

SHORES & ISLANDS^{OHIO}

CEDAR POINT • SANDUSKY • PUT-IN-BAY

Welcome to the

**Warbler Capital
of the World!**



Blue-Throated Warbler

Shores & Islands Ohio-East

125 E. Water St.
Sandusky, OH 44870
419.625.2984, 800.255.3743

Shores & Islands Ohio-West

770 S.E. Catawba Rd.
Port Clinton, Ohio
419.734.4386, 800.441.1271

Find more visitor info at **SHORESandISLANDS.com**

East Shores

BERLIN HEIGHTS

1. Edison Woods MetroPark

10186 SR 61

419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org

This 1,300-acre, densely-wooded parkland with 550 acres of wetland habitat, 400 acres of restored native grassland, and a .5-mile boardwalk is an excellent place to view the spring Neotropical migration. Nesting species include blue-winged and yellow warblers, ovenbirds, scarlet tanagers, and rose-breasted grosbeaks. Features include six miles of wooded and prairie trails, the Adventure Walkway boardwalk, and Geocaching opportunities. Horseback riding is permitted on the bridle trail with trailer parking located at the SR 61 entrance and Smokey Rd. entrance. Edison Woods is part of the Lake Erie Birding Trail! Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk. Park closed for hunting season, see website for details.

2. Hoffman Forest MetroPark

5159 Huff Rd.

419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org

Home to many species of birds, wildlife, plants, and trees. The grassy trails of this 40-acre park wind through meadow, mature forest, and creek habitats. There is seasonal fishing located in Old Woman Creek with a valid fishing license and permit obtained from Erie MetroParks. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.

BIRMINGHAM

3. Schoepfle Garden

11106 Market St. (off SR 113 E)

440.965.7237, loraincountymetroparks.com

A 77-acre arboretum and garden containing 20 acres of topiaries, rose gardens, and perennial and annual flowers. A 50-acre forest with trails and the Vermilion River adjacent to arboretum. Year-round, daily 8 am-sunset.

HURON

4. Huron Lighthouse & Fishing Pier

end of N. Main St.

419.433.8487, cityofhuron.org

This pier attracts large concentrations of gulls, Caspian and common terns, and blackbirds. Open dawn-dusk.

5. Huron River Path MetroPark & DuPont Marsh State Nature Preserve

1805 River Rd.

419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org

The 114-acre preserve is one of the few remaining river marshes in Ohio. DuPont Marsh has excellent views of marshland along the Huron River. A variety of birds and woodland species can be found along the river and in the woods adjacent to the marsh. Accessible trails.

Dogs are not permitted within DuPont Marsh State Nature Preserve. All dogs within the Huron River Path MetroPark must remain on a leash at all times. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.

6. James H. McBride Arboretum

at BGSU Firelands College, 1 University Dr.
800.322.4787 ext. 20665, bgsu.edu/firelands/McBride-Arboretum.html

In addition to a 50-acre arboretum, this site contains a wooded lot that is an excellent place to see warblers and other Neotropical birds in migration. Bluebird and other nest boxes can be found in the large meadows and other grassy areas. Walking, hiking, accessible trail, birding, and botanizing opportunities available. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.

7. Joseph Steinen Wildlife Area

4501 Cleveland Rd. W (US 6)

419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org

One of several key protected natural areas along the southern shoreline of Lake Erie. This 155-acre natural area protects an extraordinary freshwater marsh and uplands rich in critical wildlife food and cover. Great birding opportunities, accessible trail, pets permitted. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk. Park closed for hunting season, see website for details.

8. Old Woman Creek State Nature Preserve & National Estuarine Research Reserve

2514 Cleveland Rd. E (US 6)

419.433.4601, coastal.ohiodnr.gov

As one of the 'Great Lakes' best remaining natural estuaries, this 573-acre reserve attracts waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, and Neotropical migrants. Strategically-placed trails and observation areas offer excellent views of the estuary, surrounding uplands, and the shore of Lake Erie. Visitor center, drinking fountain, restrooms available (when visitor center is open), and indoor viewing area. Paved, natural, and boardwalk trails. Grounds open year-round, daily dawn-dusk; visitor center open Apr-Sept, Tues-Fri 9 am-4 pm, Sat-Sun 1-5 pm; Oct-Mar, Tues-Fri 9 am-4 pm.

9. Osborn MetroPark

3910 Perkins Ave.

419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org

This 172-acre park offers a diverse wildlife habitat in an urban surrounding. Amenities include shelters and rooms to reserve, two playgrounds, tennis and pickleball courts, disc golf, accessible trails, and more. This popular park within the park system also features soccer fields, hiking trails, the Children's Forest, The Barnyard & Erie MetroBark Park, an off-leash dog park near the Maple Grove Center on Hull Rd., and the all-new Discovery Trail! Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.



10. Pelton Park

800 Pelton Park Dr.
419.609.1400, perkinstownship.com
Wander the trails through the mature oak woodlot to view the many species of local wildlife and bountiful spring wildflowers throughout this 20-acre park. Pets permitted. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.

11. Putnam Marsh Extension

4511 Cleveland Rd. W (US 6)
419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org
The 966-acre preserve is a protected natural area because of its importance as one of the last undeveloped naturally functioning marshes on the southern Lake Erie shoreline and it is a critical habitat area for plants and animals. This marsh is also renowned for its abundant waterfowl, including Tundra Swans in spring and fall. It is also an important stopping site for migratory songbirds as they make their long trek across Lake Erie. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.

12. Sheldon Marsh State Nature Preserve

2715 Cleveland Rd. W (US 6)
866.644.6727, naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov
This 472-acre preserve is known to attract nearly 300 bird species and provides habitat for many kinds of wildflowers. Before crossing Lake Erie, these birds stop briefly to rest and

feed among the lush vegetation of the forest. Along the barrier sand beach, numerous shorebirds are frequently seen searching for food at the water's edge. Summer residents include great blue herons, red-tailed hawks, black-crowned night-herons, wood ducks, common terns, woodcocks, great horned owls, and numerous songbirds. Accessible trail. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

13. Wyandot MetroPark

5401 Cleveland Rd. W (US 6)
419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org
The majority of Wyandot's acres have been reclaimed from row-crop farmland to native prairie meadow vegetation. The northern portion of the property includes a narrow strip of woods. The observation deck in the northeast portion of the park is perfect for observing waterfowl and birds of prey. Accessible, pets permitted. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.

MILAN

14. The Coupling MetroPark

11618 SR 13 (Mudbrook Rd.)
419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org
The Huron River and its floodplain are the highlights of this park area. It is an excellent place to view spring and fall migrations, as well as waterfowl. Bank swallows nest in burrows

Blackburnian Warbler



along the river banks. Portable restrooms in season, reservable overnight accommodations, and nature trails. Canoes available by advance reservation for use on the Huron River. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.

15. Milan Towpath MetroPark

99 N. Main St.
419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org
This .9-mile path is a linear park that follows the path of an early canal and railway. Accessible, pet-friendly trails are perfect for birding throughout the seasons. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.

VERMILION

16. Vermilion River Reservation, Mill Hollow, and Bacon Woods

51211 N. Ridge Rd. (N. Ridge and Vermilion rds.)
440.967.7310, loraincountymetroparks.com
Shale cliffs frame the beauty of this nature park. Birders find an amazing variety of species all seasons. Many of the trails are accessible. Grounds open year-round, daily 8 am-sunset; visitor center open year-round, daily 10 am-4:30 pm.

17. Sherod Park

US 6 at Coen Rd. (2 miles west of town)
440.204.2490, cityofvermilion.com
Sherod Park offers commanding views of the lake. The majority of the 21-acre park is open green space, thus the primary allure is to look for migrant water birds moving along Lake

Erie. The birding here is seasonal and by far best from Oct through early-winter. Featuring green space, trees, natural areas, walking track, and beach.

Central Shores

CASTALIA

18. Castalia Duck Pond

SR 101 (Main St.)
lakeeriebirding.ohiodnr.gov
This 10-acre pond is at its best from late-fall to early-spring when waterfowl species head to open waters. Ample parking at both sides of the pond.

19. Castalia Quarry MetroPark

8404 SR 101 (Sandusky-Clyde Rd.)
419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org
This 152-acre former quarry is home to about 240 species of native plants, including some that are rare or threatened. You will also find fossils that date back 400 million years and glacial grooves. Offering excellent views of migrating raptors, plus habitats for smaller birds. Trails on the north side of SR 101, just off the parking lot, are great places to see migrating wetland species. An observation tower with ramp allows broad landscape views of raptors and other passing birds. Two miles of natural and gravel trails. Restroom open seasonally. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.

20. Castalia State Fish Hatchery

7018 Homegardner Rd.

419.684.7499, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov

As part of the blue hole aquifer system and diverted water from the Cold Creek, the area provides a unique birding experience on 90 acres of land and three acres of water. See herons, waterfowl, egrets, eagles, and more. Guided tours by appointment and grounds open Mon-Fri 8 am-3 pm; closed holidays.

21. Resthaven Wildlife Area

412 Cement Ave.

419.424.5000, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov

The unique feature here is a large remnant prairie. Many foot trails allow the visitor to explore diverse habitats of this wildlife area, totaling more than 2,200 acres. Indigo buntings, woodcocks, and ring-necked pheasants favor this area. Accessible fishing pier available. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

SANDUSKY

22. Community Foundation Preserve at Eagle Point

3819 Cleveland Rd. W (US 6)

419.625.7783, eriemetroparks.org

Eagle Point provides countless opportunities to enjoy nature from birdwatching, hiking, kayaking, canoeing, and more. Designated as a stop on the Lake Erie Birding Trail, this park offers excellent birding year-round and can be extraordinary during the spring migration. Pets permitted. The observation deck along East Sandusky Bay is a great location to view waterfowl and soaring raptors. Year-round, daily 8 am-dusk.

23. Erie Sand Barrens State Nature Preserve

Scheid Rd. (off Taylor Rd. in Oxford Twp.)

866.644.6727, naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov

This 32-acre preserve features a sand beach ridge plant community with many rare prairie plants. Hike the .5-mile trail and view prairie milkweed, Virginia meadow beauty, and twisted yellow-eyed grass. No pets. Year-round, open daily a half hour before dawn-a half hour after dusk.

24. Firelands Audubon Society

firelandsaudubonsociety.org

In 1971, the Firelands Audubon Society (FAS), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, was formed to protect, preserve, and appreciate natural habitat for birds and wildlife through conservation and education. FAS offers a variety of field trips and birding workshops for all levels of birders. Seasonal bird walks and bird counts in various locations throughout the area are fun and informative for everyone. See website for details.

25. Pipe Creek Wildlife Area

River Rd. (off Cedar Point Dr.)

419.424.5000, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov

The 97-acre area is situated on the former Big Island Wetland Complex on the southern shore of Sandusky Bay. Most of the area is a diked marsh, with the remaining acreage comprising flat-topped dikes. Wildlife found on the area include puddle ducks, common snipe, sora and Virginia rail, and Canada geese. Other species that can be seasonally observed are bald eagles, common tern, Caspian tern, godwits, sandpipers, and various other wetland-dependent species. Individuals interested in waterfowl hunting will be required to attend an annual drawing for available waterfowl hunting dates. Details about this drawing can be obtained from the Wildlife District Two Office. Other times, year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

26. Sandusky Harbor

Downtown Sandusky Waterfront
Shoreline Dr.

419.627.5884, ci.sandusky.oh.us

A large herring gull breeding colony in and around Sandusky makes this species readily visible, as are large rafts of waterfowl, egrets, and night herons. Shelby Street Boat Launch, Paper District Marina, Jackson Street Pier, Shoreline Park, and Battery Park are along Shoreline Dr. and each offers parking and birding opportunities; or bike/walk the paved trail along Sandusky Bay Pathway.

27. Willow Point Wildlife Area

Wahl Rd.

419.424.5000, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov

This area features a 432-acre public hunting, fishing, and wildlife area on the southern shore of Sandusky Bay. The geographic location and diverse terrain including wetland, marsh, and woods accounts for high numbers of waterfowl, songbirds, shorebirds, and hawks during the spring and fall migrations.

North Shores

CATAWBA

28. Catawba Point Preserve

4060 N.W. Catawba Rd., Port Clinton

419.797.4131, catawabaislandtownship.com

An excellent spot to observe migratory songbirds in the spring and fall. 16.9 acres of wooded walking paths take you through several types of habitats.

29. Cedar Meadow Preserve

4822 E. Cemetery Rd. (off SR 53), Port Clinton

419.797.2684, catawabaislandtownship.com

Cedar Meadow's location on Catawba Island, a peninsula that juts into Lake Erie, makes it an excellent spot for migratory songbirds that are preparing to cross the lake in spring, or have

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Find more visitor info at SHORESandISLANDS.com



- 45-46 North Bass Island
- 40-44 Middle Bass Island
- 47-55 Put-in-Bay
(South Bass Island)



LAKE ERIE

just made the crossing in fall. Marked entrance is located near the township water tower and provides access to approximately three miles of mowed trails with benches placed at convenient intervals. Leashed dogs permitted.

30. Dr. Robert Nehls Memorial Nature Preserve

4400 Muggy Rd. (off SR 53), Port Clinton 419.833.1025, blackswamp.org
Black Swamp Conservancy purchased this 40-acre property on Lake Erie's west harbor in 2019 from the Nehls family and partners with Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge to manage the preserve for wildlife habitat and public recreation. The property provides excellent opportunities to view migratory and resident bird species. A loop walking trail, that winds through a restored pollinator meadow and along the water's edge, is open to the public. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

MARBLEHEAD

31. East Harbor State Park

1169 N. Buck Rd. (SR 269) 419.734.4424, 866.644.6727, parks.ohiodnr.gov
Located on the shores of Lake Erie, East Harbor offers a variety of birding habitats. With over seven miles of trails winding through meadows, woods, and wetlands, the visitor is able to view migratory waterfowl and shorebirds in addition to local species. Restrooms, camping, boat dockage, and beach. Year-round, dawn-dusk.

32. Great Egret Marsh Preserve

Buck Rd. and TR 139 A (off SR 269) 614.717.2770, nature.org
150-acre marsh boasts classic Lake Erie marshland, blanketed each summer with water lotus and teeming with wildlife. The preserve is a haven for waterfowl and wading birds including great egrets, which can congregate there in abundance. Visitors will find opportunities for birding, fishing from the trails, hiking, kayaking, and canoeing. Small boat launch for kayaks and canoes only. Wheelchair accessible for the first .4 miles of trail (parking lot to first overlook). Year-round, daily dawn-dusk. The preserve features an ADA kayak launch on west harbor and a pavilion with picnic tables accessible for wheelchair use.

33. Meadowbrook Marsh

8577 E. Bayshore Rd. 419.732.3039, danburytownship.com/service-maintenance
Prime birding location with picnic tables, benches, observation deck, seasonal restrooms, paved biking/walking trails, and grass and mulched walking trails along the prairie and in the forest. Scenic views of the wetland marsh. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

PORT CLINTON

34. Port Clinton Lakefront Preserve

E. Perry St. (SR 163) 419.734.5522, blackswamp.org/protected_land/port-clinton-lakefront-preserve
This preserve is contiguous with Port Clinton City Beach to the east and Waterworks Park and Port Clinton Lighthouse to the west. Collectively, these three sites protect over $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of lakefront beach and associated habitats. The non-swimming beach is worth investigating for shorebirds, gulls, terns, and waterfowl. There is a stone walking trail through the preserve.

Islands

KELLEYS ISLAND

Ferry service available from Marblehead or Sandusky.

35. Kelleys Island Audubon Club

kelleysislandnature.org
Kelleys Island Audubon Club's mission is to protect, preserve, and develop natural habitat for the birds and wildlife that inhabit the island. Of special interest the "Nest with the Birds" program is held in May and the "Feathers and Foliage Festival" is held in mid-September with bird-banding at both events. All programs are free of charge and all are welcome.

36. Kelleys Island State Park

920 Division St. 419.746.2546, 866.644.6727, parks.ohiodnr.gov
Kelleys Island State Park offers great Lake Erie views, easy access to the shoreline, and scenic overnight accommodations. Boating, fishing, birding, and wildlife watching are just a few of the park's favorite activities across its 677 acres. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

37. North Pond State Nature Preserve

Ward Rd. (off Division St.) 614.265.6419, naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov
Containing a variety of rare plants and animals. Accessible via the trailhead at Ward Rd., opposite the parking lot. Consisting of 30 acres of wetlands with the estuary leading into Lake Erie, which is famous for the tremendous numbers of waterfowl migrating through in the spring and fall. A birder visiting North Pond during these seasons will be rewarded by sightings of numerous species of ducks and other water birds. To protect plant life, please remain on trails. No pets.

38. North Shore Alvar State Nature Preserve

920 Division St. 614.265.6419, naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov
The only undisturbed alvar community in Ohio. An alvar is bare rock such as limestone bedrock with unique plant life growing on and between

the rock surfaces. The scouring motion of the waves and ice off Lake Erie maintains the alvar. Accessible via the North Shore Loop Trail within Kelleys Island State Park. To protect plant life, please remain on trails. No pets.

39. Scheele Preserve

Monaghan Rd.

216.231.4600, cmnh.org/Kelleys-Island

This preserve is a 32-acre parcel owned by the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The preserve supports a diversity of open meadow, copses of low-growing trees, and shrubby thickets. It is a great area to seek migrant songbirds and Northern Saw-whet Owls. Scheele Preserve is also home to Tom Bartlett's owl banding research project. Located on the east side of Monaghan Rd., just north of Hamilton Rd.

MIDDLE BASS ISLAND

Ferry transportation available from Catawba or Put-in-Bay (South Bass Island).

40. Kuehnle Wildlife Area

1965 Fox Rd.

614.265.6300, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov

This 20-acre pond and adjacent area harbors an array of plant and animal life, including songbirds, wading birds, fish, turtles, salamanders, and the Lake Erie water snake. Marsh and wildlife viewing only.

41. Middle Bass Island Forested Wetlands Preserve

Fox Rd.

419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org

More than 110 species of bird have been documented on Middle Bass Island, including the black-and-white warbler, Tennessee warbler, threatened yellow warbler, and several other warbler species. In addition, the 40 acres of preserved land are home to multiple species of snake, including the eastern fox snake and melanistic garter snake, both of which are Species of Concern in Ohio.

42. Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve

North Shore Rd.

419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org

11 acres of wooded preserve owned by the Put-in-Bay Township Park District is accessible only via the Lake Erie Islands Water Trail. This park offers a small dock, walking paths, and interpretive signs. With its position at the tip of Middle Bass Island, it is a great place for birding in the spring and fall.

43. Middle Bass Island State Park

1719 Fox Rd.

419.285.0311, parks.ohiodnr.gov

Migrating songbirds rest here before winging across the lake. Hundreds of different species have been identified, making the state park one of the best birdwatching areas in the country. Several nesting pairs of bald eagles are located in the area.



Cape May Warbler

44. Petersen's Woods

419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org
Located adjacent to the Kuehnle Wildlife Area, Petersen's Woods provides habitat for bald eagles that have nested at the airport across the street as well as for Lake Erie water snakes. The woods provide important feeding and resting habitat for migratory birds. Marsh and wildlife viewing only.

NORTH BASS ISLAND

Only accessible by private boat or airplane.

45. Fox's Marsh

southwest corner of North Bass Island
419.734.4424, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov
The 60-acre marsh, which is the primary feature at the wildlife area, exhibits most of the island's remaining natural coastal wetlands. The marsh's environments support habitat for fox snake, Lake Erie water snake, waterfowl, and migratory shorebirds and songbird populations.

46. North Bass Island State Park

419.734.4424, parks.ohiodnr.gov
Open to primitive camping (with a special permit), hiking, picnicking, biking, kayaking, and wildlife viewing. The island can only be accessed by private boat, charter, or aircraft. Four public mooring balls are located on the south side of the island, just west of the main pier. There is no fee to tie up; they are first-come, first-served. There is no scheduled ferry service to the island.

SOUTH BASS ISLAND (PUT-IN-BAY)

Ferry transportation available from Catawba, Port Clinton, or Sandusky.

47. Cooper's Woods

Catawba Ave. (just west of Concord Ave.)
419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org
18-acre area offering hiking trails through wildflowers and trees including sugar maple, oak, red cedar, and hackberry. Migrating songbirds can be seen along with other wildlife.

48. Dodge Woods

at Langram and Thompson rds.
419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org
3.5 protected acres on South Bass Island. This wooded preserve, with walking trails, is a young forest for the island situated on the site of a former vineyard. Even though its forest may be newer growth, it is still a great spot to glance at island birds and other wildlife.

49. Duff Woods Preserve

off Mitchell Rd.
419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org
13.5 wooded acres with walking trails. A perfect spot to see migratory songbirds as well as spring ephemeral wildflowers.

50. Jane Coates Wildflower Trail

Put-in-Bay Rd. (north of Langram Rd.)
419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org
.5-mile loop trail offering views of a variety of wildflowers as well as migratory songbirds.

51. Ladd Carr Wildlife Woods

Put-in-Bay Rd.
419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org
This 2.1-acre, wooded parcel is a great place for birdwatching. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

52. Massie Cliffside Preserve

611 Columbus Ave. (SR 357)
419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org
This cliffside preserve offers beautiful sunsets and views of Middle Bass Island. With 11 wooded acres, this preserve provides a quiet spot for birding, fishing, and viewing nature. It is a stop on Lake Erie Islands Water Trail for non-motorized watercraft. Columbines and harebells bloom on the cliff in the summer.

53. Morrison Woods Preserve

Meechen and Put-in-Bay rds.
419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org
This wooded preserve was recently purchased by the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy. It includes 4.5 acres of woods with walking trails and benches. A lovely example of the island wooded habitats, and the perfect spot to catch island wildlife in action.

54. Scheeff East Point Nature Preserve

eastern tip of East Point Rd.
419.285.4772, lakeerieislandsconservancy.org
Nine-acre preserve with lakefront on three sides offers opportunities for spotting waterfowl, shorebirds, and migratory songbirds.

55. South Bass Island State Park

1523 Catawba Ave.
419.285.2112, 866.644.6727, parks.ohiodnr.gov
Migrating songbirds rest here on their way across the lake. Hundreds of different species have been identified, including dozens of migratory waterfowl. The bald eagle has made a dramatic comeback on Lake Erie, with several nesting pairs in the area.

West Shores

ELMORE

56. Schedel Arboretum & Gardens

19255 W. Portage River S Rd.
419.862.3182, schedel-gardens.org
Ornate Japanese gardens, with dozens of rare species, anchor this unique site. 17 acres of rose gardens, water gardens, perennial gardens, and 20,000 annuals are surrounded by acres of woodlands and the Portage River. Self-guided daily tours, restrooms, and full-time staff.



*Black-Throated
Green Warbler*

Located one mile off Ohio Turnpike (I-80/90) at Exit 81 on S. Portage Rd. Admission fees apply. Apr-Oct.

OAK HARBOR

57. Black Swamp Bird Observatory

13551 SR 2 W

419.898.4070, bsbo.org

With more than 2,000 acres of prime habitats, Magee Marsh is an American birding "hot spot." The spring migration of warblers is spectacular; ducks, trumpeter swans, bald eagles, shorebirds, and raptors are also common. Visitor center, drinking fountains, restrooms, wheelchair accessible, .7 miles of boardwalk. Access is restricted during Oct to early-Dec for waterfowl hunts. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

58. Magee Marsh Wildlife Area & Sportsman's Migratory Bird Center

13229 W. SR 2

419.898.0960, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov

With more than 2,000 acres of habitat, Magee Marsh is an American birding "hot spot." The spring migration of warblers is spectacular; ducks, trumpeter swans, bald eagles, shorebirds, and raptors are also common. Visitor center, drinking fountains, restrooms, wheelchair accessible, .7 miles of boardwalk. Access is restricted during Oct to early-Dec for waterfowl hunts. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

59. Oak Harbor Station - Interurban Overlook

198 S. Church St.

419.898.5561, oakharbor.oh.us

Wheelchair-accessible overlook deck is open year-round for nature and birdwatching, fishing, and kayak launch. No swimming permitted.

60. Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge

14000 W. SR 2

419.898.0014, fws.gov/refuge/ottawa

The 9,700-acre refuge includes over 10 miles of hiking trails winding through a variety of habitats including marshes, uplands, and forested wetlands. The refuge is regarded as one of the premier birdwatching spots in the Midwest. Restrooms, visitor center, accessible, seven miles of pressed-gravel trails. Located approximately 15 miles west of Port Clinton along SR 2. Trails open year-round, daily dawn-dusk; visitor center open year-round, daily 9 am-4 pm.

61. Toussaint Wildlife Area

off SR 19 (five miles north of Oak Harbor)

wildlife.ohiodnr.gov

231-acre wildlife area featuring wetland game birds such as puddle ducks, woodcock, snipe, sora, and Virginia rails. Non-marsh units produce some pheasants and rabbits. Plovers, herons, bitterns, yellowlegs, and a variety of other birds can be observed in the area. Spring is an excellent time to observe large numbers of migrating shorebirds, songbirds, and waterfowl.

PORT CLINTON

62. Little Portage Wildlife Area

Darr Hopfinger Rd.
419.424.5000, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov
357-acre wildlife area is managed primarily for wetland wildlife. Access is currently somewhat limited as the area is undergoing wetland habitat restoration.

Neighbors

CURTICE

63. Howard Marsh

611 S. Howard Rd. (off SR 2)
419.360.9178, metroparkstoledo.com
This 1,000-acre wetland marsh showcases six miles of water trails for canoeing and kayaking, five miles of dike-top trails for hiking, and a 1,300-ft. boardwalk. Previously a working farm, this land is known for its concentration of warblers, especially during spring migration. Restrooms, pets-permitted, and fishing. Year-round, daily 7 am-dusk.

64. Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area

Bono Rd. (off SR 2)
419.424.5000, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov
This 558-acre Lake Erie marsh is located approximately 20 miles west of Port Clinton. Bono Road provides access to the area from SR 2, less than .5 mile east of Bono. Portable restrooms. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

NORWALK

65. Milan Wildlife Area

off SR 113 (3 miles northwest of Norwalk)
419.424.5000, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov
A 300-acre state wildlife area with diverse terrain such as the Huron River, woods, streams, and brush. The property is in Erie County and offers birding, hiking trails, hunting, and fishing opportunities.

OREGON

66. Maumee Bay State Park

1400 State Park Rd.
419.836.9117, parks.ohiodnr.gov
Excellent birding year-round with gulls and waterfowl at the beach, wintering raptors in open fields, and migrant songbirds along the boardwalk through the forest. Ring-necked pheasants densely populate the meadow areas of the park.

VICKERY

67. Pickerel Creek Wildlife Area

3451 CR 256
419.547.6007, wildlife.ohiodnr.gov
The northern portion of Pickerel Creek lies in the center of some of the finest wetland habitat still in existence along Sandusky Bay. The majority of the area has been restored to wetlands, making the area particularly notable for observing waterfowl and migrating shore birds.

Magnolia Warbler

