



Bird walks and field trips Summer 2026

Come join members of the Robert Cooper Audubon Society for one of our bird walks or field trips. You do not have to be a member and preregistration is not required unless otherwise noted. If you need binoculars, we can lend you a pair.

Saturday, June 6, 8 am to 9:30 am: 4509 W. White River Blvd., Muncie, IN

Miller Wildlife Area

We'll take a step back in our chapter's history to walk the trails at the Donald E. Miller Wildlife Area—known long ago as "Sixteen Acres" and a favorite field trip destination for our chapter. Located along the banks of the White River in Muncie, it is a Ball State University field property containing floodplain forest and riparian wetlands.

We'll see the property's Great Blue Heron rookery, which should have juvenile herons flapping about in their nests at this time, and we'll also learn about Ball State's habitat restoration efforts on the property.

We'll gather at 8 am at the West End Overlook parking area, located at 4509 West White River Boulevard in Muncie. Please note that the parking area there holds only a few cars, so everyone is asked to park closely together, in single file. A few extra spots are available on the road's shoulder directly east of the parking area.

June 13, July 11, and August 8, 8 am to 10 am: 4306 Mounds Rd., Anderson, IN

Mounds State Park

Come join a Second Saturday walk at Mounds State Park—a fun walk for beginners and experienced birders, alike.

Please note that the start time on these walks is 8 am for the duration of daylight savings time.

Meet at the Visitor's Center parking lot at 8 am. State Park fees may apply.

Tuesday, June 16, 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm: 1927 E. County Rd. 075 S., Hartford City, IN

Purple Martin Watch Party

On the evening of Tuesday, June 16, we'll join members of the Mississinewa Audubon Club (MAC) for a visit to the home of RCAS and MAC member John Velasquez. There we'll see John's Purple Martin colony in full swing, with nine racks that hold nearly 60 gourds. He'll offer an overview of Purple Martin activity and tell us how he became a martin landlord.

John's home is located at 1927 East County Road 075 South in Hartford City. Parking is available along the long gravel drive (please stick to one side of the drive). Bring a lawn chair, a hat or umbrella to shield the sun's rays, and, if you like, something to snack on. This is a wonderful opportunity not only to learn more about Purple Martins but also to meet some of our fellow birders in Grant County!

NOTE: In case of rain, the trip will be moved to June 20. Check our website or Facebook page for updates.

Saturday, August 1, 8:00 am to 10:30 am: 12308 Strawtown Ave., Noblesville, IN

Strawtown Koteewi Park

Strawtown Koteewi Park, located in Hamilton County, offers more than 800 acres of varied habitats, including 400 acres of restored prairie which should be in full bloom for this trip!

At 8 am we'll meet at the Taylor Center of Natural History parking lot, at 12308 Strawtown Avenue in Noblesville. We'll walk the trails through the prairie and, as time and interest allow, we may also check out other areas of the property.

NOTE: Restrooms will not be accessible before 10 am, so plan accordingly.

For more information, check out our web page at cooperaudubon.org, or scan this QR code. From there, you can find field trip listings or download our quarterly newsletter.

