

2014				Mar					Apr				May			
BUSEY WOODS WALKS		1 st	1 st	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25
141																
species for the season		13	14	14						incmp		incmp				
starting temperature				12	12	30	30	27	35		50		60			60
sky				over	over	over	clearin	clear	clg		clear		clear	cloud	cleari	sun
wind				10m		str	still	still	still		still				still	still
water				froz	froz			ice	open					wet	wet	
# people				4	12	11	15	13	21	35	25	30	40	40	40	20
#bird species				30	21	26	25	34	39	incmp	34		77	46	50	29
# hours				3	2	2	1.5	2	3		3					2
new for the year				7	3	4	1	1	6	7	10		4			0
1 Goose, White-fronted																
2 Goose, Snow			3/16			6										
3 Goose, Canada	1/1	1/1	50	40	30	30	6	1		√	√	√	GL	30	hd	
4 Goose, Cackling			2/25													
5 Duck, Wood	3/10	3/16			6				4		6		3			
6 Mallard	1/1	1/1					4	1	6						2	
7 Teal, Blue-winged		4/30														
8 SHOVELLER	4/14															
9 TEAL, GREEN-WINGED	4/17															
10 PINTAIL																
11 BUFFLEHEAD		4/25														
12 Merganser, Hooded	4/23	5/11												1		
13 MERGANSER, COMMON																
14 Grebe, Pied-billed	4/7	4/6							2							
15 Cormorant, Db Cr																
16 Heron, Great Blue	1/10	1/10							2				1			1
17 Egret, Great																
18 Heron, Green	4/13	4/25														
19 VULTURE, BLACK		5/7														
20 Vulture, Turkey	4/5	3/23				1	2								1	
21 Osprey		4/26														
22 KITE, MISSISSIPPI																
23 EAGLE, BALD	5/2	2/12			1											
24 Harrier																
25 Hawk, Sharp-shinned																
26 Hawk, Cooper's	1/1	2/14		NB		p	P	ON		ON		hd			ON	
27 Hawk, Broad-winged	4/14	5/4											1	1		
28 Hawk, Red-shouldered	5/5															
29 Hawk, Red-tailed	2/4	1/1						1								
30 Falcon, Peregrine	4/18															
31 Kestrel, American																
32 Merlin		4/28														
33 Coot		4/6							2							
34 Killdeer	3/10	3/16			2		2									
35 Sandpiper, Spotted																
36 Sandpiper, Solitary		4/13								1						
37 Snipe																
38 Woodcock	3/10	3/16			2											
39 Gull, Ring-billed	3/2	3/2	4		1											
40 Tern (Forster's)		5/4											1			
41 *DOVE, EURASIAN CC	3/31	4/20									1					
42 Dove, Rock	3/2	3/2	14													
43 Dove, Mourning	1/12	1/12	6		1	1	4	3		1		2			2	
44 Cuckoo, Yellow-billed	5/19	5/11												1		
45 Cuckoo, Black-billed		5/11												1		
46 Owl, Screech		√														
47 OWL, BARRED	1/26	3/22								1		1				1
48 Owl, Great Horned	1/12	1/12					P	1						mob		1
49 NIGHTHAWK																
50 Swift, Chimney	5/5	4/13								1				3	4	
51 Hummingbird, Rb.thr.	5/2	5/4											1		NB	ON
52 Kingfisher, Belted	1/1	4/11														
53 Woodpecker, Red-head	4/14	4/29														
54 Woodpecker, Red-bell.	1/1	1/12	5	2	2	6	2	4		3		2	3	1	2	
55 Sapsucker, Yel-bell.	3/2	3/2	3													
56 Woodpecker, Downy	1/1	1/1	8	6	2	2	6	3		1		2	2	1	1	
57 Woodpecker, Hairy	1/1	2/14	2			1	1					1				
58 Flicker, Northern	1/12	1/12	2						3							
59 Woodpecker, Pileated		4/11														
60 Flycatcher, Olive-sided	5/18	5/19	1													
61 Pewee, Eastern	5/19	5/18													2	
62 Flycatch., Yellow-bell.		5/14	1													
63 Flycatcher, Acadian	5/9															
64 Flycatcher, Least	5/1	4/29											2			

	Junco, Oregon																		
167	Blackbird, Red-wing.	3/10	3/9		2			1	200		1				1				
168	Blackbird, Rusty	3/10	4/6						4										
169	Meadowlark, Eastern																		
170	Grackle, Common	3/10	2/25			10		1	1		6			2					
171	Cowbird, Brown-hd.	4/7	3/13				6	1	2		10			1					1
172	Oriole, Orchard	5/2	5/4											1					
173	Oriole, Baltimore	4/30	4/26											1	1	1	1		
174	Finch, House	1/12	1/12	4	6	1	3	6	2					1	2				3
175	Finch, Purple	2/16	3/16				3	1											
176	Siskin, Pine	1/1																	
177	Cross-bill, White Winged																		
178	Cross-bill, Red																		
179	Goldfinch, American	1/1	1/1	10	4	2	3	6	2		2			6					1
180	Sparrow, House	1/1	1/1		1	10	6	10						√	2				1

*Woodlawn Cemetery

2014

3/2	Incredibly cold. Woods snow covered. Highlight was a brush pile by the Center with 1 each White-thoated, Song and Fox Sparrows. Also a FOY Field Sparrow at the feeders. Four brave people took part.
3/9	Again very cold, this time with wind. Snow gone but ice remained on paths. The Cooper's Hawk pair were nest building by the boardwalk pond overlook, about where they were last year. We were glad to hear the Carolina wren singing after the harsh weather.
3/16	Wind gusts up to 40 mph. We trudged through the woods seeing little and wondered why we begin these walks in March. Then we came to the west end of the woods. There we had Wood Duck on the west pond, an eagle flew over, Golden-crowned Kinglets and creepers appeared, and it all became worth while. Snow geese flew over the parking lot as we headed out.
3/23	Highlight of the morning was a Cooper's Hawk on the ground feasting on a crow! The mate was nearby. The only new species was a flyover Turkey Vulture. Red-bellied woodpeckers were calling loudly setting up territories throughout the woods.
3/30	Highlight of the morning were long looks at the resident pair of Great Horned Owls in the south end. The Cooper's Hawk pair were also seen. New for the year was a Harris Sparrow heard before the hike by 2 members and found afterwards by 1. There are only one or two records of this from the woods and they are a long time back.
4/6	The Cooper's Hawk pair were found working on a nest. The Great Horned Owls were being harassed by a mob of crows. At least 2 pair of Red-bellied Woodpeckers were competing loudly for a dead stump with multiple woodpecker holes. New birds were Tree Swallow, Louisiana Waterthrush, and Rusty Blackbird. Some of the group went on to Crystal Lake Park and were rewarded by several new species- Pied-billed Grebe, Coot
4/13	We had almost 35 participants for the walk and unfortunately birders may have outnumbered the birds. It's still early in migration and the prevailing northerly winds have kept migration moving at a slow pace. Greg Lambeth
4/20	Those who birded the woods yesterday reported a great change in bird activity with the arrival of last nights southerly winds. Wildflowers of many species are now in bloom as is the Spice Bush.
4/27	Some people started at 6am in Crystal Lake Park, then switched to Busey at 7:30. They didn't see many birds in Busey but did see a coyote. They then went back to Crystal Lake and it was much more birdy. Looking over past spring records many of the warblers are about a week late. This weekends storms have brought many new arrivals. Beth Chato
5/4	Highlight was the Clay-colored Sparrow by the Nature Center that uncharacteristically hopped in the open where all could see. Some people caught sight of a flyover tern, presumably a Forster's.
5/11	Strong thunderstorms during the night apparently brought down flocks of warblers. One oak in Busey woods along the powerline had 13 species of warblers. We watched them for about 15 minutes. The crows apparently found the Great Horned Owls and were vocally mobbing them.
5/18	Highlight was a Ruby-throated Hummingbird building a nest. Another nest was found later in another part of the woods. A Connecticut Warbler sang several times. Waterleaf is in bloom, one of the latest woodland wildflowers as the tree canopy closes in.
5/25	The last hike of the spring. Migration is winding down. Highlights were the smallest and largest birds of the woods- the Ruby-throated hummingbird on her nest and the Great Horned Owl. The Barred Owl was heard hooting. During the season 141 species of birds were seen. Thanks to Greg Lambeth's OLLI class students, we also had a record number of people.