



## **Piedmont Young Birders Enjoy the Greenway, July 11, 2020**

*submitted by Stella Wear*

On Saturday, July 11, 2020, six Piedmont Young Birders (PYB) and two parents joined Melanie Buckingham, Ann Steighner, Tom Wear, and Stella Wear at the Leonard Recreation Center for a bird walk on a portion of the Bicentennial Greenway. Since the group size was a total of 12, it was a workable number during these Covid-19 virus times. All participants wore masks and were able to distance appropriately.

Within the short distance from the Center's parking lot to Guilford Elementary School, the group saw 21 different species of birds. Highlights were Indigo Bunting, Belted Kingfisher, Red-shouldered Hawk, Eastern Towhee, and Red-winged Blackbird (complete list below). One very special treat was a Green Heron family near the school retention pond. This trail is excellent for birding. It has a variety of habitats and a good variety of birds that change seasonally. It is not a very busy area so distancing is easier than on some of the busy trails around the area. More birding walks are planned for the PYB in the months to come.

The Piedmont Young Birders is an organization for high school and middle school students. It is sponsored by T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society and The Piedmont Bird Club. Melanie Buckingham, member of both TGPAS and PBC, is the chair of the team of volunteers that helps with the programs for the youth group. In the future more youth will be invited to join this group. If you know someone who is interested in becoming a member of Piedmont Young Birders, contact Melanie at [melsbuck@yahoo.com](mailto:melsbuck@yahoo.com) or any board member of T. Gilbert Audubon Society or Piedmont Bird Club.

### **Species List**

American Crow  
Belted Kingfisher  
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher  
Brown Thrasher  
Carolina Wren  
Common Grackle

Eastern Bluebird  
Eastern Towhee  
European Starling  
Fish Crow  
Great Blue Heron  
Green Heron  
Indigo Bunting  
Mourning Dove

Northern Cardinal  
Northern Flicker  
Northern Mockingbird  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Song Sparrow  
Turkey Vulture