**Introduction to Birding Course**

**March 4 – April 5, 2025**

**The Iowa City Bird Club is offering Introduction to Birding Course**. There will be five Tuesday evening classes and five Saturday morning field trips to area birding hot spots. Tuesday classes are from 7 to 8 PM at **Environmental Education Center, 2401 Scott Blvd. SE, Iowa City**. The cost is free for ICBC members or $5 for nonmembers. Or join our membership the first night of class- annual membership of $10 with digital subscription or $15 for print/mailed newsletter subscription. Participants may attend all sessions or pick one or more to attend. No registration required! Loaner binoculars are provided for these Beginning Birder field trips.

Trips may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Please check our website calendar for updates:

https://iowacitybirdclub.org/events/. Updates will also be emailed to club members and posted on our Facebook page. For more information, contact iowacitybirdclub@gmail.com

**Tuesday, March 4, 7 p.m.- 8 p.m. BASICS OF BIRDING I CLASS.** This will include field identification of birds, field guides, and equipment every birder needs.

**Saturday March 8, 8a.m.-12 p.m. Field Trip to CONE MARSH State Wildlife Area.** Beginning Birder Trip- for current or past participants in ICBC’s Intro Course. Cone Marsh is an excellent place to view migrating ducks, geese, Sandhill Cranes, and other water birds. Wear boots for walking in wet areas, and bring a spotting scope if you have one. Meet at Fareway parking lot, 2765 Commerce Dr. Iowa City. From here we carpool to Cone Marsh, 3rd St, Conesville.

**Tuesday, March 11, 7 p.m.- 8 p.m. BASICS OF BIRDING II CLASS,** including e-Bird, apps, and birdsong ID.

**Saturday, March 15, 8 a.m.- 12 p.m. Field Trip to KENT PARK**. Beginning Birder Trip- for current or past participants in ICBC’s Intro Course. We will explore the trails in this park looking for migrating songbirds and resident woodland birds. Meet at Conservation Education Center in Kent Park 2048 Hwy 6 NW Oxford.

**Tuesday, March 18, 7 p.m.-8 p.m. Birding JOHNSON COUNTY.** Covering eBird Aerts, Hotspots, recent photos and sightings and ICBC Field Trips.

**Saturday, March 22, 8 a.m.- 12 p.m. Field Trip to LAKE MACBRIDE** Beginning Birder Trip- for current or past participants in ICBC’s Intro Course. Targets are water birds and other early spring migrants. We’ll stop at various points around the lake. Meet at the North Liberty Recreation Center at: 520 W Cherry St, on the North side of the building and carpool from there. If you are familiar with Lake McBride and feel comfortable, you can meet up with us at Sailboat Shelter 1 parking lot in Lake McBride State Park around 8:20am.

**Tuesday, March 25, 7 p.m.- 8 p.m. BACKYARD AND FEEDER BIRDS CLASS.** This session will cover the common birds found in our backyards during the year, and what types of feeders and food to use to attract them.

**Saturday, March 29, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Field Trip to HAWKEYE WILDLIFE AREA**. Beginning Birder Trip- for current or past participants in ICBC’s Intro Course. We expect to see ducks, geese, American White Pelicans, and other early spring migrants. Wear boots for walking in wet areas, and bring a spotting scope if you have one. Meet at the Swan Lake parking lot. (GPS coordinates 41.776081, 91.675009)

**Tuesday, April 1, 7 p.m. – 8 p.m. Birds of Iowa:** Summer residents that nest here and birds that migrate through in spring and fall.

**Saturday, April 5, 8 a.m.- 12 p.m. Field Trip to WATERWORKS PRAIRIE PARK.** Beginning Birder Trip- for current or past participants in ICBC’s Intro Course. Visit this Iowa City Park with great trails for woodland, prairie, and wetland species. Meet at Waterworks Prairie Park, 2875 Dubuque St NE, Iowa City