

April 11, 2018 – Robert Long Park – Heritage Park

Leader: Mike Mencotti

Winter weather greeted the group of 12 at the Wednesday field trip on April 11, at Robert Long Park. No one was deterred. From the parking lot, we marveled at two Ospreys reclaiming last year's nest, and we saw and studied a diverse group of waterfowl on the ponds, including Common Loon, grebes, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Ducks, and coot. An Eastern Phoebe and some Tree Swallows stayed low, but offered a sure sign of spring, and we dug out one Black-crowned Night Heron hunkered among the reeds and snowflakes. About half of the group trekked to Heritage Park, where we had hopes of early spring migrants. However, the cold weather undermined that notion until we came across a couple of groups of Golden-crowned Kinglets, all of which were displaying their crowns. The feeder had very little, and no wonder: A Cooper's Hawk plopped down on a branch, supervising the area. The day list of 44 species follows.

Canada Goose
Mute Swan
Mallard
Green-winged Teal
Ring-necked Duck
Bufflehead
Hooded Merganser
Common Loon
Pied-billed Grebe
Black-crowned Night-Heron
Osprey
Cooper's Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
American Coot
Killdeer
Ring-billed Gull
Herring Gull
Mourning Dove
Belted Kingfisher
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Eastern Phoebe
Blue Jay
American Crow
Tree Swallow
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse

White-breasted Nuthatch
Carolina Wren
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Eastern Bluebird
American Robin
European Starling
Dark-eyed Junco
Song Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Red-winged Blackbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Common Grackle
American Goldfinch