

2013				Mar					Apr				May			
BUSEY WOODS WALKS	1 st	1 st	1 st	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26
	11	12	13													
starting temperature				21	50	35	36	46	57	40	40		65	43		
sky				clear	ovc	ovc	ovc	cling	clear	over	ovr	driz	show	clear		
wind				still	5mph	10mp			sl							
water				high	high	high	snow	muddy	high	high	high	high	high	high		
# people				21	5	6	5	12	20	20	30	20	25	30		
#bird species				25	37	29	21	24	41	48	49		55	55		
# hours				1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5		2	3			1	2		
new for the year				4	10	1	0	2	11	13	8		8	3		
1 Goose, White-fronted																
2 Goose, Snow																
3 Goose, Canada	1/1	1/1	1/1	6	6	20	6	10	3	14	√			2		
4 Duck, Wood	3/12	3/4	3/10		2	4				1	2					
5 Mallard	2/19		1/1		1	4		2	4		4		2	2		
6 Teal, Blue-winged		4/15														
7 SHOVELLER			4/14							2						
8 TEAL, GREEN-WINGED			3/17			1										
9 PINTAIL																
10 Merganser, Hooded			4/23													
11 MERGANSER, COMMON																
12 Grebe, Pied-billed	3/26	4/15	4/7						1							
13 Cormorant, Db Cr	4/23															
14 Heron, Great Blue	3/19	3/25	4/7						1							
15 Egret, Great		4/29	5/1													
16 Heron, Green	4/16	4/15	4/13							1						
17 Vulture, Turkey	2/17	¾	4/5													
18 Osprey																
19 KITE, MISSISSIPPI	5/22															
20 EAGLE, BALD	4/2		5/2													
21 Harrier																
22 Hawk, Sharp-shinned	4/30															
23 Hawk, Cooper"s	1/1	1/1	1/1					1	NB	2NB	ON			ON		
24 Hawk, Broad-winged	4/16	4/15	4/14							1	2					
25 Hawk, Red-shouldered																
26 Hawk, Red-tailed	2/18	3/4	1/1													
27 Falcon, Peregrine			4/18													
28 Kestrel, American																
29 Merlin																
30 Coot	4/9	3/25														
31 Killdeer	2/18	3/11	3/10			1					2					
32 Sandpiper, Spotted																
33 Sandpiper, Solitary		4/29														
34 Snipe	4/2															
35 Woodcock	3/26	3/4	3/10		14	1										
36 Gull, Ring-billed	4/2		3/10		2											
37 *DOVE, EURASIAN COLL	3/5	4/15	3/31					1		2						
38 Dove, Rock	3/5	3/4	3/3	1												
39 Dove, Mourning	1/1	1/1	1/1	3	3	3		3		2	4			2		
40 Cuckoo, Yellow-billed	5/13	5/13														
41 Cuckoo, Black-billed	4/30															
42 Owl, Screech																
43 OWL, BARRED	2/18	4/8	3/10		1									1		
44 Owl, Great Horned																
45 NIGHTHAWK	5/7	5/6														
46 Swift, Chimney	4/23	4/22	5/5										√			
47 Hummingbird, Rb.thr.	5/14	5/20	5/2													
48 Kingfisher, Belted	2/18	3/4	3/10		1	1				2						
49 Woodpecker, Red-head	2/18	3/4	4/14							2			ON			
50 Woodpecker, Red-bell.	1/23	1/1	1/1	1	3	2	2	1	3	4	6			1		

51	Sapsucker, Yel-bell.	1/23	3/11	3/31					2	30	10	2							
52	Woodpecker, Downy	12/31	1/1	1/1	1	2	1	4	4	2	2	6		√	2				
53	Woodpecker, Hairy	2/18	3/11	1/1	1	1	1	1				1							
54	Flicker, Northern	2/18	3/18	1/1	1	1	1			1	2	1							
55	Woodpecker, Pileated	2/18																	
56	Flycatcher, Olive-sided	5/28																	
57	Pewee, Eastern	4/30	5/4																
58	Flycatch., Yellow-bell.																		
59	Flycatcher, Acadian	5/2	5/20																
60	Flycatcher, Least	4/30	5/4	5/1										√					
	Fly, Empidonax sp			4/30															
61	Flycatcher, Great-crest	4/25	4/29	5/12											3				
62	Phoebe, Eastern	3/19	3/11	3/10		2	1		3	1	3			2					
63	Kingbird, Eastern	4/25	5/13	4/18															
64	Lark, Horned																		
65	Vireo, White-eyed	4/23	4/29	4/13							1	2		√					
66	Vireo, Blue-headed	4/30	4/29	4/25										√					
67	Vireo, Yellow-throated	4/25	4/21	5/5										√	1				
68	Vireo, Warbling	4/25	4/29	4/18										√	3				
69	Vireo, Philadelphia	5/14	5/7																
70	Vireo, Red-eyed	4/30	4/29	4/30											2				
71	Jay, Blue	1/1	1/1	1/1	1	2	1	6	3	1					4				
72	Crow, American	2/18	1/1	1/1	2	2	4	2	4		2	4		1					
73	Swallow, Tree		4/8																
74	Swallow, Rough-winged	4/23	4/8	4/14							2								
75	Swallow, Barn		5/13	3/17															
76	Martin, Purple	4/2																	
77	Chickadee, Black-cap.	1/1	1/1	1/1	1														
78	Chickadee, Carolina	1/1	1/1	1/1			1		3										
	Chickadee species		3/18	1/1		2	1			1		1							
79	Titmouse, Tufted	4/1	4/15	1/1	1	1	1	1	1	1				3					
80	Nuthatch, White-br.	1/1	1/1	1/1	3	4	1	6	6	3	1			1	1				
81	Nuthatch, Red-breasted	4/29		1/1	3	2				1					1				
82	Creeper, Brown	2/5	3/25	3/3	2	3	1			4	1	3							
83	Wren, Carolina	2/5	1/1	1/1	2	1	1	2	3	1	1	1			1				
84	Wren, House	4/23	4/15	4/18											1				
85	Wren, Winter	3/5		3/10		2	1		2	1	2								
86	Wren, Marsh*																		
87	Wren, Sedge																		
88	Kinglet, Golden-crowned	4/2	3/25	4/7						20	6	1							
89	Kinglet, Ruby-crowned	4/2	3/25	4/7						6	10	10		4	2				
90	Gnatcatcher, Bl-gray	4/16	4/15	4/14							2	4		4	3				
91	Bluebird, Eastern	2/18	3/4	1/1	4	1	1	1											
92	Veery	4/25	5/3	4/20															
93	Thrush, Gray-cheek	4/30	5/12																
94	Thrush, Swainson's	4/29	5/3	4/18								1							
95	Thrush, Hermit	4/7	3/25	4/7						3	6	6							
96	Thrush, Wood	4/25	4/29	4/28									1	1					
97	Robin, American	12/31	3/4	1/1	1	8	2	6	8	6	6	10		√	2				
98	Catbird, Gray	4/25	4/29	5/5										2	2				
99	Thrasher, Brown	3/26	4/1	4/22								4/21							
100	MOCKINGBIRD			4/22															
101	Waxwing, Cedar	5/21	5/6																
102	Starling, European	1/23	3/4	3/3	1	4		2	6	1		4		√	2				
103	Warbler, Blue-winged	4/25	4/21	4/22										2	1				
104	War. , Golden-winged	4/30	5/1	5/2										4	1				
	WAR, BREWSTERS																		
105	War., Tennessee	4/26	4/21	4/18										15	15				
106	War., Orange-cr.	4/23	4/8	4/21								1	2	1					
107	War., Nashville	4/26	4/22	4/22										35	20				
108	Parula, Northern	4/9	4/15	4/14							1	6	6	7	4				

168	Finch, Purple	3/5	4/1	4/7						1								
169	Siskin, Pine		3/11	4/7						2			√					
170	Goldfinch, American	1/1	1/1	1/1	1	6	6	10		3	1		√					
171	Sparrow, House	1/1	1/1	1/1				6		1								
172	Cross-bill, White Winged		3/11	4/7						6								
171	Cross-bill, Red			4/7						1								

*Woodlawn Cemetery

	<p>COMMENTS: The list of birds is that of any species seen during the spring season over many years. I include the dates of first sighting for each species recorded in the Woods or Crystal Lake Park* this spring plus dates from several previous years for comparison Abbreviations: SBC Spring Bird Count, P pair, FL fledglings, NB nest building, ON adult on nest, NY nest with young GL Greg Lambeth CLP Crystal Lake Park</p> <p>* Species seen in Crystal Lake Park but not Busey Woods.</p>
3/4	A cold, 21 degree, sunny day for the first spring walk of the year. 21 people took part. 25 species seen. Frozen water in the low areas. Snow and ice covered walkways. Checked the cemetery for winter finches with no luck but Greg did call down 3 or 4 Red-breasted Nuthatches.
3/10	Southerly winds overnight brought the first rush of spring migrants, making for an exciting morning. On the high trail along the Saline we flushed a flock of 10 Woodcock. Most of the new arrivals were right on time with last year. The flock of 20 Rusty Blackbirds was encouraging as they have been scarce in recent spring migrations. The woods was alive with the beginnings of spring song and drumming of woodpeckers. The Barred Owl sighting was another treat.
3/17	A windy, colder day than last week and things were pretty quiet. The trails are very muddy. The only new arrival was a puzzling plumaged small duck hanging out on the west pond with a pair of mallards. Further research (Crossley ID Guide) confirmed it to be a 1 st winter eclipse plumaged male Green-winged Teal. This is not a rare bird, we saw many on Saturday's Peabody Mine trip. However, there is only one other record of this duck in Busey since I began record keeping in 1976. It was on April 11, 1976. A neat sighting was of a Downy and a Hairy Woodpecker together on a tree near the Center's feeders for good comparison.
3/24	No new species this week. This is the annual pause between winter visitors leaving and the main arrival of spring migrants. Highlight of the morning was a very cold small mouthed salamander, which Ken DeBousch had found the day before and showed us.
3/31	A quiet Easter Sunday in Busey Woods. New birds were Eurasian Collared Dove in the cemetery and 2 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers. Did find the beginnings of a Cooper's Hawk nest. Thanks Arch! Also found a Small-mouthed Salamander. Spent some time trying for a good look at an elusive Winter Wren.
4/7	A beautiful day. Quite a contrast to last week as southerly winds on Saturday had brought significant numbers of Sapsuckers and Golden-crowned Kinglets. A strange mix of winter birds including two species of crossbill, Tree Sparrow, Purple Finch and Pine Siskin plus spring arrivals of Northern Waterthrush, Yellow-rumped Warbler and a Pied-billed Grebe. The woods was alive.
4/14	The day began cold (400 and quiet. A Wilson's warbler was an especially early arrival. The Yellow-throated Warbler has been hanging out on the boat dock for good views.
4/21	Most of the time was spent in Busey Woods the low parts of which are flooded more than for many years. The birds were near the ground along the water and the leaves are not out except on the honeysuckle. This made viewing easier. Many warbler species have already returned, a bit head ahead of most years.
4/22	I was out of town this weekend, so the report is incomplete. Beth Chato. Some of the participants joined Greg on a post walk trip to the Monticello Rd Field Station.
5/5	from Greg Ambeth's post: Birding was truly amazing today. He birded the woods from 5:30 am to 1pm. Best birding was in Crystal Lake Park where we had 7 species of warbler in one small oak tree. Chato comment: The oaks have just come into bloom bringing the insect larvae on which the warblers like to feed.
5/12	May Apple, Phlox, Swamp Buttercup, False Rue Anemone, Prairie trillium, Wild Geranium in bloom. Busey Woods was the birdy place this morning with good flocks of warblers near the Saline bridge. We again saw one of the resident Barred Owls. I was curious about Greg Lambeth's post on how late some species were so I checked a few past years. Ruby Crowned Kinglets were last seen May 1 in 2012, Yellow-rumps were last seen on May 15. Pine Siskins were here until April 1. It has been an unusual year.