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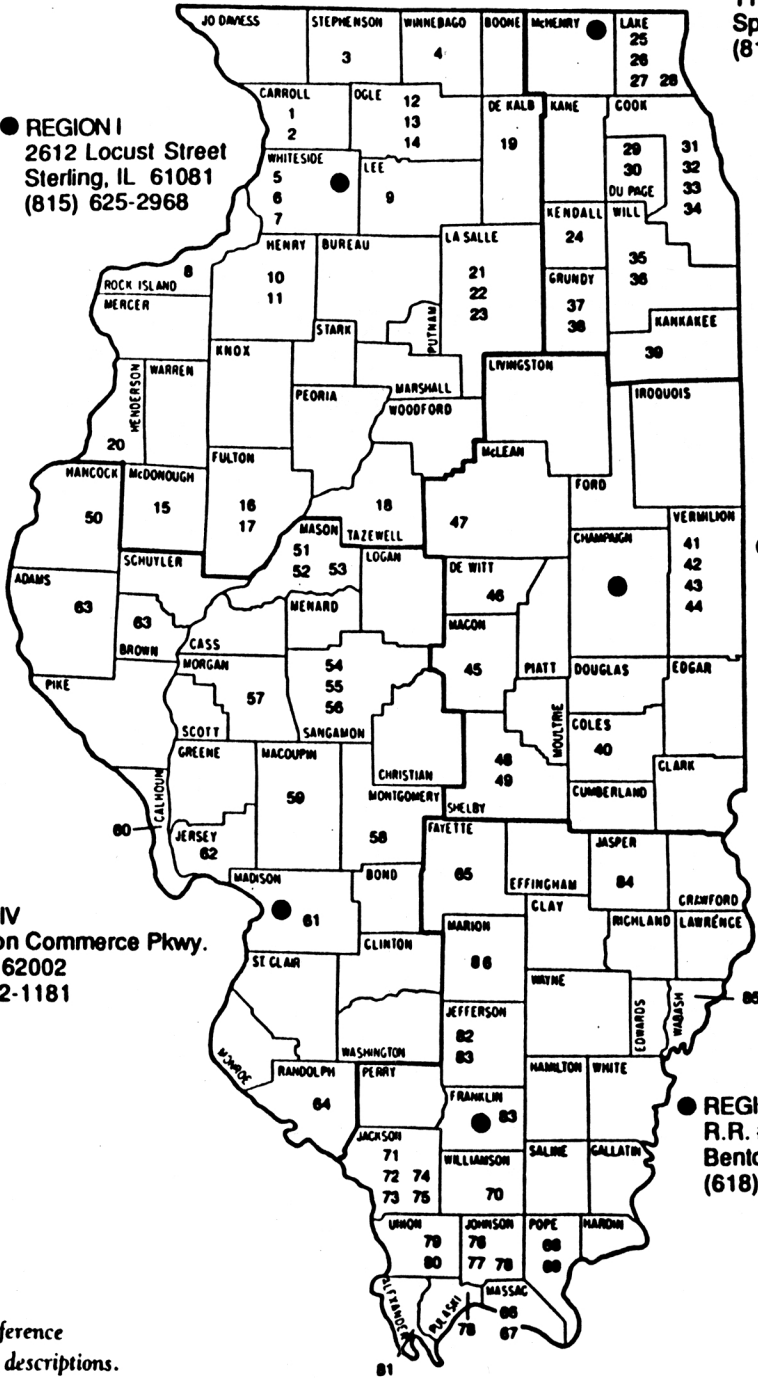
● REGION II
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● REGION III
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● REGION IV
4521 Alton Commerce Pkwy.
Alton, IL 62002
(618) 462-1181

● REGION V
R.R. #4
Benton, IL 62812
(618) 435-8138



See table to reference
numbered site descriptions.

Birding is a FUN sport that can be pursued year-round, anywhere and for little expense. Becoming a birder simply requires studying bird habits and learning to move quietly and slowly. When you go birding remember to wear comfortable shoes and take along a field guide, sketch book, pencil and binoculars. It is recommended that beginners use 7 x 35 power binoculars.

Birds can be found almost anywhere. Look in parks, forest preserves, your backyard, schoolyard, around a pond or wetland. The best times to look for birds are during their early morning or late afternoon feeding times. This is when they are most active.

Birding In Illinois

A reference to some of the best birding areas in Illinois



Suggested Birding Field Trips

KEY

Species Codes (capital letters indicate species of emphasis)

- b = bald eagles
- c = cormorants
- d = ducks and geese
- e = egrets, herons and bitterns
- f = forest species (woodpeckers, flycatchers, tanagers, thrushes, vireos)
- g = grassland species
- h = hawks
- k = Mississippi kites
- l = loons and grebes
- m = migrants
- o = owls
- r = rails, coots and moorhens
- s = shorebirds
- t = terns and gulls
- v = black vultures
- w = warblers

Site Ownership Codes

- ▼ = State of Illinois
- ☛ = State of Illinois, with site naturalist present
- ★ = U.S. Government (Fish & Wildlife Service, Forest Service, COE)
- 🌲 = Forest Preserve District
- = Illinois Audubon Society
- ✳ = Other Ownership

MAP	OWNERSHIP	COUNTY	EMPHASIS
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REGION 1

1	▼	Mississippi Palisades State Park	Carroll	f,h,m,o,w
2	▼	Spring Lake & Thompson area	Carroll	B,C,d,E,h,l,m,r,s,t
3	▼	Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park	Stephenson	f,g,h,m,o,w
4	▼	Rock Cut State Park	Winnebago	d,f,g,h,m,o,w
5	▼	Morrison Rockwood State Park	Whiteside	f,g,h,m,o,w
6	▼	Lowden-Miller State Forest	Whiteside	f,m,w
7	★	Lock & Dam at Fulton	Whiteside	B,C,D,E,h,l,m,r,s,t
8	★	Lock & Dams in Rock Island area	Rock Island	B,d,t
9	▼	Green River Conservation Area	Lee	e,f,G,H,m,o,r,w
10	▼	Johnson-Sauk Trail State Park	Henry	f,g,h,m,o,w
11	▼	Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park	Henry/Bureau	d,e,f,h,m,s,t,w
12	▼	White Pines Forest State Park	Ogle	f,g,h,m,o,w
13	▼	Castle Rock State Park	Ogle	f,g,h,m,o,w
14	▼	Lowden State Park	Ogle	b,f,h,m,o,w
15	▼	Argyle Lake State Park	McDonough	f,g,h,m,o,w
16	▼	Rice Lake Conservation Area	Fulton	B,C,D,E,f,g,h,l,m,o,R,S,T,w
17	▼	Banner Marsh Fish and Wildlife Area	Fulton	B,C,D,E,f,g,h,l,M,o,R,S,T,w
18	▼	Spring Lake Conservation Area	Tazewell	b,c,d,e,f,h,l,m,r,s,t,w
19	▼	Shabbona Lake State Park	DeKalb	c,d,f,g,h,l,m,o,w
20	▼	Big River State Forest	Henderson	f,g,h,m,o,w

REGION 2

21	▼	Illini State Park	LaSalle	d,e,f,g,h,l,m,o,w
22	☛	Starved Rock State Park	LaSalle	d,e,f,g,h,l,m,o,w
23	☛	Buffalo Rock State Park	LaSalle	d,E,F,G,h,m,s,t,w
24	▼	Silver Springs State Park	Kendall	f,g,h,m,o,w
25	▼	Moraine Hills State Park	Lake	f,g,h,m,w
26	▼	Chain O' Lakes State Park	Lake	D,E,F,G,h,l,M,o,R,s,t,w
27	☛	Volo Bog Natural Area	Lake	e,f,h,m,o,w
28	☛	Illinois Beach State Park	Lake	b,c,D,e,f,G,H,L,M,o,r,S,T,w
29	✳	Morton Arboretum	DuPage	d,e,f,g,h,m,o,w
30	🌲	Blackwell Forest Preserve	DuPage	c,d,e,f,g,h,l,M,r,s,w,t
31	🌲	Crabtree Nature Center	Cook	c,d,e,f,h,l,m,o,r,t,w
32	🌲	Sand Ridge Nature Center	Cook	f,g,h,m,o,w
33	🌲	Little Red School House Nature Center	Cook	c,d,e,f,g,h,m,o,t,w
34	🌲	McGinnis Slough	Cook	c,d,e,g,h,l,m,r,s,t,w
35	🌲	Pilcher Park	Will	f,g,h,m,o,w
36	🌲	Lake Renwick Forest Preserve	Will	C,d,E,f,h,l,m,r,s,t,w
37	☛	Goose Lake Prairie State Park	Grundy	b,c,d,e,f,G,h,l,m,o,r,s,t,w
38	☛	I & M Canal State Park	Grundy	d,E,f,g,h,m,o
39	☛	Kankakee River State Park	Kankakee	d,f,g,h,m,o,w

REGION 3

40	▼	Fox Ridge State Park	Coles	f,g,h,m,o,w
41	▼	Kickapoo State Park	Vermilion	d,e,f,g,h,m,o,w
42	✳	Kennebuck County Park	Vermilion	b,c,d,e,f,g,h,l,m,o,r,s,t,w
43	✳	Forest Glen Preserve	Vermilion	b,d,e,f,g,h,m,o,w

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44	▼	Middle Fork Fish and Wildlife Area	Vermilion	b,d,e,f,g,h,m,o,r,w
45	▼	Spitler Woods State Park	Macon	f,g,h,m,o,w
46	▼	Weldon Springs State Park	DeWitt	f,g,h,m,o,w
47	▼	Moraine View State Park	McLean	f,g,h,m,o,w
48	▼	Hidden Springs State Forest	Shelby	f,g,h,m,o,w
49	▼	Shelbyville Complex - Eagle Creek State Park and Wolf Creek State Park	Shelby	d,e,f,g,h,l,m,o,r,s,t,w
50	▼	Nauvoo State Park	Hancock	b,c,D,e,f,g,h,m,s,t,w
51	▼	Sand Ridge State Forest	Mason	f,g,H,m,O,w
52	★	Chautauqua Lake National Wildlife Refuge	Mason	B,c,D,E,f,g,H,l,m,o,R,S,T,w

REGION 4

53	▼	Sanganois Conservation Area	Cass/Mason	b,c,D,E,f,g,H,l,m,o,r,S,t,w
54	✳	Carpenter Park Nature Preserve	Sangamon	F,h,m,o,W
55	▼	Sangchris Lake State Park	Sangamon/Christian	b,c,d,e,f,g,h,l,m,o,r,s,t,w
56	➤	Adams Wildlife Sanctuary	Sangamon	f,m,w
57	➤	Leonard Wildlife Sanctuary	Morgan	d,e,f,h,m,r,s,t,w
58	➤	Bremer Wildlife Sanctuary	Montgomery	f,g,h,m,o,w
59	▼	Beaver Dam State Park	Macoupin	d,f,g,h,l,m,o,w
60	★	Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge	Calhoun	B,c,D,E,f,g,H,l,m,o,r,s,t,w
61	▼	Horseshoe Lake State Park	Madison	d,E,f,g,h,l,m,r,s,t,w
62	▼	Pere Marquette State Park	Jersey	B,d,e,f,g,h,m,o,s,w
63	▼	Siloam Springs State Park	Adams/Brown	d,f,g,h,m,o,w
64	☛	Illinois Caverns/Baldwin Lake	Randolph	b,c,D,e,f,g,h,l,m,r,s,t,w
65	▼	Carlyle Lake Fish and Wildlife Area	Fayette	B,C,D,E,F,g,h,l,m,o,r,S,T,w

REGION 5

66	☛	Fort Massac State Park	Massac	f,k,m,o,t,w
67	▼	Mermet Lake Conservation Area	Massac	b,c,d,e,f,l,m,o,R,s,w
68	▼	Dixon Springs State Park	Pope	f,g,h,m,o,V,w
69	➤	War Bluff Valley Wildlife Sanctuary	Pope	f,g,h,m,o,w
70	★	Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge	Williamson	B,C,D,E,F,g,h,l,m,o,r,s,t,w
71	▼	Giant City State Park	Jackson	d,f,g,h,m,o,w
72	▼	Lake Murphysboro State Park	Jackson	d,f,g,h,m,o,w
73	▼	Kinkaid Lake	Jackson	f,g,h,m,o,w
74	★	Oakwood Bottoms	Jackson	d,E,f,g,h,k,M,O,R,s,W
75	★	Pine Hills/Larue Swamp	Jackson	d,e,f,h,l,M,o,r,V,W
76	▼	Ferne Clyffe State Park	Johnson	f,g,h,m,o,V,W
77	▼	Heron Pond Natural Area	Johnson	d,e,f,h,l,m,O,r,s,V,W
78	★	Cache River	Johnson/Pulaski	D,E,F,g,h,l,m,o,r,s,t,w
79	▼	Trail of Tears State Forest	Union	f,h,M,o,W
80	▼	Union County Conservation Area	Union	B,c,D,E,F,g,h,K,l,M,o,r,S,W
81	▼	Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area	Alexander	B,c,D,E,F,g,h,K,l,M,o,r,S,W
82	▼	Rend Lake Fish and Wildlife Area	Jefferson	b,c,d,e,f,g,h,l,m,o,r,S,t,w
83	▼	Wayne Fitzgerald State Park	Franklin/Jefferson	d,e,f,g,h,l,m,o,r,S,t,w
84	✳	Newton Lake	Jasper	B,d,e,f,g,h,l,m,o,r,s,w
85	▼	Beall Woods State Park	Wabash	f,h,m,o,w
86	▼	Stephen A. Forbes State Park	Marion	d,f,g,h,m,o,w