

AA CO. BIRDING HOT SPOTS

FORT SMALLWOOD County Park, located at end of Ft. Smallwood Road (MD 173) at the mouth of the Patapsco River in north county. Excellent for migrant raptors in fall and spring.

GREENBURY POINT, located on the peninsula where the Severn River and Whitehall Creek meet the Chesapeake Bay. This site is on the Naval Academy grounds where the radio towers are located. River and Bay views with fields and scrub/shrub habitat.

JUG BAY WETLANDS SANCTUARY, located in south county, 20 minutes from Annapolis, consists of 1400 acres of tidal freshwater wetlands, forests, meadows, and fields along the Patuxent River. Jug Bay is recognized as an Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy and the National Audubon Society.

KINDER FARM PARK, located in central county at 1001 Kinder Farm Park Road, Millersville, is a 288-acre natural park and working farm.

QUIET WATERS PARK, located on the Annapolis peninsula on the South River and Harness Creek consists of 340 acres with river and creek views and hardwood forests. Quiet Waters Park co-hosts our annual fundraiser, the Richard E. Heise, Jr. Wildlife Program.

SMITHSONIAN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER (SERC) is located off MD 468, Contees Wharf Road, Edgewater, on 2800 acres along the Rhode River, with forest, cropland, pasture, freshwater wetlands, tidal marshes, and estuaries.

PATUXENT RESEARCH REFUGE—NORTH TRACT, though just outside Anne Arundel County off of MD 198, 1.4 miles east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, it is part of America's National Wildlife Refuge System on 12,841 acres. The Refuge offers guided bird and nature walks and a wildlife viewing area.

HOT SPOTS (Continued)

The seven "hot spots" shown on the previous page are a sampling of many excellent birding areas in and around Anne Arundel County. Visit our web site at www.aabirdclub.org for more detailed directions, hours and park fees (if applicable) for these locations and others.

HELPFUL WEB SITES

Maryland birding hot line

www.mdosprey.org

Audubon Naturalist Society

www.audubonnaturalist.org

Cornell Lab of Ornithology

www.birds.cornell.edu

Wild Bird Centers of America

www.wildbirdcenter.com

Wild Birds Unlimited

www.wbu.com

National Audubon Society

www.audubon.org

American Bird Conservancy

www.abcbirds.org

Guide to U.S. Birding "hot spots"

www.camacdonald.com/birding/birdusa.htm

The AABC is a wonderful way to meet new people, get outdoors, and enjoy the fascinating world of birds. Look inside this brochure for more information, including an AABC Membership Application. And visit our web site at: www.aabirdclub.org

WELCOME AND JOIN THE FUN



The Anne Arundel Bird Club (AABC), organized in 1954, is one of 15 chapters of the Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS). The Club is open to all ages and all levels of bird watching skills.

What does the AABC do?

- Provides field trips to a wide variety of bird habitats, with dedicated members serving as trip leaders.
- Holds monthly meetings eight months of the year that include excellent speakers discussing a variety of interesting bird and nature oriented topics. Refreshments are served.
- Offers a spring and fall potluck picnic for members, hosted by Club members.
- Publishes and mails quarterly newsletters to keep Club members informed of upcoming events, report on past events, and include articles submitted by members on a variety of helpful and fascinating topics.
- Maintains a web site to keep members informed of activities and provides valuable information and links concerning birding.

As part of AABC membership, members may participate in MOS meetings, conferences, bird trips and bird counts, and they receive two MOS publications.



Program Events

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Field Trip Pointers

FIELD TRIPS

The Anne Arundel Bird Club sponsors a variety of trips, mostly on weekends, to give field experience for all levels of bird watching skills. These trips are planned to different habitats so that there is the opportunity to see a good variety of birds. Most years, over 200 species of birds are seen on field trips. Novice birders are encouraged to participate on all trips.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

From October through May (except March) the AABC meets on the first Friday of the month. These meetings feature an illustrated nature program by qualified professional and amateur speakers. Monthly meetings are held at the [Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center, 975 Indian Landing Road, Millersville, MD 21108](#) ([directions at www.aabirdclub.org](#)).

In March we have a special guest speaker for the annual Richard E. Heise, Jr. Wildlife Program. This fundraiser, held at Quiet Waters Park, benefits AABC programs and the MOS Scholarship Fund.

CITIZEN SCIENCE

Members participate in statewide and national bird counts and other bird monitoring activities to collect seasonal data on numbers and locations of species in Maryland. This important data provides support for the protection and conservation of birdlife and other natural resources.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

If Anne Arundel schools are closed on the day of our monthly meeting due to weather conditions, our meeting will be cancelled. In the event of bad weather on a field trip day, call the trip leader.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The annual calendar of events, which includes details about Field Trips, Monthly Meetings, Bird Counts, and other Special Events, is included in the AABC quarterly newsletter and at the AABC web site. The web site is an important source of information when additional trips are added after newsletter publication.

AABC NEWSLETTER

The AABC issues four newsletters every year in August, November, February, and May. The newsletter is mailed to all paid members, unless a member requests an online version only. The newsletters also are posted on the web site.

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (MOS)

The Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc., organized in 1945 and incorporated in 1956, is an independent, non-profit, non-stock educational organization. The AABC is one of 15 state chapters. You may find the nine MOS sanctuaries of particular interest. The sanctuaries are located throughout the state.

The bimonthly *Maryland Yellowthroat* newsletter publishes all field trips and programs sponsored by MOS and its 15 chapters. Members are welcome to participate in any of these events.

For more MOS information, call toll-free at 1-800-823-0050. The MOS also has a web site with a great deal of information. Go to: <http://www.MDBirds.org/>

For the enjoyment, comfort, and safety of everyone, please follow these pointers:

Basics:

- Inform trip leader that you are attending
- Wear shoes and clothing adaptable to weather and temperature changes, wind, rain, and wet ground
- Bring binoculars, field guides, notebook, pencil
- Check AABC newsletter for trip details
- Arrive at meeting place on time with an ample supply of fuel in your vehicle
- Report arrival and departure to trip leader
- Leave pets at home
- When birding in shrubby areas, check clothing and skin for ticks
- When traveling in a caravan:**
 - Keep traveling speed equal to that of the trip leader
 - Keep the car behind you in your rear-view mirror
 - Larger vehicles bring up the rear
 - When stopping, pull well off the road, turn off motor, close door QUIETLY
- To Prevent Flushing Birds:**
 - Do not "case" the area before leader arrives
 - Never precede leader
 - Avoid departure through an area not yet explored
 - Avoid sudden or loud noises and sweeping gestures
- Practice good conservation:**
 - Take nothing but pictures; leave only your footprints
 - Save energy, carpool as much as possible
 - SHARE fuel expenses