

Mortenson Neighborhood Property in Summerfield April 24, 2016

By Scott Mortenson, Trip Leader

On April 24, 2016, I had the privilege of hosting 12 birders on a walk through my property and adjacent neighborhood in Summerfield. We enjoyed a beautiful cool spring morning with sunny skies. Together we saw or heard a total of 38 species during our three-hour walk, and afterwards we gathered on the back porch for a picnic lunch and a bit of feeder watching.



Photo Credit: Julien McCarthy

The highlights of the day may differ depending on one's perspective. As a host, I was very happy that the Louisiana Waterthrush that had been singing constantly for the previous two weeks continued its show and allowed great viewing for all of the birders. My personal highlight was seeing a Red-headed Woodpecker, not because I had never seen one before, but because it was my first sighting of this bird on my property, and I had always hoped that they were here. Many thanks to the birders that found this bird! A close second for me may have been watching Julien McCarthy play baseball in the back yard with my two kids!

What I also enjoy about these trips is learning about more than just birding from our well-rounded members, including banded water snakes (we witnessed a mating pair), bee hives, and native flowers and plants.

Thank you to all who attended!

Here is a list of the birds:

Ovenbird
Louisiana Waterthrush
Scarlet Tanager
Eastern Towhee
White-throated Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Brown-headed Cowbird
American Goldfinch
Canada Goose
Mallard
Great Blue Heron
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk
Mourning Dove
Chimney Swift
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Red-headed Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Eastern Phoebe
Red-eyed Vireo
Blue Jay
American Crow
Carolina Chickadee

Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Carolina Wren
Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Eastern Bluebird
American Robin
Northern Parula
Pine Warbler