

The Nature of Occoquan Bay: Early Spring Highlights

A Sampling of Seasonal Plants and Wildlife Occurring on/around the Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge

BIRDS:

Pied-billed Grebe
Great Blue Heron
Vultures (Turkey and/or Black)
Canada Goose
Wood Duck
Green-winged Teal
Mallard
Gadwall
American Black Duck
Ring-necked Duck
Lesser Scaup
Hooded Merganser
Common Merganser
Red-breasted Merganser
Ruddy Duck
Osprey
Bald Eagle
Northern Harrier
Sharp-shinned or Cooper's Hawks
Red-shouldered Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
Merlin
Wild Turkey
Northern Bobwhite
King Rail
American Coot
Killdeer
Yellow-legs (Greater and Lesser)
Wilson's Snipe
Gulls (Bonaparte's, Ring-billed,
Herring, Great Black-backed)
Morning Dove
Great Horned Owl
Barred Owl
Belted Kingfisher
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Eastern Phoebe

Blue Jay
American Crow
Fish Crow
Tree Swallow
Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Carolina Wren
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Eastern Bluebird
Hermit Thrush
American Robin
Northern Mockingbird
Brown Thrasher
European Starling
Cedar Waxwing
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Pine Warbler
Palm Warbler
Louisiana Waterthrush
Eastern Towhee
American Tree Sparrow
Chipping Sparrow
Field Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Northern Cardinal
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
Common Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
House Finch
American Goldfinch
BUTTERFLIES:
Swallowtail species (Zebra,
Eastern Tiger, Spicebush)
Falcate Orangetip

Cabbage White
Sulphurs (Clouded and Orange)
Eastern Tailed-Blue
Azure species
Variegated Fritillary
Pearl Crescent
Mourning Cloak
Juvenal's Duskywing

DRAGONFLIES:

Common Green Darner

Also Watch For:

Moth species, Grasshoppers and Crickets,
Pickerel Frog and Spring Peepers,
Painted, Mud, Red-eared, and Red-bellied
Turtles, Slimy Salamander, Five-lined
Skink, Black Racer, Short-tailed Shrew,
Opossum, Eastern Cottontail, Gray
Squirrel, Woodchuck, Muskrat, Beaver,
Red Fox, Raccoon, White-tailed Deer

Conspicuous Blooming Plants:

Smooth Alder, American Beech, Bluets,
Bulbous Buttercup, Common Cinquefoil,
Yellow Corydalis, Small-flowered Bitter
Cress, Common Dandelion, Henbit,
Ground Ivy, Lichens, Red Maple, Field
Mustard, Purple Dead Nettle, Red and
White Oaks, Pawpaw, Bradford Pear,
Redbud, Wood Rush, Sassafras,
Serviceberry (Shadblow), Spatterdock,
Spicebush, Cut-leaved Toothwort,
Common Blue Violet, and Wood Sorrel

The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia

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