Birding IN TEXAS

Clubs and Listserv

Audubon Texas
901 South Mopac Building II, Ste. 410, Austin (78746)
(512) 306-0225  www.tx.audubon.org

Texas Ornithological Society
www.texasbirds.org
texbirds Listserv - Birding discussion
http://lists.texbirds.org/texbirds.html

Further Reading

TPWD BIRDING LITERATURE

Download free birding literature:
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/huntwild/wild/
species/nongame

Publications include:
• Bird checklists (regional and statewide)
• Nature festival listings
• Migration details
• Species profiles
• Nuisance bird facts
• Hummingbird information
• Other nongame literature

ONLINE RESOURCE

Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s All About Birds
www.allaboutbirds.org

BOOKS

National Geographic Society. 1987. National
Geographic Society.

Houghton Mifflin.

Birds of North America: A Guide to Field Identifica-

Birding Texas. Wauer and Elwonger. Falcon Press.


M.W. Lockwood, W.B. McKinney, J.M. Paton and
Inc. Publications.

American Birding Association, Inc. Publications.

• Stay on established pathways and
keep motor vehicles on established
roads and parking areas.
• Avoid harassment; don’t disturb birds
that are nesting or their nesting
areas. Do not handle eggs or young,
or tarry too long at a working nest.
• Don’t overuse audio playback tapes
or owl tapes to call birds in.
• Don’t trespass on private property.
Respect landowners’ rights to privacy.
Always ask permission first.
• Follow all USFWS refuge and state
land rules and regulations.
• Divide larger groups of people into
smaller, more manageable numbers
when leading a tour. Small groups
cause less disturbance. When possi-
bile, carpool.
• Leave no litter or trash. Pack your
garbage out. Ingested trash items can
kill animals.
• Support Texas Parks and Wildlife
Department’s Nongame Fund. A good
portion of the money donated goes
towards management of nongame
birds and their habitat.
• Order a conservation license plate.

For information on other Texas birding opportunities:
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.: (800) 792-1112
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/birding

To make reservations at a state park:
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. Central Reservation
Center: (512) 389-8900

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Events

For a complete list of birding festivals
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/programs/tourism/festivals/

FEBRUARY
Annual Nature Day Celebration
Sea Center Texas – Lake Jackson
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/seacenter (979) 292-0100
Celebration of Whooping Cranes and Other Birds
Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce
www.portaransas.com (800) 45-COAST
Eagle Fest
Rains County and the City of Emory
www.eaglefest.org (800) 561-1182
Laredo Birding and Butterfly Festival
Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau
www.visitlaredo.com (800) 361-3360

MARCH
Jones Park NatureFest
Jesse Jones Park and Nature Center – Houston
www.hcp4.net/jones/index.htm (281) 446-8588
Texas Tropics Nature Festival
McAllen Chamber of Commerce
www.mcallen.org (877) MCALLEN

APRIL
Attwater’s Prairie Chicken Festival
Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR-Eagle Lake
www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/texas/attwater/ (979) 234-3021
Balcones Songbird Festival
Friends of Balcones Canyonlands
www.balconessongbirdfestival.org (512) 965-2473
Bluebird Festival
Wills Point Chamber of Commerce
www.willspointbluebird.com (800) WPBLUE
Galveston Island FeatherFest
Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council
www.galvestonfeatherfest.com (888) GAL-ISLE
Great Texas Birding Classic
TPWD and Gulf Coast Bird Observatory – coastwide
www.birdingclassic.org (979) 480-0999

MAY
Dragonfly Days
Valley Nature Center – Weslaco
www.valleynaturecenter.com (956) 969-2475

SEPTEMBER
HummerBird Celebration
Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce
www.rockporthummingbird.com (800) 242-0071
XTreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza
Gulf Coast Bird Observatory – Lake Jackson
www.gcbo.org (979) 480-0999

OCTOBER
Texas Butterfly Festival
Greater Mission Chamber of Commerce
www.texasbutterfly.com (800) 580-2700
Wild in Willacy Bootfest
Raymondville Chamber of Commerce
www.wildinwillacy.com (888) 603-6994

NOVEMBER
Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival
Harlingen Chamber of Commerce
www.rgvbirdfest.com (800) 531-7346
South Texas Wildlife and Birding Festival
Kingsville Convention and Visitors Bureau
www.kingsvilletexas.com (800) 333-5032

Migration Celebration
Friends of the Brazoria Wildlife Refuges
http://migrationcelebration.org (888) 477-2505
Nature Quest
Texas Hill Country River Region – Concan
www.thcrr.com (800) 210-0380

Where to go

Local parks and natural areas are a great place to get started birdwatching. They are convenient and can provide good-quality birdwatching. Check with your local parks and recreation department, or birding club, for recommendations on local opportunities.

State Parks and Wildlife Management Areas
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/parks
World Birding Center
www.worldbirdingcenter.org
National Parks and Seashores
www.nps.gov/state/TX
National Wildlife Refuges
www.fws.gov/Southwest/refuges/txrefuges.html

Regional Birding and Wildlife Trails

Whether you are a birder, a wildlife enthusiast, or just ready to discover the wildlife Texas has to offer, we have a map that makes it easy for you. These eight driving trail maps will direct you to the best spots in the state to observe wildlife such as birds, butterflies, bats or pronghorns.

Maps available:
Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail – Upper Coast
Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail – Central Coast
Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail – Lower Coast
Heart of Texas Wildlife Trail – East
Heart of Texas Wildlife Trail – West
Panhandle Plains Wildlife Trail
Prairies and Pineywoods Wildlife Trail – East
Prairies and Pineywoods Wildlife Trail – West

Purchase the beautiful four-color maps online at http://agrilifebookstore.org or by calling (888) 900-2577. Sections of the maps are also available online for last-minute trip planning at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/birdingtrails

Buy one or more maps today and start an adventure on the wild side of Texas.