



## Hoy Binocular Donations

Thanks to generous support from our members, Hoy Audubon Society was able to donate a dozen pairs of binoculars to each of these nature centers:

- 🌀 EcoJustice Center
- 🌀 Hawthorn Hollow
- 🌀 Pringle Nature Center
- 🌀 River Bend Nature Center

Rick Fare sent these photos of the happy recipients:



Liz Alvey,  
Pringle Nature Center



Rick with TJ Leveque,  
Hawthorne Hollow

These binoculars (48 in all) will allow visiting children, students, and summer campers to observe birds and other wildlife up close!

## Trees We Love 2022

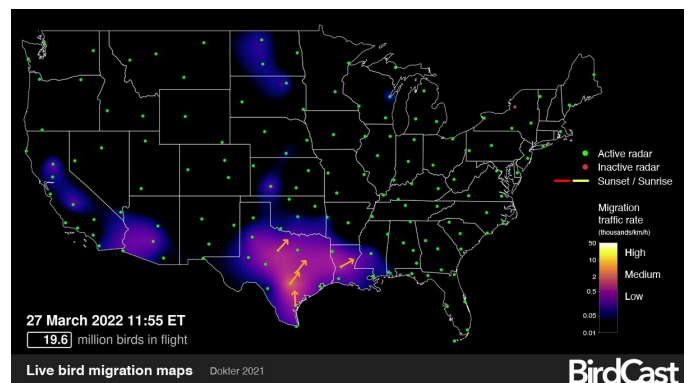
**Nominate a Tree by May 31, 2022**

Hoy is delighted to continue [Trees We Love](#)! Our TWL program is a source of celebration, recognition and much-needed positive environmental news; it is a reiteration of the importance of our past; which has produced our present and, perhaps, act as encouragement to preserve our future. We believe it to be a high-impact conservation program with positive, long-term results. 2022 awardees will receive permanent recognition, promoting stewardship for, and appreciation of, our beautiful heritage trees.

[Click here](#) to download the nomination form (PDF version)

## BirdCast Live Migration Maps

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, partnered with other groups, offers live bird migration maps. These maps leverage the US weather surveillance radar network to detect nocturnal bird migration. You can check these maps to get a sense of how spring migration is progressing. The image below is a screen shot from March 27. Migration is beginning! Visit the maps & more information here: [birdcast.info/migration-tools/live-migration-maps/](https://birdcast.info/migration-tools/live-migration-maps/)



Source: Dokter, A. M. 2022. BirdCast, live migration map; 27 March 2022 12:21 ET. Cornell Lab of Ornithology. [birdcast.info/live-migration-maps](https://birdcast.info/live-migration-maps). 27 March 2022.

## Hoy Board of Directors

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Email addresses of Board members are available at: [hoyaudubon.org](http://hoyaudubon.org)

## Next Board of Directors Meeting:

April 14, 2022. We will continue to meet via phone for now.

## Newsletter Editor

Kristin Wegner

## Ideas for the newsletter?

Send your suggestions, recaps of birding seminars/activities, fun facts, and birding tidbits to the Newsletter Editor at: Hoy Audubon, PO Box 044626, Racine, WI 53404 or email to: [hoynewsletter@hoyaudubon.org](mailto:hoynewsletter@hoyaudubon.org)

**The Hoy Honker** is the newsletter of the Hoy Audubon Society, Inc. PO Box 044626, Racine, WI 53404.

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## Northern vs. Louisiana Waterthrushes

With spring migration having already started, it will soon be time to turn our attention to some of our favorite migrants, warblers. The two warblers discussed here are not your typical warblers, but are warblers nonetheless. I'm talking about the Northern Waterthrush and Louisiana Waterthrush. The best way to differentiate them is by song, but they don't always sing, so I will give visual field marks that will hopefully help separate them in the field.

I will start with the more common of the two, the Northern Waterthrush. It is found along streams, rivers, and ponds that are most likely edged by woodlands where they are foraging, constantly bobbing their tail while they walk. Being 6" in length, they are larger than a typical warbler. They are a rather dark brown on the crown and back and have a distinct yellowish supercilium. Their pointy bill is of medium length. Their



throat and underparts are also yellowish in color with bold dark streaking, except the throat which is finely streaked with black. Their legs are a dull pinkish color.

The much less frequently seen (at least in southeast Wisconsin) Louisiana Waterthrush is very similar to the Northern, but there are several subtle field marks that help separate them. One noticeable habit is the Louisiana migrates much earlier than the Northern, with some seen in early April. I have also seen them until the middle of May. Since both warblers are the same length, size is not helpful. Habitat can be helpful as the Louisiana will more likely be seen along fast flowing streams and rivers, but during migration they will use much the same habitat as the Northern.



One of the key field marks is the supercilium, which is usually wider, boldly white, and flared at its rear in the Louisiana. The bill, with a good look, is heavier and longer than in the Northern. The throat and underparts are also whiter, with browner, less dense streaking. The throat is usually unmarked. The rear flanks are typically a buffy color, with some being very well marked and very noticeably pinkish. The legs are also very bright "bubblegum" pink.

Some people can see they bob their tails differently, with the Louisiana having a slower, semicircular motion compared to the faster rhythm of the Northern. I can't tell the difference that way normally, but if you can, that is great! On occasion they will be seen together which does help.

Hopefully these tips will help with your field ID of these two similar species.

- John Dixon



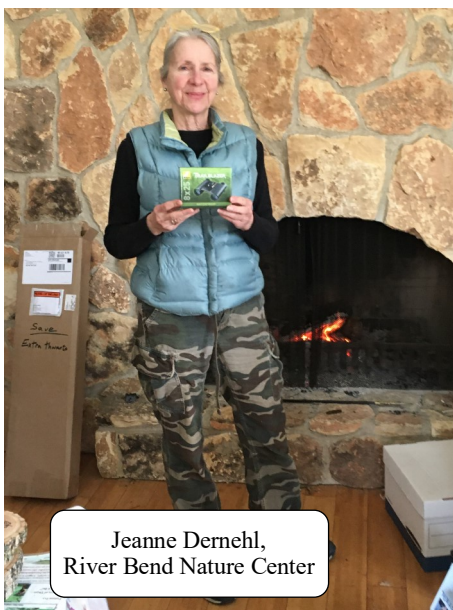
**Binoculars, continued-**

Special thanks to Jenny Wenzel for hours of researching good binoculars for children and to Rick Fare for dropping the bins off at the nature centers!



Katie Flannery,  
EcoJustice Center

Jeanne Dernehl at River Bend sent us this kind note: "A pair of sandhill cranes just flew over the lodge building...and the joy of seeing those great birds heralding the arrival of spring reminded me that we owe a sincere thanks to Hoy Audubon. Thank you, and please pass our gratitude on to the Hoy Audubon folks, for the binoculars donated to River Bend. They will be well used by our



Jeanne Dernehl,  
River Bend Nature Center

visiting school children and summer nature campers. I'm sure that having binoculars to use will seed an interest in birding in some of our young visitors. We really appreciate everything you and your club do to support River Bend."

**Upcoming Activities: April**

Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19, we ask that you observe the latest CDC guidelines regarding masking and social distancing. Please bring your own water, snacks, and optics (binoculars and spotting scopes) to help minimize contact.

If you have questions or need directions to field trip locations, contact [hoyfieldtrips@hoyaudubon.org](mailto:hoyfieldtrips@hoyaudubon.org).

Wednesday, April 6, 5:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Woodcock Walk: Cliffside**

*Picnic Area #2 at Cliffside Park, Racine County*

Meet at 5:30 p.m. to look for early spring migrants. At 7:15 p.m. we'll walk the trail to the north and await the display of the American Woodcock. Waterproof footwear advised.

Monday, April 11, 7:00 p.m.

**Wisconsin Conservation Congress: Annual Spring Hearings**

This annual meeting lets the public give input on proposed changes to conservation regulations. Important questions this year concern: stricter regulations on PFAS chemicals and support for the Recovering America Wildlife Act to help conserve species of Greatest Conservation Need (including Sharp-tailed Grouse). The questionnaire is available online, so you can make your voice heard even from home. For more info, visit [dnr.wi.gov/About/WCC/springhearing.html](https://dnr.wi.gov/About/WCC/springhearing.html)

Wednesday, April 13, 5:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Woodcock Walk: Pike River**

*Pike River Pathway, Wendi Court parking area, Mount Pleasant*

Meet at 5:30 p.m. to walk the paved loop trail south from the parking area in search of early spring migrants. At 7:30 p.m., we'll meet at the parking area again then walk the path to await the display of the American Woodcock.

Wednesday, April 20, 6:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Woodcock Walk: Chiwaukee Prairie**

*121st Street and 2nd Avenue, Pleasant Prairie*

Please park along the west side of 2nd Ave. We'll meet at 6:30 p.m. to walk in search of early spring migrants. At 7:30 p.m. we'll await the display of the American Woodcock. Waterproof footwear advised.

Wednesday, April 27, 5:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Warbler Walk at Colonial Park**

*Colonial Park, Racine, WI*

Thursday, April 28, 8:00 a.m.

**Field Trip: Morning Warbler Walk at Cliffside Park**

*Picnic Area #2 at Cliffside Park, Racine County*

Rick Fare will lead the walk, which will finish with refreshments at the EcoJustice Center.

Thursday, April 28, 5:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Bird Walk at Hawthorn Hollow**

*Meet at Nature Center, 880 Green Bay Rd, Kenosha, WI*

Friday, April 29, 8:00 a.m.

**Field Trip: Morning Bird Walk at River Bend**

*River Bend Nature Center, 3600 N Green Bay Rd, Racine, WI*

## Upcoming Activities: May

Wednesday, May 4, 5:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Warbler Walk at Colonial Park**  
Colonial Park, Racine, WI

Thursday, May 5, 8:00 a.m.

**Field Trip: Morning Warbler Walk at Cliffside Park**  
Picnic Area #2 at Cliffside Park, Racine County  
Rick Fare will lead the walk, which will finish with refreshments at the EcoJustice Center.

Thursday, May 5, 5:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Bird Walk at Hawthorn Hollow**  
Meet at Nature Center, 880 Green Bay Rd, Kenosha, WI

Friday, May 6, 8:00 a.m.

**Field Trip: Morning Bird Walk at River Bend**  
River Bend Nature Center, 3600 N Green Bay Rd, Racine, WI

Saturday, May 7, 9:00 a.m.

**Birds and Plants at Hawthorn Hollow**  
Meet at Nature Center, 880 Green Bay Rd, Kenosha, WI  
Hoy members will lead bird walks at 9, 10, and 11 a.m.

Saturday, May 7, 8:00 a.m.

**Field Trip: Morning Bird Walk at Trout Ponds**  
Caledonia Conservancy's Trout Ponds/Prairie (just west of Hwy 31 and 4 Mile Rd), Caledonia, WI 53402  
Rick Fare will lead the walk.

Wednesday, May 11, 5:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Warbler Walk at Colonial Park**  
Colonial Park, Racine, WI

Thursday, May 12, 8:00 a.m.

**Field Trip: Morning Warbler Walk at Cliffside Park**  
Picnic Area #2 at Cliffside Park, Racine County  
Rick Fare will lead the walk, which will finish with refreshments at the EcoJustice Center.

Thursday, May 12, 5:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Bird Walk at Hawthorn Hollow**  
Meet at Nature Center, 880 Green Bay Rd, Kenosha, WI

Friday, May 13, 8:00 a.m.

**Field Trip: Morning Bird Walk at River Bend**  
River Bend Nature Center, 3600 N Green Bay Rd, Racine, WI

Wednesday, May 18 AND 25, 5:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Warbler Walk at Colonial Park**  
Colonial Park, Racine, WI

Thursday, May 19, 8:00 a.m.

**Field Trip: Morning Warbler Walk at Cliffside Park**  
Picnic Area #2 at Cliffside Park, Racine County  
Helen Pugh will lead the walk, which will finish with refreshments at the EcoJustice Center.

Thursday, May 19, 5:30 p.m.

**Field Trip: Evening Bird Walk at Hawthorn Hollow**  
Meet at Nature Center, 880 Green Bay Rd, Kenosha, WI

Friday, May 20, 8:00 a.m.

**Field Trip: Morning Bird Walk at River Bend**  
River Bend Nature Center, 3600 N Green Bay Rd, Racine, WI

## Upcoming Activities: June

Saturday, June 11, 10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

**Field Trips: Picnics with the Peregrines!**  
Racine County Courthouse, 730 Wisconsin Ave, Racine, WI  
Picnic lunch with the Peregrines. Meet at the Southwest corner of the courthouse. Bring a snack, a lawn chair, and binoculars if you have them. Hoy members will have spotting scopes and binoculars for your use as well as reference materials to learn about our favorite avian wanderer.



Blue-headed Vireo,  
Kristin Wegner

- ♦ Visit Hoy on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/HoyAudubonSociety](https://www.facebook.com/HoyAudubonSociety)

## Join Hoy Audubon or renew your Membership!

Renewals for Hoy Audubon Society "Chapter Supporter" memberships are due on **July 1** of each calendar year. Chapter Supporter dues are \$15 per individual.

Please send a check payable to **Hoy Audubon Society**.

Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Hoy distributes newsletters and field trip announcements by email. Please enter your email address below to be added to this distribution.

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Send check and information to: Hoy Audubon Society**  
**P.O. Box 044626**  
**Racine, WI 53404**