



Adam Birding Conservancy

1636 Findlay Rd, Whitewater, WI

2020 Year in Review

2 February 21

www.adamconservancy.com



This newsletter is going out to members of the ABC Club and others who have been involved in the progress of the Adam Birding Conservancy.

What Happened in 2020?

1. **The coronavirus proved a mixed blessing.** The trails stayed open and were busy with the State Parks & Forests closed this spring. **The ABC Club now includes over 250 individuals!** At the same time, socially distancing kept us from finishing the second blind or getting in workdays. Four birding tours were cancelled.
2. **Interesting animals this year included three white bucks, a playful pair of river otters, badgers, leucitic House Sparrows and a pair of ospreys** that nearly nested on the dike path.
3. **Neil Gilbert ID 90 birds at the ABC on October 2nd.** Believe that is the top single outing mark for Jefferson County in 2020.
4. Though the second blind isn't up, an elevated dirt berm was constructed that shows off one of the large ponds to the east where 8-10 trumpeter swans hung out during most of April.
5. **Professor Eric Compas made an aerial video of the ABC with a drone** this spring. It is on the website.

Looking Ahead to 2021

It is hard to plan with covid still in play. I'd like to see the second blind get finished but also am exploring 1x a month free tours at the Conservancy this summer. Prelim list includes:

- April: Early Birding (Trumpeter Swans)
- May: Peak Migration Birding
- June: Aquatic Plants
- July: Fireflies & Star Gazing on the Prairie
- August: Prairie Flowers
- September: Fall Birding (variety of Sparrows)

Let me know if you'd like to lend your expertise or have other tour ideas. Stay tuned to the ABC Facebook link for more specifics.

Birds....

198 species have been identified at the ABC, including six new in 2020 (below). We're only 43 species short of Zeloski Marsh which has 4x the eBird checklists!

1. Tufted Titmouse
2. Chestnut-sided Warbler
3. Winter Wren
4. Bay Breasted Warbler
5. Black-bellied Plover
6. Least Flycatcher



A fawn on the Inner Peace Trail



Pair of Wood Ducks

Continued Thanks...

To **Rich, Donnie and friends** for trail management and removing the silver maples, **Byron** for field mowing and **Liesl** with bluebird box monitoring. **Gene** has helped remove metal and kept some of the blind trails clean. **Tim** for trapping. **Anne** for collecting and spreading some heart-leaved skullcap and tall bellflower plants.



One of the White Bucks



Bloodroot



Yellow-Headed Blackbirds



Bubbling Springs



Prairie Flowers



Sunrise



Osprey "Nearly" Nest



Trumpeter Swans



East Pond Berm Under Construction



Pelicans



Female Palm Warbler



Fields of Penstemon



Puffball



Old Abe Oak from a Chipmunk's Perspective

How You Can Help

- 👍 Please contact me if you are interested in habitat maintenance, enjoy website or social media work or have other areas where your time and talents could be of use to maintain and better the ABC.
- 👍 Let me know if you have groups interested in touring the ABC or ways to promote its greater enjoyment.
- 👍 Most of all, please enjoy the property and be good to the animals, plants and people you encounter on the trail!

Thanks for your interest and for the help and support you provide to the ABC. Stay in touch!

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www.adamconservancy.com