



# ALABAMA BIRDING TRAILS

Teacher Resource Guide



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With over 430 bird species documented in Alabama, there is more to see here than you can imagine. Watching a Bald Eagle feeding babies in the nest near Guntersville State Park? Check! Sitting quietly as dozens of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks literally crash-land into the nearest tree on Dauphin Island? Absolutely! These are just two of the stops along this series of eight trails and 283 stops.

Over 15 years in the making, the system of eight trails highlights the best public locations available to watch birds year-round. Alabama provides critical habitat for hundreds of bird species, from the Endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker to the now flourishing Bald Eagle. Interest in wildlife observation continues to grow, and more and more people want to explore a number of species of plants and animals. The Birding Trails project provides a major attraction for nature-loving tourists, while offering exciting birding opportunities for Alabama's school groups, families, and seasoned birders.

The eight Alabama Birding Trails unify existing and potential birding sites into a series of cohesive trails and loops that are collectively marketed as a part of a statewide system. Thousands of birders and other visitors are already using many of the sites along the various trails annually.

Alabama's Birding Trails offers the public a chain of eight geographic regions known as the following: North Alabama, West Alabama, Appalachian Highlands, Piedmont Plateau, Black Belt Nature and Heritage, Pineywoods, Wiregrass, and Alabama Coastal Birding Trail.

This is a collaborative project. The Alabama Tourism Department has provided much of the funding for this project; The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development is providing the leadership role of facilitation and project scope; The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is providing their depth of knowledge relative to wildlife habitat, birding and previous birding trails experience; The Birmingham Audubon Society has provided experience that only deeply knowledgeable birders could. Chambers of Commerce across the state have taken great pride in this project, as have our Federal partners, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Forest Service, and others.

# Teachers,

Welcome to your **Alabama Birding Trails Resource Guide** to assist you in exploring the great outdoors with your students through birding.

## What is included:

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## How does this fit into my teaching plan?

Use evidence and scientific reasoning to explain characteristic animal behaviors such as building nests to protect young from cold, herding to protect young from predators, attracting mated for breeding by producing special sounds and displaying colorful plumage, transferring pollen or seeds to create conditions for seed germination and growth.

Specialized plant structures such as flower brightness, nectar and odor attract bids that transfer pollen.

The hard outer shell on seeds providing protection prior to germination, affects the probability of successful reproductions of both animals and plants.

The first document you will find is the **Seven Principles of Leave No Trace** that provide an easily understood framework of minimum impact practices for anyone visiting the outdoors. Although Leave No Trace has its roots in backcountry settings, the Principles have been adapted so that they can be applied anywhere — from remote wilderness areas, to local parks and even in your own backyard. They also apply to almost every recreational activity. Each Principle covers a specific topic and provides detailed information for minimizing impacts.

The Seven Principles are well established and widely known, but they are not static. The Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics continually examines, evaluates and reshapes the Principles. The Center's Education Department conducts research, including publishing scholarly articles in independent journals, to ensure that the Principles are up to date with the latest insights from biologists, land managers and other leaders in outdoor education. On the next page please find a tri-fold document to copy and share with students before you begin your next outdoor adventure.

## Additional resources you might find helpful:

Contact Audubon's Outreach Director: (205) 719-3678 [alaudubon.org/staff/](mailto:alaudubon.org/staff/)

**The Audubon Bird Guide** is a free and complete field guide to over 800 species of North American birds, right in your pocket. Built for all experience levels, it will help you identify the birds around you, keep track of the birds you have seen, and get outside to find new birds near you. [audubon.org/app](https://audubon.org/app)

**Merlin by Cornell University** is a free app that offers instant bird identification help for 2,000+ North, Central and South American, and European birds. [merlin.allaboutbirds.org](https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org)

**Birding Trails Teacher Workshops:** Want to know when teacher workshops are offered? Fill out this form: [alabamabirdingtrails.com/workshops/](https://alabamabirdingtrails.com/workshops/)

- Keep campsites small. Focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent.

#### *In pristine areas*

- Disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and trails.
- Avoid places where impacts are just beginning.

#### **DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY**

- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.



- Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.
- To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 200 feet away from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.

#### **LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND**

- Preserve the past: observe, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts.

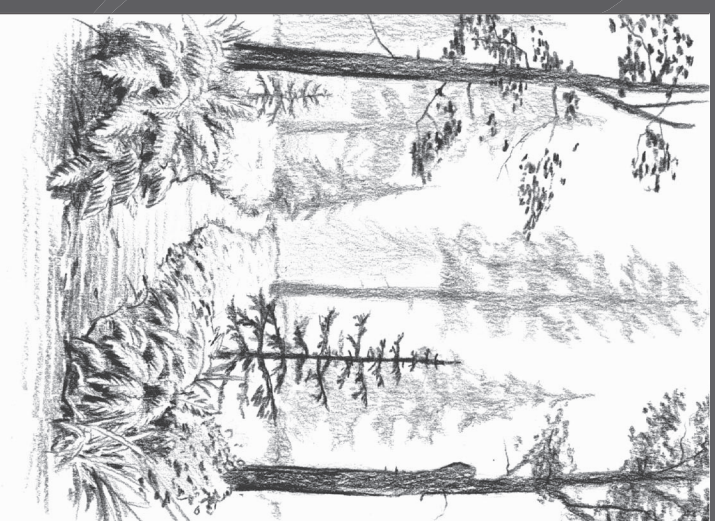


- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.



## **LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES of OUTDOOR ETHICS**

FROM YOUR BACKYARD TO YOUR BACKCOUNTRY



For more information please contact the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics at [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org) or call 1.800.332.4100

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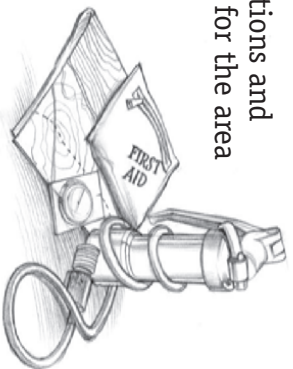


Center for Outdoor Ethics



## PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE

- Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.
- Visit in small groups. Split larger parties into smaller groups.
- Repackage food to minimize waste.
- Use a map and compass to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock cairns or flagging.



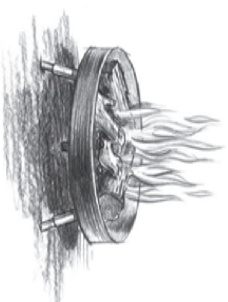
## TRAVEL AND CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES

- Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow.
  - Protect riparian areas by camping at least 200 feet from lakes and streams.
  - Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.
- In popular areas***
- Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites.
  - Walk single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy.



## MINIMIZE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS

- Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the backcountry. Use a lightweight stove for cooking and enjoy a candle lantern for light.
- Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires.
- Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand.
- Don't bring firewood from home. It may be contaminated with tree-killing insects or diseases. Instead, buy local wood near your destination or gather onsite if allowed.



- Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.

## RESPECT WILDLIFE

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.
- Control pets at all times, or leave them at home.



- Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, raising young, or winter.



## BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHER VISITORS

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail.
- Step to the downhill side of the trail when encountering pack stock.
- Take breaks and camp away from trails and other visitors.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.

# STATE & NATIONAL RESOURCES







# State & National Resources

Below is a list of resources to help you enjoy Alabama's birder-friendly natural environment.

## Alabama Resources

**The Alabama Department of Conservation:** The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is an executive and administrative department of the State of Alabama created by statute. The Commissioner, appointed by the Governor as a member of his cabinet, advises the Governor and Legislature on management of freshwater fish, wildlife, marine resources, waterway safety, state lands, state parks, and other natural resources. [outdooralabama.com/wildlife/birds](http://outdooralabama.com/wildlife/birds)

**AL Birds:** For the discussion of wild birds, birdwatching and birding related issues (conservation, field trips, etc.) in Alabama. This email/online list serve as an excellent resource for finding out where birds are being seen right now, along with beautiful photos and entertaining commentary. [birding.aba.org/maillist/AL](http://birding.aba.org/maillist/AL)

**Alabama Audubon Society:** The mission of Birmingham Audubon is to promote conservation and a greater knowledge of birds, their habitat, and the natural world. Birmingham Audubon leads trips across the region and throughout Alabama. They have beginner bird walks, classes to help you become a better birder and lead short and full day trips looking for great birding. [alamaudubon.org](http://alamaudubon.org)

**Alabama Ornithological Society:** The Alabama Ornithological Society (AOS) is involved in many worthwhile activities. Check out their website to learn more about AOS and the efforts they're currently involved with to promote ethical birding and the conservation of Alabama's natural resources. [aosbirds.org](http://aosbirds.org).

## National Resources

**National Audubon Society:** Protecting waterbird populations has been part of Audubon's mission even before the official establishment of the National Audubon Society. Outrage over the slaughter of millions of waterbirds, particularly egrets and other waders, for the millinery trade led to the foundation of the Massachusetts Audubon Society in 1896. [alaudubon.org](http://alaudubon.org)

**eBird:** A real-time, online checklist program, eBird has revolutionized the way that the birding community reports and accesses information about birds. Launched in 2002 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, eBird provides rich data sources for basic information on bird abundance and distribution at a variety of spatial and temporal scales. [ebird.org](http://ebird.org)

**Cornell Lab of Ornithology:** The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is a world leader in the study, appreciation, and conservation of birds. Their hallmarks are scientific excellence and technological innovation to advance the understanding of nature and to engage people of all ages in learning about birds and protecting the planet. [birds.cornell.edu](http://birds.cornell.edu)

**All About Birds:** Your online guide to birds and bird watching: [allaboutbirds.org](http://allaboutbirds.org).



# OUTDOOR CLASSROOM RESOURCES





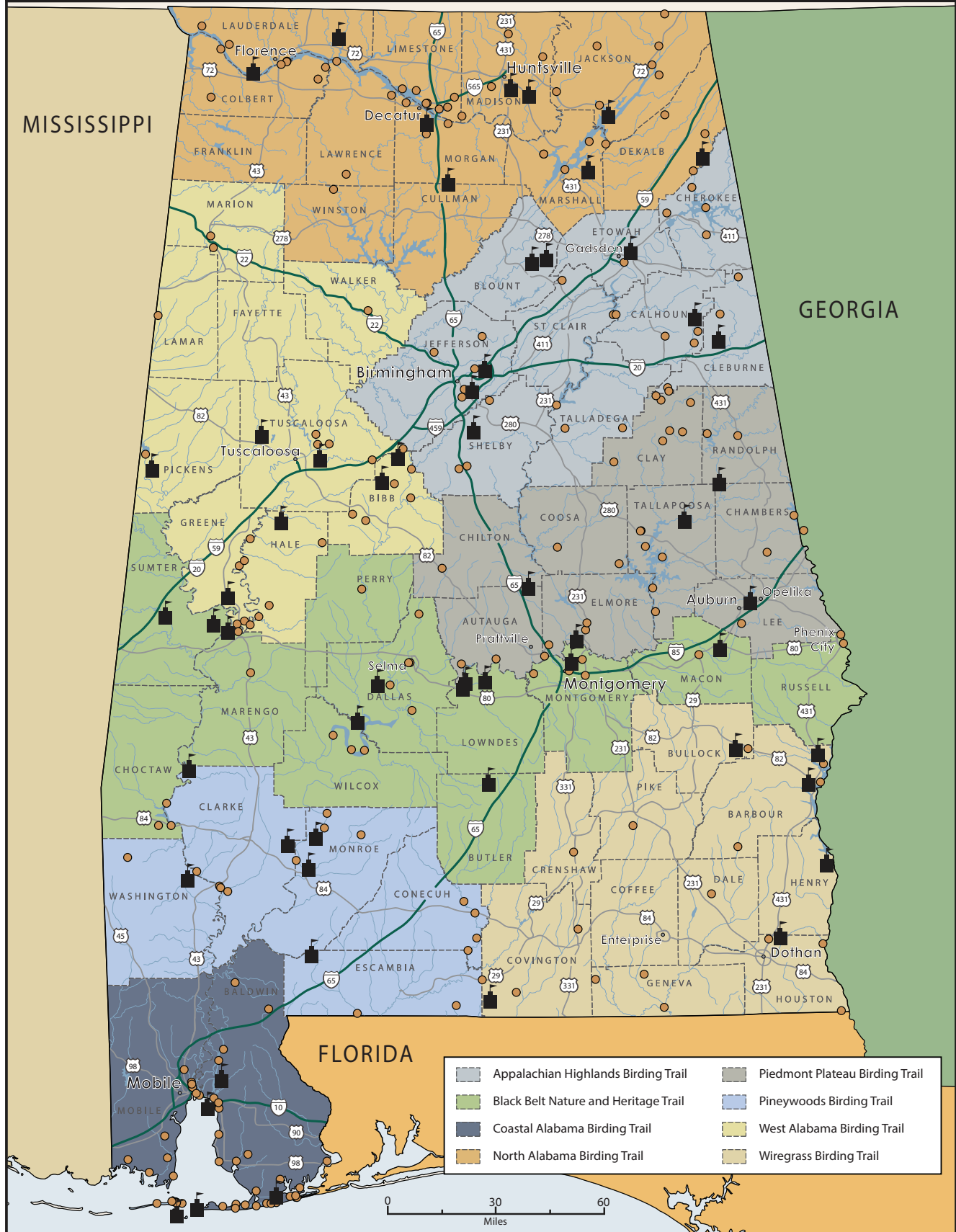


UA Center for  
Economic Development

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA\*

# Alabama Birding Trails

Birding Sites and Outdoor Classrooms



# Alabama Birding Trail Outdoor Classrooms

**\*ADA Accessible in bold**

<b>County</b>	<b>Birding Trail Region</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Outdoor Classroom Location</b>
<b>Baldwin</b>	<b>Coastal Alabama Birding Trail</b>	<b>Spanish Fort</b>	<b>5 Rivers Delta Resource Center</b>
Baldwin	Coastal Alabama Birding Trail	Spanish Fort	Historic Blakeley State Park
Baldwin	Coastal Alabama Birding Trail	Gulf Shores	Fort Morgan
Baldwin	Coastal Alabama Birding Trail	Orange Beach	Gulf State Park Nature Center / Education Center
Barbour	Wiregrass Birding Trail	Eufaula	Lakepoint Resort State Park
<b>Barbour</b>	<b>Wiregrass Birding Trail</b>	<b>Eufaula</b>	<b>Yoholo Micco Park</b>
Bibb	West Alabama Birding Trial	Brierfield	Brierfield Iron Works Historical State Park
Bibb	West Alabama Birding Trial	West Blocton	Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge
Blount	Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail	Oneonta	Horton Mill Covered Bridge
Blount	Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail	Oneonta	Palisades Park
Bullock	Wiregrass Birding Trail	Midway	Wehle
<b>Butler</b>	<b>Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail</b>	<b>Greenville</b>	<b>Sherling Lake Park</b>
Calhoun	Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail	Anniston	Mountain Longleaf National Wildlife Refuge
<b>Cherokee</b>	<b>Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail</b>	<b>Fort Payne</b>	<b>Little River Canyon Center</b>
Chilton	Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail	Verbena	Confederate Memorial Park
Clarke	Pineywoods Birding Trail	Thomasville	Bashi Creek Public Use Area
Clarke	Pineywoods Birding Trail	Whatley	Silver Creek Park
Cleburne	Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail	Heflin	Talladega Mountains Natural Resource Center
Covington	Wiregrass Birding Trail	Floral	Floral Wetlands Park
Covington	Wiregrass Birding Trail	Andalusia	Solon Dixon Forestry Center
Cullman	North Alabama Birding Trail	Vinemont	Hurricane Creek Park
Dallas	Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail	Selma	Old Cahawba Archaeological Park
Elmore	Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail	Wetumpka	Fort Toulouse
Escambia	Pineywoods Birding Trail	Atmore	Little River State Forest
Escambia	Pineywoods Birding Trail	Flomaton	Turtle Point Environmental Center
<b>Etowah</b>	<b>Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail</b>	<b>Gadsden</b>	<b>James D. Martin Wildlife Park</b>
Greene	Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail	Demopolis	Forkland Campground
Hale	West Alabama Birding Trial	Moundville	Moundville Archaeological Park
Henry	Wiregrass Birding Trail	Fort Gaines, GA	Walter F. George Dam
Houston	Wiregrass Birding Trail	Dothan	Landmark Park
Jackson	North Alabama Birding Trail	Scottsboro	Goose Pond Colony
<b>Jefferson</b>	<b>Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail</b>	<b>Birmingham</b>	<b>Birmingham Zoo</b>
<b>Jefferson</b>	<b>Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail</b>	<b>Birmingham</b>	<b>Ruffner Mountain Nature Center and Preserve</b>
Jefferson	Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail	McCalla	Tannehill Ironworks Historical Park
Lauderdale	North Alabama Birding Trail	Rogersville	Joe Wheeler State Park
Lauderdale	North Alabama Birding Trail	Florence	Key Cave National Wildlife Refuge
Lee	Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail	Opelika	Opelika Wood Duck Heritage Preserve and Siddique National Park
<b>Lowndes</b>	<b>Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail</b>	<b>Lowndesboro</b>	<b>Holy Ground Battlefield Park</b>
Lowndes	Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail	Lowndesboro	Prairie Creek Campground
Lowndes	Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail	Selma	Robert F. Henry Lock and Dam
Macon	Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail	Tuskegee	Tuskegee National Forest
Madison	North Alabama Birding Trail	Huntsville	Hays Nature Preserve
<b>Madison</b>	<b>North Alabama Birding Trail</b>	<b>Huntsville</b>	<b>Monte Sano State Park</b>
<b>Marengo</b>	<b>Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail</b>	<b>Demopolis</b>	<b>Foscue Creek Park</b>
<b>Marengo</b>	<b>Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail</b>	<b>Demopolis</b>	<b>Spillway Falls Park</b>
Marshall	North Alabama Birding Trail	Guntersville	Guntersville State Park, Town Creek and Drive
Marshall	North Alabama Birding Trail	Guntersville	Guntersville Dam
<b>Mobile</b>	<b>Coastal Alabama Birding Trail</b>	<b>Dauphin Island</b>	<b>Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuary</b>
Monroe	Pineywoods Birding Trail	Franklin	Claiborne Dam Site East Park
Monroe	Pineywoods Birding Trail	Franklin	Haines Island Park
<b>Montgomery</b>	<b>Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail</b>	<b>Montgomery</b>	<b>Montgomery Zoo</b>
<b>Morgan</b>	<b>North Alabama Birding Trail</b>	<b>Decatur</b>	<b>Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge</b>
<b>Pickens</b>	<b>West Alabama Birding Trial</b>	<b>Pickensville</b>	<b>Tom Beville Lock and Dam Visitors Center</b>
Randolph	Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail	Wadley	Southern Union State Community College
<b>Shelby</b>	<b>Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail</b>	<b>Pelham</b>	<b>Oak Mountain State Park</b>
Sumter	Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail	Livingston	Lake Livingston and Trails
Tallapoosa	Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail	Daviston	Horseshoe Bend National Military Park
Tuscaloosa	West Alabama Birding Trial	Coker	Lake Lurleen State Park
Tuscaloosa	West Alabama Birding Trial	Tuscaloosa	University of Alabama Arboretum
Washington	Pineywoods Birding Trail	St. Stephens	Old St. Stephens Historical Park
<b>Wilcox</b>	<b>Black Belt Nature and Heritage Trail</b>	<b>Alberta</b>	<b>Chilatchee Creek Park</b>





# Alabama Birding Trails



## Alabama Birding Trails Outdoor Classroom Information

### Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail

**Birmingham Zoo**, located in Birmingham, Alabama in Jefferson County. The contact is Kathy Fournier, Schools Program Manager, 205-397-3862; [kfournier@birminghamzoo.com](mailto:kfournier@birminghamzoo.com). Other contacts are: Taylor Dillinger; (205) 870-5230 or [groups@birminghamzoo.com](mailto:groups@birminghamzoo.com); and Roger Torbert; 205-879-0409 or [rtorbert@birminghamzoo.com](mailto:rtorbert@birminghamzoo.com). The facility has restrooms, a covered pavilion for 200+ and is suitable for grades 3-8. The facility is staffed and open 9 am – 5 pm. Car and bus parking are available. Gift shops and food is available on site. There is a fee, for a fee schedule, contact Taylor Dillinger at (205) 870-5230 or [groups@birminghamzoo.com](mailto:groups@birminghamzoo.com). **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.48942; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.77877.**

**Horton Mill Covered Bridge**, located in Oneonta, Alabama in Blount County. The contact is John Bullard, 205-625-6868x 1 or [jbullard@blountcountyal.gov](mailto:jbullard@blountcountyal.gov). The facility is not staffed, does not have restrooms, food or drinks, a gift shop or a covered pavilion and does not have parking for a school bus, but is suitable for a teacher-guided tour for grades 3-8. The facility is open from dusk to dawn. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 34.007644 ; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.44863.**

**James D. Martin Park**, located in Gadsden, Alabama in Etowah County. The contact is Christina Richardson; 256-549-4663 or [crichardson@cityofgadsden.com](mailto:crichardson@cityofgadsden.com); a second contact is Jennifer Gipson; 256-549-4680 or [jgipson@cityofgadsden.com](mailto:jgipson@cityofgadsden.com). The facility is not staffed, does not have restrooms, food or drink or a gift shop, but has a covered pavilion, bus parking, and is suitable for a teacher-guided tour for grades 3-8. The facility holds 500+ people, and is open from 8 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.997351; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.008322.**

**Little River Canyon Center**, located in Fort Payne, Alabama in Dekalb and Cherokee Counties. The contact is Larry Beane; 256- 845-9605 or [larry\\_beane@nps.gov](mailto:larry_beane@nps.gov) of the National Park Service and is managed by Jacksonville State University. A second contact is Niki Parrot-Wayner at Jacksonville State University – 256-845-3548 or [jwayner@jsu.edu](mailto:jwayner@jsu.edu). The facility has restrooms, a covered pavilion for 40 – 100; drinks only – no food is available; has a gift shop and is suitable for grades 3-8. The facility is staffed and open 8 am – 4 pm. Car and bus parking are available. No fees are charged if reservations are made through Larry Beans; however if educational programming is requested, reservations must be made through Niki Parrot-Wayner at Jacksonville State University at 256-845-3548 or [jwayner@jsu.edu](mailto:jwayner@jsu.edu). **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 34.3987365 ; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.6343736.**

**Mountain Longleaf National Wildlife Refuge**, located in Anniston, Alabama in Calhoun County. Contact is Keith Westlake; 256-848-6833 or [Donald\\_westlake@fws.gov](mailto:Donald_westlake@fws.gov). The facility is managed by the U. S. Fish & Wildlife. The facility is staffed, does not have restrooms, food or drink; gift shop or a covered pavilion, but has an overlook. The site holds 50 people; offers no bus parking, and requires a 4-wheel drive vehicle, but is suitable for a grades 3 – 8. Contact Keith Westlake for educational programming at 256-848-6833 or [Donald\\_westlake@fws.gov](mailto:Donald_westlake@fws.gov). The facility is open from 7 am – 3:30 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.7184; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.7092.**

**Palisades Park**, located in Oneonta, Alabama in Blount County. The contact is John Bullard, 205-625-6868x 1 or [jbullard@blountcountyal.gov](mailto:jbullard@blountcountyal.gov). A second contact is the Park Manager, Jeff Todd at 205-274-0017. The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 200+, no food, drinks or a gift shop are available, but does have bus parking and is suitable for a teacher-guided tour for grades 3-8. Educational programming is available by contacting Jeff Todd, the Park Manager at 205-274-0017. The facility is open from 9 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.996319; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.414852.**

**Oak Mountain State Park**, located in Pelham, Alabama in Shelby County. The contact is Scottie Jackson at the AL Wildlife Center; 205-663-7930 or [sjackson@awrc.org](mailto:sjackson@awrc.org). A second contact is David Frings at the Oak Mountain Interpretive Center; [dmfrings@samford.edu](mailto:dmfrings@samford.edu). The facility is managed by the Alabama Wildlife Center and the Oak Mountain Interpretive Center. The facility is staffed and has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 100+, a gift shop and is suitable a day trip grades 3 – 8. Bus and car parking are available; food and drinks are not available. The facility is open 9 am – 5 pm. Fees are required: to make reservations, contact Scottie Jackson: [sjackson@awrc.org](mailto:sjackson@awrc.org) or David Frings: [dmfrings@samford.edu](mailto:dmfrings@samford.edu) Fees: 3 and under free; 4 - 11 \$2; 12-61 \$5; 62 up \$2; David Frings: contact: [dmfrings@samford.edu](mailto:dmfrings@samford.edu). **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.322058; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.751468.**

**Ruffner Mountain**, located in Birmingham, Alabama in Jefferson County. The contact is Christine Johnston, 205-833-8264 or [Christine@ruffnermountain.org](mailto:Christine@ruffnermountain.org). The facility is privately funded and managed. The facility is staffed and has restrooms, and covered pavilions as well as an indoor classroom that holds 75 – 100; bus parking is available. No food/drink is available, but a small gift shop. For educational programming contact: Christine Johnston, 205-833-8264 or [Christine@ruffnermountain.org](mailto:Christine@ruffnermountain.org). The facility is open from 9 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.558207; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.707493.**

**Talladega Mountain Natural Resource Center**, located in Heflin, Alabama in Cleburne County. The facility is managed by Jacksonville State University and the Talladega National Forest. The contact is Kim Brown, Interim Administrator; 256-463-3827. A second contact is Jean Hemby; 256- 463-3899. The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 100 and bus parking; NO food/drink or gift shop. For educational programming contact Pete Conroy at Jacksonville State University; 256-282-5784 or [pconroy@jsu.edu](mailto:pconroy@jsu.edu). The facility is open from 9 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.6691225; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.5612527.**

**AL/GA Land Trust:** Renee Randy [renee.raney@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:renee.raney@dcnr.alabama.gov)

## Black Belt Birding Trail

**Chilatchee Creek Park**, is located in Alberta, Alabama in Wilcox County. The facility is managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The contact is Frank McIntosh, 334-872-9554; [henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil](mailto:henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 100 and car and bus parking. There is no Fee, food/drink availability, or gift shop. The facility is appropriate for grades 3 – 8. For educational programming and to make a reservation, contact Frank McIntosh, 334-872-9554; [henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil](mailto:henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil). The facility is open from 8 am – 4 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 32.143268; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -87.288635.**

**Holy Grounds Battlefield Park**, is located in Haneyville, Alabama in Lowndes County. The facility is managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The contact is Frank McIntosh, 334-872-9554; [henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil](mailto:henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil). The facility is not staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 250 and has car and bus parking. There is no Fee, and is appropriate for grades 3 – 8. There is no food/drink availability, or gift shop. For educational programming and to make a reservation, contact Frank McIntosh, 334-872-9554; [henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil](mailto:henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil). The facility is open from April 1 - Labor Day from 8 am – 4 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: N 32.345669; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.679904.**

**Foscue Creek Park**, is located in Demopolis, Alabama in Marengo County. The facility is managed by the U. S. Corps of Engineers. The contact is Chip Dixon, 334-289-3540 or [Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil](mailto:Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 200, bus parking and is suitable for grades 3 – 8. There is no Fee, food/drink availability or gift shop. For educational programming or to make a reservation contact: Chip Dixon, 334-289-3540 or [Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil](mailto:Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil). The facility is open from dusk to dawn. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 32.512838; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -87.87181.**

**Lake Livingston**, is located in Livingston, Alabama in Sumter County. The facility is managed by the University of West Alabama. The contact is Robby Limerick, 205-652-9266 or [lrr@uwa.edu](mailto:lrr@uwa.edu). A second contact is Tina Jones, 205-652-3833 or [tnj@uwa.edu](mailto:tnj@uwa.edu). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 50, car and bus parking and is suitable for grades 3 – 8. There is no food/drink availability or gift shop. For a Fee schedule, to make reservations and schedule educational programming, contact: Robby Limerick, 205-652-9266 or Tina Jones, 205-652-3833. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 32.602958; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -88.189811.**

**Montgomery Zoo**, is located in Montgomery, Alabama in Montgomery County. The contact for school programming is Suzie Fontaine, 334-240-4904 or [sfontaine@montgomeryal.gov](mailto:sfontaine@montgomeryal.gov). For reservations, contact the Reservations Office at 334-625-4900. The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 80, food and drink availability and a gift shop. There is a Fee, e-mail [montgomeryzoo.com](http://montgomeryzoo.com) for fee schedule. For educational programming, contact: Suzie Fontaine, 334-240-4904 or [sfontaine@montgomeryal.gov](mailto:sfontaine@montgomeryal.gov). The facility is open from 9 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: N 32.418986; GPS Coordinate Longitude: W -86.274955.**

**Old Cahawba**, is located in Orrville, Alabama in Dallas County. The organization is managed by Linda Derry, 334-872-8058. A second contact is Jonathan Matthews, Assistant Site Director, 334-872-8058; [cahawbaM@bellsouth.net](mailto:cahawbaM@bellsouth.net). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, covered pavilion, and has a wagon tour that holds 30. The facility has car and bus parking, vending machines and a small gift shop. Fee: Admission \$1 under 18; \$2 over 18; walking tours and step-on guide tours are \$8; Wagon tours available - minimum of \$150 – Contact Jonathan Matthews, Assistant Site Director, 334-872-8058; [cahawbaM@bellsouth.net](mailto:cahawbaM@bellsouth.net) for reservations and to schedule educational programming. The facility is open Thursday - Monday - 12 noon - 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: N 32.32963; GPS Coordinate Longitude: W 87.10463.**

**Sherling Lake Park**, is located in Greenville, Alabama in Butler County. The contact is Bill Smith, 334-382-3638 (Campground Park Number). A second contact is Mike Watson, 334-382-3638. The facility is staffed, has restrooms, covered pavilion that holds 40 – 50; has car and bus parking. No educational programming is available, no food/drink availability and no gift shop. Fee for the pavilion is \$60, reservations must be confirmed with Bill Smith or Mike Watson at 334-382-3638 (Campground Park Number). The facility is open 7 am – 4:30 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: N 31.896729; GPS Coordinate Longitude: W -86.67264.**

**Spillway Falls Park**, is located in Demopolis, Alabama in Marengo County. The facility is managed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. The contact is Chip Dixon, 334-289-3540 or [Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil](mailto:Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, covered pavilion that holds 125+. There is no Fee, food/drink availability or gift shop. For educational programming or to make a reservation contact: Chip Dixon, 334-289-3540 or [Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil](mailto:Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil) or the Park Manager. The facility is open from 6 am – 10 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: N 32.52032; GPS Coordinate Longitude: W -87.884865.**

**Tuskegee National Forest**, is located in Tuskegee, Alabama in Macon County. The facility is a National Forest. The contact is Drew Brown, 334-727-2652 or [andrewbrown@fs.fed.us](mailto:andrewbrown@fs.fed.us). A second contact is Cameron Seals, 334-727-2652. The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 100, car and bus parking, and is suitable for grades 3 – 8. To inquire about educational programming, contact Drew Brown, 334-727-2652 or

[andrewbrown@fs.fed.us](mailto:andrewbrown@fs.fed.us). There is no gift shop, food/drink availability. The hours of the facility are: 9 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 32.46835; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.57703.**

## Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail

**Confederate Memorial Park**, located in Marbury, Alabama in Chilton County. The facility is a Historic Site. The contact is Bill Rambo; 205-755-1990; [alacmp@bellsouth.net](mailto:alacmp@bellsouth.net); A second contact is Calvin Chappelle, 205-755-1990; [Chappelle.cmp@gmail.com](mailto:Chappelle.cmp@gmail.com). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, covered pavilion that holds 200+, bus parking and is suitable for grades 3 – 8. There is no food/drinks, but does have a gift shop on site. Fees: \$2/per to tour Museum; outside events are free; contact Bill Rambo or Calvin Chappelle for reservations at 205-755-1990. The facility is open from 9 am – 4:30 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 32.7190089; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.473942.**

**Fort Toulouse** is located in Wetumpka, Alabama in Elmore County. The facility is a Historic site. The contact is Ove Jensen, 334-567-3002; [ove.jensenahc@gmail.com](mailto:ove.jensenahc@gmail.com). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, covered pavilion that holds 50 – 60; bus parking; and a small gift shop. There is no food and drink available on site. Fees: are \$1 per person; or educational programming and reservations, contact Ove Jensen; [ove.jensenahc@gmail.com](mailto:ove.jensenahc@gmail.com). The facility is open from 8 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 32.5085368; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.2510403.**

**Horsheshoe Bend National Military Park**, is located in Daviston, Alabama in Tallapoosa County. The facility is a National Military Park. Contact is Eric Frey, 256-234-7111 or [eric.frey@nps.gov](mailto:eric.frey@nps.gov). The facility is staffed,, has restrooms, covered pavilion that holds 200+, has bus parking, and a gift shop. No food or drink are available. There is no entrance fee. For educational programming and to make reservations, contact Eric Frey, 256-234-7111 or [eric.frey@nps.gov](mailto:eric.frey@nps.gov). The facility is open from 9 am – 4:30 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 32.9795086; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.736777.**

**Opelika Wood Duck Heritage Preserve**, is located in Opelika, Alabama in Lee County. The facility is managed by the Wood Duck Heritage Preserve. The contact is Gene Hunter, 334-705-5560, [hunters56@earthlink.net](mailto:hunters56@earthlink.net). A second contact is Matt Battles; 334-705-5549; [mbattles@opelika-al.gov](mailto:mbattles@opelika-al.gov). The facility is not staffed, has portable restrooms; a covered pavilion that holds 50 – 100, bus parking and is suitable for grades 3 – 8. There is no entrance fee, no food or drink availability and no gift shop. For educational programming through the “Friends of Duck Park”, contact Matt Battles, 334-705-5547. The facility is open dawn to dusk. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 32.39231; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.25849.**

**Southern Union State Community College**, is located in Wadley, Alabama in Randolph County. The contact is Shondae Brown, 256-395-2211 or 334-756-4151 or [sbrown@suscc.edu](mailto:sbrown@suscc.edu). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, food and drink availability, parking for school bus and is appropriate for grades 3 – 8. There is no Fee. There is no pavilion for this site and no gift shop. The hours of the facility are 8 am – 4 pm Monday through Thursday. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.1265227; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.571199.**

## Pineywoods Birding Trail

**Bashi Creek**, is located in Morvin, Alabama in Clarke County. The facility is managed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. The contact is Chip Dixon, 334-289-3540 or [Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil](mailto:Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil). The facility does not have, a covered pavilion, no bus parking, no food/drink availability or gift shop. For educational programming or to make a reservation contact: Chip Dixon, 334-289-3540 or [Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil](mailto:Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil) or the Park Manager. The facility is open from 9 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: N 32.46835; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.57703.**



**Claiborne Dam East**, is located in Monroeville, Alabama in Monroe County. The facility is managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The contact is Frank McIntosh, 334-872-9554; [henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil](mailto:henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 200 and has car and bus parking. There is no Fee, and is appropriate for grades 3 – 8. There is no food/drink availability, or gift shop. For educational programming and to make a reservation, contact Frank McIntosh, 334-872-9554; [henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil](mailto:henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil). The facility is open 8 am – 4 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: N 31° 36.960; GPS Coordinate Longitude: W 87° 32.445.**

**Haines Island Park**, is located in Monroeville, Alabama in Monroe County. The facility is managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The contact is Frank McIntosh, 334-872-9554; [henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil](mailto:henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil). The facility is not staffed, has restrooms, no covered pavilion, and has car and bus parking on a dirt road. There is no Fee, and is appropriate for grades 3 – 8. There is no food/drink availability, or gift shop. For educational programming and to make a reservation, contact Frank McIntosh, 334-872-9554; [henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil](mailto:henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil). The facility is open 8 am – 4 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: N 31° 43.248; GPS Coordinate Longitude: W 87° 27.791.**

**Little River State Forest**, is located in Atmore, Alabama in Escambia County. The facility is managed by Alabama Forestry Commission. The contact is Pamela Bradley, 251-743-2350 or [pamela.bradley@forestry.alabama.gov](mailto:pamela.bradley@forestry.alabama.gov). The facility is not staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 100+ and has car and bus parking. There is a Fee, contact Pamela Bradley, 251-743-2350 or [pamela.bradley@forestry.alabama.gov](mailto:pamela.bradley@forestry.alabama.gov) to make a reservation. The facility is appropriate for grades 3 – 8. There is no food/drink availability, or gift shop. The facility is open from 8 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: N 31° 15.488; GPS Coordinate Longitude: W 87° 29.234'.**

**Old St. Stephens**, is located in St. Stephens, Alabama in Washington County. The facility is a historical site. The contact is Jennifer Faith, Park Director, 251-247-2622, [jenniferfaith@att.net](mailto:jenniferfaith@att.net). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 50 – 200, and has car and bus parking. There is a Fee, adult \$3; children 11 and under \$2 contact Jennifer Faith, Park Director, 251-247-2622, [jenniferfaith@att.net](mailto:jenniferfaith@att.net) to make a reservation. The facility is appropriate for grades 3 – 8. There are vending machines and a gift shop. The facility is open from 9 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 31.33068; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -88.03058.**

**Silver Creek Park**, is located in Grove Hill, Alabama in Clarke County. The facility is managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The contact is Frank McIntosh, 334-872-9554; [henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil](mailto:henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil). The facility is not staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 100, and has car and bus parking. There is no Fee, and is appropriate for grades 3 – 8. There is no food/drink availability, or gift shop. For educational programming and to make a reservation, contact Frank McIntosh, 334-872-9554; [henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil](mailto:henry.f.mcintosh@usace.army.mil). The facility is open 8 am – 4 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: N 31° 39.760'; GPS Coordinate Longitude: W 87° 34.729'.**

## West Alabama Birding Trail:

**Brierfield Iron Works**, located in Brierfield in Bibb County. The facility is a State Historical Park. Contact to schedule an outdoor classroom experience is Teresa Acker, phone (205) 665-1856 or [brierfield@att.net](mailto:brierfield@att.net); staff is not available for educational programming. The facility is staffed and open from 5 am – 9 pm. The facility has restrooms, 4 covered pavilions, is suitable for grades 3-8; can hold up to 500, car or bus parking is available near the facility. Fees are \$3/ages 6 - 11; \$4/ages 12 - 61; Ages 5 and under free; snacks and drinks are available for purchase at the gift shop. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.0394444; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.9488889.**

**Cahaba River NWR**, located in Bibb County. Contact to schedule an outdoor classroom experience is Keith Westlake, phone (256)-848-6833 or [cahabariver@fws.gov](mailto:cahabariver@fws.gov). The facility is not staffed at all times, but educational programming can be scheduled by contacting Mr. Westlake. The facility is open from dawn to dusk. There are no restrooms, or covered pavilions, but is suitable for grades 3-8. Car or bus parking is available near the facility. There is no fee, food or drink or gift shop. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.0931632; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -87.0593142**

**Forkland, AL**, located in Greene County. Contact to schedule an outdoor classroom experience is Mr. Chip Dixon with the Corps of Engineers; phone: 334-289-3540 or [Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil](mailto:Larry.e.dixonII@usace.army.mil). The facility is staffed and open from 6 am – 10 pm. The facility has a restroom, a covered pavilion that can hold up to 30, is suitable for grades 3-8; car or bus parking is available. There is no food/drink or gift shop at the facility. Fee: there is no entry fee. Educational programming can be scheduled by contacting Mr. Dixon. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 32.6268205; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -87.883098**

**Lake Lurleen**, located in Coker Alabama in Tuscaloosa County. The facility is a State Park. Contact Dee White, phone: 205-339-1558 or [dee.white@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:dee.white@dcnr.alabama.gov) one month prior to event to schedule an outdoor classroom experience. The facility is staffed and open from 8 am – 4 pm. The facility has restrooms, 4 covered pavilions that hold 60 people each, is suitable for grades 3-8, car or bus parking is available. Fees: School rate - \$2 per person and age 0-3 are free; \$2/ages 4-11; \$4/ages 12 - 61; Contact the Office for group rates: Dee White: (205-339-1558). **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.2959514; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -87.676437**

**Moundville Archaeological Park**, located in Moundville, AL in Hale County. The facility is owned by The University of Alabama. Contact Kenric Minges [lkminges@ua.edu](mailto:lkminges@ua.edu); Kayla Scott [kcscott1@ua.edu](mailto:kcscott1@ua.edu) or Lisa Rasco [llrasco@ua.edu](mailto:llrasco@ua.edu) or 205-371-8732 to schedule an outdoor classroom experience and educational programming. The facility is staffed and open from 9 am – 4 pm. The facility has restrooms, covered pavilions, car and bus parking and is suitable for grades 3-8. Visit the on-site café for the purchase of drinks/muffins; students can bring a sack lunch; or contact Kayla/Lisa to arrange for catering, i.e. Subway, etc. Fee: Call Kayla or Lisa for group rates; \$6 per student; \$8 per adult; 1 Teacher free per 15 students; under 5 free. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.002722; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -87.628139**

**Tannehill State Historical Park**, located in McCalla, AL in Tuscaloosa County. The facility is a State Historical Park. Contact Debra Lustre (205) 477-5711 to schedule an outdoor classroom experience. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.24497; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -87.06907**

**Tom Bevill Lock & Dam**, located in Pickensville in Pickens County. The facility is managed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. Contact Bill Campbell, phone: 662-245-5500 or [william.j.campbell@usace.army.mil](mailto:william.j.campbell@usace.army.mil) or the Park Ranger to schedule an outdoor classroom experience. The facility has restrooms, a covered pavilion and is suitable for grades 3-8. The facility is staffed and open 9 am – 5 pm. Bus parking is available. No gift shop or food is available on site, but can bring a sack lunch and drinks. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.2124955; GPS Coordinate Longitude: --88.2823793.**

**UA Arboretum**, located in Tuscaloosa, AL in Tuscaloosa County. The facility is managed by The University of Alabama. Contact Monica Watkins, phone: (205) 553-3278 or [mhmwatkins@ua.edu](mailto:mhmwatkins@ua.edu) to schedule an outdoor classroom experience. The facility has restrooms, a covered pavilion and is suitable for grades 3-8. The facility is open 8 am – sunset. Parking is limited; must contact Arboretum staff for special parking. Parking on grass or any area other than gravel/road is prohibited. Large groups are encouraged to park at the old golf course parking lot and walk to the Arboretum via the trails. Main visitor parking lot is located uphill from the Pavilion and greenhouses. A secondary small parking lot is available adjacent to the Children's Garden. Fee: no entry fee, however donations are appreciated. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.192138; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -87.478184.**

**Walker County Lake**, located in Jasper, AL. The facility is managed by Charlie Skalnik, Lake Manager. Phone : 205-221-1801 The facility has a gazebo and pavilion; the gazebo is near the nature trail head where concrete picnic tables are. The pavilion has 8 wooden picnic tables and is near a concession building where the restrooms are located. Central Alabama's destination for family-friendly outdoor fun. Our 163-acre lake provides recreational opportunities for every age and skill level, with new activities and amenities being added all the time.



In our neck of the woods, the scenery is so remarkable, we've had a pair of bald eagles move in! Our current two-mile trail system will soon grow to five miles, giving guests more access to unique avian habitats. Before you go, visit [alabamabirdingtrails.com](http://alabamabirdingtrails.com) to see what you'll find on our section of the West Alabama Birding Trail. [www.walkercountylake.com](http://www.walkercountylake.com) Address: 4227 Walker County Lake Road, Jasper, AL 35501 **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 33.806270; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -87.234800.**

## Wiregrass Birding Trail

**Floral Wetlands Park**, is located in Floral, Alabama in Covington County. The contact is Wade Masters, Park Manager, 334-858-6425 or [lakejacksonrv@gmail.com](mailto:lakejacksonrv@gmail.com). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 30+ and has car and bus parking. There is no Fee, and is appropriate for grades 3 – 8. There is no food/drink availability, or gift shop and no educational programming. To make a reservation, contact Wade Masters, Park Manager, 334-858-6425 or [lakejacksonrv@gmail.com](mailto:lakejacksonrv@gmail.com). The facility is open daylight to dawn. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 31.0027462; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -86.3262676.**

**Lakepoint State Park Resort**, is located in Eufaula, Alabama in Barbour County. The facility is an Alabama State Park. The contact is Sone Kornegay, Sales Director, 800-544-5253 or [sone.kornegay@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:sone.kornegay@dcnr.alabama.gov). A second contact is Rhonda Rachel 1-800-544-5253. The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 50 – 100 and has car and bus parking. There is a Fee, contact: Sone Kornegay, Sales Director, 800-544-5253 or [sone.kornegay@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:sone.kornegay@dcnr.alabama.gov) to make reservations and schedule educational programming. There is food/drink availability, and a gift shop. The facility is open from 9 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 31.985877; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.1087675.**

**Landmark Park**, is located in Dothan, Alabama in Houston County. The facility is privately owned. The contact is Anna Holman, Education Director, 334-794-3452, [anna@landmarkparkdothan.com](mailto:anna@landmarkparkdothan.com). A second contact is William Holman, [wmholman@landmarkparkdothan.com](mailto:wmholman@landmarkparkdothan.com). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 10 – 500 and has car and bus parking. There is a Fee, and is appropriate for grades 3 – 8. Contact Anna Holman, Education Director, 334-794-3452, [anna@landmarkparkdothan.com](mailto:anna@landmarkparkdothan.com) for a fee schedule, to make reservations and schedule educational programming. There is food/drink availability and a gift shop. The facility is open from 9 am – 5 pm. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 31.2903269; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.367728.**

**Walter F. George Dam**, is located in Abbeville, Alabama in Henry County. The facility is managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The contact is Ranger Shannon Schaefer, 229-768-2516, [shannon.L.schaefer@usace.army.mil](mailto:shannon.L.schaefer@usace.army.mil). A second contact is: Sara Jernigan, Natural Resource Manager, Fort Gaines, GA 229-768-2516, [Sara.G.Jernigan@usace.army.mil](mailto:Sara.G.Jernigan@usace.army.mil). The facility at Highland Park Gatehouse is staffed weekends April through Thanksgiving weekend. The Main office is staffed weekdays, except major holidays year round; Weekends May – September. The facility has restrooms, a covered pavilion at Highland Park (must be reserved) that holds 100, and has car and bus parking. There is no entrance fee, however, call ahead to make arrangements (at Highland Park, for most events there is a shelter rental fee of \$75.00 for the day; this fee may be waived by special arrangement for school groups when the shelter is available. There is also a park use fee at Highland Park, which may be waived with prior arrangements for school groups. No fees at the Powerhouse and dam location. The facility is appropriate for grades 3 – 8, however use caution at dam and powerhouse location as high banks are not fenced. To make reservations for pavilion and educational programming, contact Ranger Shannon Schaefer, 229-768-2516, [shannon.L.schaefer@usace.army.mil](mailto:shannon.L.schaefer@usace.army.mil). The hours for the viewing locations at the powerhouse and Highland Park do not close; the shelter area at Highland closes December- March. Our Main Office is located in Ft. Gaines, GA (across the river), hours are 8:00-4:30 M-F, and summer weekends May – Sept 9:30-6:00 ET. Please inquire for special arrangements with Ranger Schaefer. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 31.627452; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.098022.**

**Wehle Nature Center**, is located in Midway, Alabama in Bullock County. The Facility is managed by the Wehle Land Conservation Center. The contact is Eric Soehren, 334-529-3003 or [eric.soehren@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:eric.soehren@dcnr.alabama.gov). A second contact is John Trent; 334-529-3003; [john.trent@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:john.trent@dcnr.alabama.gov). The facility is staffed, has restrooms, a covered pavilion that holds 80, car and bus parking, No food/drink availability and no gift shop. There is no entrance fee, or fee for reserving pavilion, however there is a fee for reserving the Nature Center, and dining hall; Visit the website for information on rental fees: <http://www.alabamaforeverwild.com/wehle-facilities-and-rental-fees>. Contact Eric Soehren 334-529-3003 for information on educational programming. For hours of the facility: visit the website: <http://www.alabamaforeverwild.com> for a schedule of facility hours. Alternatively, the Wehle Tract is open to the public daily at the trailhead. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 30.032148; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.456321**

**Yoholo Micco Park**, is located in Eufaula, Alabama in Barbour County. The facility is owned and managed by the City of Eufaula, Alabama. The contact is Sherry Burchett, Horticulturist - City of Eufaula, 334-695-1718 (cell), or [sburchett@eufaula.rr.com](mailto:sburchett@eufaula.rr.com). The facility is not staffed, but arrangements can be made for tours and educational programming by contacting Ms. Burchett. The facility does not have restrooms, but are located just across the street. The facility does not have a covered pavilion, but one is available near the park. The park is in the middle of town, so food/drink and shopping are available within easy walking distance. There is no fee, and the park is open dusk to dawn. **GPS Coordinate Latitude: 31.8932043; GPS Coordinate Longitude: -85.1402794.**

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*The Alabama Birding Trails is a partnership of the Alabama Birding Trails, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development, and Birmingham Audubon. This project was made possible in part by the Alabama Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils, the Alabama Tourism Department and many volunteers across Alabama. To learn more about the Alabama Birding Trails program, please contact The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development, 205-348-7058 or visit the website: <http://www.alabamabirdingtrails.com/>*

# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF BIRDING





**283** Sites + **8** Trails  
in **64** Counties  
=  
**Great Alabama Birding**



Over 15 years in the making, the system of eight trails highlights the best public locations available to watch birds year-round. Interest in wildlife observation continues to grow, and more and more people want to explore our amazing biodiversity, which makes us second only to Florida in the Eastern U.S. in total number of species of plants and animals. The Birding Trails project provides a major attraction for nature-loving tourists, while offering exciting birding opportunities for Alabama's school groups, families, and seasoned birders.

The eight Alabama Birding Trails unify existing and potential birding sites into a series of cohesive trails and loops that are collectively marketed as part of a state-wide system. Many of the sites along the various trails are already being used by thousands of birders and other visitors annually.

The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development (UACED) is providing the leadership role of facilitation and project scope; The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is providing their depth of knowledge relative to wildlife habitat, birding and previous birding trails experience; Alabama Audubon has provided experience that only deeply knowledgeable birders could. The Alabama Tourism Department and the Alabama Association of RC&D Councils and UACED have provided funding for the project; Chambers of Commerce across the state have taken great pride in the project, as have our Federal partners, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Forest Service and others.

## Impact of Birding

**\$14.8 billion** in trip related expenses nationwide

**\$4.1 billion** spent just on food related to birding trips in one year nationwide

**607,000** bird-observers in Alabama alone

**129** number of days spent by Alabamians watching birds (higher than all but 5 states)

\*Source U.S. Fish and Wildlife 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation

**The South in general has substantially more interest in birding than the rest of the country with 34% overall interest, followed by the Midwest at 24%.**



## Birding Partners

Alabama Association of RC&D Councils  
Alabama Audubon  
Alabama Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Alabama Cooperative Extension System  
Alabama Dept. of Economic & Community Affairs  
Alabama Historical Commission  
Alabama Tourism Department  
Alabama Forestry Commission  
Alabama Mountain Lakes  
Alabama Ornithological Society  
Alabama State Parks  
Auburn University

Birmingham-Southern College  
Central Alabama Community College  
Chambers of Commerce  
County Parks  
Jacksonville State University, Field School  
Moundville Archaeological Park  
The University of Alabama  
UA Center for Economic Development  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Department of Interior  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife  
U.S. Forest Service





# COMMON ALABAMA BIRDS FLASH CARDS







WI SP SU FA

## Killdeer

Killdeer are one of the best known American shorebirds. Sexes are outwardly alike and about the same size. They are 9 to 11 inches long with a wingspan of 19 to 21 inches. They are gray-brown above with white below distinguished by two black bands across the chest. They are distinguished by their loud cry of kill-dee kill-deer or kill-deeah.

**FUN FACT:** Killdeer are known for their broken-wing display, an attempt to lure predators away from a nest by feigning injury.



WI FA

## White-throated Sparrow

White-throated Sparrows measure 6 to 7.5 inches in length with a wingspan of 9 inches. They have white throat markings and yellow lores (the surface on either side of the head between the eye and the upper base of the beak). You can usually find them foraging on the ground under or near thickets or in low vegetation. They mainly eat seeds, insects and berries, and are attracted to bird feeders.

**FUN FACT:** Some research suggests they use star patterns as one means of navigation.



WI SP SU FA

## Eastern Bluebird

Common in all seasons and regions.

The Eastern bluebird is a small thrush size bird standing six to eight inches tall and weighs about 1 ounce. They have a wingspan of 10 to 13 inches with no noticeable size difference between sexes. Males have a dark blue tail and wings with a bright reddish colored chest. Females are drab gray-blue with a duller reddish chest.

**FUN FACT:** A bluebird can spot caterpillars & insects in tall grass over 50 yards away.





WI SP SU FA

## Laughing Gull

The Laughing Gull is a smallish gull. It's black head is very noticeable in the breeding adult. Laughing Gulls are common along the gulf coast, and rare inland. They are adept in human-altered habitats and can be found scavenging in parking lots and dumpsters.

**FUN FACT:** Laughing Gulls form colonies up to 25,000 pairs in size. Sometimes they are joined by species such as terns, larger gulls, Black Skimmers, and American Oystercatchers.



WI SP SU FA

## Northern Flicker

The northern flicker is Alabama's state bird, often referred to as the "Yellow-hammer."

Northern Flickers have a conspicuous white rump that can be seen when the bird is in its deeply undulating flight. The yellow-shafted flicker has a red patch on the nape of the neck. Under the tail and wings, a bright yellow can be seen giving the flicker the name yellow-shafted.

**FUN FACT:** The males have a black mustache or line at the base of the bill.



WI SP SU FA

## Brown Pelican

The brown pelican is a fairly large water bird weighing up to eight pounds and can have a wing span of over seven feet. The adult is dark gray to silver in coloration, with a white and brown head and a light yellow crown. Pelicans have long bills with an expandable pouch that is three times the size of their stomach, short legs and webbed feet.

**FUN FACT:** Brown Pelicans make their spectacular dives into the water from as high as 65 feet.







WI SP SU FA

## Red-tailed Hawk

The red-tailed is the largest hawk in Alabama, averaging between two and four pounds. Females are larger than the males. The wingspan of an adult bird can be four to four and one-half feet. Adults are identified by their rusty or rufous colored tail feathers. Immature birds lack this colored tail until the second year when rusty feathers molt into place.

**FUN FACT:** Red-tailed hawks often mate for life. The pair builds a stick nest high above the ground, typically in a tree.



WI SP SU FA

## Northern Cardinal

Northern cardinals are a medium-sized songbird well known for their brilliant red coloration and beautiful songs. Males are nearly all brilliant red in color with a coral red, conical shaped bill that is surrounded by a black mask. Cardinals also have a long tail and a distinctive crest of feathers atop their heads. The female cardinal is a buff brown with red on their crest, wings, and tail.

**FUN FACT:** Both male and female Cardinals sing. When a female Cardinal sings from the nest, it usually means she's telling the male she needs more food.



WI SP SU FA

## Northern Mockingbird

The northern mockingbird is a medium-sized songbird with long legs, a long tail, and a slightly curved bill. The grayish-brown color, two parallel white wing bars and broad white wing patch, which are easily seen in flight, distinguish this bird from its cousins the brown thrasher and the catbird.

**FUN FACT:** A Northern Mockingbird may sing over 200 different songs. It continues to learn new songs throughout its nearly 10 year life-span.





WI SP SU FA

## Carolina Wren

The Carolina wren is a small bird approximately five and one-half inches in length with a deep rusty-brown colored back, buff colored underside, light colored throat and prominent white stripe above and beyond the eye. A Carolina wren's call is a loud melodious whistled "TEA-kettle TEA kettle TEA-kettle" or "cherry cherry cherry."

**FUN FACT:** Carolina wrens do not pair only during breeding season but form bonds anytime of the year. After finding a partner the two birds are paired for life.

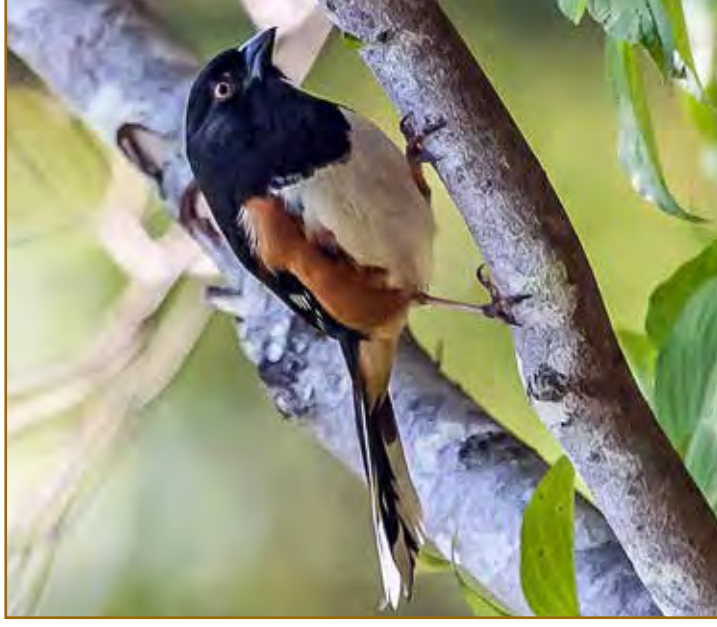


SP SU FA

## Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds are 3 to 3  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches long with a wingspread of 4 to 4  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches. Both sexes are metallic green above and grayish underneath. Adult males have throat feathers that appear black but flash fiery red or orange in the sun. Males have a slightly forked tail. Females have white throat patches and their tails are not forked.

**FUN FACT:** Ruby-throated Hummingbirds prefer to feed on red or orange flowers (but don't color the sugar water you put in a hummingbird feeder).



WI SP SU FA

## Eastern Towhee

The adult male Eastern Towhee has a black head, throat, upper chest, and back. The tail is also black with conspicuous white patches at the tips of the outside tail feathers. Most of the breast and the abdomen is white. The sides and beneath the tail area are rufous (rust-colored) giving rise to the bird's former name the Rufous-Sided Towhee. The adult female is colored similar to the male but has shades of brown where the male is black.

**FUN FACT:** Towhees are ground feeders and use a hop-and-scratch foraging method.







WI SP SU FA

## Bald Eagle

The Bald Eagle is one of North America's largest raptors with adult females reaching weights of 14 pounds and standing 42 inches tall. Adult males are slightly smaller. The bright white head and tail contrasted against dark body feathers are key characteristics used to identify the bald eagle. However, these white feathers as well as the yellow color of the bill do not develop until the eagles reach about five years of age.

**FUN FACT:** Bald eagles build very large nests, sometimes weighing as much as a ton!



WI SP SU FA

## American Robin

The American Robin is a large thrush. Their wings and back are gray and its under parts are brick-red. The birds head is a dark gray. They are regularly seen hopping and running in lawns and fields. They are known for their worm-hunting skills.

**FUN FACT:** The diet of the American Robin consists of 40 percent small invertebrates (mainly insects), such as earthworms, beetle grubs, caterpillars and grasshoppers, and 60 percent wild and cultivated fruits and berries.



WI SP FA

## Cedar Waxwing

Cedar Waxwings are brown, gray, with bright red on their wing feathers and yellow along the tip of their tail. They also have a "mask" of black around their eye. They can be found in flocks of over 100 birds during winter months in trees and shrubs that produce fruits, such as hackberry, red mulberry, eastern red cedar, black cherry, and American holly.

**FUN FACT:** Cedar Waxwings are named for the waxy red tips on the end of their feathers. The number and size of the wax tips increase as the bird ages.





WI SP SU FA

## Brown Thrasher

The brown thrasher has a long tail, short wings, and a slender, somewhat curved bill. It is a rich rufous brown on its head, back, and tail, with heavy rufous streaking on a cream color underside. The wings are rufous brown with two white bars on each wing. It has yellow eyes. Adults are about 11.5 inches in length.

**FUN FACT:** Brown Thrashers are may sing over 1,100 different song types and include imitations of other birds, including Chuck-will's-widows and Northern Flickers.



WI SP SU FA

## Tufted Titmouse

The Tufted Titmouse is a little gray bird with an loud voice, the Tufted Titmouse is common in Alabama's forests and a regular visitor to feeders. With large black eyes, a small, round bill, and bushy crest, this bird is a perennial favorite. Their song is a fast-repeated, clear whistle: peter-peter-peter.

**FUN FACT:** The Tufted Titmouse is a hoarder of food in fall and winter, taking advantage of a bird feeder's bounty by storing many seeds, usually within 130 feet of the feeder.



WI SP SU FA

## Great Blue Heron

A large (four foot tall with six foot wingspan) lean, slate-gray colored heron with a white head and black stripe extending above the eye; a dagger-like bill and long legs. Breeding adults have ornate plumes on the head, neck and back. All herons fly with their neck folded. This distinguishes them from cranes, geese, ibises, and storks, which fly with neck extended.

**FUN FACT:** Great blue herons nest in colonies called heronries. Some colonies have more than 500 nests in them! The birds return to the same spots each year.







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Sweet Home  
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Photography courtesy of Paul H. Franklin, Greg Harber,  
Janice Neitzel, Joe Watts, and Harriet Wright.



## Bird Watching Tips

- Respect wildlife homes—leave nests, nest boxes and their occupants as you found them.
- In no-hunt areas, blend in with your surroundings—wear neutral-colored clothing and move slowly and quietly.
- Share your lunch only with other humans.
- Limit the use of recordings, calls, or whistles to attract birds.
- Use binoculars or a spotting scope so you can view birds from a distance.
- Leave pets at home.
- Obtain permission before birding on private land.

### Seasonality Key

WI

Winter SP

Spring SU

Summer FA

Fall



WI

SP

SU

FA

## Red-bellied Woodpecker

The Red-bellied Woodpecker is the most common woodpecker in the southeast. As its name indicates, the belly is light red, but is often hard to see. Males also have red on the top of the head and neck. Females lack the red coloration on their head. The back is prominently striped horizontally with black and white barring.

**FUN FACT:** A Red-bellied Woodpecker can stick out its tongue nearly 2 inches past the end of its beak. The tip is barbed and the bird's spit is sticky, making it easier to snatch prey from deep crevices.





# **REGIONAL TRAILS RACK CARDS**







## Piney Woods Birding Trail

The Piney Woods Birding Trail links 22 outstanding birding sites in Washington, Clarke, Monroe, Conecuh, and Escambia Counties in southwest Alabama.



Soaring Swallow-tailed Kites share the skies each spring and summer with a variety of resident raptors. Waterfowl share our lakes and ponds each winter and Bald Eagles, herons and more live here year-round.

The bird habitat is as varied as the people: from a canoe trail along a lazy river to the ruins of the territorial capital of Alabama, an educational facility with longleaf forest and small, but productive lakes, the Piney Woods offers a glimpse into the heart of Alabama.

### Get out and explore!

#### Don't miss these locations along the trail:

- J. Emmett Woods Public Fishing Lake (Washington County)
- Old St. Stephens Historical Park (Washington County)
- Monroe County Lake (Monroe County)
- Iron Bridge access to the Sepulga River Canoe Trail (Conecuh County)
- Old Lock 1 Park (Clarke County)
- Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center (Covington & Escambia Counties)



**22 Sites in 5 Counties**  
= Great Alabama Birding



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photos by Paul H. Franklin and Joe Watts

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## Black Belt Birding Trail

The Black Belt Birding Trail consists of 32 sites that stretch along a narrow swath of 11 counties across the south-central part of Alabama's rural farm country all the way from Georgia to Mississippi.



With locations as varied as boat ramps for launching a canoe to explore the deep recesses of one of Alabama's river systems, to state parks, National Wildlife Refuges and city parks, and even the grounds of a park dedicated to live theater, there is much to see and do.

Wood Storks and Mississippi and Swallow-tailed Kites dot the skies each summer. Warblers pass through each spring and fall along their migration routes. Bald Eagles, herons and so much more live here year-round.

### Get out and explore!

#### Don't miss these locations along the trail:

- Choctaw National Wildlife Refuge (Choctaw County)
- Gee's Bend Park (Wilcox County)
- Holy Ground Battlefield Park (Lowndes County)
- Old Cahawba Archaeological Park (Dallas County)
- Lake Livingston (Sumter County)
- Perry Lakes Park (Perry County)
- Tuskegee National Forest (Macon County)
- Foscue Creek Park (Marengo County)
- Phenix City Riverwalk (Russell County)
- Sherling Lake Park (Butler County)
- Gunter Hill Park (Montgomery County)



**32 Sites in 11 Counties**  
= Great Alabama Birding

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detailed  
descriptions  
& maps  
online



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# Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail



From the forested hills of the Ridge and Valley region to the rich pastures and farmlands of its river-carved valleys, the Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail provides a wide diversity of habitats for birds, including the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Especially noteworthy for bird-lovers are the many rivers that flow through this region, including the Black Warrior, the Cahaba, the Coosa, and the Tallapoosa.

Soaring Bald Eagles share the rolling terrain with a variety of hawks and owls. Colorful warblers and other migrating songbirds pass through each spring and fall, many staying to nest during the summer. Waterfowl are plentiful on our lakes and ponds each winter, and wading herons and egrets can be found year-round.

With Alabama's highest mountain and the deepest gorge east of the Mississippi, the Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail is noted for its scenic beauty. Rich hardwood forests, abundant rivers and lakes, lush meadows framed by steep mountain ridges— you'll find them all here. And along the way, you'll find some amazing birding, as well!

## Get out and explore!



**34** Sites in **9** Counties  
= Great Alabama Birding

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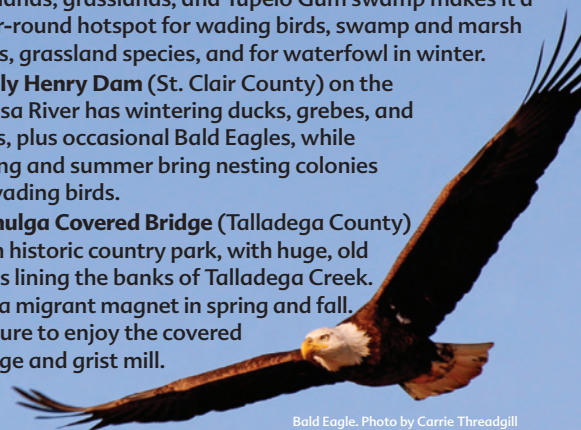


# Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail



## Don't miss these locations :

- **Palisades Park** (Blount County) sits atop a rocky ridge with sweeping views of countryside. The wooded park offers good birding year-round, and good views of migrating hawks each fall.
- **Mountain Longleaf National Wildlife Refuge's** (Calhoun County) 9,000 acres have resident Brown-headed Nuthatches and Bachman's Sparrows in woodlands dominated by Longleaf Pines.
- **Cherokee Rock Village** (Cherokee County) Scarlet Tanagers are frequent here through migration and breeding season. Raptors are regulars to the ridgeline, and beautiful Weiss Lake below is a wading bird magnet.
- **Coleman Lake: Talladega National Forest** (Cleburne County) is a significant birding site in AL, and boasts roadside looks at endangered Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. Red Crossbills breed here each summer.
- **James D. Martin Wildlife Park's** (Etowah County) shoreline trail connects to boardwalks that lead out to several wooded islands in a 300-acre lake with views of wintering waterfowl and an active heron rookery each spring and summer.
- **Birmingham Botanical Gardens** (Jefferson County) has a scenery of rich and varied plant species that offers one of the best and most-visited sites for songbirds in the area, particularly in spring and fall migration.
- **Limestone Park's** (Shelby County) combination of wetlands, grasslands, and Tupelo Gum swamp makes it a year-round hotspot for wading birds, swamp and marsh birds, grassland species, and for waterfowl in winter.
- **Neely Henry Dam** (St. Clair County) on the Coosa River has wintering ducks, grebes, and gulls, plus occasional Bald Eagles, while spring and summer bring nesting colonies of wading birds.
- **Kymulga Covered Bridge** (Talladega County) is an historic country park, with huge, old trees lining the banks of Talladega Creek. It is a migrant magnet in spring and fall. Be sure to enjoy the covered bridge and grist mill.



Bald Eagle. Photo by Carrie Threadgill

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# Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail

Come explore this East Central Alabama birding trail found in Autauga, Chambers, Chilton, Clay, Coosa, Elmore, Lee, Randolph, Tallapoosa counties.



You may spot an endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker, a soaring Bald Eagle or a host of visiting warblers. The shorelines of our lakes are filled with herons, egrets and other waders. Our mountain vistas thrill with soaring raptors. Osprey and ducks enjoy our deep waters.

The Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail has 34 sites, from Cheaha State Park, atop Alabama's highest mountain, to the shores of Lake Martin, the state's first Treasured Alabama Lake.

The bird habitat found here is as varied as the scenery. From a paved walking trail in the middle of a city park to an adventurous float down a scenic river or exploring historic forts and battlefields, you'll find an activity that fits your interest.



## Get out and explore!

find  
detailed  
descriptions  
& maps  
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**34** Sites in **9** Counties  
= Great Alabama Birding

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# Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail



From the mountains in the north to the nearly endless lakes and rivers found throughout, discover East Alabama's many natural resources.

**Jones Bluff Powerhouse / Robert F. Henry Dam** (Autauga County) has surprisingly good birding due to the variety of habitats. This is excellent for wading birds, shorebirds, gulls and terns in the wetland areas.

**The Parks of West Point Dam** (Chambers County) offer panoramic lake views. Look for loons and other waterfowl in colder months, swallows & Purple Martins in summer. Bald Eagles & Ospreys nest nearby.

**Confederate Memorial Park** (Chilton County) is a secluded 102 acres with excellent diversity of bird life. The mature, open canopy of hardwood trees in the upper portion of the park rings with the songs of flycatchers and woodpeckers, including Pileateds and Red-heads. The cemetery area affords open sky views for soaring birds.

**Cheaha State Park** (Clay & Cleburne County) sits atop Mount Cheaha, Alabama's highest point, and is one of the southernmost locations to find some of the state's breeding birds, including Blue-headed Vireos, Cedar Waxwings, and Sharp-shinned Hawks. Located in the midst of Talladega National Forest, the park offers deep wilderness and stunning views.

**The Coosa Wildlife Management Area / Double Bridges** (Coosa County) on Hatchet Creek at Lake Mitchell includes an 11 mile trail. The thick woods have multiple opportunities to see songbirds, raptors & game birds.

**Fort Toulouse-Jackson National Historic Park** (Elmore County) preserves relics of over 6,000 years of human history in its 165 acres of woodlands & fields bordering two rivers. The park is a haven for spring & fall migrants.

**Chewacla State Park's** (Lee County) 696 scenic acres offer a 26-acre lake, swimming area, playgrounds, hiking trails, a modern campground, picnic areas with tables, grills and shelters, & newly renovated cabins. The woods in the park are good for a variety of woodland songbirds.

**Wedowee Kiwanis Park** (Randolph County) offers several distinctly different habitats in a relatively compact site. The park is heavily wooded, predominately in hardwoods.

**Wind Creek State Park** (Tallapoosa County) is on a wooded promontory overlooking Lake Martin. Ospreys and Bald Eagles nest on the lake and both species may be seen year round. The lake attracts rafts of wintering ducks, Warblers in spring and woodpeckers all year.

★ Find these & over 250 additional Alabama sites online

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# West Alabama Birding Trail

With 28 sites in a 9-county region in West Alabama, you'll find forests and prairies, big lakes and free-flowing rivers, where abundant year-round birds are joined by a flow of migrants that change with the seasons. From the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge to the campus of the University of Alabama, and including the ruins of two Civil War-era ironworks and the Talladega National Forest, prepare for the unexpected.

Any season can turn up great birds. The endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker can be found on the Longleaf Pine ridges of the Talladega National Forest, and many colorful warblers pass through the region each spring and fall. Waterfowl gather each winter on the region's rivers and lakes, where Bald Eagles can also be seen at any time of the year.

But this part of Alabama holds some particularly exciting finds during the summer months, when birding can be quiet in other parts of the state. Scissor-tailed Flycatchers, Swallow-tailed Kites and Wood Storks are commonly seen here during the hottest part of the year.

## Get out and explore!

**28** Sites in **9** Counties  
= Great Alabama Birding



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maps  
online

Wood Stork. Photo by Greg Harber.

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# West Alabama Birding Trail



**Don't miss these locations:**

- **Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge** (Bibb County) offers access to the longest free-flowing river in Alabama, with more fish species per mile than any other U.S. river. Many riparian wading birds, raptors and songbirds can be seen here.
- **Forkland Campground** (Greene County) is set in a beautiful wooded area on Demopolis Lake, the largest lake on the Black Warrior-Tombigbee Waterway. This Corps of Engineers site has a picnic area, boat ramp, and access to deep water. Expect riparian woodland songbirds, waders, and, in winter, waterfowl.
- **Moundville Archaeological Park** (Hale County) features large Mississippian-era American Indian mounds dotting open fields and marshy areas on the wooded banks of the Black Warrior River. Songbirds, herons and Bald Eagles may be seen here.
- **Lamar County Fishing Lake** (Lamar County) is a 68-acre lake best for songbirds and waders surrounded by open pine woods.
- **Marion County Lake** (Marion County) is a 37-acre lake bordered by pine grove habitat for the endemic Brown-headed Nuthatch. A quiet road through the mixed pine-hardwood forest around the lake offers easy walking.
- **Tom Bevill Lock and Dam Visitors Center** (Pickens County) provides access to good birding around Aliceville Lake. Explore the open, grassy areas and woodlands for songbirds. Look for gulls, eagles, and ducks in winter.
- **University of Alabama Arboretum** (Tuscaloosa County) is a "must-see" for birders. Best in spring and fall migration, it is also a valuable resource for wintering birds.
- **Walker County Fishing Lake** (Walker County) has nesting Tree Swallows and Purple Martins during summer. Yellow Warblers and other songbirds are present from April through October. Ducks can be found each winter.

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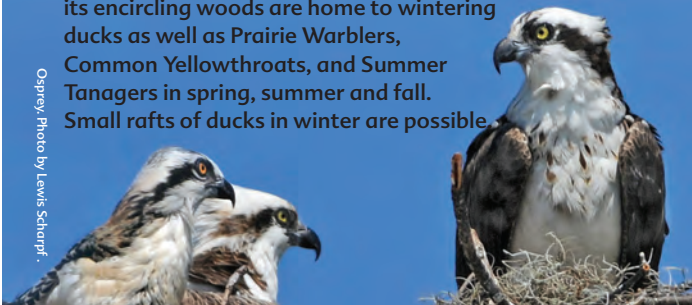
# Wiregrass Birding Trail



## Don't miss these locations:

- **Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge** (Barbour County) is a patchwork of open fields, marshes, and impoundments bounded by Lake Eufaula to one side and mixed woods on the other. The refuge is first-rate for wetland songbirds and waders, as well as many species of waterfowl in winter.
- **Conecuh National Forest** (Covington County) provides habitat for scores of Red-cockaded Woodpecker colonies and hundreds of Bachman's Sparrows within its 83,000 acres of forest.
- **Crenshaw County Public Lake** (Crenshaw County) is one of the state's little-known birding jewels, with extensive pine woods, edge, and deep-water lake habitats.
- **Ed Lisenby Public Fishing Lake** (Dale County) is a deep-water lake surrounded by spanish moss-draped woods. Look for songbirds and raptors in the woods and swallows and waders in the marshy inlets of the lake.
- **Fowler Park, City of Geneva** (Geneva County) overlooks the junction of the Choctawhatchee and Pea Rivers and offers a surprising variety of habitats as well as one of the oldest and largest Live Oaks in Alabama. It is the best site in the county for woodland songbirds, grassland species, and the possibility of Anhingas, Moorhens, and Purple Gallinules.
- **Walter F. George Dam** (Henry County) on Lake Eufaula offers a splendid sampler of southeast Alabama birding habitats at several different locations.
- **Landmark Park** (Houston County) is a 135-acre park built to preserve the area's natural and cultural heritage.
- **Pike County Public Fishing Lake** (Pike County) provides good birding throughout the year. Its 45-acre lake and its encircling woods are home to wintering ducks as well as Prairie Warblers, Common Yellowthroats, and Summer Tanagers in spring, summer and fall. Small rafts of ducks in winter are possible.

Osprey Photo by Lewis Schurpf.



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# Wiregrass Birding Trail

20 Sites in 10 Counties  
= Great Alabama Birding



With sunny, open forests of Long-leaf Pine, extensive wetlands, and huge Live Oaks draped in spanish moss, the Wiregrass Birding Trail covers a ten-county region in southeastern Alabama. The Trail's twenty sites, located in national forests, state parks, and other public lands, display the haunting beauty of the southern landscape. From the deep waters and abundant birdlife of Lake Eufaula to the hardwood bottomlands of Dothan's Landmark Park, and the picturesque Cypress forests of Floral City Wetland Park, expect unusual birds and a landscape different from anywhere else in Alabama.

Any season can turn up great birds. Year round, the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker can be found among the tall pines of the Conecuh National Forest, while Osprey soar over the area's lakes and rivers.

Many colorful warblers pass through each spring and fall on migration. And the waterfowl that gather on the lakes and ponds each winter make the Wiregrass especially productive during colder weather.

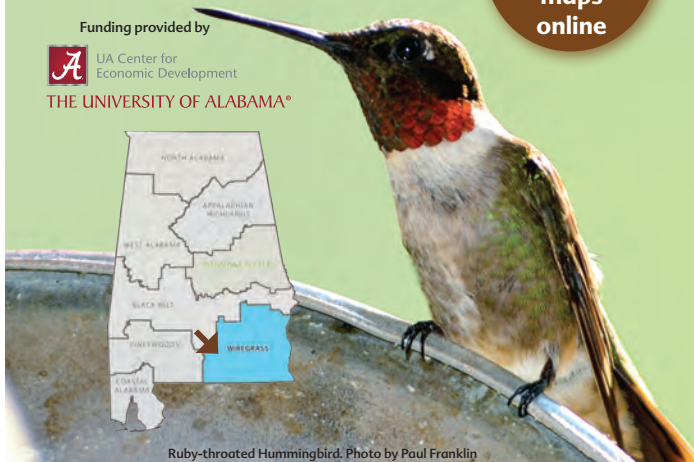
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Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Photo by Paul Franklin



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## Alabama Coastal Birding Trail

Alabama's Gulf Coast is a paradise not only for birders, but for visitors with many different outdoor interests. The Coastal Birding Trail features six birding loops in Baldwin and Mobile counties totaling over 200 miles. Each loop covers different ecological regions representative of the northern Gulf Coast and enables birders to experience different assemblages of bird species within each region.



[alabamabirdingtrails.com/trails/coastal](http://alabamabirdingtrails.com/trails/coastal)

## North Alabama Birding Trail

Landscapes in the region range from tupelo swamps to blazing fields of wildflowers, and towering forests of oak and hickory to vast sheets of open water replete with loafing waterfowl. As the habitats vary through the valley, so do the seasons. Spring is heralded by the return of neotropical songbirds that stop in while on their journey northward. Summer is filled with breeding woodland species such as flashy Pileated and Red-headed woodpeckers, boisterous Great-crested Flycatchers and Carolina Wrens, and skulking Kentucky and Swainson's warblers. In the fall, migrant waterfowl, Sandhill Cranes, and a variety of raptors return to spend the winter in the valley, or at least pass through on their way farther south. Once winter's chill is in the air, large roosts of Bald Eagles form and stragglers from farther north can be found with the abundant waterfowl and gulls.



[alabamabirdingtrails.com/trails/northalabama](http://alabamabirdingtrails.com/trails/northalabama)



# FIELD TRIP RESOURCES





# Tourism Websites

## **tourwestalabama.com**

West Alabama is home to amazing history and southern culture. From the storied halls of The University of Alabama to the ancient burial mounds of Moundville; from the free-flowing Cahaba River to the Ironworks of Brierfield and Tannehill State Parks; from barbeque to sweet coconut pie, West Alabama awaits.

## **alabamasfrontporches.org**

The Alabama Front Porches website highlights all of the incredible activities that are available in the Alabama – Tombigbee region of rural southwest Alabama. This site covers a 12-county region including Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh, Dallas, Escambia, Lowndes, Marengo, Monroe, Perry, Sumter, Washington and Wilcox Counties. These counties are home to hundreds of Alabama's famous small towns.

## **toureastalabama.com**

From the mountains in the north to the nearly endless lakes and rivers found throughout, you'll discover natural resources like nowhere else. Outfitters in our area will gladly help you plan your own trip or take you to some of the most beautiful and hidden places in the region. Outfitters are also a great way to see if you are ready to go all in, get the equipment you need and become a nature fanatic! Hiking, canoeing, kayaking, mountain-biking, motorcycling...these are just a few of the possibilities you'll find in our area. While you are here, visit our historic downtowns, relax in one of the many bed and breakfasts, inns or more traditional hotels and enjoy some of our food, from old-fashioned Southern cooking and the best barbecue anywhere to fine dining.

## **northalabama.org**

North Alabama, also known as the Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourist Association, formed in 1964 with the express purpose of developing North Alabama's travel industry and marketing the region to the traveling public. They now serve sixteen counties with an ever-expanding membership base representing progressive travel-regulated businesses and associations as well as various levels of government.

## **alabama.travel**

Sweet Home Alabama is the official travel site of Alabama. This site offers everything you need to get your trip planning started. It's filled with must-do experiences, places to visit, sweet spots and visitor tips. There is also access to a free vacation guide and links to download several apps to use on your trip.