

# 2022 Puget Sound Bird Fest Field Activities

## Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup>

### Registration opens August 1<sup>st</sup>

For Bird Fest field activities that require registration, go to the [City of Edmonds Parks and Recreation registration site](#) and enter the program # in the search bar. If this is the first time you've registered for a program with the City of Edmonds, you will need to create an account. Please call the front desk at 425-771-0230 if you need assistance with registration.

### Edmonds Marsh Viewing Platform

#### Check [pugetsoundbirdfest.org](http://pugetsoundbirdfest.org) for times. No registration required (Free)

Edmonds Marsh is a unique urban wildlife area, and a great place to view a variety of birds throughout the year. But many people don't know that it is also one of the few remaining intact barrier estuaries in Puget Sound, a once common type of salt marsh habitat that is now very rare. Come learn about the history of the marsh and the important habitat features and wildlife here. Pilchuck Audubon Society volunteers will help you see and identify birds during your visit.

### Edmonds Marsh, Willow Creek Guided Walk

#### 7:30 – 9:30am. Registration Required. Program #11058 (\$5)

Join Jack Stephens to bird some short trails at the Willow Creek Fish Hatchery and the Wildlife Habitat & Native Plant Demonstration Garden, and a short walk uphill to a paved path for a good view of the marsh from the south and a couple of ponds. The Edmonds marsh also has level paved walkways and boardwalk. We will drive between the marsh and the hatchery/garden area to avoid walking along highway 104. Less than two miles. Playback might be used sparingly by walk leader. Bring binoculars.

### Scriber Creek Watershed Guided Walk for Beginning Birders

#### 7:30 – 9:30am. Registration Required. Program #11059 (\$10)

The urban forest and wetlands of this 22-acre park provide habitat for a variety of wildlife, including waterfowl, wading birds and songbirds. May include excursions to adjacent small parks. Led by Jeff and Eileen Hambleton, this walk will focus on building essential skills for beginners. Bring binoculars if you have them. (We won't have any loaners available this year). Easy level trails and boardwalk, may cross urban streets with crosswalks to explore two additional parks, less than two miles. No "pishing" or playback of vocalizations will be used to attract birds.

### Richmond Beach Guided Walk for Beginning Birders

#### 7:30 – 9:30am. Registration required. Program #11060 (\$5)

Join Joe Sweeney for 2-3 leisurely paced miles, including some hills and steps. We will first walk the main paths and steps in this very scenic park. Then, we'll return to our cars, grab our spotting scopes, and walk the short distance to the beach for some seabird watching overlooking the Puget Sound. The weather is usually cooler on the beach, so wear layers and rain gear, if necessary. Bring binoculars, of Program, and a scope, if you have one. Note: Due to covid, we will not share our scopes with other participants. However, a pair of binoculars is all you need to enjoy the walk. Over by 9:30 a.m. Playback will not be used.

### **Southwest County Park Guided Walk**

#### **8 – 10am. Registration Required. Program #11061 (\$5)**

Join Jon Houghton for this walk in an undeveloped, forested county park located within Edmonds. The trails include a wider, relatively level path and some narrower trails that include some short elevation changes which can be muddy if it has rained. Will include crossing the street that bisects the park. “Pishing” or playback may be used by the walk leader. Total walking likely less than 1.5 miles. Registration required.

### **Lake Ballinger Guided Walk**

#### **7:30 - 9:30am. Registration Required. Program #11062 (\$5)**

Join Frank Caruso to explore this former golf Program that has been converted to a passive park near the lake, with ponds and wetlands as well as a creek that is currently in a channel. While there are plans for native plantings and for restoring the stream to meander and paths and boardwalks, currently there are no paths, just mown grass. Even if it hasn’t rained recently, you may want waterproof shoes or boots to walk the park on uneven surfaces without any significant elevation changes. “Pishing” and playback may be used sparingly by the leader. We will probably be no further than 0.5 miles from the parking lot at any time. Total distance likely less than 1.5-2miles.

### **Yost Park Guided Walk: “Birding by Ear”**

#### **7:30 – 9:30am. Registration Required. Program #11063 (\$10)**

This park is an Edmonds gem with nicely varied habitat for birds, particularly those of the forest. We’re likely to encounter many of our resident birds - various woodpeckers, Spotted Towhee, Song Sparrow, Bewick’s Wren, Black-capped and Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Brown Creeper, Anna’s Hummingbird – and possibly a few migrants who haven’t left yet. A significant portion of the park lends itself to finding birds only by their sounds because the tree canopy is high. Neither “pishing” nor playing of recordings will be used. The first part of this leisurely walk, led by Elaine Chuang and Peter Gurney, is along a wide paved road. The second part is on narrower hiking trails interspersed with bridges and boardwalks, which can be a bit muddy and slippery if it’s rained recently. The half-mile route descends gradually then has a significant climb (steep) for the last short stretch. Porta-potties are available in the parking lot.