

Minnesota River Valley Audubon Chapter 2017-2018 Field Trip Schedule

Check our web site MRVAC.ORG for updates or cancellations. BEGINNING BIRDERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME ON ANY FIELD TRIP!

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (MVNWR) trailhead addresses listed on page 2 updated 2/14/18

2017	Day(s)	Time	Field Trip	Meeting Location	\$ Fee	Effort	Trip Leader	Phone No.
Sep 9	Sat	8:30 am	Ney Nature Center	Henderson		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Sep 10	Sun	8 am	Rapids Lake Unit, MVNWR	Carver		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Sep 11	Mon	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Sept 14-15	Th/F	7 am	Southern Minnesota Birding Days	Owatonna	\$25/35	3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Sept 18	Mon	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Sept 22	Fri	8 am	Goodhue County Birding Day	Cannon Falls		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Sept 23	Sat	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Sept 24	Sat	10-2	Audubon Center of the Northwoods open house	Sandstone		1	Staff	320-245-2648
Sep 24	Sun	8 am	Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve	Savage		3	Jay Miller	612 325 3066
Sept 26	Tue	8 am	Rapids Lake Unit, MVNWR	Carver		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Oct 1	Sun	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Oct 3	Tue	8 am	Rapids Lake Unit, MVNWR	Carver		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Oct 5-6	Th/F	7 am	Central Minnesota Birding Days	Little Falls	\$25/35	3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Oct 9	Mon	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Oct 14	Sat	8 am	Rapids Lake Unit, MVNWR	Carver		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Oct 27	Fri	8 am	Sherburne County Birding Day	Zimmerman		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Oct 28	Sat	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Nov TBD	Sat		Audubon MN Annual meeting	MRVWR main building		1	TBD	651-739-9332
Nov 10	Fri	7 am	Carver County Birding Day	Carver		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Nov 11	Sat	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Nov 14	Tue	8 am	Wilkie Unit, MVNWR	Savage		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Nov 18	Sat	Call	Swans on Mississippi River/Weaver Bottoms	Call for Details			Mark Lystig	651-452-1133
Nov 19	Sun	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Dec 1	Fri	8 am	Meeker County Birding Day	Litchfield		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Dec 3	Sun	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Dec 9	Sat	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Dec 11	Mon	8 am	Wilkie Unit, MVNWR	Savage		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Dec 16	Sat	CALL	Christmas Bird Count, Bloomington Area	Areas to be Assigned		1-4	Bart Anderson	612-719-6103
Dec 16	Sat	5:30 pm	Winter Potluck Dinner / Christmas Bird Report	Diamond Lake Church		H		
Dec 17	Sun	8 am	Christmas Bird Count, Cedar Creek Bog Anoka County	Areas to be Assigned		1-3	Steve Weston	612-978-3993
2018								
Jan 6	Sat	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Jan 22	Mon	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Feb 3	Sat	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Mar 4	Sun	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Mar 12	Mon	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Mar 17	Sat	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Mar 19	Mon	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Mar 24	Sat	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Mar 26	Mon	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Apr 2	Mon	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Apr 7	Sat	8:30 am	Ney Nature Center	Henderson		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Apr 8	Sun	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
April 10	Tue	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
April 12-13	Th/Fr	7 am	Western Minnesota Birding Days	Alexandria	\$25/35	3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
April 14	Sat	8 am	North of River	Caribou Coffee Old Shakopee & France		4	Bart Anderson	612-719-6103
Apr 28-30	F/S/S	6 pm	Salt Lake (prairiemarshfarm@comcast.net)	Marietta, MN		1	Ken Larson	612-210-8486
May 1-14	Any	Any	BIRDATHON, MRVAC FUNDRAISER	Your choice		Various		
May 5	Sat	8 am	Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve	Savage		3	Jay Miller	612 325 3066
May 6	Sun	8 am	Bloomington Visitor Center, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
May 7	Mon	8 am	Bass Ponds, MVNWR	Bloomington		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
May 12	Sat	7:30 am	Hok-Si-La Park (MRVAC Warbler Weekend)	Lake Pepin, MN		3	Steve Weston	612-978-3993
May 13	Sun	8 am	Rapids Lake Unit, MVNWR	Carver		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
May 14	Mon	7 am	Carver Park Reserve	Victoria		3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
May 17-18	Th/F	6 am	SW Minnesota Birding Days	Worthington	\$25/35	3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
May 19	Sat.	9 am	Crex Meadows	Grantsburg Holiday Gas Station		2	Bart Anderson	612-719-6103

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May 20	Sun	7 am	Ritter Farm Park	Lakeville		3	Jay Miller	612 325 3066
Jun 3	Sun	7 am	Dakota County Prairie Birds	Call for details		1	Steve Weston	612-978-3993
Jun 4	Mon	7 am	Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve	Savage			Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
2018	Day(s)	Time	Field Trip	Meeting Location	\$ Fee	Effort	Trip Leader	Phone No.
Jun 7-8	Th/F	6 am	Central Minnesota Birding Days	Walker	\$25/35	3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Jun 10	Sun	7:30 am	Cannon River Bottoms	Call for details		2	Steve Weston	612-978-3993
Jun 21	Thurs	5:00pm	MRVAC Picnic	MRV Refuge		1		
June 28-29	Th/F	6 am	Southern Minnesota Birding Days	Blue Earth	\$25/35	3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Jul 26-27	Th/F	6:30 am	SW Minnesota Birding Days	Windom	\$25/35	3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Aug 23-24	Th/F	6:30 am	SW Minnesota Birding Days	Fergus Falls	\$25/35	3	Craig Mandel	952-240-7647
Aug 19	Sun	8 am	Cannon River Bottoms	Call for details		2	Steve Weston	612-978-3993

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Field Trips will be added throughout the year. Visit our web site MRVAC.ORG or come to a chapter meeting to get current trip list. *Trip schedules are subject to change, please confirm with the Trip Leader via their Phone Number or Email Address a few days prior to the trip.* Fees for overnight trips are \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members, payable to **MRVAC** and collected by the trip leader. The trip leader may retain \$10 per person. MRVAC trip fees do not cover any personal trip expenses.

Effort - Trips are rated for degree of physical difficulty:

1=Very Easy (birds visible from car or area near parking lot) **2=Easy** (short walks over even terrain or paved paths)

3=Moderate (walking on paths with some hills, uneven terrain) **4=Strenuous** (hilly, uneven terrain or other difficulties).

Limited - reservations required (MRVAC members have priority) **H=Handicap Accessible** (ADA)

2017- 2018 MEETING and PROGRAM SCHEDULE (Social time from 7-7:30pm, Meeting from 7:30-9pm)

Both members and non-members are welcome at our meetings.

2017	Day	Program	Speaker	Location
9/28	Thurs	Bird Stories	Al Batt	Visitor Center
10/26	Thurs	The Greater Prairie Chicken	Greg Hoch	Visitor Center
11/16	Thurs	Auction		Visitor Center
12/16	Sat	Christmas Bird Count/Potluck		Diamond Lake Church
2018				
1/25	Thurs	Penguins of the Antarctic	Katy Shannon	Visitor Center
2/22	Thurs	Waterbird Usage at the North Ottawa Impoundment"	Christine Herwig	Visitor Center
3/22	Thurs	Minnesota's Birds: What We Thought We Knew, What We Now Know, and What We Still Don't Know	Bob Dunlop	Visitor Center
4/26	Thurs	Bats in Minnesota	Melissa Boman	Visitor Center
5/24	Thurs	Nature at our Doorstep	Matt Schuth	Visitor Center
6/28	Thurs	Red-headed Woodpeckers of Cedar Creek	Elena West	Visitor Center

MEETING LOCATIONS:

Visitor Center, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, 3815 American Blvd. E., Bloomington, 952-854-5900

Diamond Lake Church, 5760 Portland Ave., Minneapolis, 612-866-2579

COMMONLY USED TRAILHEADS of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (MVNWR)

Visitor Center, 3815 American Blvd. E., Bloomington, 952-854-5900

Bass Ponds, 2501 86th St. E., Bloomington

Old Cedar Ave. Bridge, 9500 Old Cedar Ave. , Bloomington

Chaska Unit - North Gate, Chaska Athletic Park (the ball fields), 725 W. 1st St., Chaska

South Gate, Carver Riverfront Park, 300 Main St. E., Carver

Wilkie Unit, 7701 Co. Rd. 101 E., Shakopee

Louisville Swamp Unit, 3801 145th St. W., Shakopee

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Rapids Lake Unit - North Hunter Lot, 14905 Jonathan Carver Pkwy., Carver

Rapids Lake Education and Visitor Center, 15865 Rapids Lake Rd (formerly Carver Highlands Dr.), Carver, 952-361-4500