

# Beginning Birding Educational Series:

## Using Birdwatching to Encourage Environmental Awareness and Action

Audubon Society - UW Madison



# Summary

**COME JOIN US!**

## Guided Birdwatching Hikes

**Audubon Society, UW-Madison welcomes all to join our weekly guided birdwatching hikes!**

**SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP!**

Binoculars provided!

\*Contact [uwaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:uwaudubon@gmail.com) for more info

**Lakeshore Nature Preserve**  
Every Saturday

**September**  
18th 25th

**October**  
2nd 23rd  
9th 30th  
16th

**November**  
6th 20th  
13th

**Audubon**  
Madison Campus

@uwaudubon

Funded by the UW-Madison  
Lakeshore Nature Preserve

- Mid-April 2021: Was awarded the 2021 LNP Student Engagement grant and used it to purchase 14 binoculars for use during guided bird hikes.
- August - September 2021: Began advertising campaign to attract interested students to guided bird hikes beginning in Fall 2021.
- Fall 2021: After a successful advertising campaign, we hosted weekly guided bird hikes in LNP from 9/18 through 11/20.

# How the Hikes were Conducted



- Strategized areas of preserve based on habitat and likely birds to see
- Geared towards beginners: spend more time in shorter distance to observe specific birds and their behavior/identifying features
- Binocular intro/practice
  - Find on stationary object and practice focusing, go over how to work the “controls”
- After an hour: gauge interest/calibrate/check in with participants and then add time if needed
- Allowed participants to leave at a certain time if they'd like, others can stay longer if they'd like
- Encouraged participants to upload their photos/videos into a shared folder



# Student Engagement

- Nearly every hike was full (15 participants) and most participants were beginning birders
- After each hike we asked participants if they would be more likely to go birding again or be more aware of birds and a large majority said yes



# New member experience



Thank you to the Lakeshore Nature Preserve  
Committee for approving our 2021 and 2022  
Student Engagement Grant Applications!