



Birding Basics

A Weekday Itinerary

(2 hours walking on easy to moderate paths, with a handful of inclines)

When you arrive, pick up the Nature Walk guide. Make sure to bring your binoculars and a notebook!

As you tour the site you can look for features noted on the nature walk, but if you're a birder, this itinerary will point you towards some hot-spots on site! After leaving the museum store, walk through the *Crossroads Village* towards the Big Kettle Pond. On your way, watch for the illusive Black Tern, the namesake for the Black Tern Marsh.

As you pass the Big Kettle Pond, step onto the forest path to get a closer look – this is a popular spot for migratory birds and breeding pairs. Wood ducks love this spot.

Continue up the hill towards *Life on the Farm*. Watch for Sandhill cranes who have nested in this area for several seasons. Here you may also see Bluebirds that dart from field to garden.

Across from the 1880s Pomeranian Farm, pick up an off-road trail that winds down through the woods and brings you over near the 1910s Finnish Immigrant Farm. Turn back towards the *Crossroads Village*, keeping an eye out for wild turkeys who call this place home.

As you enter the *Crossroads Village*, restored prairies act as playgrounds for many native songbirds.

End your day where it began at the Museum Store and Admissions. Here you can pick up snacks and cold drinks, a new book about Midwestern birds, or do some shopping for Wisconsin-made products.