



BIRDS IN MIGRATION at ROSE LAKE



This sign is dedicated to the memory of Wally Miller, a friend and neighbor of Rose Lake.

black
tern | 1



white pelicans | 2



dickcissel | 3



wood ducks | 4

IMPORTANCE OF ROSE LAKE

Rose Lake is an **important stop for migrating birds** in both spring and fall. Why is this shallow lake so attractive? It has a **wide variety of wetland vegetation and habitats**. High water quality leads to healthy populations of fish, frogs, insects, and small invertebrates that birds need to eat. For the main goals of migrating birds—finding good **places to rest and eat**—Rose Lake and Dorothy Carnes County Park are perfect.

WHAT BIRDS FIND HERE

This diverse place was designated the **Rose Lake State Natural Area** in 2006. Along with nearby lakes and wetlands, Rose Lake is part of the **Greater Lake Koshkonong Important Bird Area**. Ducks and geese are abundant, and **American pelicans** have been coming here by the hundreds since 2003. **Mudflats exposed at lower water levels attract shorebirds**. Rose Lake also has nest boxes for wood ducks, mallards, and hooded mergansers. Purple martins, which migrate from South America, nest near the Dorothy Carnes park shelter in a special elevated house.

WHEN TO WATCH MIGRATION

In spring, birds tend to **migrate in masses**. The short spring migration window depends on weather and what's available to birds on their trip north. **Fall migration may be spread out**. For some bird species, it begins as early as August.



lesser yellowlegs | 5

BIRDS TO SEE AT DOROTHY CARNES

BIRD HABITATS

Dorothy Carnes County Park and Rose Lake are remarkable for the number and quality of their habitats. Lake and marsh, prairie and savanna, all attract birds to refuel, rest, and continue migration. Some birds, like sandhill cranes, blue-winged teal, and yellow-headed blackbirds, nest here over the summer.

SUMMER BREEDING



- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| pied-billed grebe | eastern kingbird |
| double-crested cormorant | purple martin |
| great blue heron | tree swallow |
| Canada goose | blue jay |
| wood duck | house wren |
| mallard | marsh wren |
| blue-winged teal | golden-crowned kinglet |
| redhead | eastern bluebird |
| ring-necked duck | gray catbird |
| turkey vulture | brown thrasher |
| red-tailed hawk | common yellowthroat |
| black tern | scarlet tanager |
| Virginia rail | rose-breasted grosbeak |
| sora | indigo bunting |
| common moorhen | dickcissel |
| American coot | song sparrow |
| sandhill crane | red-winged blackbird |
| red-bellied woodpecker | yellow-headed blackbird |
| northern flicker | Baltimore oriole |

SPRING / FALL MIGRATION



- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| American white pelican | lesser yellowlegs |
| green-winged teal | solitary sandpiper |
| northern pintail | least sandpiper |
| northern shoveler | pectoral sandpiper |
| gadwall | yellow-rumped warbler |
| canvasback | prothonotary warbler |
| bufflehead | Tennessee warbler |
| ruddy duck | Savannah sparrow |



pied-billed grebe | 6

IMAGE CREDITS 1-6 Richard Armstrong.