

LOOK

Birders are flocking to Northern Virginia.



Huntley Meadows Park — This 1,500-acre park is well known for over 200 species that live in its mixed hardwood forests, meadows, and wetlands. The park's Youth Birding Club educates, encourages, and enables our youth to become informed conservationists and aspiring birders.

Mason Neck State Park — The nation's first refuge for the American Bald Eagle and the only one of its kind in the Capital Region, Mason Neck offers fantastic birding as well as guided canoe trips. Visitors also spot herons, wood thrushes, and more than 210 other bird species.

Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve at Belle Haven — This lovely preserve lies along the Potomac River and is a 485-acre freshwater tidal wetland. One of the largest wetlands in the entire region, Dyke Marsh is home to roughly 225 bird species and offers up-close looks at waterfowl, warblers, and hummingbirds. It is the only known breeding site for Marsh Wrens in Northern Virginia.

Riverbend Park — Riverbend's varied habitat allows for a diverse selection of bird life and has birding activity all year long. At last count, Riverbend's Bird Checklist totaled 191 species of birds observed in the park. In recent years, Snowy Owls have made their way to Riverbend, along with Bald Eagles, warblers, and even American Woodcocks.

Great Falls Park — This 800-acre national park has a 15-mile trail network. It's considered a hotspot for warblers, but you'll also see woodpeckers, goldfinches, and sometimes Tundra Swans. Visitors can get a free list of the over 160 species of bird that have been seen there.

Pohick Bay Regional Park — Pohick Bay shelters an abundance of birds, including the American Bald Eagle. Expect to see blue birds, ospreys, and herons along with deer, beavers, and rare sightings of river otters.

Meadowlark Botanical Gardens — The wooded areas and field edges of these stunning gardens provide great opportunities to catch spring migrants. Meadowlark also offers an exceptional view of the region's famous cherry blossoms when they bloom each year.

Burke Lake Park — With its ample foliage and abundant water, Burke Lake offers outstanding bird sightings, including beauties such as the Blue Heron and the Tufted Titmouse.



WHERE YOUR BIRD WATCHING ADVENTURES TAKE FLIGHT.



Fairfax County delivers when it comes to variety in bird species in its great parks, marshes, and gardens. Due to Northern Virginia's location along the "Atlantic Flyway," millions of birds of prey, songbirds, and a variety of waterfowl travel through the area each spring and fall, and many birds winter here. From the nation's first bald eagle refuge to a stunning marshland set along acres of forest, Fairfax County provides superb bird-watching for advanced birders and newcomers alike.

POINTS OF INTEREST

1. Bull Run Regional Park
2. Burke Lake Park
3. Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve
4. Frying Pan Farm Park
5. Fountainhead Regional Park
6. Great Falls Park
7. Hemlock Overlook Regional Park
8. Huntley Meadows Park
9. Lake Accotink
10. Mason Neck State Park
11. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens
12. Nottoway Park
13. Pohick Bay Regional Park
14. Occoquan Regional Park
15. Riverbend Park
16. Roundtree Park
17. Sandy Run Regional Park

