

THE BECKHAM OBSERVER

BECKHAMBIRDCLUB.ORG

JUNE 2024

P.O. BOX 5301 LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40255-0301

THERE IS NO MEETING IN JUNE. SEE YOU AT THE PICNIC.

The Annual Beckham Bird Club Picnic will be on Sunday,
June 9 at 4:00 p.m. at Creasey Mahan.
Nature Preserve



Join us for a fun afternoon of birding, food and friendship. Bring a dish to share, insect repellent and ,of course, your binoculars. We encourage you to bring your own cloth napkin, plates, cups and utensils. That is non-disposable items. GPS: 38.400504, -85.590233

There are two ways to make reservations –mail the reservation form below or text Carol Challus at 502-649-0522. State your name(s) , what you are bringing and if you want chicken.

PICNIC RESERVATION- Deadline Thursday, June 6

NAME(S) _____ **PHONE** _____

I will bring ___ salad/vegetable ___ desert ___ other(_____)

Number attending who want chicken _____

Number attending at who do not want chicken _____

Mail to: Carol Challas, 325 Blankenbaker Lane, Louisville, KY 40207-1234

BIRDATHON

The birds have been counted – **116** in all. Now it is up to you to help make our 2024 BBC Birdathon a success. Can you do it? **Many members and friends have already made and sent in their pledge. But we need all our members to contribute** to help us raise the money to support the organizations that have asked for grants from BBC. **No amount is too small.** Please send in your contribution to the person you sponsored or mail to the BBC post office box. **Help us.** Make check payable to **Beckham Bird Club.**

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

These are the last field trips before resuming in mid-August. But this doesn't mean you stop birding as there are many summer residents to be seen during the summer.

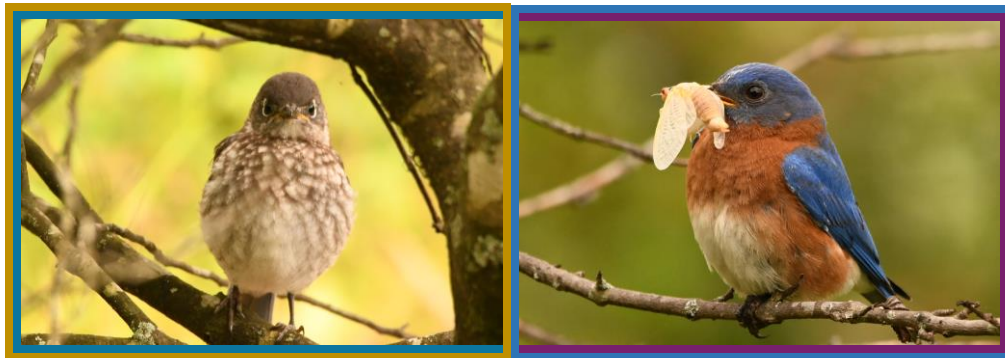
Sunday, June 2 8:30 a.m. – noon easy	BECKLEY CREEK PARK – GRAND ALLEE SECTION - For summer arrivals and residents. Meet at the "Port-a-Potty" parking lot at the south end of the Humana Grand Allee just before the large bridge over the creek. GPS: 38.209077, -85.474110 (https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L2876955)	Meg and Steve Brown 502-435-3967
Saturday, June 8 8 a.m.- 11 a.m. easy	HAYS-KENNEDY PARK/GARVIN BROWN PRESERVE – Residents. Meet in the parking lot of Hays Kennedy Park off Upper River Road. GPS: 38.352711, -85.630354 (https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L673935) (https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L607668)	Kevin Flowers 502-648-6826
Sunday, June 9	BECKHAM BIRD CLUB PICNIC – CREASEY-MAHAN NATURE PRESERVE –Directions: turn left from US 42 onto KY 1793 at North Oldham High School. Preserve is about 1.5 miles on Old Harmony Landing Road. GPS: 38.400504, -85.590233 (https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L1124187) Further details in newsletter.	
Wednesday, June 12 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. easy	DRAUT PARK – For resident and summer birds. Meet in parking lot on Bowling Boulevard. GPS: 38.242791, -85.629445 (https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L1161147)	Karen Bonsell 502-794-3526
Saturday, June 15 8:30 a.m. – noon easy	LONG RUN PARK – For residents and waterfowl. From intersection of Shelbyville Road and Flat Rock Road, about 2 miles north on Flat Rock Road to park entrance, then ¼ mile to first fork and left at fork and then first right to boat launch ramp parking area. GPS: 38.266796, -85.419667 (https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L2706091)	Christine Hayden 502-640-3445

PAST FIELD TRIPS

Creasey Mahan- April 27 Ten birders ventured out on a very windy, warm, and overcast day to find returning migrants. Not many warblers were seen, but 50 species were documented. Highlights included a Broad-wing hawk, Scarlet Tanager, multiple Baltimore Orioles, Black and White Warbler and Louisiana Waterthrush.



Bernheim Forest – May 10 Seven members and guests met on a cool May morning. We divided our trip into three parts: the area around the garden pavilion near Lake Nevin, the Guerilla Hollow area, and the area behind the Visitor's Center. Some of the highlights were good looks at a Kentucky Warbler and a couple of beautiful Summer Tanagers singing in the trees. A lovely day to be out in nature!



Caperton Swamp – May 16 Five members came out on a sunny morning with pleasant temperatures. Birding was slow with migrants not in evidence. Highlights of the trip were four baby Wood Ducks swimming around with no adult supervision, at least three adult Pileated Woodpeckers flying in and out of a large tree - some sort of domestic drama, perhaps, a

beautiful male Prothonotary Warbler singing at length in plain sight, and a flock of Cedar Waxwings gorging on mulberries.

Mammoth Cave National Park – May 19 Ten observers started the trip traveling along the splendid forest covered roads. Birds were rather hard to come by but we had great looks at many species. Elijah, a young birder from Washington county located a beautiful late Blackburnian Warbler. Due to a dead battery Elijah and his dad and brother were unable to finish the trip with us. The Green River Trail did not disappoint, despite there being millions (no make that billions) of green leaves on the trees and pollen so bad that several of us experienced coughing spasms. Warblers, flycatchers, vireos were quite vocal along with other species. When time came to go to Joppa Ridge our number had dwindled to just three. Highlights along the road included Hooded Warbler and a Barred Owl. Finishing the trip we traveled Flint Ridge Road. Here we would find grassland birds - Meadowlarks, Prairie Warblers, Kingbirds, Martins and Swallows. Our total for the day was 52 species. Not our best, but golly we gave it our best shot!

2024 Jefferson County Global Big Day Summary

Global Big Day was another great day for Jefferson County in our informal competition with Fayette County! Per eBird, we tallied 149 species on the day, and Fayette County tallied 144 species. Jefferson County was due for another win after losses in 2023 (Fayette - 157; Jefferson - 154) and 2022 (Fayette - 140; Jefferson - 129), and our local birders did not disappoint. They went out early and stayed out late searching. We had some nice rarities – Bell's Vireo, Red-breasted Merganser, and Painted Bunting (GBD first for Jefferson County!). However, we missed out on Great Horned Owl and Chuck-will's-widow, species usually counted on GBD.

If you participated this year, thank you! If you didn't, please consider joining us next year for some birding fun!

BBC Conservation Report Websites May 2024

[New Video of a Re-discovered Hummingbird | Birding Wire](#)

[New Research Reveals Habitat, Range, and Behavior of Recently Rediscovered Hummingbird Species - American Bird Conservancy \(abcbirds.org\)](#)

[U.S. House Passes Legislation Supporting Migratory Birds Across the Hemisphere | Audubon](#)

[Endangered Species Act Rules Prioritize Science in Conserving Vulnerable Species | Audubon](#)

[Top 5 Tips for Finding Birds Nesting Near You | All About Birds All About Birds](#)

[NestWatch | Overview - NestWatch](#)

[Three Easy but Important Ways to Keep Your Bird Feeders Disease-Free | Audubon](#)

[Why You Should Keep Your Birdbath Clean | Audubon](#)

[Simple Solutions to Prevent Collisions | Audubon](#)

<https://www.nwf.org/Home/Magazines/National-Wildlife/2024/Spring/Animals/Purple-Martins-Public-Property>

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/american-redstarts-can-speed-up-their-migration-but-theres-a-cost/>



Don't forget to make your reservations for the picnic!!

It is going to be lots of fun - good food, field trip, bird bingo with prizes and best of all good fellowship with your fellow birders.

So don't miss out on fun day!

Picture of the pileated woodpeckers taken at our picnic by Pam Spaulding in 2017.