

Wooded Island Bird Walk Report for Saturday, June 15, 2013

Hello to All,

Summertime and the avian parents are tending to breeding concerns and are mostly quiet, except, of course, for the Warbling Vireos, who could never consider a vow of silence. There is an active BALTIMORE ORIOLE nest on the south side of Turtle Island. An Oriole couple was flittering around the mulberry tree on the bit of land southwest of Darrow Bridge. A handsome bullfrog called attention to itself, as it sat on a stone near the irises in the Japanese Garden pond. The fish are jumping. More ducklings were seen this week. A VARIABLE DANCER DAMSELFLY was seen on Wooded Island.

BIRDERS: 16. Carl from Naperville, Karin C., Jennie, Al, Carol, Leo, Eric, Tobias, Mark, Kurt, Bruce and his mother Janice from Minnesota, Maddie, Karin D., Raman and Pat.

TIME: 8:30 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.

PLACES: Wooded Island and Bobolink Meadow

WEATHER: Rain overnight. Brief, intermittent light drizzle. Temperature upper 60's F.

Mild breeze SSW 5 – 10 mph.

TOTAL SPECIES COUNT: 38

X = commonly seen and/or not counted.

1. Canada Goose – X. Continue to molt flight feathers. The adult with the white pate was seen in the East Lagoon with other geese. The goslings are almost soccer ball size.
2. Wood Duck – 6. Five males with one female in the East Lagoon.
3. Mallard – 9 + adults with more than two dozen ducklings hugging the shores.
4. Double-crested Cormorant – 1. Perched in the high sentry position on the tallest snag at the southeast end of Wooded Island. Surveyed the East Lagoon from this vantage point.
5. Great Blue Heron – 4. Not a fly over today.
6. Green Heron – 3.
7. Black-crowned Night Heron – 6. None on Heron Island.

8. Spotted Sandpiper – 1.
9. Ring-billed Gull – 1 on the fishing pier in the West Lagoon, plus occasional fly overs.
10. Caspian Tern – 1. Called out.
11. Downy Woodpecker – 1.
12. Eastern Wood Pewee – 1.
13. Willow Flycatcher – 1. Seen and heard. Bobolink Meadow.
14. Great Crested Flycatcher – 1. Wooded Island.
15. Eastern Kingbird – 2. Wooded Island.
16. Warbling Vireo – X. First to greet us with song while we gather on Darrow Bridge.
17. Red-eyed Vireo – X.
18. Purple Martin – X. Busy around the white houses.
19. Cliff Swallow – 1.
20. Northern Rough-winged Swallow - X
21. Barn Swallow – X.
22. House Wren – 1.
23. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 2.
24. American Robin – 8.
25. Gray Catbird – 3.
26. Brown Thrasher – 1.
27. European Starling – 7.

28. Cedar Waxwing – 10.
29. Yellow Warbler – 5.
30. American Redstart – 1.
31. Common Yellowthroat – 1.
32. Song Sparrow – 2.
33. Northern Cardinal – 1.
34. Indigo Bunting – 1. One in the Rose Garden and a couple on the north fence in the woods of Bobolink Meadow.
35. Red-winged Blackbird – X.
36. Brown-headed Cowbird – 1.
37. Baltimore Oriole – 4.
38. American Goldfinch – 1

For twice a week pictorial reports on birds, bugs and plants, as well as the disturbance and change in habitat on and near Wooded Island, please visit a blog maintained by Hal Cohen, retired college professor of ecology and biological sciences. Hal visits Wooded Island several times in the week has a lot of information to share. Look for **woodedisland.blogspot.com**

Corrections, additions and comments are welcome.

This report will be recorded on eBird as a group report for the Wooded Island Bird Walks.

The Walks are free and open to one and all. They are held year round. Birders always show up on Darrow Bridge at the start times. Newcomers are warmly welcomed.

The Walks start at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday and at 7:15 a.m. on Wednesday.

Birders gather on Darrow Bridge, which is located south of the Museum of Science and Industry. Ample parking is available east of Darrow Bridge and is accessible from South Lake Shore Drive at 58th Street (labeled Science Drive on a small blue street sign). There is a Stop Light at 58th Street. Make a turn at the Stop Light towards the Museum. Turn Left (south) at the

intersection of Science Drive and Columbia Drive. Go through the parking lot to the west end near Darrow Bridge.

Best of Birding to All,

Patricia Durkin

Chicago Audubon Society Representative

Wooded Island Bird Walks