



Birds of Big Hill Pond State Park

1435 John Howell Road, Pocahton, TN 38061 | 731-645-7967

The park encompasses 4,138 acres of timberland and hardwood bottomland where a variety of woodland birds can be seen. Cypress Creek and Tusculumbia River border the park and are known to host nesting bald eagles. There is a 70-foot fire tire. The flood plain, adjacent to the river and creek contains small oxbows and swampy areas which are desirable habitat for waterfowl, wildlife and fish.



Rusty Blackbird

Scott Somersho

Responsible Birding

- Do not endanger the welfare of birds.
- Tread lightly and respect bird habitat.
- Silence is golden.
- Do not use electronic sound devices to attract birds during nesting season, May-July.
- Take extra care when in a nesting area.
- Always respect the law and the rights of others, violators subject to prosecution.
- Do not trespass on private property.
- Avoid pointing your binoculars at other people or their homes.
- Limit group sizes in areas that are not conducive to large crowds.

Helpful Links

Tennessee Birding Trails
www.tnbirdingtrail.org
Field Checklist of Tennessee Birds
www.tnwatchablewildlife.org
eBird Hotspots and Sightings
www.ebird.org
Tennessee Ornithological Society
www.tnbirds.org
Tennessee State Parks Birding
www.tnstateparks.com/activities/birding



T E N N E S S E E
State Parks
www.tnstateparks.com

Additional Nearby State Park Birding Opportunities

Chickasaw: Cabins, Campground, Group Lodge, Group Camp | Henderson, TN | 731-989-5141
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/chickasaw

Natchez Trace: Cabins, Campground, Lodge, Restaurant | Wildersville, TN | 731-968-3742
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/natchez-trace

Pickwick Landing: Lodge, Cabins, Golf Course, Restaurant | Counce, TN | 731-689-3129
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/pickwick-landing

Pinson Mounds: Group Camp, Pavilions | Pinson, TN | 731-988-5614
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/pinson-mounds

Birding Locations In and Around Big Hill Pond State Park

A hiking trail map is available at the park.

Turkey Call Trail: Dismal Swamp Boardwalk: 35.044862, -88.737195, Winter, Spring, Fall
2.45 Miles | Natural Surface | Moderate

This loop trail offers an elevated boardwalk through the Dismal Swamp then dips into the Tuscumbia River floodplain before heading up the ridge into hardwood forest.

Featured Birds: rusty blackbird, Carolina chickadee, tufted titmouse, northern rough-winged swallow, tree swallow, Acadian flycatcher, red-winged blackbird, Louisiana waterthrush, prothonotary warbler.

Tuscumbia Trail: Lookout Tower: 35.050581, -88.739966, Winter, Fall
2.30 Miles | Natural Surface | Moderate

The 70-foot tall refurbished fire tower offers excellent 360° views of Travis McNatt Lake and Dismal Swamp.

Featured Birds: turkey vulture, black vulture, red-tailed hawk, osprey, common grackle, and occasional bald eagle.

Fox Hollow Trail: 35.058243, -88.725896, Winter, Summer, Fall
0.65 Miles | Natural Surface | Easy

The trail starts at the visitor center and skirts along the shore of Travis McNatt Lake.

Featured Birds: Canada goose, northern pintail, lesser scaup, blue-winged teal, bufflehead, gadwall, double-crested cormorant, chimney swift, pied-billed grebe, killdeer, herons, and egrets.

Rocky Knob Trail: Trail Head: 35.066845, -88.723260, Year-round
2.40 Miles | Natural Surface | Moderate

Starting in the campground the trail heads upland through mixed pine forest crossing Dismal Branch twice.

Featured Birds: red-eyed vireo, pine siskin, wild turkey, Baltimore orioles, wood thrush, hermit thrush, American redstart, eastern whip-poor-will, Carolina chickadee.

Nearby Birding Locations

Ghost River State Natural Area: Mineral Slough Boardwalk: 35.027179, -89.272319, Spring, Summer
tn.gov/content/tn/environment/program-areas/na-natural-areas/natural-area

This boardwalk forms a loop through a maze of bald cypress-water tupelo swamp.
135 species of birds identified.

Featured Birds: prothonotary warbler, yellow-throated warbler, northern parula, American goldfinch, indigo bunting, summer tanagers, flycatchers, woodpeckers, and vireos.

William B. Clark State Natural Area: Trailhead: 35.05540, -89.54010, Year-round
tn.gov/content/tn/environment/program-areas/na-natural-areas/natural-area

A boardwalk meanders through bottomland hardwood and swamp adjacent to a free-flowing section of the Wolf River offering floodplains, marsh land, and cypress-water tupelo swamp. 178 species of birds identified.

Featured Birds: kinglets, Kentucky warbler, common yellowthroat, prothonotary warblers, wood duck, barred owl, red-shouldered hawk, great blue heron, and woodpeckers.

Shiloh National Military Park: Parking Area: 35.141235, W -88.327755, Spring, Summer
nps.gov/shil/index.htm | 731-689-5696

This historical park memorializes the Civil War with monuments placed among open fields and hardwood forest. In late spring, 22 species of warblers have been observed here. 141 species of birds identified.

Featured Birds: wild turkey, northern cardinal, summer tanager, eastern meadowlark, red-winged blackbirds, cedar waxwings, sparrows, and a variety of warblers.