

# Arkansas Audubon Society

## 2025 - Conway Convention Field Trips



### Friday, October 24

<p>F1 - Stone Prairie WMA--West Entrance 530 Clinton Rd, Mayflower AR 34.970899, -92.342476 Depart: 12:30 PM (30 minutes) - Moderate</p> <p>From the parking area, we will explore and learn about the various habitats, particularly the managed grasslands and woodlands that are excellent for bobwhite, wintering sparrows, hawks, warblers and migrant songbirds. The foot trail from Clifton Road is well maintained, making it an easy to moderate walk. In addition to optics, bring ample water, sunscreen and a sun hat. A scope is not necessary. No restrooms on site but there is a nearby restroom at the Camp Robinson Shooting Range. Click here for more information on this local hotspot: <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L4340442">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L4340442</a> Leader: Kevin Krajcir and AnnaGrace White</p>	<p>F2 - Cook's Landing 4601 Cook's Landing Road, NLR, 34.800,-92.355 Depart: 1:00 PM (30 minutes) - Easy</p> <p>Cook's Landing is one of the premier spots along the Arkansas River to look for migrants and newly arriving winter species. We hope to see gulls, ducks, warblers, flycatchers, and sparrows. A scope is helpful. Bring plenty of water and bug spray. Restrooms are available on site. Many of the trails are paved and accessible by wheelchair. Click here for information on this hotspot: <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L127186">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L127186</a> Leader: Karen Holliday</p>	<p>F3 - Lake Watch-Beaverfork Lake 20 Kinley Dr., Conway, AR 35.138577,-92.451337 Depart: 1:45 PM (15) - Easy</p> <p>Our primary focus will be to scan the lake for newly arriving geese, ducks and loons as well as lingering swallows, shorebirds, terns and gulls. We'll also keep an eye/ear out for the resident Brown-headed Nuthatch, one of the easiest locations in Arkansas to find them! In addition to optics (yes, a scope is a good option), bring ample water, sunscreen and a sun hat. While some walking will be done, most of the birding will be "stationary," allowing folks to come and go as needed. Restrooms are available on site. Click here for more information on this local hotspot: <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L365158">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L365158</a> Leader: Cody Massery</p>
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### Saturday, October 25

<p>Sa1 - Bell Slough WMA-South Access, Grassy Lake Road, Mayflower 34.9403257, -92.4169412 Depart: 7:30 AM (30 minutes) - Moderate</p> <p>We'll walk the boardwalk area and then take the trails along the Moist Soil Units, looking for wrens, sparrows, rails, shorebirds and waders. Then we'll walk the other portion of the Kenny Vernon Trail to the photo blind, looking for thrush, vireos, warblers and allies. The trails in this section are easy to moderate but can be extremely muddy if rain has recently occurred. If time permits, we'll drive Grassy Lake Road to its terminal point at nearby Grassy Lake. In addition to optics, bring sturdy hiking shoes, ample water, sunscreen and a sun hat. A scope is not necessary but useful. No restrooms on site. Click here for more information on this local hotspot: <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L127187">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L127187</a> Leader: Sarah Morris</p>	<p>Sa2 - Conway Hotspots: Lollie Bottoms to Cadron Settlement Park and/or Beaverfork Lake 35.021493,-92.5575 Depart: 7:30 AM (30 minutes) - Easy</p> <p>A caravan will depart the hotel at 7:30 am to meet up with others at the Conway Regional Airport entrance by 8:00. Please carpool if possible. There are restrooms inside the airport and at the other hotspots. This trip will take us around the backside of the airport, stopping at various locations looking for sparrows, bobolinks, raptors, ducks, gulls and shorebirds. From here, we'll make a quick stop at Cadron Settlement (time permitting) to see what's on the Arkansas River and keep an eye out for migrating songbirds. We'll then drive to Beaverfork Lake to see if anything new has shown up on the lake. A scope is useful. Click here for more information on these local hotspots: <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L365250">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L365250</a> <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L1820758">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L1820758</a> <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L365158">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L365158</a> Leader: Roger Massey</p>	<p>Sa3 - Camp Robinson Special Use Area (SUA) 378-398 Clinton Rd, Conway 34.9916466, -92.3862346 Depart: 7:30 AM (30) - Easy</p> <p>Join us at this very popular hotspot. Please carpool if possible. We'll drive along several of the prime gravel roads inside the SUA, stopping to look for sparrows, raptors, waterfowl, waders and migrating songbirds. There will be sections we can walk to look for some of the more skulky migrants and will keep an ear open for bobwhites. At these stops, sturdy walking shoes are helpful. A scope can be useful at Nursery Pond and at sections open to Lake Conway. Bring plenty of water and snacks plus bug spray and sun protection. There are two restrooms on site: one at the Shooting Range on Green's Lake Road and one at the entrance to the SUA on Clinton. Leader: Jason Martin</p>
<p>Sa4 - Woolly Hollow State Park 82 Woolly Hollow Rd, Greenbrier 35.287938, -92.288866 Depart: 7:30 AM (30) - Moderate</p> <p>Join us for a fun nature outing at this state park. We will gather at the visitor's center, then explore portions of the Huckleberry Trail looking for thrush, vireos, warblers and wrens and will check the shoreline and lake for waders, shorebirds and ducks — and we'll be sure to stop for interesting creatures and vegetation along the path. The uneven dirt trail is moderate with some rocky or gravel areas. There will be a slight elevation change as we hike along the trail. A walking stick can be useful. A scope is not necessary but can be useful near the lake. Wear sturdy walking shoes and bring plenty of water, snacks and a sun hat. Click here for more information on this local hotspot: <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L514325">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L514325</a> Leader: Patty McLean and Michael Linz</p>	<p>Sa5 - Stone Dam Creek-East Trailhead 1350 S. German Ln, Conway 35.058410, -92.442475 Depart: 8:15 AM (15) - Easy</p> <p>This trip is perfect for new and novice birders, as well as students, seniors and those with mobility issues. This is the eastern section of a wide asphalt walking trail that follows Stone Dam Creek and is an easy one-mile walk. It is highly used, particularly on Saturdays, so birders will be asked to step aside when birds are spotted or to explore the various habitats. This is an excellent area to find grassland birds such as sparrows and meadowlarks as well as raptors, wrens, vireos and warblers. A scope is not necessary, and a bathroom is onsite. We expect to finish the walk by 11:15 am. Click here for more information on this local hotspot: <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L43725155">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L43725155</a> Leader: Steve Warmack</p>	

<p>Su1 - Where the Birds Are!!!  Depart: 7:45 AM  (30 min) - Moderate</p> <p>Join Allan Mueller and others in a last-minute hunt for some fun bird chasing. The itinerary will depend on what birds were seen over the weekend--and we'll put together a plan to go look for some of them. Meet in the hotel lobby at 7:45a to review the plan, and from there, we'll head out at 8a, caravan style, to look for some fun birds! Bring optics, sturdy hiking shoes, plenty of water and bug spray. Leader: Allan Mueller</p>	<p>Su2 - Bird Walk and Banding  Hendrix Creek Preserve  Parking: 35.105324, -92.436002  Depart: 8:00 AM  (15 minutes) - Easy</p> <p>The group will be split in half, with the first group taking the bird walk around the wetland and the second group watching the banders to see what they're catching and learning about the specific species. Then after an hour, the groups will switch, and group two will take the walk and group one will watch the banders. At the end of the second walk, folks are welcome to stay with the banders to see what else may come in. For those wanting to arrive earlier at the location, the banding station will open at 7:30 am. Most of the trails are well-maintained but some off the main trails can be muddy and loose, so sturdy walking shoes are recommended. We hope to find some migrating warblers passing through as well as waders along the creek. Water and bug spray are also recommended. A personal footstool can be handy. Leader: Lynn Christie; Banders: Dr. M. McClung and K. Kraj</p>	<p>Su3 - Cherokee Park and Willow Bend to Atkins Bottoms  1 Quincy Dr, Morrilton  35.131106, -92.783511  Depart: 8:00 AM  (30 min) - Easy</p> <p>A caravan will depart the hotel at 8:00 and meet up with others at Cherokee Park, south of Morrilton along the Arkansas River around 8:30. Cherokee Park will be the starting point for a three-location driving trip, which is ideal for folks returning home along I-40 West. At Cherokee, we'll take a quick look for gulls and migrating songbirds. From here, we'll drive Willow Bend Road, looking for shorebirds, blackbirds, sparrows, raptors and woodpeckers. We may also see a few ducks and waders. From here, we'll end up on Atkins Bottom Road, an excellent place to look for wintering ducks/geese/swans, raptors, shorebirds, sparrows and pipits. There will be no return caravan and folks are welcome to depart the group as needed. Click here for more information on these local hotspots:  <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L7512768">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L7512768</a>  <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L7047166">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L7047166</a>  <a href="https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L2984562">https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L2984562</a> Leader: Matt Matlock</p>
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