

Birding in Houston Parks



Sylvan Rodriguez Park

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L818789>

Description: This park is located in the Clear Lake area near I-45 and Clear Lake City Blvd. A large prairie restoration area is surrounded by Horsepen Bayou on the northeast and a tributary to the southeast.

Species: Many sparrows in the winter including Lincoln's Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, and Song Sparrow. Birds of prey hunting over the prairie area include Northern Harrier, Mississippi Kite, and Red Shouldered Hawk. Good diversity of flycatchers including Vermillion Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, and Great Crested Flycatcher.



Vermillion Flycatcher: Cullen Ondracek

Robert C. Stuart Park

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L3966635>

Description: This urban nature park includes over 20 acres of prairie and riparian forest along Sims Bayou. The trail system allows visitors to see multiple different habitat types, as well as two wetland ponds.

Species: A large variety of warblers are seen at this park during spring migration, including Black-and-white Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Northern Parula, American Redstart, and Yellow Warbler. Other birds seen at this park include Indigo Bunting, Brown Thrasher, Orchard Oriole, and Blue Grosbeak.



Indigo Bunting: Cullen Ondracek

Lake Houston Wilderness Park

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L376391>.

Description: Lake Houston Wilderness Park includes nearly 5,000 acres located three miles east of New Caney (approximately 30 miles north of Houston) off Hwy-59. Most of the park is heavily forested with over 20 miles of trails.

Species: Open area around the nature center attracts Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, Eastern Bluebirds, and Red Headed Woodpeckers. Other species found at this park include Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Red-eyed Vireo, and Hooded Warbler.



Hooded Warbler: Cullen Ondracek

White Oak Parkway

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L521123>.

Description, White Oak Parkway contains over 10 acres of riparian habitat near downtown Houston on White Oak Bayou. The natural area contains a large wetland pond. This park was designed as a Bird Friendly Community in partnership with Houston Audubon and contains a Chimney Swift tower.

Species: Birds in the bayou and wetland area include Black-crowned Night-heron, Spotted Sandpiper, Green Heron, and Purple Martin. This park is a good place to spot non-native birds including Red-vented Bulbul, Scaly-breasted Munia, and Monk Parakeet.



Black-crowned night heron: Cassidy Kempf

Hermann Park

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L128990>

Description: Hermann Park is located near the Texas Medical Center and Rice University. A large pond is located at the center of the park near the entrance to the Houston Zoo. This park contains many mature live oak trees.

Species: In the pond, ducks such as Fulvous Whistling-Duck, Wood Duck, Cinnamon Teal, Blue-winged Teal, and Redhead can be spotted in the winter. Downy and Red-bellied woodpeckers are quite common throughout the park.



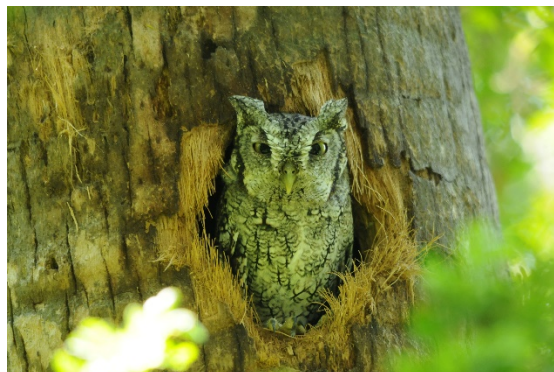
Blue-winged Teal: Cassidy Kempf

West 11th Street Park

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L281716>

Description: This park contains over of 18 acres of woodland in the middle of the Heights neighborhood. Many well-maintained nature trails run through this natural area, providing plenty of birding opportunities.

Species: Great place to spot owls like the Great Horned Owl and Eastern Screech Owl. High diversity of woodpeckers including Red-headed Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, and Northern Flicker.



Eastern Screech Owl: Cullen Ondracek

Woodland Park

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L1995953>

Description: Woodland park contains 14 acres of riparian forest along a natural section of Little White Oak Bayou. A chimney swift tower is located near the community center building.

Species: Along the bayou, you can spot Great Blue Heron, Belted Kingfisher, and Green Heron. In the spring and fall, look for Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blackburnian Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, and Baltimore Oriole.



Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Cullen Ondracek