


## Magee Marsh Map - Trails

- 1 Gallagher Memorial Trail** – Enter just behind the BSBO Visitor Center. This Trail loops through woodland edge, scrub-shrub habitat, and open meadow.
  - What to look for: warblers and other songbirds can be found throughout the woody vegetation; meadow birds such as the Lincoln's sparrow can also be found; rare wading birds (king rail and Virginia rail) have been reported in the wetland areas.
  
- 2 Magee – Ottawa Partnership Trail** – Enter at the first large curve in the road before the Magee Marsh Visitor Center (guests should park at the visitor center to access this trail). Important – this is an out and back trail connecting Magee Marsh to Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge.
  - What to look for: Forest edge habitat can produce warblers and other songbirds; may find wading birds and some waterfowl in the open water channel.
  
- 3 Woodies Roost Trail** – Enter at the trail head across the road from the Magee Marsh Visitor Center. This trail is on a levee around a wetland unit that can produce good numbers of marsh birds and spring migrants.
  
- 4 Magee Marsh Walking Trail, West Loop** – Enter just behind the Magee Marsh Visitor Center. This trail loops around a small wetland through woody vegetation. This trail is fully accessible and a good option for those with mobility challenges.
  - What to look for: warblers can be seen in the vegetation throughout the trail; wading birds (green heron, blue heron, great and snowy egrets) often seen in the ponds; purple martins nest in the houses just behind the visitor center; several swallow species fly over the ponds.
  
- 5 Magee Marsh Walking Trail, Bear Pond Loop** – Enter from the West Loop Trail to extend the length of Magee Marsh Walking Trail. Continues through woody habitat with views of the open water channel on the northern side of the trail.
  - What to look for: warblers can be seen in the vegetation throughout the trail; waterfowl often viewed in the channel.
  
- 6 Magee Marsh Boardwalk** – Premier location to view warblers and other songbirds during spring and fall migration. Resident birds, like prothonotary warblers and ruby-throated hummingbird, can be seen in the summer.
  -  **Boardwalk West Entrance** – Usually the most productive birding location on the boardwalk. Wet woodlands provide fantastic habitat for warblers and other popular songbirds.
    - What to look for: Warblers often seen foraging for bugs low in trees; prothonotary warblers, blue-grey gnatcatchers, several vireo species, common yellowthroat, Baltimore orioles, among huge numbers of other species seen around the west end; woodcocks often found on the ground closer to the middle part of the boardwalk.

- Perimeter area just outside the west entrance often nearly as productive as the actual boardwalk. Warblers work the vegetation, Baltimore orioles and yellow-billed cuckoos frequently seen.



**Boardwalk East Entrance** – Located at the very east end of the beach park lots. While usually less productive for migrating songbirds than the west end, there are still great opportunities to see numerous species.

- What to look for: Eagle's nest located on the big loop, green herons, and turtles.

**7**

**Crane Creek Estuary Trail** – Enter at the northwest end of the beach parking lot. This trail loops through wooded areas, along a levee with views of wetland habitats and mudflats, and along a forested beach.

- What to look for: Several owl species seen nesting in larger holes in trees (often in the wooded area at the beginning of the trail and along the levee side); wooded beach has produced several rarities including a cerulean and Kirtland's warblers; waterfowl and wading birds including sandhill cranes can be seen in the open water wetlands on the back half of the trail.

**8**

**Beach Trail** – Enter at several spots along the parking lot. This trail travels through the scrub vegetation along the beach with views of the open water.

- What to look for: Eagles easily seen flying over to and from nesting locations; gulls, terns, waterfowl, and white pelicans can often be seen flying over or in the water.

### **Magee Marsh Map - Seasonal Trails**

**6A**

**Goose Haven Trail** – Enter via the Estuary Trail or near the east end entrance of the boardwalk. This trail travels on a mowed levee behind the boardwalk with views of both wooded and wetland habitats.

- What to look for: Eagles perched in the larger trees lining the trail; wading birds such as great blue herons, green herons, and egrets (great and snowy) are frequently seen along the banks of the waterway; warblers in the wooded vegetation on the lake side of the trail; shorebirds in the mudflats on the inland side of the trail.

**9A**

**Lakefront Levee Trail** – Enter at the southeast corner of the overflow parking lot. This trail travels on a mowed levee with views of wetland habitat on the inland side and open water on the lake side.

- What to look for: When present mudflats in the wetland habitat provide excellent opportunities to view shorebirds and wading birds; view gulls and waterfowl on the lake side.

## Magee Marsh Map – Points of Interest



**Black Swamp Bird Observatory (BSBO) Visitor Center** – Visitors will find information on the area and purchase items in their nature store. BSBO also sponsors the Birding Ohio Facebook page and the Biggest Week in American Birding.



**Partnership Ponds Fishing Access** – Public fishing access with a small parking lot.

- Fish for: largemouth bass and bluegill.
- What to look for: ducks and other waterfowl, great blue herons, egrets, and other wading birds.



**Magee Marsh Visitor Center** – Newly renovated and fully accessible with impressive dioramas focusing on wetland conservation, bird identification, and migration.

- **March 15 – October 31**
  - Monday – Thursday 10 am to 3 pm
  - Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.
- **November 1 – March 14**
  - Open weekdays when staff is available or by appointment.

**Friends of Magee Marsh Gift Shop**

- **March 15 – October 31**
  - Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays 10 am to 4 pm.

**MMVC & FOMM Gift Shop open daily April 20 – May 20 8:00 am to 4:00 pm**



**Dog Training Grounds** – Enter from the first (eastern) parking lot along the beach.

- What to look for: Gulls, terns, and waterfowl often seen in the open water.

## Additional Birding Areas on Magee Marsh

**Magee Causeway:** This road connects the inland part of the area to the beach access areas and travels through a large expanse of wetland habitat with open water channels on each side of the road. Three gravel pullouts on the east side of the road are available for parking.

- What to look for: the open water channels can provide great views of waterfowl and larger wading birds; snowy egrets frequently seen in this area.
- **\*\*Watch for turtles and other critters crossing the road\*\***

**Forest edge along beach parking lot:** The forested edge between the two entrances to the boardwalk can be extremely productive for migrating songbirds. Much of the road is blocked off to vehicles and is fully accessible. This is a great option for those that have mobility challenges.

- What to look for: warblers and other songbirds can be seen all along the forest edge; flycatchers (kingbird, etc) often seen in the area overlooking the pond; fantastic views of the active eagle nests.
- Important note: to protect the eagles, the area directly under the nests have been roped off and are not accessible.