

Birding at Raven Run Nature Sanctuary

Lexington Area

Submitted by Ronan O'Carra

Google Map coordinates

37.8831635, -84.3979269

Habitats

- 734-acre nature sanctuary with both native grassland and mixed woodland.
- Visitor center clearing area, consisting of native grassland and backing onto forest leading to 10 miles of trails.
- Bordered by Kentucky River Palisades and farmland.

Birds and birder comments

Raven Run is a Lexington city park that is run by Parks and Recreation and opens at 9am until 6pm in winter and 8 pm in the summer. Raven Run is an excellent spot to find spring and fall passerines, including a good number of warbler species. Summer residents include the following warblers: Common Yellowthroat, L. Waterthrush, Kentucky, Northern Parula and Ovenbird. Also Summer and Scarlet Tanagers; Red-eyed, White-eyed, and Vireos; and Wood Thrushes. The grassland areas are good locations for Sparrow species in both summer and winter and you will get most of the Kentucky Woodpecker species here.

Park maps are available online and at the visitor center information desk. The park also runs free bird outings including Woodcock walks, Owl Prowls and spring birding. To access the Raven Run website go to www.ravenrun.org

Good birding areas in the park include in front of the nature center and the green trails.