



Monarch by
Sandy Hokanson

Calendar of events:

Monthly Bird Walks at Quarry Hill

July 2, August 6, & September 3. Meet at 9 am at the Quarry Hill Nature Center and join us on a casual walk thru the park. Walks usually last about one hour. Free and open to the public - no registration required. Leaders: Terry & Joyce Grier

July 9 - 18th Annual Rochester Butterfly Count

9 am morning session - Meet at Quarry Hill Nature Center

1 pm afternoon session - Meet at Chester Woods*

Leader: Joel Dunnette

Participants in this Citizen Science project should have some experience with butterflies, be prepared for the weather, and be able to walk a mile or more on and off trails. Novices will be paired with an experienced team leader. Bring close-focusing binoculars or a digital camera with close-focusing capability. These are key to field identification of butterflies. .

NOTE: you must register for this event by emailing jdunnette@gmail.com or calling 507-269-7064.

July 24 - Bug Out at Chester Woods Park

3 - 5 pm / Leader: Joel Dunnette

Summer is a time of abundance, particularly for insects. Their diversity and beauty is amazing. Join us to search the prairie and woods of Chester Woods for as many as we can find.

Bring your kids, as this will be an active, fun search that will need their keen eyes and youthful enthusiasm. Check the sign posted at the entry station for the picnic shelter where we will meet. *



There will NOT be a regular program at Quarry Hill in July.

***Note:** vehicles entering Chester Woods Park are required to display either an annual or daily entrance permit.

[More events on back...](#)



Eastern Swallowtail by Sandy Hokanson

Butterflies!

It can be hard to see birds when the trees are all leafed out ... so summer is a good time to focus on all those other colorful, flying things: **butterflies!**

If you want to attract butterflies to your garden for close-up viewing, be sure to include native plants that provide the nectar they need, shelter from the elements, a place to lay eggs, and food for their caterpillars.

Our local nurseries and growers are a great resource and can help you choose the right plants for your butterfly garden. **Bonus,** native plants also attract birds by providing important food sources such as nectar, berries, and insects.



Calendar of events continued:

August 23 - Tagging Monarch Butterflies

6:30 - 8 pm at Quarry Hill Nature Center / Presented by Pamela Meyer

Join us and learn about the fascinating Monarch Butterfly as it prepares for its long journey back to Mexico. We will have a hands-on experience of tagging the butterflies. This is a kid-friendly event. Additional monarch tagging events will likely be scheduled in August but were not set at press time. For the latest program listings be sure to visit www.ZumbroValleyAudubon.org.



August 26 - Chimney Swift Sit

Friday, August 26, 2016

7:45 - 9 pm in the St. Pius X Catholic Church parking lot at 1315 12th Ave NW, Rochester, MN 55901 / Led by Sandy Hokanson

Chimney Swifts gather in large number each fall during migration and create fabulous displays when they enter a chimney to roost. Bring a lawn chair and binoculars to watch as (hopefully) hundreds of Chimney Swifts enter the St Pius Chimney to roost. From this location we can also see a chimney roost at the John Marshall High School - so we may observe both locations. Rain date is Saturday, August 27.

Sept. 27 - ZVAS Monthly Meeting - The Minnesota Raptor Center

7 - 8 pm at Quarry Hill Nature Center

You'll be inspired to learn more about Minnesota's raptors when you meet a live owl, hawk, and falcon up close and in person. Our presenter from the Raptor Center will teach us the three key identifying features of all raptors, discuss the positive and negative impact humans have on our environment, and share some of our greatest environmental success stories, such as the Peregrine Falcon and the Bald Eagle.

Oct. 1 - Fall Sparrow Field Trip

7:30 - 9 am - at Kalmar Reservoir / Led by Jerry Pruett and John Hockema

Late September through early October is a great time to look for migrating sparrows. We should see White-crowned, Lincoln's, White-throated, Savannah, Vesper sparrows and with a little luck we may pick up Nelson's Sharp-tailed, LeConte's and Harris's sparrows as well. We'll meet in the parking lot on the east side of the Kalmar Reservoir (East Landfill Reservoir) just off of 19 ST NW and Valleyview CT. about 2 miles west of the Rochester Athletic Club at 7:30 AM. Bring water-proof footwear as the grass will probably be quite wet.



Photo of Peregrine Falcon courtesy of the Minnesota Raptor Center.

Falcons, hawks, and owls, oh my!

Live birds will be on hand at our **September 27 meeting at Quarry Hill**, but you can also see these majestic birds in the wild. Consider visiting Hawk Ridge near Duluth during fall migration when you can sometimes see "kettles" of hundreds of birds at a time. For more information about peak viewing times visit www.hawkridge.org.

Be sure to visit ZumbroValleyAudubon.org to confirm events and check for changes or new listings.

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