



Delmarva Ornithological Society 2017 - 2018 Field Trip Schedule

www.dosbirds.org/trips

Field Trip Chairs - Amy & Parker O'Neil (302) 598-9377

DATE	TITLE/ DESTINATION	LEADER	MEETING TIME AND PLACE	DESCRIPTION
Thursday 8/31/2017	Wine & Cheese Nighthawk Watch atop Granogue Tower	Bill Stewart (610) 864-0370 bird-del@earthlink.net	Registration Required. The evening will start at 6:00 PM sharp and end at dusk. Raindate will be the following evening, Friday, September 1st. Registered participants will receive confirmation, directions and event particulars via return email. Limit 20.	As the Common Nighthawks move south during their fall migration, many use waterways as their source of navigation and food replenishment. Peak numbers can be seen during the last week of August coursing through the Brandywine River Valley. This event is limited to the first twenty participants responding to this invitation. E-mail me at bird-del@earthlink.net to register yourself and any others in your group. Please leave your full names and a contact number. Our Nighthawk Watch will be a very stationary "field trip", and all are encouraged to bring beverages of your choice and some cheese and crackers or party snacks to share. The tower is a very safe viewing area with a four foot tall wall surrounding the top floor of the tower with a 360° view.
Sunday 9/3/2017	Early Fall Migrants at Middle Run	Tim Freiday tim.freiday777@gmail.com	Meet at the main Middle Run parking lot off of Possum Hollow Road, 7-9AM	The first wave of fall songbird migration is underway, with warblers, vireos, tanagers, orioles and other colorful birds moving through the Middle Run Natural Area in Delaware's Piedmont region. Discover these birds during a guided walk for DOS members during the Middle Run Bio Blitz, an annual event for the public at this county park.
Wednesday 9/6/2017	Ashland Walk	Jim White (302) 593-9622	Ashland Nature Center, Hockessin, DE, 7:30AM	Join Jim to look for warblers and other neotropical migrants along the Red Clay Creek on the beautiful Ashland property. Half day.
Saturday 9/9/2017	Cape May	Tim Freiday tim.freiday777@gmail.com	Registration Required. Must contact Tim to sign up and for details of start time & meeting place.	Visit Cape May's "Migration Mainline" hotspots: Higbee Beach, The Meadows, Cape May Point State Park, and the Cape May Hawk Watch for migrant songbirds, shorebirds and raptors. Expect some rarities. Full day.
Saturday 9/23/2017	Birding & Hawk Migration at Granogue Estate	Bill Stewart (610) 864-0370 bird-del@earthlink.net	Registration Required. Contact Bill Stewart for availability and field trip specifics. Limit 16. 7:30AM	Spend the morning exploring the varied and bird-rich habitats on the DuPont Estate "Granogue" during prime songbird migration. Finish the morning with hawkwatching from atop the famous Granogue watertower with a 360° view for miles over top of the Brandywine River Valley.
Sunday 9/24/2017	Milford Neck Fall Migrants	Chris Bennett cpb2564@gmail.com	Valero/ShoreStop northbound SR1 (just north of SR1-US113 merge, across from I.G. Burton Car Dealership) 7:30AM-Noon	Milford Neck is one of the best least-birded areas of the state. More than 10,000 acres of the forest, fields and wetlands are permanently protected by the State of Delaware, The Nature Conservancy and Delaware Wild Lands. The mosaic of habitats, easily accessed by an excellent road network provide excellent birding opportunities. We will look for migrating songbirds, shorebirds, waterbirds and raptors. *Note: Conservation Access Pass now required
Saturday 9/30/2017	The Ticking Tomb Bird Walk	Ian Stewart (859) 333-8817	London Tract Meeting House, White Clay Creek Preserve (PA side) 8AM-Noon	It's only a month away from Halloween - come enjoy fall migration with a little mystery in the mix in the beautiful White Clay Creek Preserve. Half day.
Sunday 10/8/2017	Birding Bombay Backwards	Andy Ednie ednieap@verizon.net	Bombay Hook NWR Headquarters, 7AM	Join Andy Ednie for a look at the upland habitats of the refuge during fall migration. We'll look for warblers, sparrows and other woodland birds. Some paths might be muddy, so bring boots. Half day. *State Park fee

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Saturday 11/4/2017	Delaware Museum of Natural History Avian Skin Study: The Mystery of Gulls & Terns	Bruce Lantz & Jean Woods jwoods@delmnh.org or 302-658-9111 x314	Registration Required. The workshop is free but space is limited and registration is required by contacting Jean Woods. Meet at Bombay Hook NWR Visitor's Center, 10AM-Noon.	This fall DOS will offer a Gull and Tern Identification Workshop in conjunction with the Delaware Museum of Natural History (DMNH) and hosted by Bombay Hook NWR. Our intent is to offer workshop participants the opportunity to view, study and discuss the skins of a variety of gulls and terns one might see on the Delmarva Peninsula. The skins will include both the common and the unusual species in a variety of plumages. Dr. Jean Woods, Curator of Birds at the DMNH, will guide us through the museum's collections.
Sunday 11/5/2017	Augustine Wildlife Area	Anthony Gonzon atgonzon@verizon.net	Augustine Beach, Rte 9, 8AM - Noon	Daylight Saving Time is over, so celebrate by sleeping in for an extra hour and then join DOS for a half day birding trip to the Augustine Wildlife Area. Check out locations like the Ashton Tract and its new observation platform, and old favorites like Augustine Beach and the Green Tract. This half day trip will begin at Augustine Beach at Rte 9 South of Port Penn at 8AM and go until about noon. Target species will include newly-arrived winter waterfowl, raptors, and songbirds. *Note: Conservation Access Pass now required
Saturday 11/18/2017	Sea Watch I	Anthony Gonzon & Chris Bennett	Delaware Seashore State Park (lot on south side of Indian River Inlet along ocean - Southeast Day Use Area), 8AM - Noon	Join Anthony and Chris on the first of the season's Sea Watches to count seabirds migrating along Delaware's coast – collecting invaluable data as well as seeing thousands of migrating loons, gannets, grebes, sea ducks, gulls & terns. Limited walking on soft sand to get to viewing spot on beach. Portable toilets available at IRI. *State Park fee
Saturday 12/9/17	Sea Watch II	Anthony Gonzon & Chris Bennett	Delaware Seashore State Park (lot on south side of Indian River Inlet along ocean - Southeast Day Use Area), 8AM - Noon	Join Anthony and Chris to ID and document seabirds such as Northern Gannet, scoters, loons, gulls, & cormorants, plus find a rarity or two. Check the forecast and dress appropriately. Limited walking on soft sand to get to viewing spot on beach. Portable toilets available at IRI. Half day.
12/14/2017 - 1/5/2018	118th Annual Christmas Bird Counts	Jim White CBC Coordinator (302) 593-9622	See <i>The Flyer</i> and watch the website (dosbirds.org) for details.	Appreciate birds in a new way and contribute to over 100 years of wintering bird records. You can count in an area close to you, farther afield, or even count the birds coming to your feeder! Watch the DOS website and <i>The Flyer</i> for the dates of the counts you'd like to join, and give the count compiler a call!
Saturday 1/6/2018	List Head Start	Frank Rohrbacher rohrbaf@aol.com	Park & Ride at Rte 299 & Rte 1 in Middletown, opposite Wawa. 7:30AM	Get an early start on your 2018 list! Visit various DE sites in the race to get as many year birds as possible. Full day.
Wednesday 1/17/2018	Midwinter Bird Walk	Sally O'Byrne salobyrne@gmail.com	Meet at Blue Ball Barn, near traffic circle on Rte 141. 8:30 - 11:30AM	Come out and get to know some of the birds that are at home in the woods & fields during winter.
Saturday 1/20/2018	Sea Watch III	Anthony Gonzon & Chris Bennett	Delaware Seashore State Park (lot on south side of Indian River Inlet along ocean - Southeast Day Use Area), 8AM - Noon	Join Anthony and Chris to ID and document seabirds such as Northern Gannet, scoters, loons, gulls, & cormorants, plus find a rarity or two. Check the forecast and dress appropriately. Limited walking on soft sand to get to viewing spot on beach. Portable toilets available at IRI. Half day.
Sunday 2/4/2018	Owl Trip	Jim White (302) 593-9622	Registration Required. DOS members only. <u>Must</u> call Jim if you are attending. NCC Airport, 8AM to 7PM	Seven species of owl may be seen and/or heard in a single full day. Various locations. Bring lunch. Full day.
Saturday 2/17/2018	Sea Watch IV	Anthony Gonzon & Chris Bennett	Delaware Seashore State Park (lot on south side of Indian River Inlet along ocean - Southeast Day Use Area), 8AM - Noon	Join Anthony and Chris to count seabirds migrating along Delaware's coast – collecting invaluable data as well as seeing thousands of migrating loons, gannets, grebes, sea ducks, gulls, terns and hopefully an alcid or two. Limited walking on soft sand to get to viewing spot on beach. Portable toilets available.
Sun. 2/18 through Weds. 2/28	Cuba Trip	Bill Stewart bird-del@earthlink.net	This trip is sold out. To be added to the waiting list, contact Bill Stewart.	Join Bill Stewart for this fantastic opportunity to see the majority of Cuba's 26 endemic bird species. Travel with an expert Cuban ornithologist, and learn about conservation in action. Enjoy cultural interactions, music, and more!

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Sunday 3/4/2018	Bayshore Wildlife Areas - Woodland Beach to Ted Harvey	Chris Bennett cpb2564@gmail.com	Aquatic Resources Education Center, on Route 9, 8AM-Noon	The Delaware Bayshore between Woodland Beach and Ted Harvey Wildlife Areas offers some of the best birding in the United States. This trip will visit some of the 13,521 acres of state-owned land along the bayshore in search of waterfowl, songbirds, waterbirds and raptors. *Note: Conservation Access Pass now required
Saturday 3/10/2018	Stone Harbor/ Avalon NJ	Bill Stewart (610) 864-0370 bird-del@earthlink.net	Registration Required. <u>Must confirm your plans with Bill if attending.</u> Meet at 7AM at DE Swim & Fitness Club. Carpooling is available.	Visit one of the best wintering waterfowl staging areas in our region. Search for early arriving shorebirds such as Piping Plover & Amer. Oystercatcher. Snowy Owl has been seen on 2 previous trips. We will also visit the 8th St. jetty in Avalon for eider, Harlequin Duck, and the start of Northern Gannet migration. Pack a lunch, we will bird until 2PM.
Saturday 3/17/2018	Sea Watch V	Anthony Gonzon & Chris Bennett	Delaware Seashore State Park (lot on south side of Indian River Inlet along ocean - Southeast Day Use Area), 8AM - Noon	Last chance this winter to bundle up and join Anthony and Chris to find, ID & document seabirds such as Northern Gannet, scoters, loons, gulls, & cormorants, plus maybe spot a rarity or two. Limited walking on soft sand to get to viewing spot on beach. Portable toilets available. *State Park fee
3/24/2018	Delaware Museum of Natural History Skin Collection Study: Sorting out Spring Shorebirds	Bruce Lantz & Jean Woods jwoods@delmnh.org or 302-658-9111 x314	Registration Required. The workshop is free but space is limited and registration is required by contacting Jean Woods. Meet at Prime Hook NWR Visitor's Ctr., 1-3PM.	We are very excited to offer an early spring workshop on shorebirds commonly seen on the Delmarva Peninsula. DOS will offer this identification workshop in conjunction with the Delaware Museum of Natural History (DMNH) and hosted by Prime Hook NWR. Participants will have the opportunity to view, study and discuss the skins of a variety of shorebirds that can be found on the Delmarva Peninsula during spring migration. Dr. Jean Woods, Curator of Birds at the DMNH, will guide us through the museum's selected collections. This downstate program will introduce new birders to many shorebirds commonly seen, while offering plumage challenges for our intermediate birders. If interested in attending, please sign up; our workshops have become quite popular.
Sunday 3/25/2018	Marina Park & Susquahanna River, Port Deposit, MD	Joe Sebastiani bunker17@verizon.net	Meet at Marina Park, Port Deposit, MD 7:30-11:30AM	Join Joe on this new trip to the Lower Susquehanna in MD including Conowingo Dam, searching for gulls including Little Gull and migratory waterfowl. Half day.
Saturday 4/7/2018	Ashton - Cooper Cross - Warren Tracts DNREC SWA	John Janowski 302- 834-9710 jsbirders@verizon.net	Augustine Beach Parking Lot, 7AM	Half day. Bird properties recently acquired by DNREC partly using BAT funds. Look and listen for migrating warblers egrets, herons. A variety of habitats include bay, brackish and fresh water wetlands, pine and hardwood forest. *Note: Conservation Access Pass now required
Tuesday 4/24/2018	NestWatch Training Workshop: Finding & Monitoring Bird Nests	Joe Sebastiani bunker17@verizon.net	Ashland Nature Center, Hockessin, DE, 6- 8PM	Would you like to learn how to check in on nesting birds? Join Joe to find out how you can safely monitor birds' progress and contribute that data to science. We'll take a walk to visit several occupied nest boxes around the property, and come back inside to share our observations with Cornell's NestWatch.
Sunday 4/29/2018	Nanticoke Watershed	Anthony Gonzon atgonzon@verizon.net & Eric Braun	Park & Ride at Rte 299 & Rte 1 in Middletown, opposite Wawa	Spring migrants in Sussex hot spots. Watch the DOS website and <i>The Flyer</i> as the date gets closer for the start time and more info. Bring bag lunch, boots, and bug spray. *Note: Conservation Access Pass now required
Saturday 5/5/2018	Blackbird State Forest	Ian Stewart (859) 333-8817	Meet in the parking lot, accessed by the entrance along Rte 471/Blackbird Forest Rd. 8AM-Noon	Kick off the DE Bird-A-Thon by exploring Blackbird State Forest in search of spring migrants and breeding songbirds.
Saturday Night 5/5/2018	Rail Trip (Note unusual time)	Andy Ednie ednieap@verizon.net	Park & Ride at Rte 299 & Rte 1 in Middletown, opposite Wawa. 10PM-1AM	A three-hour Rail bonanza (in the middle of the night!) targeting 7 species. Bring long boots & bug spray.
Tuesday 5/8/2018	Alapocas Woods	Sally O'Byrne salobyrne@gmail.com	Meet at softball field parking lot behind the duPont Experimental Station at 7AM	Visit an oasis within the city of Wilmington with good successional field habitat, mature woodlands, and the Brandywine River. Target birds include migrating warblers and thrushes. Half day.

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Sunday 5/13/2018	Mother's Day Walk White Clay Creek S.P.	Bill Stewart & friends (610) 864-0370 bird-del@earthlink.net	Meet at the Chambers House Nature Center off of Hopkins Rd. at 8AM	Come spend Mother's Day at beautiful White Clay Creek State Park, looking for nesting local breeding birds and late migrants still passing through. Half day. *State Park Fee
Sunday 5/20/2018	Delaware Bayshore Shorebirds and Horseshoe Crabs	Chris Bennett cpb2564@gmail.com	Meet at Little Creek Post Office, Rte 9 (458 Main Street). 8AM-2PM	We'll travel to Pickering Beach to look for foraging shorebirds, then head to Ted Harvey Wildlife Area to check out the impoundments. From there we will head south to the DuPont Nature Center, planning to arrive there around noon where we can scan the harbor from the deck and eat lunch. After lunch we will head to Slaughter Beach to look for spawning horseshoe crabs on the rising tide. The trip will end at Slaughter Beach around 2pm. Bring insect repellent, sunscreen, a bag lunch, and plenty of drinking water. *Note: Conservation Access Pass now required
Saturday 6/2/2018	Dragon Run Canoe/Kayak Adventure	Sally O'Byrne salobyrne@gmail.com	Registration Required. DOS Members Only. Email Sally O'Byrne for details	Great freshwater marsh near Delaware City with abundant Little Blue Heron, Yellow Warbler and Marsh Wren. Target bird = Least Bittern. Half day.
Saturday 6/16/2018	Fair Hill NRMA, Maryland	Bill Stewart (610) 864-0370 bird-del@earthlink.net	Parking Lot #3 (2895 Appleton Road) - Also known as the North Appleton Parking Lot (see DOS website for more specific directions). 7:30 - 11AM	Fair Hill NRMA hosts breeding Bobolinks (85 nests in 2015), Grasshopper and Savannah Sparrows all within closeup viewing from numerous groomed trails throughout their grassland habitats. Excellent photographic opportunities abound within a short walk from the parking area. Due to their multiple management practices throughout the 5,656 acres, our three and a half hour stroll should produce 60+ species. Much of the time will be spent enjoying the Bobolinks and sparrows tending to fledglings but we will also explore adjacent woodlands along the Big Elk Creek. *State Park fee
Check DOS Website	Delaware Shorebirds	Bob Rufe rrufe1@aol.com	Bombay Hook NWR headquarters, 8:00AM	40th Annual Trip! Expect a few rarities and learn to recognize the summer locals. Bring bug spray, sunscreen, & a hat. Half day. *National Wildlife Refuge fee
Check DOS Website	More Delaware Shorebirds	Frank Rohrbacher rohrbaf@aol.com	Bombay Hook NWR headquarters, 7:30AM	Find out what's migrating through in August, and expect a few rarities. Bring bug spray, sunscreen, and a hat. Half day. *National Wildlife Refuge fee
Wednesday 9/5/2018	Ashland Walk	Jim White (302) 593-9622	Ashland Nature Center, Hockessin, DE, 7:30AM	Look for warblers and other neotropical migrants along the Red Clay Creek. Half day.

Be sure to check our website (www.dosbirds.org) for the latest information on any field trip, including weather-related changes, extra details from leaders, maps, and the latest pop-up trips. Current field trip information will also be listed in our newsletter, *The Flyer*, and on the [de_birds listserv](mailto:de_birds_listserv).

Field Trip Info (The fine print): All members and guests are welcome! Just a couple of trips that are noted (Owl Trip, Dragon Run Canoe Adventure) are restricted to DOS members, due to space limitations. Trips during DE Bird-a-Thon Week (5/5-5/13) have dates in bold type. Participation in field trips is at your own risk. Please help our leaders and our environment by carpooling, especially on trips which include several locations - it's a great way to get to know other bird lovers! Half day trips will usually end before lunchtime unless otherwise noted. Please feel free to contact trip leaders if you have any questions, they enjoy getting to know you. Thanks for joining us!

New clarification for this year - we do love pets, but we cannot allow them to come on our field trips.

*An asterisk in the description alerts you to locations that are known to require entrance fees (state parks, wildlife refuges, etc), but be aware that a leader on any trip may choose to go to a location that requires fees/tolls. Also, the new Conservation Access Pass must be purchased in advance, since there are no fee boxes like at the state parks/refuges.