



ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

# SPRING GATHERING

Sponsored by the  
Decatur Audubon Society



April 18-20, 2008

Decatur Conference Center & Hotel

Decatur, Illinois

Event Information & Registration Form

The 2008 Illinois Audubon Society Spring Gathering "Spring into Decatur" is being organized by the Decatur Audubon Society. All events are open to the public. Beginning and experienced wildlife watchers are welcome and invited to attend.

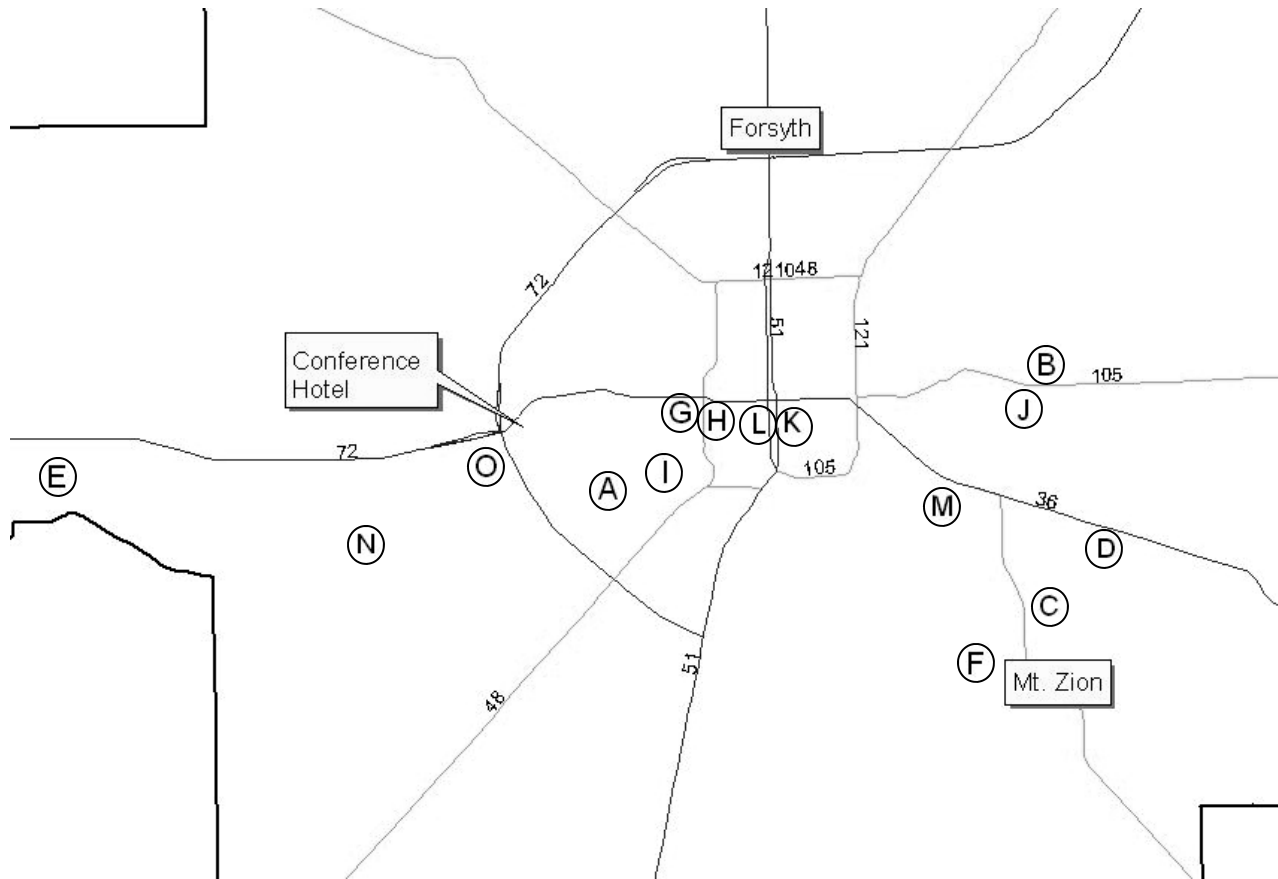
*The mission of the Illinois Audubon Society is to promote the perpetuation and appreciation of native plants and animals and the habitats that support them.*

Illinois Audubon Society  
PO Box 2547, Springfield, IL 62708  
(217) 544-2473  
[www.illinoisaudubon.org](http://www.illinoisaudubon.org)

## 2008 IAS Spring Gathering Field Trip Listing

- A. **Rock Springs Center** (Sat. 8am) (Sun. 8am, 10am) Guided bird and wildflower hikes through woodlands and restored prairie areas to the Sangamon River and the Homestead Prairie Farm. The Center has an eco-center, interactive museum and "window on wildlife" for viewing and listening. Enjoy bird and wildflower shows in the Bluestem Theater. Easy trails. (Max 12) 1 ½ hrs.
- B. **Bois du Sangamon Nature Preserve** (Sat. & Sun. 8am) Guided tour of a virgin woodland that is currently being managed for invasive weeds by volunteers stewards. It offers a rare viewing of native species and birdlife in an area adjoining Lake Decatur. Bushwhack hiking. (Max 14) 1 ¾ hrs.
- C. **Birds and Wildflowers of Spitler Woods State Park** (Sat. 8am, 10am, 1pm) Guided tour of a unique natural area ideal for finding the Red-headed Woodpeckers and many other birds. It is also renowned for abundant wild flowers. Some trails are handicapped accessible. (Max 12) 1 ½ hr.
- D. **Birds and Wildflowers of Ft. Daniel** (Sat. 8am, 10am, 1pm) Guided tour of virgin timber features spring wildflowers. A choice birding area with Baltimore Orioles and many migrants coming to nest near the flowing creek. Hike along good trails. (Max 12) 1 ½ hr.
- E. **Calamus Lake State Nature Preserve** (Sat. 3pm) (Sun. 8am, 10am) A guided bushwhack hike around the lake with a chance to see migrating waterfowl and unique flora. Habitat features rare examples of prairie pothole flora and fauna. (Max 12) 1 ¾ hr.
- F. **Backyard Birding** (Sat. 8, 9, 10, 11am, 12, 1, 2, 3 pm) Nestled in 80 acres of timber, this backyard is a certified IAS Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary. Countless birds flock to the complex of feeders, stream and pond. Woodland trails wind among wildflowers. (Max 10)
- G. **Fairview Park Tree Trail** (Sat. 8am, 10am, 3pm) A University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener will lead a guided tour where the group has labeled 58 tree species. (Max 15) 50 min.
- H. **Millikin University Science Center** (Sat. 9am) Dr. David Horn, Assistant Professor of Biology and Ornithology at MU, will lead a tour of the facility and the museum. Participants will have the opportunity to see many specimens including passenger pigeons. (Max 20) 1 hr.
- I. **Mari-Mann Herb Farm** (Sat. 10:15am) A guided tour of the Mari-Mann Herb Farm, one of the largest herb farms in the Midwest will be followed by a gourmet herb luncheon. You will visit the herb beds, everlasting flowerbeds, formal garden and the new fairy garden. Fee: \$10.00 (Max 12) 2 hrs.
- J. **Macon County Historical Society & Museum** (Sat. 10:15am & 1pm) The Macon County History Museum and Prairie Village Complex offers indoor and outdoor exhibits highlighting the community's Lincoln Heritage. See the Log Courthouse where Lincoln practiced as a young lawyer in the 1830s, a 1850s log house, and a 1860s one-room school house. Fee: \$2.00 (Max 30) 1 ¾ hr.
- K. **Downtown Decatur Arts Tour** (Sat. 10:15am) Guided tour covers three locations: Madden Arts Center, Gallery 510 and the Blue Connection, featuring Millikin U. artists. Host is Bert Gray, Ex. Director of Decatur Area Arts Council. Lunch at Pastabilities just around the corner for \$9.25. (Max 30) 2 hrs.
- L. **Historical Homes Tour** (Sat. 12:15) Tour of Circa 1860, a restored home functioning as a tea room, followed by guided tours of the Governor Oglesby Mansion and James Millikin Homestead. Fee: \$10.50 includes lunch & Ice Cream Social. (Max 30) 3 hrs.
- M. **Scovill Zoo** (Sat. 1:30 & 3pm) See timber wolves, zebras, cheetahs, breeding toucans and much more in a guided behind-the-scenes tour. Fee: \$2.75 (Max 15) 1 ½ hr.
- N. **Lincoln Trail Homestead Park** (Sat. 1pm) (Sun. 8 & 10am) A favorite birding location at the site of Lincoln's homestead along the Sangamon River. Kim Bauer, former Curator of the Lincoln Museum and Director of the Lincoln Heritage Project for Decatur will give a guided tour. (Max 30) 1 ¾ hr.
- O. **Illinois Raptor Center** (Sun. 8, 9, 10 & 11am) Guided tours include viewing permanently injured resident birds of prey and others in rehab. Programs focus on natural history and the dangers facing wildlife in our expanding civilization. (Max 20) 1 hr.

## 2008 IAS Spring Gathering Field Trip Locations



Tear off and enclose with payment (Please Fill out Parts I & II — see reverse side)  
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE APRIL 11**

**PART I — REGISTRATION FORM (please print clearly)**

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail (not required) \_\_\_\_\_

**LUNCHES:** For those not purchasing lunches as part of a field trip, box lunches are available if ordered below. Lunches will be delivered to you on Saturday. Information regarding exact location of lunch delivery will be included in the registration packet. Registration packets can be picked up at check-in on either Friday or Saturday.

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

	Price	Qty	Total
Basic Registration Fee	\$7.00		
Additional Field Trip Fees			
Saturday Box Lunch: <u>circle choice(s)</u> : Meat or Veggie	\$5.00		
Saturday Night Dinner : <u>circle choice(s)</u> : Grilled Chicken Pork Loin ( Veggie? please check <input type="radio"/> )	\$25.00		
Sunday Box Lunch: <u>circle choice(s)</u> : Meat or Veggie	\$5.00		
Total enclosed			



## Hotel Information

The IAS 2008 Spring Gathering, Presentations, Members' Slide Show, and the Saturday Night dinner will be held at Decatur Area Conference Center and Hotel, 4191 US Highway 36 West, Decatur, IL 62522. A block of rooms has been reserved until **March 18, 2008**, at a rate of \$79 (plus tax). This rate does not include breakfast. Call 877.352.8800 and mention *Illinois Audubon Society* when making your reservation.

## Field Trip Schedule (see descriptions on Page 2 — locations marked on Page 3 map)

Field Trip ID & Title		Fee	Saturday				Sunday			
A	Rock Springs Center		8:00				8:00		10:00	
B	Bois du Sangamon Nature Preserve		8:00				8:00			
C	Birds & Wildflowers of Spittle Woods SP		8:00		10:00	1:00				
D	Birds and Wildflowers of Ft. Daniel		8:00		10:00	1:00				
E	Calamus Lake State Nature Preserve						8:00		10:00	
F	Backyard Birding		Saturday only at 8, 9, 10, & 11am, 12, 1, 2, & 3 pm							
G	Fairview Park Tree Trail		8:00		10:00		3:00			
H	Millikin University Science Center			9:00						
I	Mari-Mann Herb Farm	\$10 w/lunch			10:15					
J	Macon Co Historical Society & Museum	\$2			10:15	1:00				
K	Downtown Decatur Arts Tour	\$9.25 w/lunch			10:15					
L	Historical Homes Tour	\$10.50 w/lunch			12:15					
M	Scovill Zoo	\$2.75				1:30	3:00			
N	Lincoln Trail Homestead Park					1:00		8:00		10:00
O	Illinois Raptor Center							8:00	9:00	10:00 11:00

## REGISTRATION DEADLINE APRIL 11

### PART II — FIELD TRIP PRE-RESERVATIONS (required)

To help us plan better for field trips, we are asking that you pre-register for the field trips offered on Page 2. Please indicate field trip choices (**using Field Trip ID — A, B, C, etc AND preferred TIME**) for each day below. We ask that you indicate a second choice in the event that some field trips become overbooked or cancelled. Confirmations will be sent out to anyone who pre-registers by the April 11, 2008 deadline.

Attendee(s) name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday
First Choice (list Field Trip ID & TIME)					
Second Choice (list Field Trip ID & TIME)					

Attendee(s) name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday
First Choice (list Field Trip ID & TIME)					
Second Choice (list Field Trip ID & TIME)					

Make checks payable to "*Illinois Audubon Society*" and mail along with this registration form to: Illinois Audubon Society, PO Box 2547, Springfield, IL 62708. Please DO NOT send in fees for Second Choices, we will notify you if necessary. A confirmation packet will be sent to the address listed on the registration form.

**Don't forget to fill in Part I on the reverse side of this form.**

For more information call: 217.544.2473 or email [admin@illinoisaudubon.org](mailto:admin@illinoisaudubon.org)