



Susquehanna State Park

Park Quest 2021

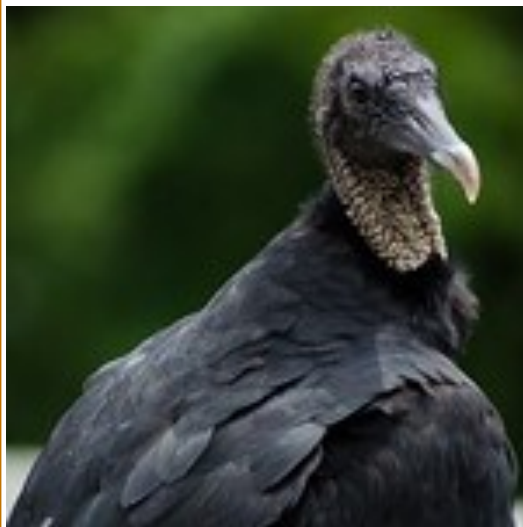
“The Quest to become a Birder”

Directions

Welcome to Susquehanna State Park! Your Park Quest adventure will start in the Deer Creek Picnic Area, located on Stafford Road. From the Deer Creek Picnic Area parking lot, walk back to Stafford Road and turn left. You will see a bridge to your right. Walk across this bridge to reach the trailhead for the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Trail. **Please be careful and watch out for traffic as you make your way to the trail.**



You will be walking the trail from the trailhead to the Conowingo Dam. It is 2.5 miles in length, and follows along the Susquehanna River. **Go as far as you wish, but be aware that the trail is not a loop. So turn around when you want to come back.** As you walk, your job is to find as many

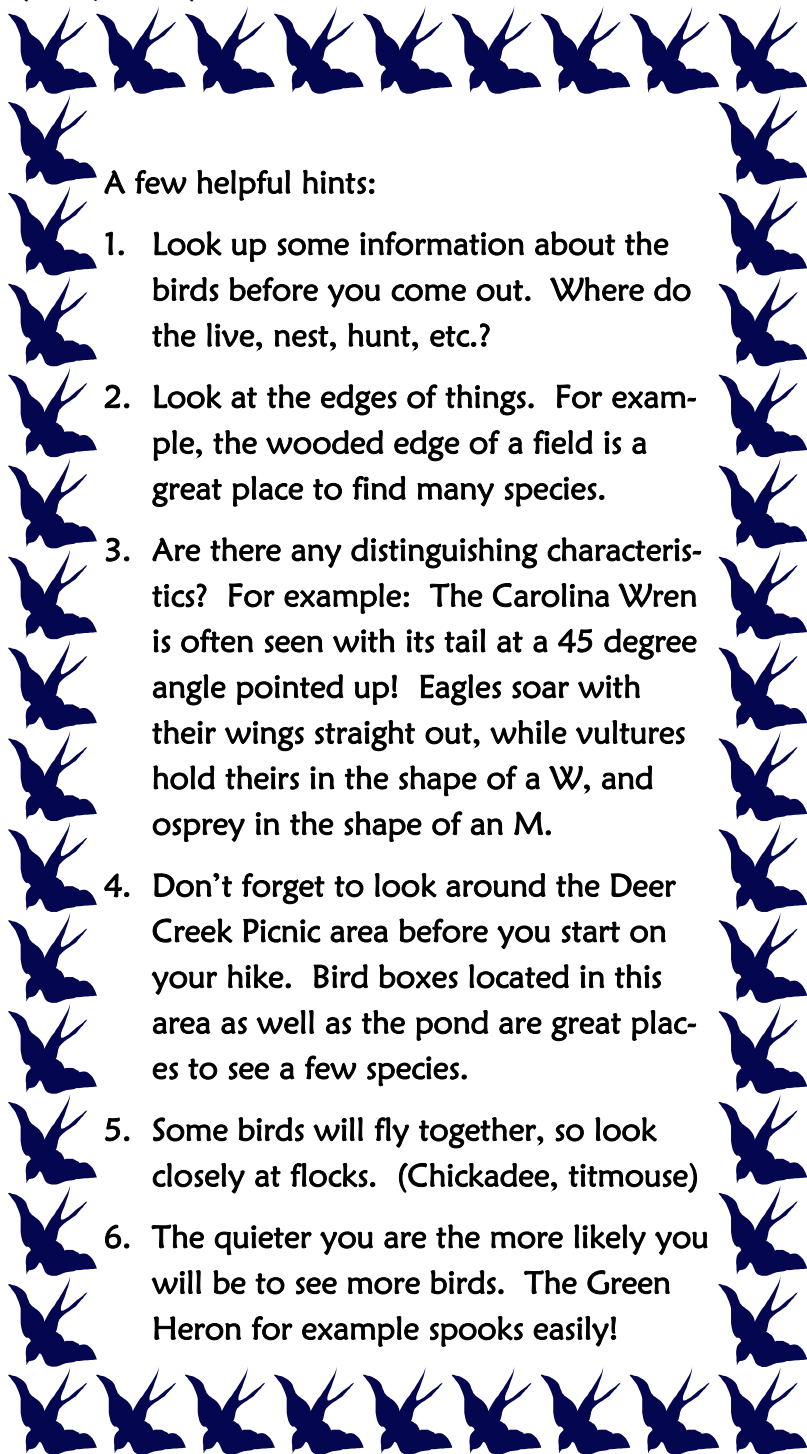


birds as you can. Use your eyes as well as your ears! Give yourself points according to the list for each bird that you “find.” Finding can either be by sight or hearing.

Use the included picture guide to identify the birds that you have found and add up your points on the checklist. Good luck with your bird hunt!

Directions: If you hear or see any of the birds on this list, give yourself the allotted number of points. Count up your points at the end of your journey.

- ___ Blue Jay (1 Point)
- ___ Carolina Chickadee (1 Point)
- ___ Eastern Bluebird (1 Point)
- ___ American Goldfinch (1 Point)
- ___ Downy Woodpecker (1 Point)
- ___ junco (1 Point)
- ___ White Breasted Nuthatch (5 points)
- ___ Northern Cardinal (1 point)
- ___ White Throated Sparrow (1 point)
- ___ Mourning Dove (1 point)
- ___ Northern Flicker (1 point)
- ___ Northern Mockingbird (1 point)
- ___ Pileated Woodpecker (5 points)
- ___ Red-bellied Woodpecker (1 point)
- ___ Purple Finch (1 point)
- ___ House Finches (1 point)
- ___ Carolina Wren (5 points)
- ___ Tufted Titmouse (1 point)
- ___ Mature Bald Eagle (1 point)
- ___ Juvenile Bald Eagle (1 point)
- ___ Osprey (5 points)
- ___ Yellow Warbler (5 points)
- ___ Prothonotary Warbler (5 points)
- ___ Palm Warbler (5 points)
- ___ Canada Goose (1 point)
- ___ Wood Duck (1 points)
- ___ Turkey Vulture (1 point)
- ___ Black Vulture (1 point)
- ___ Great Blue Heron (1 point)
- ___ Green Heron (5 points)



A few helpful hints:

1. Look up some information about the birds before you come out. Where do the live, nest, hunt, etc.?
2. Look at the edges of things. For example, the wooded edge of a field is a great place to find many species.
3. Are there any distinguishing characteristics? For example: The Carolina Wren is often seen with its tail at a 45 degree angle pointed up! Eagles soar with their wings straight out, while vultures hold theirs in the shape of a W, and osprey in the shape of an M.
4. Don't forget to look around the Deer Creek Picnic area before you start on your hike. Bird boxes located in this area as well as the pond are great places to see a few species.
5. Some birds will fly together, so look closely at flocks. (Chickadee, titmouse)
6. The quieter you are the more likely you will be to see more birds. The Green Heron for example spooks easily!

So How did you do?

0-10 points, you are on your way to becoming a birder! Continue your research and look at different times of the year.

11-20 points, way to go! Birding is in your future. Don't forget to look as well as listen.

20+, You might be a lifelong Birder! Make sure to use your new found knowledge in at all of Maryland's State Parks.



Blue Jay



Carolina Chickadee



Eastern Bluebird



American Goldfinch



Downy Woodpecker



Junco



Red-breasted Nuthatch



White-breasted Nuthatch



Northern Cardinal (Male)



N. Cardinal (Female)



White-throated Sparrow



Mourning Dove



Northern Flicker



Northern Mockingbird



Pileated Woodpecker



Red-bellied Woodpecker



Purple Finch



House Finches



Carolina Wren



Tufted Titmouse

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Photo Credit: Dave Gigliotti



Yellow Warbler

Photo Credit: Ken Sturm/ USFWS



Prothonotary Warbler

Photo Credit: Bruce Smith



Palm Warbler

Photo Credit: Michael Schramm



Juvenile Bald Eagle

Photo Credit: Sharon Young



Adult Bald Eagle

Photo Credit: Wendy Crowe



Osprey

Photo Credit: Amy Rhodes



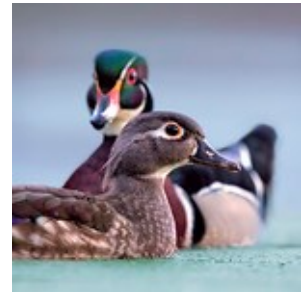
Great Blue Heron

Photo Credit: Paul Denbow



Green Heron

Photo Credit: Christine Edwards



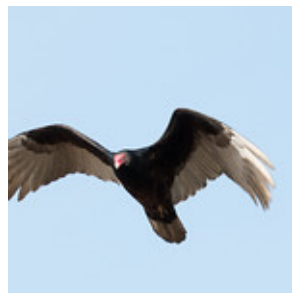
Wood Ducks

Photo Credit: Dean Newman



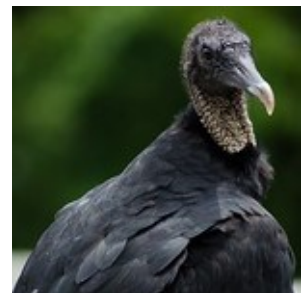
Canada Goose

Photo Credit: Barb Rogers



Turkey Vulture

Photo Credit: Susan Young



Black Vulture

Photo Credit: Peter Hoblitzell

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Conclusion: We hope that you enjoyed your visit to Susquehanna State Park and the Greenways Trail. If you would like some additional experience searching for birds in Maryland State Parks, we encourage you to check out ebird and include your bird sightings in their data.

