

2. Lake Rebecca

A natural spring fed lake found in Hastings along the Mississippi River. Dikes on the upper and lower ends of the lake separate the waters. All year long this site can be an excellent birding spot. Many birders find the aerated lower part of the lake a favorite place to watch for rare ducks or gulls in winter. Natural springs along the bluffs and undeveloped shoreline surrounding the lake provide a place of refuge for overwintering species such as Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Pileated Woodpecker, American Tree Sparrow and Northern Shrike. During the spring and summer Sandhill Crane, Prothonotary Warbler, Belted Kingfisher, Green Heron, Sora & Virginia Rail raise their young. Sighting of a rare Mountain Bluebird, Thayer's, Glaucous and Sabine's Gulls have occurred in the past.

Access this site off of Lock & Dam Road going north from 2nd Street. Lake Rebecca Park is on the left. Non-motorized watercraft can be launched at the access and once you paddle to the upper reaches of the lake you will forget you are even close to any city at all.



Sora Heron

Photo by Kevin D. Smith



Prothonotary Warbler

Photo by Jim Williams



Pileated Woodpecker

Photo by Kevin D. Smith



Lake Rebecca Park