



Field Trips

Please read carefully. Trips will operate rain or shine. Remember to bring lunch, drinks, proper clothing, footwear, sunscreen & insect repellent. For all trips, if you have questions, contact Dave Milsom at milsomdave@hotmail.com or 705-874-8531. OFO encourages car pooling on all field trips. Participants are reminded that it is the responsibility of every participant on an OFO field trip to comply with the OFO Birding Code of Ethics, and to minimize the risk of injury and/or damages that may result from unsafe or inappropriate behaviour (especially driving, or roadside birding where passing traffic presents a hazard).

Young Birders

OFO Young Birders field trips and workshops are for birders age 9 -19. The only prerequisites are enthusiasm and curiosity about birds. Parents or guardians are encouraged to attend except where otherwise indicated.

Trips will operate rain or shine. Remember to bring lunch, drinks, proper clothing, footwear, sunscreen & insect repellent as appropriate. Carpooling is encouraged for driving trips.

If you have questions, contact Lynne Freeman at lynnef.to@gmail.com or 416-671-0325 (email is better).

Trips may be added or changed so please check the field trips on the OFO web site prior to the trip.

2018-08-25 Palgrave, Tottenham Sod Farms, Schomberg Lagoons

Kevin Schacklton

Meet 8:00 a.m. at Patterson Sideroad and Hwy. 50 in the village of Palgrave. Fall migrants - warblers, flycatchers, shorebirds. Possible plovers, Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Baird's Sandpipers.

2018-08-26 Rock Point Provincial Park & Eastern Lake Erie Shore

Marcie Jacklin

Meet 8:00 a.m. at Dunnville Tims, 936 Broad Street East. Visiting Rock Point Provincial Park may be an option if there is good migration, so be prepared to pay entry fee. Shorebirds, waterbirds, early fall migrants. Shorebirds, waterbirds, early fall migrants.

2018-09-01 Toronto Islands

Gavin Platt

From Harbourfront in Toronto, catch 7:15 a.m. Ferry to Ward's Island. You will need \$7.50 in coins (\$5.00 seniors and students). Early Fall migrants. The trip involves a lot of walking all day long. Please bring a lunch if you plan to stay all day (some food is also available to purchase on the island).

2018-09-06 Moosonee (5-day trip)

Martin Parker, Kathy Parker

This trip is full. This birding trip to Moosonee will permit one the opportunity to observe the birds that gather along the Ontario's saltwater coast to rest and feed. There is a possibility of flocks of Longspurs, numerous shorebirds, Rough-legged Hawks, and both Le Conte's and Nelson's Sparrows. There could be a surprise bird as well.

2018-09-08 Colonel Sam Smith Park & western Lake Ontario

Garth Riley

Meet 8:00 a.m. at the southernmost parking lot where road ends. Take Kipling Avenue south from Q.E.W. and follow it south of Lakeshore Blvd. to the end. Other locations we may bird include Lakefront Promenade, Jack Darling Park, Rattray Marsh, Shell Park. Fall migrants: warblers, sparrows, shorebirds, waterfowl.



Field Trips

2018-09-08 Ottawa (all day to 5 pm)

Jeff Skevington

Meet 7:30 a.m. along Cassels Road, outside the gate to the Britannia Filtration Plant. Experience the diversity of Ottawa's avifauna during the peak of Fall migration. Expect to see warblers, sparrows, waterfowl, shorebirds, gulls and others. Study the subtle differences between similar species as we explore the Ottawa River from different vantage points. We start at Britannia, and move slowly west, visiting some of Eastern Ontario's best migratory staging areas. Bring a lunch.

2018-09-09 Presqu'ile Provincial Park

Ian Shanahan

Meet 8:00 a.m. at the Lighthouse parking lot. Park entrance fee. Fall migrants, shorebirds, hawks

2018-09-15 Kettle Point and inland lagoons

Sean Jenniskens

Meet 8.00 a.m. in parking lot at junction of Highway 21 and Lakeshore Road (County Road 7) on the way into Kettle Point. Look for gulls, terns, shorebirds, jaegers, at Kettle Point. Then inland to nearby sewage lagoons: search for waterfowl, shorebirds. Bring lunch; rubber boots for wet areas.

2018-09-16 Point Pelee National Park

Jeremy Hatt

Meet 8:00 a.m. at the Visitor Centre in the Park (entry fee). Birding around the Visitor Centre, at the Tip, and in the surrounding area including the onion fields. Fall migrants, raptors, seabirds, shorebirds, Monarch butterflies.

2018-09-22 Hamilton, Burlington & Vicinity

Len Manning

Meet 8:00 a.m. in Hutch's Restaurant parking lot at Van Wagners Beach on Lake Ontario in Hamilton. From Niagara on QEW, exit at Centennial Parkway, go left onto North Service Road and follow to Van Wagners Beach Road to the restaurant. From Toronto on QEW, exit at Woodward Avenue, turn right at lights, then right at next lights, go under bridge, turn right onto Van Wagners Beach Road to the restaurant. Jaegers, gulls, shorebirds, fall migrants.

2018-10-07 Westmeath Provincial Park & Lac Dore

Mark Gawn

Situated on the Ottawa River near Pembroke, Westmeath Park is a noted migration stopover for Nelson's Sparrow and occasionally Le Conte's Sparrow. Lac Dore, a fish-filled lake, regularly attracts many small gulls, grebes, and loons along with the occasional rarity. Meet 8:00 a.m. in Cobden at the Civitan Park on the north side of highway 17.

2018-10-13 Birding Simcoe Shores

Jim Coey

Meet at the City of Barrie Dock Road Municipal Parking lot at 204 Dock Road, south-east corner of Dock Road and Plunkett Ct., at 9.00 a.m. Take 400N to Maplevue East to Yonge St N to Cox Mill (right turn) to Dock Road (right Turn). Easy walking, bring snack and water. We'll look for migrants in the parks and waterfowl on the lake. Lake Simcoe has had some surprising birds over the years. Who knows what will turn up?

2018-10-14 Durham Waterfront

Geoff Carpentier

Meet 8 am at Lynde Shores Conservation Area parking lot on Victoria Street, Whitby. Exit Highway 401 at Brock Street (Exit 410). Turn left (south) onto Brock Street. Turn right (west) onto Victoria. Go about 2.5 km to Lynde Shores on south side. Visits to Cranberry Marsh Hawk watch, Oshawa Second Marsh, Corner Marsh and Frenchman's Bay, depending on conditions and water levels. Late fall migrants, raptors, shorebirds and ducks.



Field Trips

2018-10-14 Amherst Island

Mike Burrell

Meet at 7:50 am at carpool lot south of 401 at exit 593 (Camden East Road). We'll check Amherst Island (ferry fee) and some other Kingston area hotspots for late migrants including sparrows, waterfowl, gulls and other waterbirds. Trip ends mid- afternoon. Bring cash for the ferry, a lunch although we will pass a Tim Horton's on the way to Wolfe Island Ferry, and be prepared for some moderate walking.

2018-10-20 Ottawa River

Tony Beck

Birding from 1 p.m. to dusk along the Ottawa River. Meet 1 p.m. at Andrew Haydon Park, east parking lot (Ottawa Beach). Possible ducks, geese, shorebirds, gulls. Near sunset, 1000's of birds fly into Lac Des Chenes to roost. Rarities possible such as Lesser Black-backed Gull, Snow Geese, Red Phalarope, Greater White-fronted Geese, Cackling Geese.

2018-10-21 Point Pelee National Park

Ellen Smout

Entry free to Park. Meet at Park Visitor Centre at 8:30 a.m. Birding Point Pelee Tip, woods, marsh, nearby onion fields. Fall migrants.

2018-10-28 Grand Bend, Pinery PP, Kettle Point

Donald Pye

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at GB Sobey's parking lot on north side of Huron County Rd. 81, east of traffic lights at Hwy 21. From Hwy 402 take exit 81 Centre Road and proceed north on Middlesex County 81 via Parkhill, after jogging left at Middlesex County Rd.7. Continue on Middlesex, then Huron County Rd. 81 to Grand Bend (+/- 3 hrs. from Toronto). For anyone running late, first stop will be at the beach (from Sobey's go west). Late fall/ early winter migrants, waterfowl, gulls, jaegers, eagles and resident titmice.

2018-10-28 Hawk Cliff & Area, South-west of London

Dave Brown

Meet 9:30 a.m. at Hawk Cliff. From Hwy. 401 Exit 177, take Hwy. 4 south through western St. Thomas until it becomes Sunset Drive. Continue about 8 km to Union. Go east on County Road 27, Sparta Line Road. Go east one road (about 3 km) to County Road 22 (Fairview Road). Head south. The 2nd road south is County Road 24 (Dexter Line) and you will meet a stop sign. Looking south, you will see the sign for Hawk Cliff. Go south on the dirt road to the lake. Park along road allowance. Raptors, waterfowl, gulls and late migrants, especially Golden Eagle.

2018-11-04 Cobourg Harbour, Presqu'ile Provincial Park

Ian Shanahan

Meet Cobourg Harbour parking area at 8.30 am. Rare gulls, loons, grebes and shorebirds possible. Then drive to Presqu'ile Prov. Pk. for late migrants, including Purple Sandpipers.

2018-12-02 Niagara River Gull Watch

Josh Vandermeulen, Jeremy Bensette, Marcie Jacklin

Meet 9:00 a.m. at Sir Adam Beck Generating Station overlook on Niagara River Parkway south of Queenston- Lewiston Bridge to USA. From QEW take Hwy 405 towards USA and exit at Stanley Avenue. YOU MUST EXIT HWY 405 AT STANLEY AVENUE. Turn left, crossing over Hwy 405, then immediately right onto Portage Road which parallels Hwy 405 for 3 km. At Brock Monument traffic circle take first right exit, Niagara Parkway, signed "The Falls". Follow for 1.8 km to Sir Adam Beck overlook on left.



Field Trips

2018-12-08 Barrie Lakeshore

Jim Coey

Meet at the City of Barrie Dock Road Municipal Parking lot at 204 Dock Road, south-east corner of Dock Road and Plunkett Ct. at 9.00am. Car pool and easy walking. We will explore the Barrie lake front and parks for gulls, waterfowl and other lingering migrants

2018-12-09 Toronto Lakeshore

John Schmelefske

Meet 9:00 a.m. at Humber Bay Park East parking lot. Off the QEW, coming from the west, take the exit to Park Lawn. Go south. Cross Lakeshore Road, then turn right to the parking area. Off the QEW, coming from the east, exit at Lakeshore Road. Turn right onto Lakeshore Road, then left at the lights into Humber Bay Park East. Winter species: ducks, gulls, waterbirds, finches, raptors.