

Donnarae Woolston has always been a nature lover, exploring and admiring the life that grew around her. She began to reclaim her own land and woods when she learned how imperative native plants are to the ecosystem that supports wildlife and human health.

Native plants have become her passion. Donnarae, with the support of her husband Daniel, opened a native-only plant nursery, Ancient Roots Native Nursery, LLC. Their mission is to provide access to native plants and share their knowledge of the importance of planting native.

### Drawing Audubon-style

**2:45 P.M.—Audubon Museum, Friends of Audubon Meeting Room; Approx. 45 mins.-1 hr. For ages 10+; no art skills needed. Spaces limited, pre-registration recommended. Fee: \$5.00**

John James Audubon, famed artist, naturalist, and ornithologist, made it his life's work to artistically capture each bird species in his paintings. He did so in a unique and fascinating way. Join artist, Savannah Hoskinson, as she leads you step-by-step, through Audubon's method for drawing birds. You, too, will soon have an appreciation for the finer details of our feathered friends, in a keepsake to take home.

## Sunday, April 28

### Eagle Slough Natural Area Birding Hike

**7:00 A.M. —Meet at the Eagle Slough entrance on Waterworks Rd., just north of Ellis Park; Approx. 2 hrs.**

This local urban wetland was recently returned to its natural state. Join us for an early morning birding walk through this 127-acre property. Expect to see a variety of warblers, migratory songbirds, and late shorebirds, including Wood Ducks, Winter Wrens, vireos, thrushes,

tanagers, and more. If you have binoculars, bring them along!

### Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve—Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Sanctioned Hike

**1:00 P.M.—Meets inside the Nature Center; WWNP is at the back of Wesselman Park, 551 N. Boeke Rd., Evansville, IN; Approx. 1 hr.**

This old-growth forest sanctuary boasts many year-round bird species and provides unprecedented stopover habitat for neo-tropical migrants passing through the area.

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For future events, check out the **Evansville Audubon Society** website:

<https://evvaudubon.org/field-trips>.

For information about the local **Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop**, visit their website at:

<https://evansville.wbu.com>.

More details about **Ancient Roots Native Nursery** can be found at:

<https://ancientrootsnativenursery.com/>.

For news and events at **Wesselman Woods**, go to: <https://wesslemanwoods.org>.

**Kentucky State Parks** information and calendar of events is at: <https://parks.ky.gov>.

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The John James Audubon Museum houses one of the world's largest collections of original artwork and artifacts of America's first great artist—**John James Audubon**—who was both a naturalist and an ornithologist.

Museum: (502)782-7918. Find us on Facebook and Instagram.



# 2024 Schedule of Events

Information can be found at:

[evvaudubon.org](http://evvaudubon.org) & [parks.ky.gov](http://parks.ky.gov).

*Activities are FREE, unless otherwise stated!*

## Friday, April 26

### Patoka River NWR Birding Hike

**7 A.M. --Meets at Boyd Woods, Oakland City, IN**

**Approx. 2-3 hrs.; Sturdy shoes are recommended.**



Join us for a birding walk through Boyd Woods in search of warblers and other migratory songbirds. We'll continue the hike past Snakey Point Marsh for possible views of waterfowl and marsh birds, and end at a little-visited portion of Columbia Mine Preserve to look for grassland sparrows.

**Directions:** East on SR 64 out of Oakland City 1 mile from SR 357 (Main) to CR 1275E (look for Refuge sign). Turn left and follow signs to Snakey Point Marsh and continue on to parking lot on left at Boyd Woods (Maxey Marsh on the right).



# John James Audubon State Park

3100 US Hwy 41 North, Henderson, KY • (270) 826-2247 • [parks.ky.gov](http://parks.ky.gov)

## **Howell Wetlands Birding Hike**

**5 P.M.--Meets at Howell Wetlands parking lot at 1400 Tekoppel Ave, Evansville, IN; Approx. 2 hrs.**



Accompany us on a search for early spring migrants during a walk through this restored wetland park on Evansville's west side. If you have binoculars, bring them along.

## **Saturday, April 27**

### **Birding at Audubon Wetlands\***

**7 A.M. --Meets at Audubon Wetlands, across from 790 Wolf Hills Road, Henderson, KY. Approx. 2 hrs.; Wear shoes for marshy conditions.**

A wetland property acquisition essentially doubles the size of Audubon State Park. Help us identify this bottomland forest's bird guests. This property has an active Bald Eagle nest.

*This hike is dependent upon Ohio River flood stages. If water levels at Evansville surpass 32 ft., please meet at Audubon Park Museum for an alternative hike.*

### **Audubon's Bird Migration Walk\***

**9 A.M. --Meets at Audubon Museum, John James Audubon State Park; Approx. 1.5 hrs.**

The park's Beech-Maple forest is an urban oasis for woodland songbirds and shorebirds. In addition to the seven woodpecker species, several neo-tropical migrants make their home here. Join us as we hope to spot Eastern Bluebirds, Baltimore Orioles, Yellow-Throated and Prothonotary Warblers, Scarlet and Summer Tanagers, Belted Kingfishers, Indigo Buntings, Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds, White-Eyed and Red-Eyed Vireos. New birders are welcome! (Members of Evansville Audubon Society's Junior Birders will assist with this hike.)

*\*Portions of these hikes may be ADA accessible. Please ask your hike guide for information.*

## **Families of a Feather: Migration**

**10:00-11:00 A.M.—at Wesselman Woods, 551 N. Boeke Rd., Evansville, IN; ages 8+**

Many species of birds make heroic journeys to find resources as the seasons change. Find out more about the obstacles in their way, in this session of "Families of a Feather," a free monthly program providing interactive lessons for beginning birders and their guardians. *Further info at wesselmanwoods.org.*

## **Family Birding Fun!**

**10:30 A.M. --1:00 P.M.; Stop by anytime! Audubon Museum; J.J. Audubon SP**

**Make-N-Take Hummingbird Spinners**—These incredible little birds flap their wings so quickly, their wingbeats appear to us as just a blur. Put together this optical illusion and watch to see your very own hummingbird fly!

**Bird Olympics**—How do your physical abilities compare to those of birds? Take the challenge at each bird station to get an amazing glimpse into bird survival.

**Upcycled Bird Feeders—11 A.M. –1 P.M.** Bring your own clean, dry, plastic soda bottle (16.9 oz., 1-liter, or 2-liter) and let the staff of Wild Birds Unlimited help you repurpose it into a functional bird feeder for hours of at-home enjoyment. Limited to the first 125 participants.

*This bird feeder activity is graciously supported by the Wild Birds Unlimited store at 5620 E. Virginia St., Evansville, IN.*

## **Hands-on Bird Banding Workshop, with Master Bird Bander, Scott Kramer**

**10:30 A.M.--12:30 P.M. Stop by anytime! Audubon Museum; J. J. Audubon SP**

Help with an ongoing conservation project as we catch, identify, band, and release birds from John James Audubon State Park. Bird banding helps us understand bird migration, behavior,



social structure, lifespan and survival rates, and population trends. A great opportunity for seeing feathered friends up close, so bring a camera!

## **"Raptors Wild!" presented by The Talon Trust**

**11:30 A.M. --Friends of Audubon Meeting Room, J. J. Audubon SP; Donations accepted for The Talon Trust; Approx. 1 hr.**

Enjoy an interactive personal experience with live raptors! Volunteers from The Talon Trust, Inc. will share stories of birds that have been injured and can't survive in the wild, and now serve as ambassadors for their species.

*The Talon Trust, Inc. is a local volunteer-based organization dedicated to the conservation of native raptors through rescue, rehabilitation, and education. All donations received by The Talon Trust go to help feed and care for injured raptors.*

## **Owl Puke--Yuck! Or Not?**

**12:45 P.M. --Audubon Museum Nature Center; J. J. Audubon SP; Approx. 30-45 mins.**

The thought of owl puke may seem disgusting, but wait until you see what's inside that lump! These nocturnal hunters seek out all sorts of prey. Discover what critters the owls consider a tasty dinner when you dissect a sterilized owl pellet. You just may be amazed at what you find!

## **"Native Plants and You." presented by Donnarae Woolston of Ancient Roots Native Nursery, 5801 Hwy. 66, Poseyville, IN**

**1:30 P.M.—Audubon Museum, J.J. Audubon SP; Approx. 1 hr.**

A yard planted as a monoculture or that leans heavily on the use of non-natives, creates a diversity desert. The difficulties of such an ecosystem have damaging effects on birds, insects, and wildlife. Learn what you can do to correct these issues in your own backyard and attract beneficial insects that directly feed our birds.