, 2:00 – 3:00

We will be placing our aviary birds outside in a natural setting for photographers, painters and others to have an unobstructed view of these magnificent birds of prey.

Snaggy Mountain Road Sunday, May 6, 7:00 a.m.

Leader: Mikey Lutmerding Meet at the dip on Herrington Manor Road (a pull off about ½ mile north of Herrington Manor State Park). Possible sighting of Ruffed Grouse, White-eyed Vireo, Canada Warbler, 3 or more species of flycatchers, Blackburnian Warbler. Car pool from there. Mikey will lead the caravan along Snaggy Mountain Road stopping at various “birdy” spots.

Call 301-387-7067 to sign up for the bird walks. Depending on participation, we may add more field trips in order to keep the groups small. Dress in multiple layers. Waterproof boots are recommended. Bring snacks and water. If it is a good birding day, hikes may last to three to four hours.