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Date: Friday, April 5, 2013 8:40 PM
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Cc: "staff@uni.illinois.edu" <staff@uni.illinois.edu>
Subject: [Uni Staff] April Avian Adventures

The March Migration Madness event racked up a total of **43** different bird species over the course of the morning, including some more uncommon types such as **Winter Wren**, **Rusty Blackbird**, and **Bufflehead** (a type of duck)--and migration has barely even started. I also found a relatively photogenic and absolutely gorgeous **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**:



As more new migrants move in, it's time to announce the next two birding events:

Saturday, April 13th

Locations and times: Colbert Park (7:00-7:15); First and Windsor Pond (7:30-8:00); Anita Purves Nature Center (8:15-9:45); Meadowbrook Park, Windsor & Vine parking lot (10:00-11:00)

Similar to March Migration Madness, but with a slight change to the order of locations (based on the recommendation of one of my fellow birders). You are welcome to show up to any of the time slots are convenient for you. If you would like to visit all four locations, email me. You can show up at Colbert Park at 7:00, and I can provide rides for a few people to the other sites. This event will cover a wide variety of habitat and should turn up just about any kind of bird that is in town at the time, from ducks to blackbirds. For more details on the locations, either look at the March Migration Madness email from March 26th or email me.

Saturday, April 20th

Location: Anita Purves Nature Center (1505 N Broadway Ave, Urbana)

Time: 7:00-8:30 (first wave) 8:30-10:00 (second wave)

This event comes in two parts: the "first wave" for those of you who are willing to get up earlier to see more birds, and the "second wave" for those of you who are too lazy to get out of bed before 7:00 on a Saturday morning. Both waves start and end at Anita Purves Nature Center in Urbana. You are welcome to come to either or both of the waves. We'll be looking primarily for tree-climbing birds, thrushes, and warblers. Remember: perching birds tend to be more active earlier in the day, so coming to the earlier wave really is worth it.

And if Saturdays just don't work for you...

Come to official **Audubon Society birdwalks!** They are **every Sunday morning at Anita Purves Nature Center starting at 7:30** and going until... uh... whenever we're done. But it's fine if you leave early. Expect it to take 1-2 hours. The Audubon Society members are very welcoming of younger, less experienced birders, and do a great job of teaching newcomers the tricks of the trade (Exhibit A: I used to be a little kid who couldn't identify the Chipping Sparrows that sat out in bright sunlight on my front lawn. Now I'm identifying Winter Wrens that won't come out of their brush-piles unless you practically step on them.). They also tend to have extra binoculars that you can use during the walk.

Please RSVP for any of the events you plan on coming to by emailing me back. If you have any questions regarding the events, birds, or birding in general, you can also email me back. Maybe your questions will be featured on [my blog](#). Oh right, and check up on my retelling of Spring Break adventures on [my other blog](#).

Happy birding!
--Arch Robison
Junior
Locker 102