

BEST BIRDING LOCATIONS

C.P. Adams Park & Hastings SNA: Great Crested Flycatcher, Wood Thrush & Eastern Wood Pewee

Lake Rebecca: Sandhill Crane, Prothonotary Warbler, Pileated Woodpecker, Virginia Rail, Sora & Green Herons

Mississippi River Flats/Lock & Dam #2: Peregrine Falcon, Bald Eagle, Eastern Bluebird, Dicksissel & American White Pelican

Vermillion Falls & Old Mill

Parks: Cedar Waxwing, Cliff Swallow, Belted Kingfisher & Baltimore Oriole



Lake Isabel, Hastings WMA & Gores State

AMA: Barred Owl, Yellow Warbler, Northern Flicker, Wood Duck & American Redstart

Hastings Sand Coulee SNA: Lapland Longspur, Eastern Towhee, Orchard Oriole, Lark Sparrow & American Woodcock

180th Street Marsh: Loggerhead Shrike, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Marsh Wren & Common Yellowthroat

Lake Byllesby: Eastern & Western Meadow Lark, migrating waterfowl, gulls and shorebirds

Pt. Douglas County Park: Trumpeter Swan, wintering Ducks and Gulls

Carpenter Nature Center: Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Bald Eagle, Cedar Waxwing, Field, Savannah & Clay-colored Sparrow.

Spring Lake Park Reserve: Barred Owl, American Woodcock, Brown Thrasher, migrating Warblers & other song birds

HASTINGS BIRDING EVENTS

Audubon Christmas Bird Count

Each year citizens participate to survey the wintering birds in the Hastings area. The count takes place on one day during a period in late December to early January. This important data is compiled with other Audubon counts made throughout the US and world. The MOU website (moumn.org) has contact information if you wish to participate.

Periodic Beginner Birding Field Trips to Hastings Parks

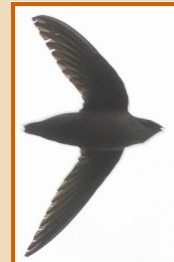
Check the Hastings Parks & Recreation website (www.hastingsmn.gov) for schedule and details.

Carpenter Nature Center Programs

Check out their website (carpenternaturecenter.org) for dates and times.

Annual Chimney Swift Watch

Public Square in downtown Hastings is the site of a citizen count for Chimney Swifts. The event is a partnership project of Minnesota Audubon (mn.audubon.org) and HEP. Watch for listings at the HEP website (hastenviropro.org) for further information.



Hastings Area Birding Guide



EXPLORE HASTINGS!



HASTINGS PARKS & RECREATION
920 W 10TH ST, HASTINGS, MN 55033
PHONE: 651-480-6175
WEB: WWW.HASTINGSMN.GOV



Special thanks to Kevin Smith & Jennifer Vieth for the information provided in the guide.

PHOTO CREDITS: Jim Williams & Kevin Smith

Hastings, Minnesota is perfectly situated to be a hub for birding opportunity. The City Parks & Recreation Department manages 33 sites where people can get outside and enjoy watching birds. It is our desire to describe some of the best parks for birding opportunity in and around Hastings.



Several of the parks are included in one of four Audubon sanctioned Important Bird Area's (IBAs) that radiate out from Hastings. Two are partially in the city limits and the others are close by. In addition,

five state Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs) can be found in or around the city. Bird watchers know that it is the all important habitat which provides food, water and shelter for migrating and resident birds. The protection of these areas has helped to provide places for birds to abound. This is the key to finding new and interesting species.

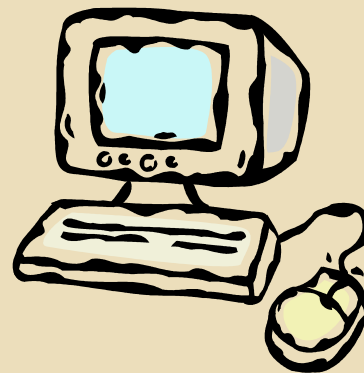
Within these many areas birders can find plenty of natural lands holding the treasured birds they hope will fill their lists.



Nearly half of North America's bird species, and about 40 percent of its waterfowl, spend at least part of their lives in the Mississippi Flyway. That is why Audubon Minnesota has pointed to the Hastings area as essential for bird populations. Many birds can be found in the following Hastings area Important Bird Areas. IBAs provide essential habitat for one or more breeding, wintering, and/or migrating bird species. The IBA Program is designed to be proactive, voluntary, participatory, science-based and works to identify, monitor and conserve the most essential habitats for birds.



For more information on birding in Hastings, please visit our website at www.hastingsmn.gov and click on Visitors - Things to Do - Birding



BIRDING ENTHUSIAST RESOURCES

Hastings Environmental Protectors

hastenviropro.org HEP is a local citizens group working to increase awareness of the status of unique natural resources. Check their web site to learn more about this organization and conservation activities happening in and around Hastings.

Carpenter Nature Center

carpenternaturecenter.org One of the best-kept birding secrets in the southeast Twin Cities metro area is the 725-acre Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center (CNC). The CNC yard list has tallied 189 species, including a 2008 flyover of four Whooping Cranes!

The Great River Road Learning & Visitor Center

freedomparkwi.org The great facility is located just across the St. Croix River following US Hwy 10 in Prescott, WI.

Great Rivers Confluence Project

greatriversconfluence.org This organization wants to recognize and appreciate the confluence area of the Mississippi and St Croix Rivers and its people, places, and stories through connections, partnerships and recreational opportunities.

Food, Fuel & Lodging

hastingsmn.org The scenic river town of Hastings, steeped in tradition, has a mix of shopping facilities, restaurants and services to compliment your outdoor activities.

eBird

ebird.org This is a world-wide resource for bird sighting data operated by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in Ithaca, NY. Data for specific sites in the Hastings area (plus many others) can be found on the eBird web site.

The Minnesota Ornithologist Union

moumn.org This web site is a state wide resource for birding information. The "Recently Seen" and "Showcase" sections have photos and documentation of what is currently being found in the state. The "Rare Bird Alert" is updated weekly to help spread the word on sightings of interesting birds and the locations you can check.