

Chequamegon Bay

BIRDING & NATURE FESTIVAL

on beautiful Lake Superior

Ashland, Wisconsin

May 18 - 20, 2017



WELCOME

Welcome to the 11th Annual Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival, Thursday, May 18 through Saturday, May 20—three days of birding and nature activities on the south shore of Lake Superior at the peak of the spring migration.

The Chequamegon Bay region is among the top birding destinations in the Midwest, with an amazing variety of high-quality habitats and opportunities to see more than 300 bird species. Extraordinary natural beauty and abundant public land make Wisconsin's Lake Superior shoreline an ideal location for birdwatching and wildlife viewing.

With over 100 activities to choose from, birders and nature lovers of all skills and ages will find a wealth of opportunities at the Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival. Each activity is guided by knowledgeable local and regional experts who love sharing their passion for the natural world. Sign up today for your chance to learn about birds and nature in one of the Midwest's most beautiful settings!

REGISTRATION

Get your registration in early for the Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival. Registering is easy—just go to www.birdandnaturefest.com or call the Ashland Chamber at 800-284-9484 today.

Register on or before May 1, and take advantage of special Early Bird Discounts! A portion of your registration fee supports habitat preservation and bird conservation both locally and statewide. More details on page 26.

Early Bird After May 1

Individual 3-day Pass \$52.00 \$59.00
Family 3-day Pass \$99.95	... \$109.95
<small>Family = Adults & their dependent children</small>		
Individual Day Pass \$25.00 \$29.95
Family Day Pass \$50.00 \$59.00
<small>Family = Adults & their dependent children</small>		

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ADDITIONAL COSTS

While most activities are covered by the registration fee, a few activities have some additional costs for participants. Whenever there is an additional cost involved in a particular activity it will be indicated in the activity description and table. Parking fees are payable at the time of the activity.

ACTIVITY TIMES

All start and end times include round-trip traveling time from the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (NGLVC). Each off-site activity will have a group departing from NGLVC. However, some activities located in communities around the bay will also have a local meeting point and time listed in their descriptions so you can start at that site for your convenience. *For example*, if you were in Bayfield for a birding hike early Friday morning and you wanted to join the next hike also near Bayfield later that morning, then you could meet directly at the site and wouldn't have to drive back and forth from NGLVC. *Please inform the registration table if you plan to meet at the optional location.*

COVER ART

Common Loons by Sunil Gopalan. According to Audubon's climate models, this great icon of the north is forecast to lose 56 percent of its current summer range by 2080, including a significant shift northward out of Wisconsin and Minnesota by the end of the century.

Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (NGLVC)



GROUP SIZES

There will be a minimum group size that must be met in order for an activity to run, and there will be a maximum number of participants allowed for each activity. Signing up early is the best way to ensure you get the activities you want.

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

FT - Field Trip Take place outdoors and may include a guided tour on foot, by boat or kayak.

P - Program In-depth presentations, generally indoors with visual materials and a speaker.

NGLVC Boardwalk



Black-bellied Plover



Register and get complete information at www.birdandnaturefest.com

Get full activity descriptions, biographical information on presenters and complete information on lodging, dining and area attractions. Visit www.birdandnaturefest.com today and take advantage of the early bird special!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Matthew Reetz has served as the Executive Director of Madison Audubon Society since September 2014. Matt received his B.S. in Biology with emphasis in Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution from the University of Illinois where he worked with birds in the swamps of Southern Illinois, particularly Prothonotary Warblers. He later earned a Master's and PhD from the University of Florida where he worked on a variety of bird research projects in Australia, the Caribbean, Chile and the U.S., with his doctoral dissertation examining the ecology of Brown-headed Cowbirds in the southeastern U.S. Matt has worked as a biologist for Florida's state wildlife agency and a college biology professor in Indiana. He also completed two post-doctorate research projects at UW-Madison focused on Sharp-tailed Grouse in Wisconsin and California Spotted Owls before joining the non-profit world. Matt's current favorite bird is the brainy American Crow. Matt will be speaking about the impacts of climate change on Wisconsin's birds (see program #77).



Dr. Matthew Reetz

CLIMATE CHANGE & BIRDS

Birders are accustomed to thinking about nature on a large scale. After all, many of our favorite birds migrate thousands of miles on an annual basis. Our theme for this year's festival, however, asks you to think about one of the most global of issues confronting all species, including humans: climate change. In addition to our keynote presentation, we have a number of new trips and programs aimed directly at this topic, and several of our returning activities will incorporate climate change issues into their educational content (see list below). So while the nature of this problem does not lend itself to direct observation, please keep it in mind as you participate in programs and field trips. Challenge trip leaders, presenters and yourself with questions about the probable effects of climate change, what we can do to slow it down, and how we can adapt to it.

Activities with primary focus on climate change:

17. Cool It
71. Going Green: Seeking Sustainability at NGLVC
73. Combatting Climate Change - A Specific Proposal
77. Impacts of Climate Change on Wisconsin's Birds

Activities with secondary focus on climate change:

6. Birding by Bicycle (also #88)
12. Habitats of Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge (also #90)
16. State of the Birds: The Year in Review
23. Wetlands of the Penokees
26. Chasing Land Snails
32. Birds of the Apostle Islands
33. The Remarkable Gray Jay
38. Stockton Island Cruise
39. Wrens & Waterfalls
43. Sea Caves Nature Hike
45. Gold Nuggets & Woodland Warblers
47. Discovering Caroline Lake State Natural Area
69. Restoring Coaster Brook Trout to Whittlesey Creek
84. Fire & the Ecology of the Pine Barrens
92. Estuary Ed-Venture (also #103)
99. Wildflowers of Bogs & Barrens
101. Canoeing Bibon Swamp
107. Hiking the Lincoln Community Forest



Mainland Sea Caves Trail

NEIL HOWK

TEN YEARS OF GREAT BIRDS

Did you know the festival tallies an average of 180 bird species each year? Our lowest annual total is 174 (2011) and highest is 186 (2016). Since the first festival in 2007, festivalgoers have observed an amazing 243 bird species! Amid the many regulars (like 27 warbler species) some of our rarest finds include Snowy Owl (2015), Summer Tanager (2x), N. Mockingbird (2x), Louisiana Waterthrush (only Ashland County record), a pair of Loggerhead Shrikes (2007), and a Black-bellied Whistling Duck (only ~10 state records). But best of all came just last year when a Tropical Kingbird was found on a festival trip to Thompson's West End Park in Washburn, marking the first time this species of southern Arizona and Texas has been confirmed in Wisconsin!



Tropical Kingbird

RYAN BRADY

COMMENTS FROM PAST PARTICIPANTS

"We loved the great variety of programs and field trips; something for everyone." Rosemary, Rochester MN

"The passion of the field trip leaders showed!" Wendy, Ann Arbor MI

"Such knowledgeable people –both leaders and other festival attendees." Gail, Duluth MN

"Location, Location, Location! LOVE Lake Superior and your very enthusiastic and knowledgeable leaders." Scott, Hinckley, MN

"WOW –What a fantastic festival! We'll be back!" Sarah, Milwaukee WI

"So well planned and organized." Sandi, Rockford IL

"The festival is not just about birds, but nature." Melissa, Ashland WI

"The perfect festival for the beginning birder and naturalist." Kathy, New Richmond WI

"We enjoyed the camaraderie of people with similar interests to ours." Ron, Cable WI

THURSDAY, MAY 18 - MORNING

1. Birding at Bark Bay (FT)**6:00 am - 11:45 am**

This two-part trip will feature visits to Bark Bay Slough State Natural Area and nearby Bark Point. Bark Bay Slough SNA is an exceptional coastal wetland hosting a wide variety of birds. Bark Point is a peninsula of land jutting into Lake Superior and can sometimes host spectacular concentrations of migrant landbirds, including a great diversity of warbler species. You never know what you might find here.

2. Birding in the National Forest (FT)**6:15 am - 11:45 am**

Naturalists from the Cable Natural History Museum (CNHM) will lead you in finding birds of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest near Cable, Wisconsin. Look for thrushes, vireos, warblers, sparrows, and more in this wilderness paradise! *Optional:* Meet at the CNHM at 7:00 am.

3. Bibon Swamp Birding (FT)**6:30 am - 9:45 am**

The Bibon Swamp is one of the area's best places to find Golden-winged Warblers. This trip will walk a very lightly-traveled, dead-end dirt road through sedge meadow, alder, ash, and mixed lowland forest while enjoying a few Golden-wings amidst a pot-pourri of birds in a peaceful setting. Tim Oksiuta, local birding expert, will help participants find and pick out numerous species.

4. Grassland Birding (FT)**7:00 am - 11:30 am**

The northwoods typically don't conjure up thoughts of grassland birds but the rural areas of Ashland feature a variety of open habitats where Bobolinks, Upland Sandpipers, Eastern and Western Meadowlarks, Savannah Sparrows, Northern Harriers, and other grassland birds can be found. WDNR Research Scientist Nick Anich guides you in search of these open-country species.

5. Birding Along Pikes Creek (FT)**7:15 am - 10:45 am**

This walk will start at the Les Voigt Fish Hatchery and follow Pikes Creek as it wanders inland for about one mile. Led by local birding expert Neil Hawk, the hike will pass through a variety of bird habitats, including holding ponds, a beaver pond, and old growth pines. Possible species include waterfowl, 10-15 species of warblers, Common Ravens, woodpeckers, Bald Eagles, Ruffed Grouse, Winter Wrens, thrushes, and more.

Optional: Meet at Les Voigt Fish Hatchery at 7:45 am.

Birding by Bicycle

WENDY STEIN

6. Birding by Bicycle (FT)**7:30 am - 10:45 am**

Be a green birder! Ditch the fossil fuel and use your own pedal power. Pedal approximately 5-10 miles (depending on how good the birding is!) through a variety of habitats with biologists Joan Elias and Wendy Stein. Bring your own bicycle (one that can handle gravel), a helmet, water, and binoculars. This could be the start of your Big Green Birding Year (BIGBY)!

7. Birds & Ecology of the Kakagon Sloughs (FT)**7:30 am - 12:30 pm**

The Kakagon-Bad River Sloughs are wetlands with regional, national and perhaps international significance. Comprising more than 16,000 acres of wetland habitat adjacent to Lake Superior, these estuaries support many migrating and nesting birds, serve as important spawning and nursery areas for numerous fish species, host the largest natural wild rice bed in the Great Lakes basin, and have profound cultural significance within and beyond the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians. This field trip will venture into the sloughs by small boats. Sign up quickly to reserve a space for this unique opportunity!

Additional Cost: \$50**8. Birding Basics along the Great WI Birding & Nature Trail (FT)****8:00 am - 8:45 am**

The Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail is a statewide, mapped auto trail designed to help people connect with nature. Stroll along the boardwalk at the visitor center - one of the designated trail sites - and learn how to get involved in one of the nation's fastest growing hobbies. Master the basics of bird-watching, including how to use binoculars, how to identify birds, where to find birds, and much more.

9. Birding by the Bay (FT)**8:00 am - 11:30 am**

Sample a few of the excellent birding sites in and near the town of Washburn. David Bratley, local birding expert, will lead participants to multiple lakeshore points to search for waterfowl, gulls, terns, and shorebirds, with some short hikes along shoreline trails to find warblers, orioles, sparrows, and more. Among the sought-after species are Red-necked Grebe, Merlin, Whimbrel, Willet, Pine Warbler, and Harris's Sparrow.

10. Birds & Wildlife of the Moquah Pine Barrens (FT)**8:00 am - 11:30 am**

The Moquah Pine Barrens offer a dramatic change to the local landscape - dry uplands with rolling hills of openings, pines, oaks and various shrubs. Linda Parker, Forest Service Ecologist, will show participants around the Barrens and look for birds such as Sharp-tailed Grouse, Vesper Sparrows, Brewer's Blackbirds and more. Linda will also share tips on how and where to find other wildlife in this interesting landscape, including gray wolves, American badgers and numerous small mammals, such as the 13-lined ground squirrel.

11. Beginning Birding by Ear (FT)**8:15 am - 9:45 am**

Bird songs are a grand part of nature's symphony. Step outside with a local birding expert to start putting sights and names to the bird songs you hear. Even if you have never gone "birding" before, this enjoyable walk has the sweet sounds and smells of spring along nearby trails. Learn how to pick out bird sounds and develop clever ways to remember the birds and their songs.

12. Habitats of Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge (FT)**8:30 am - 10:45 am**

Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge welcomes you to a little refuge with a big impact. Whittlesey Creek connects Lake Superior to the area you experience at the festival while providing habitat for hundreds of wildlife species. The refuge hosts many terrestrial species as well as a spawning stream for coaster brook trout and other migratory fish from Lake Superior. Discover the refuge and some of its inhabitants during this guided tour with US Fish and Wildlife Service staff.

13. Nature Hike Along Washburn's Lakeshore Trail (FT)**9:00 am - 10:45 am**

Nestled along Washburn's lakefront is the Lakeshore Parkway Trail with its beautiful vistas of Lake Superior coastline. Take a guided walk and discover the many birds, plants, and other wildlife that live along the waterfront. As a bonus, there are hints of the town's rich maritime history, reminders of the once booming lumbering and shipping industries!

14. Birding Basics along the Great WI Birding & Nature Trail (FT)**11:00 am - 11:45 am**

The Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail is a statewide, mapped auto trail designed to help people connect with nature. Stroll along the boardwalk at the visitor center - one of the designated trail sites - and learn how to get involved in one of the nation's fastest growing hobbies. Master the basics of bird-watching, including how to use binoculars, how to identify birds, where to find birds, and much more.



DAVID MELANCON

Moquah Pine Barrens



RYAN BRADY

THURSDAY, MAY 18 - AFTERNOON

18. Animal Ambassadors (featuring live animals) (P)**12:00 pm - 1:45 pm**

Join naturalists from the Cable Natural History Museum for a demonstration of how the Museum uses non-releasable, wild animals to help fulfill their mission of "connecting people to Northwoods nature". Meet "Aldo" the kestrel and other Animal Ambassadors up close and personable in this continuously running program at the base of the Visitor Center's tower. Stay as little or as long as you like.

19. Sea Lamprey Control Program (featuring live lampreys) (P)**12:00 pm - 1:45 pm**

Meet US Fish & Wildlife Service biologists who will share information about invasive sea lamprey control methods in the Great Lakes. Live adult sea lampreys and an exhibit will be on display. Stay as little or as long as you like.

20. Amphibians of Northern Wisconsin (FT)**1:00 pm - 3:45 pm**

Learn about the identification, natural history, status, and breeding habits of frogs and toads in the northwoods from Kevin Brewster, Bad River Watershed Association. After a brief introduction, the group will venture to local ponds and marshes in search of these fantastic creatures. Knee-high waterproof boots helpful but not required.

21. Wildflower Walk - Spring Ephemerals (FT)**1:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

Steven Spickerman, US Forest Service Plant Ecologist, leads you on a hike in search of northwoods spring ephemeral wildflowers. Species that may be seen include Spring Beauty, Large-flowered Trillium, Wild Ginger, Bloodroot, Dutchman's Breeches, and Bellwort.

22. Bayfield County Butterflies (FT)**1:00 pm - 4:45 pm**

Join local butterfly enthusiast David Bratley on a quest to find early-season butterflies, including Mourning Cloaks, tortoiseshells, commas, azures, elfins, and others. David will explain the basics of butterfly watching, including identification and natural history, and lead participants in viewing some common butterflies of northern Wisconsin. Weather permitting, there is a good chance of spotting a rare pine barrens specialist, the Chryxus Arctic. All skill levels welcome!

23. *Wetlands of the Penokees (FT)**1:00 pm - 4:45 pm**

Water is life! Join Tracy Hames, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Wetlands Association, on a field trip introducing you to the high quality wetlands of the upper Bad River watershed. Discover how wetlands maintain healthy forests, trout streams, wildlife habitat and human communities; discuss the role beavers play in wetland and watershed health; learn how our wetlands, lakes, rivers and streams are inter-connected; and highlight native vegetation and wildlife communities.

***Note:** Some hiking on uneven terrain, waterproof boots required, high-clearance vehicles recommended.

24. Birding Basics along the Great WI Birding & Nature Trail (FT)**1:15 pm - 2:00 pm**

The Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail is a statewide, mapped auto trail designed to help people connect with nature. Stroll along the boardwalk at the visitor center - one of the designated trail sites - and learn how to get involved in one of the nation's fastest growing hobbies. Master the basics of bird-watching, including how to use binoculars, how to identify birds, where to find birds, and much more.

25. Bay Area Birding (FT)**1:15 pm - 3:45 pm**

WDNR Research Scientist Nick Anich will lead participants to the latest hotspot in Chequamegon Bay birding. Potential destinations include shoreline vantages to view shorebirds, terns, and other waterbirds, inland fields in search of grassland birds, or local parks to see warblers and other woodland species.

26. Chasing Land Snails (FT)**1:15 pm - 4:00 pm**

If you've ever heard of a land snail and wondered what they were, well, picture a slug with a shell and eyestalks that breathes air and eats with a razor-blade armored tongue! In the northern Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, we have Land Snail diversity that rivals those found in the tropical rainforests of Madagascar and Borneo! Join us as we venture off the beaten path to the spectacular cliffs these amazing living fossils call home. Eric North is a Consulting Ecologist (All Things Wild Consulting; northoutside.com) who has roamed North America studying snails and critters of all sorts. Folks looking to do some botanizing, birding or whatever tickles your fancy should not miss this trip!

Penokee Overlook



RYAN BRADY

27. Hiking Frog Bay Tribal National Park (FT)**1:15 pm - 4:15 pm**

The first-ever Tribal National Park opened to the public on August 3, 2012. Learn about this unique collaboration between the Bayfield Regional Conservancy (BRC) and the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa to preserve 88 acres of land on Lake Superior - land that supports a transitional boreal forest, a globally rare and threatened forest type, and scenic Lake Superior shoreline with views of the Apostle Islands.

28. Edible Wild Mushroom Foraging for Beginners (FT)**1:30 pm - 4:30 pm**

Gary Cholwek is an avid naturalist and biologist who has been foraging and eating wild foods for more than 50 years. Gary will teach you how to safely identify six species of delicious edible wild mushrooms. He will also help identify the dangerous species and share precautions in order to avoid accidental mushroom poisoning. Learn tips on handling, preserving, and preparing wild mushrooms for your eating enjoyment! First hour is indoors, and then, weather permitting, Gary will lead a foray to identify and collect edible wild mushrooms in the field.

29. Spiders of the Northwoods (P)**2:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

Spiders are some of the most misunderstood creatures on the planet. Join Larry Weber, author of the popular field guide *Spiders of the North Woods*, on a wild ride through the wonderful world of this amazing and diverse group of organisms. Scared of spiders? Find out why you shouldn't be!

15. Chequamegon Bay Hawk Watch (P)**11:00 am - 11:45 am**

Ashland is among the best places in Wisconsin to view raptor migration during the spring months as thousands of hawks, eagles, falcons, and vultures wing their way north. Join expert hawk watcher Tim Oksiuta as he discusses migration behavior and provides helpful tips for identifying birds of prey.

16. State of the Birds: The Year in Review (P)**11:00 am - 11:45 am**

In this program, Great Lakes birding expert, Rick Burkman, will present on how birds made news this past year. Hear about some of the new scientific discoveries and thoughts published in avian science during the previous year. A bit of (future) trivia, a few little known facts, and some analysis and speculation on what is happening to some of our most cherished and visible wildlife will be highlighted during this talk.

NEW

17. Cool It (Film)**11:00 am - 12:30 pm**

In this jarring documentary, author Bjorn Lomborg (*The Skeptical Environmentalist*) asks us why we are spending so much money on "green initiatives" for so little gain. Are there better ways to solve the problems? Lomborg offers some ideas of his own in this engrossing film. Watch with an open mind, after all, nothing less than the planet is at stake.

30. A Birder's Guide to Trees (FT)**2:00 pm - 3:45 pm**

Learn the basics of identifying trees and shrubs with retired Northland College bird and botany professor, Dick Verch. Dick will provide an overview of identifying characteristics of local woody plants found in various northwoods forest communities. If you've always wondered how to tell a spruce from a fir or an aspen from a birch, then this trip is for you! No experience necessary.

31. Coldwater Hatchery Tour (FT)**2:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

Explore the cold water of a fish hatchery. A fishery biologist will guide the group through state facilities to show the inner workings of a coldwater hatchery. See how they raise different types of trout, steelhead, splake, and salmon. Learn about these cool water species as well as stocking programs in Wisconsin.

Optional: Meet at the Les Voigt State Fish Hatchery at 2:30 pm.

32. Birds of the Apostle Islands (P)**3:00 pm - 3:45 pm**

The Apostle Islands National Lakeshore provides critical nesting and resting habitat for hundreds of bird species. Among these are Bald Eagles, colonial waterbirds such as gulls, herons, and cormorants, the endangered Piping Plover, and a wide diversity of landbirds. The National Park Service conducts regular breeding and migratory bird surveys in the Lakeshore. Peggy Burkman, National Park Service Biologist, will discuss results of these surveys and highlight some of the most significant bird species found on the mainland and island units of the park.

33. The Remarkable Gray Jay (P)**3:00 pm - 3:45 pm**

Gray Jays, or "camp robbers," are an uncommon but delightful resident of bogs and boreal-like forests of northern Wisconsin. Learn about the natural history of this bold, fascinating bird from retired US Forest Service biologist Tom Nicholls. He will discuss gray jay trends in MN and WI as well as threats to their populations, including habitat loss, global climate change, and West Nile Virus. And make sure you ask Tom about his Gray Jay research in Colorado!

NEW**34. Natural Connections: Exploring Northwoods Nature through Science and Your Senses (P)****4:00 pm - 4:45 pm**

In stories about the smell of rain, cheating ants, photosynthesizing salamanders, and more, naturalist Emily Stone delves into the surprising science

behind our northwoods neighbors, with focus on themes like adaptations, symbiotic relationships, the cycles of nature, and the fluidness of life and death. Through Emily's passion and expert perspective, you'll gain a new appreciation for nature in this dynamic presentation based on her book of the same name.

THURSDAY, MAY 18 - EVENING**35. Night Hike & Bat Emergence Count (FT)****7:30 pm - 10:30 pm**

Visit the Les Voigt State Fish Hatchery with Brian Heeringa, US Forest Service Wildlife Biologist, for an opportunity to observe bats emerge from bat boxes and forage over hatchery ponds. Brian will discuss ways in which biologists survey for bats and other nocturnal species, as well as provide a hands-on demonstration of several bat detectors. After watching the emergence, continue with Brian along a nearby trail for an opportunity to observe and hear other creatures of the night. The hike is along a relatively level trail that follows Pikes Creek and cuts through a variety of habitat types. Remember this field trip will be at night so be sure to dress for potentially cool or buggy conditions and bring a headlamp or flashlight to help you navigate.

36. Woodcock Walk (FT)**8:15 pm - 9:30 pm**

Venture on a nocturnal foray with Ruth Oppedahl, Executive Director of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, in search of American Woodcock performing their spring courtship flights along the NGLVC's boardwalk trail. There's also potential to hear Wilson's Snipe, Ruffed Grouse, Great Horned Owl, and several frog species. Bring a flashlight or headlamp to help guide the way.



COURTESY OF CLAM LAKE

FRIDAY, MAY 19 - MORNING**37. *Our Wisconsin Elk (FT)****5:00 am - 11:30 am**

Did you know there are elk in Wisconsin? Have you ever wanted to have the chance to see a wild elk? Then this might be for you! Join Kathy Moe, US Forest Service Biological Technician, as she leads you on a field trip that will focus on locating elk using radio telemetry and visiting favorite elk habitat near Clam Lake, Wisconsin. Along the way you will learn which plants elk forage on at different times of the year, home range, herd dynamics, and much more. In addition to elk there will be ample opportunities for bird watching and other wildlife viewing, perhaps even bears, wolves, or a spruce grouse.

***Note:** Please be prepared to hike off trail on wet, uneven terrain and don't forget your camera!

38. Stockton Island Cruise (FT)**5:15 am - 12:30 pm**

Enjoy a scenic cruise aboard the Ashland Bay Express to Stockton Island, the largest and most biologically diverse island in the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. Join leaders for three hours of birding amid the forests, dunes, savannahs, bogs, lagoons, and beaches along the Tombolo Trail. The island has pit toilets but few other facilities, so bring potable water and snacks, dress in layers, wear stout water-resistant footwear and prepare to pack out what you pack in. *Optional:* Meet at the Apostle Islands Cruises office by the Bayfield City Dock at 5:45 am.

Additional Cost: \$45

39. *Wrens & Waterfalls (FT)**6:00 am - 11:30 am**

Explore a potpourri of Iron County's most spectacular waterfalls and the birds that frequent these unique areas with DNR Research Scientist Ryan Brady and UW Extension Environmental Educator Cathy Techtmann. Besides being a birder's woodland paradise, you will learn about the rich history and ecology of these rushing water cascades.

***Note:** This tour may include walking up to ¼ mile on undeveloped trails. Sturdy shoes are recommended.

40. Birding Little Sand Bay (FT)**6:15 am - 10:45 am**

Join National Park Service Biologist Ted Gostomski and local birding expert Ben Baldwin in exploring the woodlands and wetlands of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore near Little Sand Bay. We'll look

Stockton Island



NEIL HOWK

for waterbirds, warblers, migrating raptors, and more in this spectacular coastal location.

41. A Bird in the Hand... (FT)**6:30 am - 7:30 am**

Experienced researchers and bird banders provide you with an opportunity you just can't miss. Marvel at the beauty of warblers, sparrows, finches, and other birds up close and personal – an unforgettable experience for all ages. Learn identification features, natural history, and research techniques as they demonstrate the how's and why's of bird banding. If you have never seen a bird in hand, then this is the trip for you!

42. *Birding Copper Falls State Park (FT)**6:30 am - 11:30 am**

Ancient lava flows, deep gorges, and spectacular waterfalls make Copper Falls one of Wisconsin's most scenic parks. Brad Gingras, local birder and naturalist, will lead participants of all ages and skill levels along the park's trails to absorb the spectacular scenery and glimpse the many warblers, vireos, thrushes, and other forest birds that call Copper Falls home.

Optional: Meet at Copper Falls State Park at 7:15 am. ***Note:** Moderate to difficult, uneven terrain.

Additional Cost: Parking Fee \$8/car

43. *Sea Caves Nature Hike (FT)**6:30 am - 11:45 am**

Staff from the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will lead participants on a four-mile round trip, rugged lakeshore trail hike. Learn identification and natural history of birds, trees, wildflowers, insects, and more on your way to view sandstone cliffs and caves along Lake Superior.

Optional: Meet at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore's Meyers Beach parking lot at 7:15 am.

***Note:** Moderate to high difficulty, sturdy footwear for rugged terrain required.

Additional Cost: Parking \$5/car

44. *A Bird's Eye View of the Penokee Mountains (FT)**6:45 am - 11:30 am**

Explore the rugged hills of the Penokee Mountains east of Mellen with biologist and local birding expert, Joan Elias, and Trout Unlimited member, Bill Heart. This section of the Penokees contains dense forests, wetlands, trout streams, waterfalls and the headwaters of the Bad River. With such wonderful habitat diversity, expect to find an interesting mix of northern forest bird species, such as warblers, thrushes, winter wrens, flycatchers, and hawks.

***Note:** Moderate difficulty due to some hilly terrain and potential for off trail hiking.

45. *Gold Nuggets & Woodland Warblers (FT)**6:45 am - 11:30 am**

Gold nuggets may be difficult to find, but you will find remnants of an 1800's gold mine scam! The real gold is the hike itself... approx. three miles along the North Country Trail with DNR Forest Ecologist Colleen Matula. Enjoy beautiful rock outcrops while discussing forest ecology, spring ephemerals, and woodland warblers. Black-throated Blue Warbler is a target species here.

***Note:** Hike is about three miles round trip on moderately difficult terrain.

46. Birds & Wildlife of the Moquah Pine Barrens (FT)**7:00 am - 10:45 am**

The Moquah Pine Barrens offer a dramatic change to the local landscape by featuring dry uplands with rolling hills of openings, pines, oaks and various shrubs. Look for birds such as Sharp-tailed Grouse, Vesper Sparrows, Brewer's Blackbirds and more. Learn tips on how and where to find other wildlife in this interesting landscape, including gray wolves, American badgers and numerous small mammals, such as the 13-lined ground squirrel.

47. Discovering Caroline Lake State Natural Area (FT)**7:00 am - 11:30 am**

Sitting at the headwaters of the Bad River, Caroline Lake is an undeveloped lake with a diverse mix of high-quality plant communities. Matt Dallman, Director of Conservation with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), will share the story behind this important conservation effort and lead you on a beautiful hike in search of loons, eagles, ospreys, warblers, and other northwoods species. Learn about TNC's climate change forestry work and potential impacts of an iron mine on this site.

48. A Bird in the Hand... (FT)**7:30 am - 8:30 am**

Experienced researchers and bird banders provide you with an opportunity you just can't miss. Marvel at the beauty of warblers, sparrows, finches, and other birds up close and personal – an unforgettable experience for all ages. Learn identification features, natural history, and research techniques as they demonstrate the how's and why's of bird banding. If you have never seen a bird in hand, then this is the trip for you!



American Redstart

RYAN BRADY

49. Birding Basics along the Great WI Birding & Nature Trail (FT)**8:00 am - 8:45 am**

The Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail is a statewide, mapped auto trail designed to help people connect with nature. Stroll along the boardwalk at the visitor center – one of the designated trail sites – and learn how to get involved in one of the nation's fastest growing hobbies. Master the basics of birdwatching, including how to use binoculars, how to identify birds, where to find birds, and much more.

50. Birding by the Bay (FT)**8:00 am - 11:30 am**

Sample a few of the excellent birding sites in and near the town of Washburn. David Bratley, local birding expert, will lead participants to multiple lakeshore points to search for waterfowl, gulls, terns, and shorebirds, with some short hikes along shoreline trails to find warblers, orioles, sparrows, and more. Among the sought-after species are Red-necked Grebe, Merlin, Whimbrel, Willet, Pine Warbler, and Harris's Sparrow.

51. Loon Pontoon (FT)**8:00 am - 11:45 am**

Search for nesting loons and other birds on Lake Namekagon during this pontoon trip led by staff from the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute's Project LoonWatch and the Cable Natural History Museum. Learn all about loons, threats to their populations, and what you can do to help them survive, all while soaking up the birds and scenery of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

Optional: Meet at the Cable Natural History Museum at 8:30 am.

Additional Cost: \$20

52. A Bird in the Hand... (FT)**8:30 am - 9:30 am**

Experienced researchers and bird banders provide you with an opportunity you just can't miss. Marvel at the beauty of warblers, sparrows, finches, and other birds up close and personal – an unforgettable experience for all ages. Learn identification features, natural history, and research techniques as they demonstrate the how's and why's of bird banding. If you have never seen a bird in hand, then this is the trip for you!

53. Coastal & Inland Wetland Walk (FT)**9:00 am - 11:30 am**

Ted Koehler, Biologist with the US Fish & Wildlife Service, will lead this trip through Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge and along Chequamegon Bay to view coastal and inland wetland waterfowl and other area birds. We will also look at local wetland restoration practices, learn about waterfowl ecology and practice waterfowl identification with "ducks on a stick." Bring your binoculars, bird field guide, bug spray, knee boots (not required but recommended), and have your rain gear handy in case we have good duck weather!

54. A Bird in the Hand... (FT)**9:30 am - 10:30 am**

Experienced researchers and bird banders provide you with an opportunity you just can't miss. Marvel at the beauty of warblers, sparrows, finches, and other birds up close and personal – an unforgettable experience for all ages. Learn identification features, natural history, and research techniques as they demonstrate the how's and why's of bird banding. If you have never seen a bird in hand, then this is the trip for you!

Common Loon



RYAN BRADY



Mainland Sea Caves

NEIL HOWK

55. Native Landscaping & Butterfly Gardens (FT) 10:00 am - 11:45 am

Both beautiful and beneficial, native plants can bring more than just vibrant color to your gardens. Enjoy birds, wildlife, and butterflies from spring to fall with the right mix of native plants. Susan Nelson, Interpretive Specialist with the US Forest Service, will take the group on an informative tour of the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center's gardens to help participants get ideas for their own backyards.

56. Birding Basics along the Great WI Birding & Nature Trail (FT) 11:00 am - 11:45 am

The Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail is a statewide, mapped auto trail designed to help people connect with nature. Stroll along the boardwalk at the visitor center – one of the designated trail sites – and learn how to get involved in one of the nation's fastest growing hobbies. Master the basics of birdwatching, including how to use binoculars, how to identify birds, where to find birds, and much more.

57. "The Messenger" (Film) 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

"The Messenger" is a visually thrilling ode to the beauty and importance of imperiled songbirds, and what it will mean to all of us on both a global and human level if we lose them. This documentary film explores our deep-seated connection to birds and warns that the uncertain fate of songbirds might mirror our own. Moving from the northern reaches of the Boreal Forest to the base of Mount Ararat in Turkey to the streets of New York, "The Messenger" brings us face-to-face with a remarkable variety of

human-made perils that have devastated thrushes, warblers, orioles, tanagers, grosbeaks and many other airborne music-makers.

FRIDAY, MAY 19 - AFTERNOON

NEW

58. Forest Lodge Estate & the Fairyland State Natural Area (FT) 12:45 pm - 4:45 pm

Explore the fascinating history and architectural design of the Forest Lodge Estate and Fairyland State Natural Area, donated by Mary Griggs Burke. Fairyland is immersed in a relatively undisturbed old growth hemlock hardwood forest situated on the pristine shore of Lake Namekagon. You will explore the natural and cultural history of the property including flora, fauna, geology, and cultural influences. Dress for the weather and walking on uneven surfaces. Guided by MaryJo Gingras from the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute at Northland College and Emily M. Stone from the Cable Natural History Museum.

59. Bird-friendly Farming (FT) 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Hermit Creek Farm is a certified organic produce farm located on the north slope of the Penokee Range. Besides growing a wide selection of organic produce, maple syrup, and pastured hogs, owners Steven and Landis Spickerman pay special attention to their farm's biological diversity and include it as a key measure of their farm's success. Join them in looking at both new and old projects designed to improve insect and bird habitat through planting native grasses, forbs, shrubs and trees. And we'll also sneak a look at the rest of the farm as well!

60. Limnology of the North Country (FT) 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Join the Bad River Watershed Association as we investigate the water quality at select northwoods rivers and streams. Learn about the surveying tools BRWA uses to determine the health of the water. Get your feet wet and search for the macroinvertebrates that live in these waterways. We will also discuss the role BRWA plays in assessing, restoring and protecting the region's watersheds. ***Note:** Bring waders or knee-high rubber boots if possible – a limited number will be available.

61. Tracking Mammals in the Field (FT) 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Visit the woodlands and coastline of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore to learn the basics of identifying mammal tracks from expert mammalogist and Coordinator of the Timber Wolf Alliance Adrian Wydeven. From squirrels to hares and foxes to wolves, Adrian shares his decades of experience in deciphering the strides, gaits, and patterns of footprints left behind by our furred friends. He will also discuss wolf ecology and the role of local organizations in managing them. Finding wolf tracks is a good possibility on this trip!

***Note:** Good hiking footwear are recommended for this 3-4 mile round trip walk on relatively flat to rolling terrain along an old dirt road.

62. Wildflower Walk - Spring Ephemerals (FT) 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Mark Jaunzems, US Forest Service Botanist and Ecologist, leads you on a hike in search of northwoods spring ephemeral wildflowers. Species that may be seen include Spring Beauty, Large-flowered Trillium, Wild Ginger, Bloodroot, Dutchman's Breeches, and Bellwort.

63. Bay Area Birding (FT) 1:15 pm - 3:45 pm

WDNR Research Scientist Nick Anich will lead participants to the latest hotspot in Chequamegon Bay birding. Potential destinations include shoreline vantages to view shorebirds, terns, and other waterbirds, inland fields in search of grassland birds, or local parks to see warblers and other woodland species.

NEW

64. Basics of Nature Writing & Photography (FT) 1:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Explore the basics of nature photography and journaling on a field trip in northern Wisconsin's outdoors with local photojournalist Anna Maria Hansen. Learn techniques for photographing landscapes and wildlife, as well as recording details of your experiences in nature to make lasting memories.

65. Woodworking for Wildlife (P) 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm

Start your own backyard habitat by building an artificial nesting or roosting box that you can take home! While constructing your nest or roost box, learn about why artificial structures are important to wildlife, the different types of boxes available, their placement and care, as well as the species they benefit. All materials and tools are provided. Participants of this program should check out



Making Birdhouses

SUSAN NELSON

activity #72 that follows at 3:00 pm!
Additional Cost: \$10 per nest box

66. Hiking Bayfield's Brownstone Trail (FT) 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

The Brownstone is an urban trail that follows an old railway corridor and connects the City of Bayfield's historic downtown area to Pikes Bay Marina and Port Superior located in the Town of Bayfield. It offers an easy hike, excellent birding opportunities, and views of spectacular brownstone cliffs. Explore this special property on a guided tour with Bayfield Regional Conservancy staff and local birding expert, Neil Howk. *Optional:* Meet at the trailhead near Bayfield's public boat launch at 2:00 pm.

NEW

67. Hitting the Bluebird Trail (P) 2:00 pm - 2:45 pm

With 20+ years experience, Rich and Carol Becker will share the ins and outs of managing a nest box "trail" for bluebirds. Learn how the bluebird movement started, best locations for a box, types of boxes, and other tips for bluebird success.

68. Fascinating Fossils (P) 2:00 pm - 3:45 pm

Fossil enthusiast Bob Leis will give a presentation on the world's oldest fossils, the Stromatolites. Author of a new book "Stromatolites: Ancient, Beautiful, and Earth-Altering", Bob will explain the significance of these fascinating organisms and how they changed the world. You will be surprised to find out where and when these organisms flourished, and where you can find Stromatolites on your own. A special field trip will follow to Bob's home in Washburn to see his collection of 700 Stromatolites from around the world! It is an impressive collection and not to be missed! Come and enjoy the "thrill" of Stromatolites.



Forest Lodge

DAVID MELANCON

69. Restoring Coaster Brook Trout to Whittlesey Creek (FT)

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

The US Fish and Wildlife Service's Lake Superior Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office in Ashland and Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge collaborate to restore coaster brook trout, a high priority native fish. Join Conservation Office staff to discuss and view projects to restore coasters to Whittlesey Creek, participate in an electrofishing survey demonstration in the creek, and visit our passive integrated transponder (PIT) tag detection station, which is used to monitor movement of tagged fish as they move between the stream and Lake Superior waters. Brook trout from our Iron River National Fish Hatchery will be available for participants to view, and a few lucky folks will be able to get some hands-on experience with this beautiful native species.

70. Coldwater Hatchery Tour (FT)

2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Explore the cold water of a fish hatchery. A fishery biologist will guide the group through state facilities to show the inner workings of a coldwater hatchery. See how they raise different types of trout, steelhead, splake, and salmon. Learn about these cool water species as well as stocking programs in Wisconsin. *Optional:* Meet at the Les Voigt State Fish Hatchery at 2:30 pm.

71. Going Green: Seeking Sustainability at NGLVC (FT)

2:15 pm - 3:45 pm

The Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (NGLVC) was recently upgraded to improve energy efficiency, water conservation, and harness the power of the sun. Tour the improvements firsthand with NGLVC Director Jason Maloney to learn how the changes will reduce carbon emissions and make this building more sustainable for years to come.



MAGE ERICSON

72. Providing Shelters & Habitat for Wildlife (P)

3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

Join Tom Nicholls, Director of Nature Education Center in Fifield and retired US Forest Service research wildlife biologist and plant pathologist, as he provides ideas on how to attract a wide variety of wildlife to your backyard by providing natural and human-made habitat and artificial and natural shelters.

NEW

73. Combatting Climate Change – A Specific Proposal (P)

3:45 pm - 4:30 pm

Most economists and climate change policy experts have concluded that "putting a price on carbon" is an essential component of successfully addressing climate change. In this presentation, Bill Bussey, group leader for the Chequamegon chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby, will explain CCL's legislative proposal – known as Carbon Fee and Dividend – for doing so, and its projected impacts on CO2 emissions, our economy, and American households.

FRIDAY, MAY 19 – EVENING

BANQUET, BIRDS & BREWS

All Friday Evening Programs take place at NORTHLAND COLLEGE

Back by popular demand we are again offering a special evening of activities at Northland College in Ashland, featuring a fantastic silent auction, cash-bar social hour, locally-sourced banquet dinner, species checklist tally, and this year's keynote presentation detailing impacts of climate change on Wisconsin's birds. It promises to be a fun, delicious, and informative night with fellow birders – don't miss out!

74. Silent Auction & Social Hour (P)

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Share stories, discuss birding tips, and meet some new friends all while enjoying a spectacular silent auction sponsored by Chequamegon Audubon and a refreshing cash bar featuring beer and wine. The perfect finale to your busy day of birding!

75. Dinner Banquet

at NORTHLAND COLLEGE

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Celebrate the evening in style by taking advantage of our festival dinner at Northland College, featuring a mouth-watering buffet of locally-sourced Lake Superior fish, herb-baked chicken, wild rice blend, roasted vegetables, asparagus spears, tossed salad and dessert. Then stay for the rest of our exciting evening activities.

Additional Cost: \$21.95/person, plus optional beer and wine cash bar

76. Sightings of the Day & Welcome

at NORTHLAND COLLEGE

7:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Discover the festival's most exciting finds so far and the stories behind them as we tally a master checklist of birds seen during the festival. A popular, can't-miss event! We'll also settle in for the evening's keynote presentation immediately following.

NEW

77. FRIDAY KEYNOTE: Impacts of Climate Change on Wisconsin's Birds (P)

at NORTHLAND COLLEGE

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

The National Audubon Society's "Birds and Climate Change Report" is a ground-breaking project in which scientists analyzed decades of historical bird and climate data to understand how hundreds of North American bird species will fare as our climate continues to change. More than half the species studied (including the Bald Eagle and nine state birds) are at serious risk, losing up to 95 percent of their current ranges. In Wisconsin, data show a similar loss of many cherished bird species. **Dr. Matthew Reetz** will discuss the objectives, methods and results of the National Audubon Society study, with emphasis on what the results are likely to mean for Wisconsin and some of the species we all enjoy. Matt will also lay out a roadmap for protecting our threatened birds, including what we can do at personal, community and national levels.



Sand Island

NEIL HOWK

SATURDAY, MAY 20 – MORNING

NEW

78. *Sand Island Cruise (FT)

5:15 am - 2:30 pm

Enjoy a scenic cruise through the Apostle Islands historic Sand Island. Join leaders for four hours of birding and a hike along the two-mile trail leading from the dock at East Bay through old farm fields, past the beach and sea caves near Justice Bay, and through old growth forest in route to the historic Sand Island lighthouse. Participants will have the opportunity to climb the light tower to enjoy the view from the top. The island has vault toilets but few other facilities, so bring potable water and lunch, dress in layers, wear stout water-resistant footwear, and prepare to pack out what you pack in. *Optional:* Meet at the Apostle Islands Cruises office by the Bayfield City Dock at 5:45 am.

***Note:** Four-mile round-trip hike on relatively flat but muddy terrain. **Additional Cost:** \$45

79. Early Bird Special (FT)

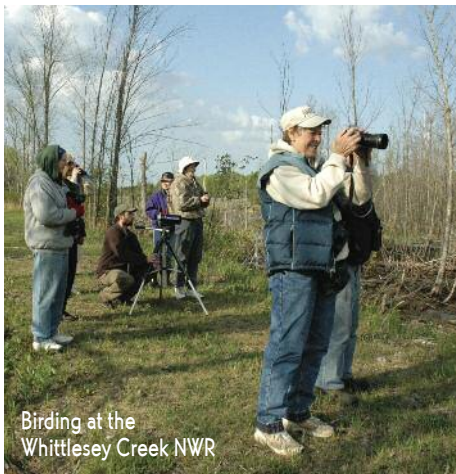
5:30 am - 7:45 am

The early bird catches the worm and the even earlier birder will witness spring migrants flocking to Chequamegon Bay. Local birding expert Tim Oksiuta leads participants to the latest hotspot in Chequamegon Bay birding. Potential destinations include shoreline vantage points to view shorebirds, terns, and other waterbirds, inland fields in search of grassland birds, or local parks to see warblers and other woodland species.

80. Wetland & Woodland Birds of Iron River (FT)

6:00 am - 11:45 am

WDNR Research Scientist Ryan Brady guides you in search of woodland and wetland birds around the Iron River area. The trip will first seek out American Bittern, Sora, and Virginia Rail, then turn to landbirds such as Golden-winged Warbler, Sedge Wren, and more. Finish up with a trail hike at the Iron River National Fish Hatchery where migrating warblers and a few grassland species are possible.



JAN ESPOSITO

Birding at the Whittlesey Creek NWR

81. Bibon Swamp Birding (FT) 6:30 am - 9:45 am

The Bibon Swamp is one of the area's best places to find Golden-winged Warblers. This trip will walk a very lightly-traveled, dead-end dirt road through sedge meadow, alder, ash, and mixed lowland forest while enjoying a few Golden-wings amidst a potpourri of birds in a peaceful setting. Brad Gingras, local birder and naturalist, will help participants find and pick out numerous species.

Optional: Meet at the Grand View General Store at 7:00 am.

82. Birding at Bark Bay (FT) 6:30 am - 11:45 am

This two-part trip will feature visits to Bark Bay Slough State Natural Area and nearby Bark Point. Bark Bay Slough SNA is an exceptional coastal wetland hosting a wide variety of birds. Bark Point is a peninsula of land jutting into Lake Superior and can sometimes host spectacular concentrations of migrant landbirds, including a great diversity of warbler species. You never know what you might find here.

83. A Bird in the Hand... (FT) 7:00 am - 8:30 am

Experienced researchers and bird banders provide you with an opportunity you just can't miss. Marvel at the beauty of warblers, sparrows, finches, and other birds up close and personal – an unforgettable experience for all ages. Learn identification features, natural history, and research techniques as they demonstrate the how's and why's of bird banding. If you have never seen a bird in hand, then this is the trip for you!

84. Fire & the Ecology of the Pine Barrens (FT) 7:00 am - 10:30 am

The ecosystems of the sand plains of Northwest Wisconsin have been shaped over the millennia by frequent fires. Many species of plants and the animals that use them depend upon fire to create the conditions they need to thrive. Fire suppression during the past century has resulted in dramatic changes to the pine barrens ecosystem. Certified Wildlife Biologist Scott Posner will lead a tour of sites that are in the process of being restored to the pine barrens ecosystem through prescribed burning and other treatments. Participants will learn about the relationship of fire and birds such as the black-backed woodpecker, clay-colored sparrow, and brown thrasher, as well as the diminutive Chryxus Arctic butterfly and numerous other animals and plants.

85. Birding the Porcupine Lake Wilderness Area (FT) 7:00 am - 11:45 am

"Simplicity in all things is the secret of the wilderness and one of its most valuable lessons." – Sigurd Olson. It's been over 50 years since the signing of the 1964 Wilderness Act. Leave the gadgets behind and absorb the serenity of our local Porcupine Lake Wilderness Area with wildlife biologist Tom Matthiae. Black-throated Blue Warbler and Swainson's Thrush are possibilities, along with a suite of other northwoods bird and wildlife species.

86. *Exploring the Birds, Scenery, and Culture of the North Country Trail (FT) 7:15 am - 11:45 am

Join US Forest Service wildlife technician Kathy Moe for a scenic hike along the North Country National Scenic Trail in the heart of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. Gorgeous vistas including the infamous "Solitude Cliffs" overlooking the wooded Marengo River Valley. You'll take a short spur trail to the historic Swedish Settlement to see what remains of a once thriving community of settlers. Oh, and there's birding, too! **Note:* This ~4-mile roundtrip hike has some very steep hills and rough trail conditions with roots, rocks, etc..

87. *Hiking the Big Ravine Trail (FT) 7:30 am - 10:30 am

Containing seasonal tributaries and undulating slopes of forested acreage, the Big Ravine Forest provides habitat for a variety of migratory and breeding bird species that rely on older forests and their edges. Currently, almost 200 acres of the Big Ravine is protected due to efforts of the Bayfield Regional Conservancy (BRC), the City of Bayfield,

the Town of Bayfield, and private landowners. Explore this special property on a guided tour with BRC staff.

**Note:* Hike is 1-1.5 miles round trip with some strenuous sections on uneven terrain.

88. Birding by Bicycle (FT) 8:00 am - 10:45 am

Be a green birder! Ditch the fossil fuel and use your own pedal power. Pedal approximately 5-10 miles (depending on how good the birding is!) through a variety of habitats with biologists Joan Elias and Wendy Stein. Bring your own bicycle (one that can handle gravel), a helmet, water, and binoculars. This could be the start of your Big Green Birding Year (BIGBY)!

89. Grassland Birding (FT) 8:00 am - 11:30 am

The northwoods typically don't conjure up thoughts of grassland birds but the rural areas of Ashland feature a variety of open habitats where Bobolinks, Upland Sandpipers, Eastern and Western Meadowlarks, Savannah Sparrows, Northern Harriers, and other grassland birds can be found. Local birding expert Tim Oksiuta guides you in search of these open-country species.

90. Habitats of Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge (FT) 8:30 am - 10:45 am

Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge welcomes you to a little refuge with a big impact. Whittlesey Creek connects Lake Superior to the area you experience at the festival while providing habitat for hundreds of wildlife species. The refuge hosts many terrestrial species as well as a spawning stream for coaster brook trout and other migratory fish from Lake Superior. Discover the refuge and some of its inhabitants during this guided tour with US Fish & Wildlife Service staff.

91. A Bird in the Hand... (FT) 9:00 am - 10:30 am

Experienced researchers and bird banders provide you with an opportunity you just can't miss. Marvel at the beauty of warblers, sparrows, finches, and other birds up close and personal – an unforgettable experience for all ages. Learn identification features, natural history, and research techniques as they demonstrate the how's and why's of bird banding. If you have never seen a bird in hand, then this is the trip for you!

92. Estuary Ed-Venture (FT) 9:00 am - 11:30 am

Take a kayak trip along Lake Superior's coast to explore Fish Creek and Whittlesey Creek Estuaries and beyond. Ages 12 and up will learn how the region's geology, culture, and history have shaped this place where the land meets the water. First time kayakers welcome! The trip begins with an orientation to the kayak and how to move around in these remarkably stable, low profile vessels. Explore the calmer side of Lake Superior and get a new view of the shoreline and streams of the bay. Equipment provided but close-toed water shoes required. **Additional Cost:** \$12

93. Birding Hot Spots in the Lake Superior Basin (P) 10:00 am - 10:45 am

As the largest and most pristine of the Great Lakes, Lake Superior provides spectacular opportunities for birdwatching, especially during the migration and breeding seasons. Great Lakes birding expert Rick Burkman takes you on a virtual tour of Lake Superior's best birding sites, including such notable places as the Apostle Islands, Hawk Ridge, and Whitefish Point. Learn where you can go to see thousands of raptors in a single day, get a glimpse of those elusive jaegers, and witness songbird diversity rivaled by very few places in the US.



CBBNF

Kayaking Fish Creek



Sharp-tailed Grouse

RYAN BRADY

98. Bayside Birding (FT)**1:00 pm - 3:30 pm**

Local birding expert Tim Oksiuta leads participants to the latest hotspot in Chequamegon Bay birding. Potential destinations include shoreline vantages in Washburn or Ashland to view shorebirds, terns, and other waterbirds, inland fields in search of grassland birds, or local parks to see warblers and other woodland species.

99. Wildflowers of Bogs & Barrens (FT)**1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

Geology drives ecology, and understanding that will help us understand the plants that grow in bogs and barrens, sometimes side-by-side and yet in very different habitats. Join Vilas Cty LWD Conservation Specialist Quita Sheehan in exploring the geology and ecology of the pitted outwash dominated Moquah Pine Barrens. We'll look at the formation of the kettles and potholes in the area and identify some of the hard-working plants that make a living in such difficult environments. Knee-high water-proof boots are recommended but not required.

NEW

100. *In Search of Sharp-tailed Grouse (FT)**1:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

Take advantage of this unique opportunity to track down and observe a rare and declining species! Join Brian Heeringa, US Forest Service Wildlife Biologist, for an opportunity to see firsthand work being done on the Washburn Ranger District to restore more than 17,000 acres of globally-imperiled pine barrens habitat and also one of the sentinel species of birds that defines it, the Sharp-tailed Grouse. You will assist in tracking wild grouse that have been outfitted with radio transmitters, providing you with a rare look at the birds and how they interact with their environment. You will have the opportunity to see other species of the pine barrens and learn about the restoration work in progress.

***Note:** Wear comfortable and sturdy hiking boots as there may be bushwhacking away from roads or trails.

101. Canoeing the Bibon Swamp (FT)**1:00 pm - 5:30 pm**

The Bibon Swamp is a 10,000-acre State Natural Area bisected by the White River and hosting coniferous bogs, hardwood swamp, alder thickets, and other wetland habitats. Experience this remote, magical wetland via canoe/kayak with expert guides and appreciate the many plants, birds, and animals that call the Bibon home. All experience levels welcome.

Note: Equipment not provided - you must bring your own canoe/kayak and associated paddling equipment.

102. *Nature Hike to Lost Creek Falls (FT)**1:00 pm - 5:30 pm**

Venture afield with northwoods naturalist Tom Gerstenberger as he guides you through meandering woodland trails lined with aspen, fir, and pine en route to the remote, serene, and beautiful Lost Creek Falls west of Cornucopia. Enjoy birds, flowers, frogs, and other jewels of nature in a quiet and beautiful setting, all while learning about Bayfield Regional Conservancy's habitat and land conservation work in the Chequamegon Bay area.

***Note:** Moderate difficulty; round trip hike of nearly 3 miles; sturdy, waterproof footwear for rugged terrain recommended.

103. Estuary Ed-Venture (FT)**1:15 pm - 3:45 pm**

Take a kayak trip along Lake Superior's coast to explore Fish Creek and Whittlesey Creek Estuaries and beyond. Ages 12 and up will learn how the region's geology, culture, and history have shaped this place where the land meets the water. First time kayakers welcome! The trip begins with an orientation to the kayak and how to move around in these remarkably stable, low profile vessels. Explore the calmer side of Lake Superior and get a new view of the shoreline and streams of the bay. Equipment provided but close-toed water shoes required.

Additional Cost: \$12

104. Birding Along Pikes Creek (FT)**1:15 pm - 4:00 pm**

This walk will start at the Les Voigt Fish Hatchery and follow Pikes Creek as it wanders inland for about one mile. Led by local birding expert Rick Burkman, the hike will pass through a variety of bird habitats, including holding ponds, a beaver pond, and old growth pines. Possible species include waterfowl, 10-15 species of warblers, Common Ravens, woodpeckers, Bald Eagles, Ruffed Grouse, Winter Wrens, thrushes, and more.

Optional: Meet at Les Voigt Fish Hatchery at 1:45 pm.

105. Hiking Frog Bay Tribal National Park (FT)**1:15 pm - 4:15 pm**

The first-ever Tribal National Park opened to the public on August 3, 2012. Learn about this unique collaboration between the Bayfield Regional Conservancy (BRC) and the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa to preserve 88 acres of land on Lake Superior - land that supports a transitional boreal forest, a globally rare and threatened forest type, and scenic Lake Superior shoreline with views of the Apostle Islands.

106. Edible Wild Mushroom Foraging for Beginners (FT)**1:30 pm - 4:30 pm**

Gary Cholwek is an avid naturalist and biologist who has been foraging and eating wild foods since childhood. This is his 50th season of hunting and eating edible wild mushrooms. Gary will teach you how to safely identify six species of delicious edible wild mushrooms. He will also help identify the dangerous species and share precautions in order to avoid accidental mushroom poisoning. Learn tips on handling, preserving, and preparing wild mushrooms for your eating enjoyment! First hour is indoors, and then, weather permitting, Gary will lead a foray to identify and collect edible wild mushrooms in the field.

107. Hiking the Lincoln Community Forest (FT)**2:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

Nearly 400 acres in size, the Lincoln Community Forest has a wild and scenic forest surrounding two miles of the Marengo River, a 10-acre wetland and lake complex, and 3-1/2 miles of nature-based recreation trails, all thanks to a partnership between local citizens and the Bayfield Regional Conservancy. Explore these habitats with biologists Adrian Wydeven and Mark Dryer, who will discuss the partnership and provide tips on how you can better manage your property for forest wildlife such as deer, grouse, and songbirds.

108. Shorebirds Made Simpler (FT)**2:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

Shorebirds are among the most difficult groups of birds to identify. WDNR Research Scientist Nick Anich will point out key identification features while this trip visits shorebird hotspots along Chequamegon Bay. Depending on available habitat, which varies each year, up to 10 species of shorebirds are possible, with the potential to spot locally-uncommon species such as American Golden-Plover, Willet, Marbled Godwit, American Avocet, and other waterbirds.

109. "The Central Park Effect" (Film)**3:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

This HBO documentary highlights the vibrant world of birds and birding in New York's Central Park and features volunteers and staff participating in Audubon's Christmas Bird Count. The film reveals the extraordinary array of wild birds that grace Manhattan's celebrated patch of green and the equally colorful New Yorkers who schedule their lives around the rhythms of migration. Directed by Jeffrey Kimball.

94. Aldo Leopold Native Seed Orchard Tour (FT)**10:00 am - 11:45 am**

Take a walk with Forest Service specialists in the Aldo Leopold Native Seed Orchard to see over 8,000 native plants that produce seed and plant materials for habitat restoration projects in the Lake Superior Clay Plain. This orchard is named for one of America's foremost conservationists and philosophers who pioneered native ecosystem restoration efforts. This orchard is also a nectary and seed source for many native butterflies, bees, moths and birds.

95. Wildflower Walk (FT)**10:00 am - 11:45 am**

Visit a local trail or park in search of early-season plants and wildflowers with Conservation Specialist Quita Sheehan (Vilas Co. LWD). Learn the basics of identification, where, when, and how to find them, and what resources you can use to become a better botanist!

SATURDAY, MAY 20 - AFTERNOON**96. Animal Ambassadors (featuring live animals) (P)****12:00 pm - 1:45 pm**

Join naturalists from the Cable Natural History Museum for a demonstration of how the Museum uses non-releasable, wild animals to help fulfill their mission of "connecting people to Northwoods nature". Meet "Aldo" the kestrel and other Animal Ambassadors up close and personable in this continuously running program at the base of the Visitor Center's tower. Stay as little or as long as you like.

97. Sea Lamprey Control Program (featuring live lampreys) (P)**12:00 pm - 1:45 pm**

Meet US Fish & Wildlife Service biologists who will share information about invasive sea lamprey control methods in the Great Lakes. Live adult sea lampreys and an exhibit will be on display. Stay as little or as long as you like.

ACTIVITIES OVERVIEW

Program #	Activity Name	Type	Start/End Time	Min/Max	Add'l. Cost
THURSDAY, MAY 18 - MORNING					
1.	Birding at Bark Bay	FT	6:00 am - 11:45 am	5/20	
2.	Birding in the National Forest	FT	6:15 am - 11:45 am	5/25	
3.	Bibon Swamp Birding	FT	6:30 am - 9:45 am	5/20	
4.	Grassland Birding	FT	7:00 am - 11:30 am	5/20	
5.	Birding Along Pikes Creek	FT	7:15 am - 10:45 am	5/20	
6.	Birding by Bicycle	FT	7:30 am - 10:45 am	5/15	Bring own bicycle
7.	Birds & Ecology - Kakagon Sloughs	FT	7:30 am - 12:30 pm	10/25	\$50
8.	Birding Basics	FT	8:00 am - 8:45 am	2/20	
9.	Birding by the Bay	FT	8:00 am - 11:30 am	5/15	
10.	Birds & Wildlife - Moquah Pine Barrens	FT	8:00 am - 11:30 am	5/15	
11.	Beginning Birding by Ear	FT	8:15 am - 9:45 am	5/15	
12.	Habitats of Whittlesey Creek NWR	FT	8:30 am - 10:45 am	5/20	
13.	Nature Hike Along Washburn's Lakeshore Trail	FT	9:00 am - 10:45 am	5/20	
14.	Birding Basics	FT	11:00 am - 11:45 am	2/20	
15.	Chequamegon Bay Hawk Watch	P	11:00 am - 11:45 am	5/30	
16.	State of the Birds: The Year in Review	P	11:00 am - 11:45 am	5/40	
N 17.	"Cool It"	Film	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	5/100	
THURSDAY, MAY 18 - AFTERNOON					
18.	Animal Ambassadors	P	12:00 pm - 1:45 pm		
19.	Sea Lamprey Control Program	P	12:00 pm - 1:45 pm		
20.	Amphibians of Northern Wisconsin	FT	1:00 pm - 3:45 pm	5/15	
21.	Wildflower Walk - Spring Ephemerals	FT	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/25	
22.	Bayfield County Butterflies	FT	1:00 pm - 4:45 pm	5/20	
23.	*Wetlands of the Penokees	FT	1:00 pm - 4:45 pm	5/20	
24.	Birding Basics	FT	1:15 pm - 2:00 pm	2/20	
25.	Bay Area Birding	FT	1:15 pm - 3:45 pm	5/20	
26.	Chasing Land Snails	FT	1:15 pm - 4:00 pm	5/15	
27.	Hiking Frog Bay Tribal National Park	FT	1:15 pm - 4:15 pm	5/20	
28.	Edible Wild Mushroom Foraging	FT	1:30 pm - 4:30 pm	5/20	

Program #	Activity Name	Type	Start/End Time	Min/Max	Add'l. Cost
29.	Spiders of the Northwoods	P	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	5/40	
30.	A Birder's Guide to Trees	FT	2:00 pm - 3:45 pm	5/15	
31.	Coldwater Hatchery Tour	FT	2:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/50	
32.	Birds of the Apostle Islands	P	3:00 pm - 3:45 pm	5/40	
33.	The Remarkable Gray Jay	P	3:00 pm - 3:45 pm	5/40	
N 34.	Natural Connections: Exploring Northwoods Nature	P	4:00 pm - 4:45 pm	5/100	
THURSDAY, MAY 18 - EVENING					
35.	Night Hike & Bat Emergence Count	FT	7:30 pm - 10:30 pm	5/15	
36.	Woodcock Walk	FT	8:15 pm - 9:30 pm	5/20	
FRIDAY, MAY 19 - MORNING					
37.	*Our Wisconsin Elk	FT	5:00 am - 11:30 am	5/20	
38.	Stockton Island Cruise	FT	5:15 am - 12:30 pm	20/40	\$45
39.	*Wrens & Waterfalls	FT	6:00 am - 11:30 am	5/20	
40.	Birding Little Sand Bay	FT	6:15 am - 10:45 am	5/20	
41.	A Bird in the Hand...	FT	6:30 am - 7:30 am	5/10	
42.	*Birding Copper Falls State Park	FT	6:30 am - 11:30 am	5/20	Parking \$8/car
43.	*Sea Caves Nature Hike	FT	6:30 am - 11:45 am	5/20	Parking \$5/car
44.	*A Bird's Eye View of the Penokee Mtns.	FT	6:45 am - 11:30 am	5/15	
45.	*Gold Nuggets & Woodland Warblers	FT	6:45 am - 11:30 am	5/15	
46.	Birds & Wildlife - Moquah Pine Barrens	FT	7:00 am - 10:45 am	5/15	
47.	Discovering Caroline Lake State Natural Area	FT	7:00 am - 11:30 am	5/15	
48.	A Bird in the Hand...	FT	7:30 am - 8:30 am	5/10	
49.	Birding Basics	FT	8:00 am - 8:45 am	2/20	
50.	Birding by the Bay	FT	8:00 am - 11:30 am	5/15	
51.	Loon Pontoon	FT	8:00 am - 11:45 am	5/18	\$20
52.	A Bird in the Hand...	FT	8:30 am - 9:30 am	5/10	
53.	Coastal & Inland Wetland Walk	FT	9:00 am - 11:30 am	5/15	
54.	A Bird in the Hand...	FT	9:30 am - 10:30 am	5/10	
55.	Native Landscaping & Butterfly Gardens	FT	10:00 am - 11:45 am	2/12	
56.	Birding Basics	FT	11:00 am - 11:45 am	2/20	

FT = Field Trip, P = Program, * = Moderate difficulty or uneven terrain, **N** = New Activity this year

www.birdandnaturefest.com

FT = Field Trip, P = Program, * = Moderate difficulty or uneven terrain, **N** = New Activity this year

1-800-284-9484

Program #	Activity Name	Type	Start/End Time	Min/Max	Add'l. Cost
57.	"The Messenger"	Film	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	5/100	
FRIDAY, MAY 19 - AFTERNOON					
N 58.	Forest Lodge Estate	FT	12:45 pm - 4:45 pm	4/20	
59.	Bird-friendly Farming	FT	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/20	
60.	*Limnology of the North Country	FT	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/20	
61.	*Tracking Mammals in the Field	FT	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/20	
62.	Wildflower Walk - Spring Ephemerals	FT	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/25	
63.	Bay Area Birding	FT	1:15 pm - 3:45 pm	5/20	
N 64.	Basics of Nature Writing & Photography	FT	1:15 pm - 4:15 pm	2/12	
65.	Woodworking for Wildlife	P	1:30 pm - 2:45 pm	2/12	\$10 per nest box
66.	Hiking Bayfield's Brownstone Trail	FT	1:30 pm - 4:30 pm	5/20	
N 67.	Hitting the Bluebird Trail	P	2:00 pm - 2:45 pm	5/100	
68.	Fascinating Fossils	P	2:00 pm - 3:45 pm	5/12	
69.	Restoring Coaster Brook Trout	FT	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	5/20	
70.	Coldwater Hatchery Tour	FT	2:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/50	
N 71.	Going Green: Seeking Sustainability at NGLVC	FT	2:15 pm - 3:45 pm	5/25	
72.	Providing Shelters & Habitat	P	3:00 pm - 3:45 pm	5/40	
N 73.	Combating Climate Change	P	3:45 pm - 4:30 pm	5/100	
FRIDAY, MAY 19 - EVENING ALL EVENING PROGRAMS AT NORTHLAND COLLEGE					
74.	Silent Auction & Social Hour	P	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	50/175	
75.	DINNER BANQUET	P	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	50/175	\$21.95 + cash bar
76.	Sightings of the Day & Welcome	P	7:00 pm - 7:30 pm	50/175	
N 77.	FRIDAY KEYNOTE: Impacts of Climate Change on Wisconsin's Birds	P	7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	50/175	
SATURDAY, MAY 20 - MORNING					
N 78.	*Sand Island Cruise	FT	5:15 am - 2:30 pm	20/40	\$45, bring own lunch
79.	Early Bird Special	FT	5:30 am - 7:45 am	5/20	
80.	Wetland/Woodland Birds of Iron River	FT	6:00 am - 11:45 am	5/20	
81.	Bibon Swamp Birding	FT	6:30 am - 9:45 am	5/20	
82.	Birding at Bark Bay	FT	6:30 am - 11:45 am	5/20	
83.	A Bird in the Hand...	FT	7:00 am - 8:30 am	5/10	

Program #	Activity Name	Type	Start/End Time	Min/Max	Add'l. Cost
84.	Fire & the Ecology of the Pine Barrens	FT	7:00 am - 10:30 am	5/20	
85.	Birding the Porcupine Lake Wilderness Area	FT	7:00 am - 11:45 am	5/20	
86.	*Exploring the North Country Trail	FT	7:15 am - 11:45 am	5/20	
87.	*Hiking the Big Ravine Trail	FT	7:30 am - 10:30 am	5/15	
88.	Birding by Bicycle	FT	8:00 am - 10:45 am	5/10	Bring own bicycle
89.	Grassland Birding	FT	8:00 am - 11:30 am	5/20	
90.	Habitats of Whittlesey Creek NWR	FT	8:30 am - 10:45 am	5/20	
91.	A Bird in the Hand...	FT	9:00 am - 10:30 am	5/10	
92.	Estuary Ed-Venture	FT	9:00 am - 11:30 am	6/12	\$12
93.	Birding Hot Spots - Lake Superior Basin	P	10:00 am - 10:45 am	5/100	
94.	Aldo Leopold Native Seed Orchard Tour	FT	10:00 am - 11:45 am	5/15	
95.	Wildflower Walk	FT	10:00 am - 11:45 am	5/20	
SATURDAY, MAY 20 - AFTERNOON					
96.	Animal Ambassadors	P	12:00 pm - 1:45 pm		
97.	Sea Lamprey Control Program	P	12:00 pm - 1:45 pm		
98.	Bayside Birding	FT	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	5/20	
99.	Wildflowers of Bogs & Barrens	FT	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	5/20	
N 100.	*In Search of Sharp-tailed Grouse	FT	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/20	
101.	Canoeing the Bibon Swamp	FT	1:00 pm - 5:30 pm	5/12	Bring own canoe
102.	*Nature Hike to Lost Creek Falls	FT	1:00 pm - 5:30 pm	5/20	
103.	Estuary Ed-Venture	FT	1:15 pm - 3:45 pm	6/12	\$12
104.	Birding Along Pikes Creek	FT	1:15 pm - 4:00 pm	5/20	
105.	Hiking Frog Bay Tribal National Park	FT	1:15 pm - 4:15 pm	5/20	
106.	Edible Wild Mushroom Foraging	FT	1:30 pm - 4:30 pm	5/20	
107.	Hiking the Lincoln Community Forest	FT	2:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/20	
108.	Shorebirds Made Simpler	FT	2:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/20	
109.	"The Central Park Effect"	Film	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	5/100	

For lodging information go to www.visitashland.com



DAVID MELANCON

CONSERVATION FUNDS IN ACTION *Your Registration Fee Dollars at Work*

A portion of your registration fee supports habitat preservation and bird conservation through donations to the following organizations:



Bayfield Regional Conservancy (projects such as Lincoln Community Forest, North Pikes Creek Wetlands Community Forest, Frog Bay Tribal National Park and Houghton Falls)



Bird Protection Fund of the Natural Resource Foundation of Wisconsin (projects such as Bird City Wisconsin, Whooping Cranes, and the Wisconsin Stopover Initiative)

DUCK STAMPS *Your Duck Stamp Dollars at Work*



Duck Stamps are for bird watchers, stamp collectors, hunters, wildlife enthusiasts, and YOU! Ninety-eight cents out of every dollar generated by the sale of federal Duck Stamps goes directly to purchase or lease wetland and grassland habitat for protection in the National Wildlife Refuge System. Learn more at www.fws.gov/duckstamps.

SPIRIT OF THE NORTH BOOKSTORE & GIFT SHOP



Looking for something unique? Check out the Spirit of the North Gift Shop's bookstore located inside the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center. You'll find: one-of-a-kind locally-crafted Lake Superior Stone jewelry, clothing items, children's toys, classroom curriculum materials, shade-grown Bird-Friendly coffee, Smokey Bear collectables and much more.

Take a moment to browse our impressive collection of books including regional topics such as, lighthouses, Lake Superior shipwrecks, Native American culture, and local area history. Are you a friend of the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center? Consider joining the Friends of the Center. Membership forms are available in the store.

FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE



Bags \$50.00

Hats \$25.00

Pick up your Chequamegon Bay Birding and Nature Festival Merchandise at the Registration table at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center.

Need a Field Guide? Get your books in the Spirit of the North Gift Shop. Check our selection of recommended books, many authored by program leaders and festival speakers. Bring in your festival booklet and receive a 10% discount on your purchases.



CBBNF Registration / Meeting Area

JAN ESPOSITO

PLANNING YOUR TRIP:

LOCATIONS

Times listed for field trips include round-trip travel from the NGLVC. It is the responsibility of the participant to be at the correct location at the correct time. Refunds will not be given for missed attendance.

THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE YOUR ADVENTURE

1. All registration packets are to be picked up at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center. Be sure to check in at the Center to receive your packet.
2. For field trips, make sure to arrive 15 minutes early to check in with the trip leader.
3. Please bring: insect repellent, water, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, appropriate footwear and clothing, binoculars, a camera and a field guide.
4. For kayak trips, wear closed toe footwear that will stay on and and that you do not mind getting wet.
5. The temperature can range from 30°-70° with snow, rain, and wind possible. Please come prepared.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival reserves the right to cancel a festival activity or substitute qualified presenters when necessary. If we cancel an activity for any reason, a refund will be issued for that activity. Should that unlikely occurrence become necessary, you will be notified in as timely a manner as possible.

Registrations can be cancelled by email, fax or mail following this established Refund Policy:

- Cancellations made by **April 10, 2017** will be refunded in full.
- Cancellations made by **May 1, 2017** will be refunded at 50% of the total cost paid.
- Cancellations made after **May 1, 2017** will not be refunded.



Pink Lady Slipper

MATT BUSHMAN

For more information about our area:

Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center
29270 County Hwy G, Ashland WI 54806
715-685-0680 • www.nglvc.org

Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Bureau
1-800-284-9484 • www.visitashland.com
www.travelashlandcounty.com

REGISTER TODAY!

To register for the Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival, visit www.birdandnaturefest.com or call 1-800-284-9484. The registration fee covers most of the program costs for the entire three-day event, although a few activities require additional fees. Remember to visit the website to get complete and up-to-date details on field trips, programs and workshops.

GETTING TO AND FROM

The Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center, 29270 County Hwy G, Ashland WI 54806, is conveniently located at the intersection of County Hwy G and US Hwy 2, just two miles west of Ashland, Wisconsin.

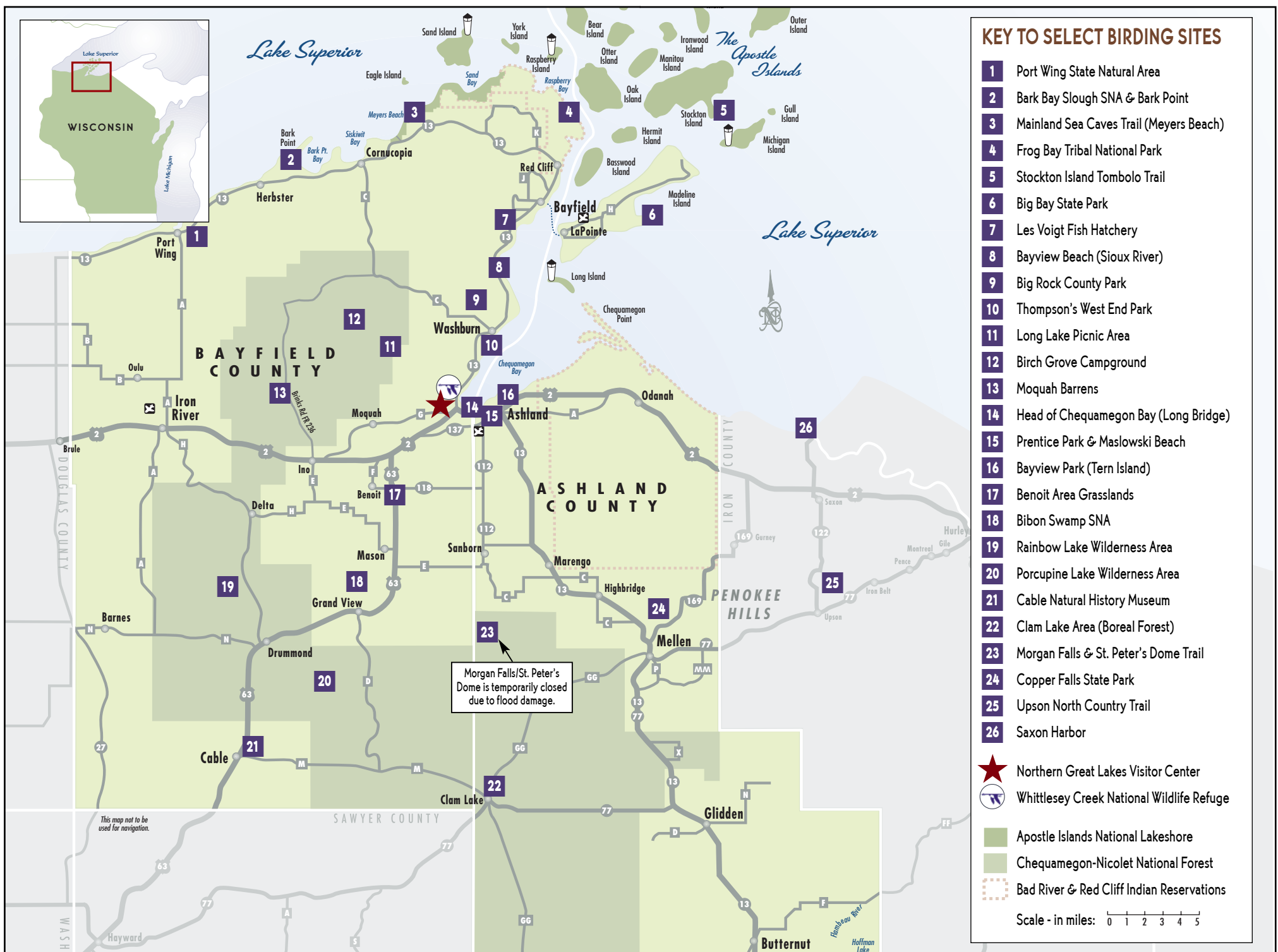
DRIVE TIMES

Chicago	7 hours
Beloit	6 hours
Milwaukee	6 hours
Madison	5 hours
Green Bay	4 hours
Marquette	3 hours
Eau Claire	3 hours
Minneapolis	3.5 hours
Minocqua	2 hours
Duluth	1.5 hour
Superior	1 hour



Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel

RYAN BRADY



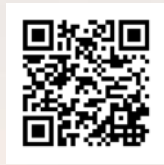
Morgan Falls/St. Peter's Dome is temporarily closed due to flood damage.

This map not to be used for navigation.



May 18-20, 2017

P.O. Box 746
Ashland, WI 54806



BANQUET, BIRDS & BREWS

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017

All Friday Evening Activities take place at NORTHLAND COLLEGE

74. SILENT AUCTION & Social Hour

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Enjoy a spectacular silent auction sponsored by Chequamegon Audubon and refreshing beer and wine cash bar!

75. DINNER BANQUET

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Celebrate the evening in style by taking advantage of our FESTIVAL DINNER at Northland College, featuring a mouth-watering buffet of locally-sourced Lake Superior fish, herb-baked chicken, wild rice blend, roasted vegetables, asparagus spears, tossed salad and dessert.

Additional Cost: \$21.95/person, plus optional beer and wine cash bar

76. Sightings of the Day & Welcome

7:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Discover the festival's most exciting finds so far and the stories behind them as we tally a master checklist of birds seen during the festival. A popular, can't-miss event!

77. FRIDAY KEYNOTE: Impacts of Climate Change on Wisconsin's Birds

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Dr. Matthew Reetz will present findings of a recent National Audubon Society study examining effects of climate change on birds, with emphasis on implications for Wisconsin species and actions we can take to help protect them.