

# NJ AUDUBON SOCIETY ESSEX COUNTY BIRDING FIELD TRIPS



Have you ever wanted to "bird watch" but don't know where to begin? Would you like to find some of the hidden gems in Essex County? Let New Jersey Audubon Society be your guide! Walks encourage beginners and challenge experts! This is a wonderful time of year to view the fall migrants, and NJAS Associate Naturalist Dave Hall has once again planned many exciting birding field trips. Many of these trips are to Essex County parks, the first county park system created in the United States. Dave will set an easy pace, and most of the trails are level and wide; a few have steep trail sections and are a little muddy. This is a wonderful time of year to visit Essex County parks.

*Space is limited; please contact Kelly Wenzel at 973.226.6082 for more information and to register.*

***All 2-hour Bird Watching Field trips are FREE!***

*\*Cost: \$6 for members, \$8 for nonmembers for 3-hour or remote trips.*

## WEEKDAY MORNING FIELD TRIPS

### ESSEX COUNTY EAGLE ROCK RESERVATION

**Thursday, September 10**

**9am to 11am**

This is a great time to explore the reservation and look for migrating passerines. Meet at the September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial Plaza near the entrance off Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange.

### MONTCLAIR HAWKWATCH\*

**Thursday, September 17**

**9am to Noon**

With fall migration in full swing, you are sure to see a variety of hawks. Meet at the parking area on Edgecliff Road in Montclair, or if you arrive late, join us by climbing the stairway. Bring a hat, water, and a folding chair.

### ESSEX COUNTY GROVER CLEVELAND PARK

**Thursday, October 8**

**9am to 11am**

We will visit this beautiful Essex County park and explore a nearby reserve in Essex Fells. Meet by the pond at the park.

### ESSEX COUNTY BRANCH BROOK PARK

**Thursday, October 22**

**9am to 11am**

Take a leisurely walk in this Olmstead-designed park. It is beautifully laid out, and attracts a variety of birds in any season. Meet at the Cherry Blossom Visitor's Center parking lot in Branch Brook Park, Newark.

### ESSEX COUNTY BECKER TRACT AND DINOSAUR PARK

**Thursday, November 5**

**9am to 11am**

Walk along the rim of the Passaic River Valley for superb views and interesting birdlife. Meet in the parking lot of the Essex County Environmental Center in Roseland.

### ESSEX COUNTY WEEQUAHIC PARK

**Thursday, November 12**

**9am to 11am**

**\*Hidden Gem\*** This area attracts a wonderful set of waterfowl in the fall, and all can be viewed along an easy trail around the lake. Meet at the east end of the lake. This County park is located in the City of Newark.

## WEEKEND MORNING FIELD TRIPS

### ESSEX COUNTY SOUTH MOUNTAIN RESERVATION\*

**Saturday, September 12**

**8:30am to 11:30am**

Essex County's largest reservation has many good hiking trails leading into different habitats. At the peak of the fall migration, we will search for passerines, raptors, and maybe a few waterfowl. Meet at the Turtle Back Zoo parking lot.

### HATFIELD SWAMP\*

**Saturday, October 10**

**8:30am to 11:30am**

**\*Hidden Gem\*** We will have a great chance to find migrating birds and maybe some native wildlife. Depending on recent weather, you may want to wear boots. Meet at the parking lot of King's Grocery in West Caldwell, near the corner of Bloomfield Ave. and Passaic St.

### CANOE BROOK RESERVIOR\*

**Saturday, November 14**

**8am to 11am**

It has been several years since NJ Audubon has been able to explore one of the best places in Essex County for wintering waterfowl. Also discover hawks and perhaps a Bald Eagle. Pre-registration is **required** for this field trip.