



Birds of Norris Dam State Park

125 Village Green Circle, Lake City, Tennessee 37769 / 800 543-9335

Waterfowl, great blue and green herons, gulls, osprey and bald eagle frequent the lake, and the forests harbor great numbers of migratory birds in the spring and fall. Over 105 species of birds have been observed throughout the year. Below the dam look for orchard and northern orioles, eastern bluebirds, sparrows and tree swallows.



Tennessee Warbler

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

Big Ridge – Cabins, Campground / Maynardville, TN 37807 / 865-471-5305
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/big-ridge

Cove Lake – Campground, Restaurant / Caryville, TN 37714 / 423-566-9701
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/cove-lake

Frozen Head – Campground / Wartburg, Tennessee 37887 / 423-346-3318
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/frozen-head

Seven Islands – Boat Ramp / Kodak, Tennessee 37764 / 865-407-8335
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/seven-islands

Birding Locations In and Around Norris Dam State Park

A hiking trail map is available at the park.

Hootin Hollow Trail: 36.24323, -84.11844 - 1.1 Mile - Natural Surface - Easy - Year-round

This trail starts at west campsite #26 along a ridgetop of oak-hickory forest and is for night birding hikes since it parallels high above a lake cove.

Featured Birds: eastern whip-poor-will, barred owl, great horned owl, eastern screech-owl, red-tailed hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper's hawk, hairy woodpecker, downy woodpecker, pileated woodpecker, white-breasted nuthatch, Carolina chickadee, tufted titmouse, and eastern phoebe.

Marine Railway Trail: 36.24316, -84.10222 - 3.0 Miles - Natural Surface - Moderate - Year-round

This trail is accessible from the cabins area on Village Green Road at 1,360 feet elevation and drops down to the lake at 1,040 feet elevation through oak-hickory forest, an open area along a power line and the lakeshore.

Featured Birds: owls, red-tailed hawk, wild turkey, pileated woodpecker, Canada goose, mallard, American coot, bald eagle, belted kingfisher, great blue heron, ruby-throated hummingbird, American crow, white-breasted nuthatch, black vulture, scarlet tanager, field sparrow, northern mockingbird, cliff swallow, mourning dove, and yellow-throated warbler.

Elkins Trail: 36.24176, -84.12404 - 2.25 Miles - Natural Surface - Moderate - Year-round

This trail starts from Andrews Ridge Road near the West Campground descending 380 feet to the lakeshore and travels through ridgetop oak-hickory forest, open power lines, and lakeshore.

Featured Birds: northern cardinal, brown thrasher, blue jay, Carolina chickadee, northern mockingbird, American robin, wild turkey, pileated woodpecker, hairy woodpecker, downy woodpecker, northern flicker, purple finch, American goldfinch, killdeer, tufted titmouse, red-tailed hawk, American kestrel, bald eagle, great blue heron, belted kingfisher and Canada goose.

Lakeview Trail: 36.22528, -84.07870 - 4.75 Miles - Natural Surface - Moderate - Year-round

The forested trail is accessible from the Historic CCC Cabins area and parallels the lakeshore with splendid views of Norris Lake.

Featured Birds: owls, woodpeckers, ducks, bald eagle, red-tailed hawk, American coot, great blue heron, belted kingfisher, killdeer, ruffed grouse, wild turkey, eastern phoebe, Carolina wren, eastern bluebird, yellow-throated warbler, eastern wood-pewee, scarlet tanager, purple finch, ruby-throated hummingbird and cliff swallow.

Nearby Birding Locations

TVA Songbird Trail: Parking Area: 36.219548,-84.08848 - Year-round

www.tva.gov/Environment/Recreation/Trails - 865-632-2101

This trail is paved with crushed, packed, limestone gravel making it a great trail and is also a birder's paradise. Over 180 species of birds have been observed throughout the year.

Featured Birds: owls, warblers, vireos, sparrows, kinglets, woodpeckers, wrens, eastern kingbird, eastern wood-pewee, great-crested flycatcher, brown thrasher, blue-gray gnatcatcher, orchard oriole, yellow-bellied sapsucker, hermit thrush, cedar waxwing.

Sharps Ridge Memorial Park: Overlook: 36.0055, -83.9393 - Spring, Fall

www.knoxvilletn.gov/government/city_departments_offices/parks_and_recreation/parks - 865-215-4311

This 111 acre park is designated as a bird sanctuary by City of Knoxville and is one of the best places in the Knoxville region to observe migrant songbirds during the spring. Nearly 150 species of birds identified.

Featured Birds: warblers, vireos, thrushes, tanagers, woodpeckers, orioles, indigo bunting, rose-breasted grosbeak, least flycatcher, white-breasted nuthatch, great horned owl and Cooper's hawk.

Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery: Entrance: 36.1210, -84.1153 - Year-round

www.tn.gov/twra/article/twra-fish-hatchery-system - 865-457-5135

The fish hatchery is operated by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and is also a productive place for shorebirds, wading birds, and waterfowl. Nearly 200 species of birds identified.

Featured Birds: warblers, sandpipers, plovers, herons, Swainson's thrush, marsh wren, Philadelphia vireo, merlin, eastern phoebe, eastern kingbird, ducks, killdeer, willow flycatcher, double-crested cormorant, osprey, lesser and greater yellowlegs.