

March 6, 2019 - Beaudette Park, Drayton Plains

Leader: Don Burlett

It began as a partly sunny, cold day, temps at about 8°F, with almost no wind. Five intrepid birders moved about Beaudette Park in Pontiac, looking for birds that enjoyed the open water and cool weather. The Beaudette Park waters were partly frozen in some spots but enough open water let us view a variety of ducks, geese and swans. This, in combination with a few winter birds in the woods and surrounding yards, made for a fine Wednesday morning. The Trumpeter Swans and Ring-necked Ducks and Hooded Mergansers were very nice.

After a bit, four of us moved to Drayton Plains Nature Center to walk their grounds and the woods in the area. Red-winged Blackbirds and some very vocal Northern Cardinals indicated that spring is not far off, in spite of the cold temperatures.

All-in-all, we netted 29 species and enjoyed some time outside with the birds. Next time, spring will have sprung and more species await us.

Beaudette

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| Canada Goose | 6 |
| Mute Swan | 17 |
| Trumpeter Swan | 6 |
| Mallard | 68 |
| American Black Duck | 2 |
| Canvasback | 2 |
| Redhead | 16 |
| Ring-necked Duck | 10 |
| Lesser Scaup | 4 |
| Bufflehead | 4 |
| Common Goldeneye | 13 |
| Hooded Merganser | 8 |
| Mourning Dove | 2 |
| Red-tailed Hawk | 1 |
| Belted Kingfisher | 1 |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker | 3 |
| Downy Woodpecker | 3 |
| Hairy Woodpecker | 1 |
| Blue Jay | 9 |
| American Crow | 2 |
| Black-capped Chickadee | 1 |
| White-breasted Nuthatch | 3 |
| American Robin | 3 |
| Dark-eyed Junco | 3 |

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| Red-winged Blackbird | 1 |
| Northern Cardinal | 2 |
| House Sparrow | 2 |

Drayton Plains

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| Mallard | 120 |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker | 1 |
| Downy Woodpecker | 3 |
| Hairy Woodpecker | 1 |
| Blue Jay | 1 |
| Black-capped Chickadee | 3 |
| Tufted Titmouse | 1 |
| White-breasted Nuthatch | 1 |
| American Robin | 5 |
| American Goldfinch | 2 |
| Red-winged Blackbird | 8 |
| Northern Cardinal | 4 |
| House Sparrow | 2 |