

## 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