

Cherokee Park, Louisville KY

Submitted by Rob Lane

Google Map coordinates:

38.239519, -85.694054

Habitat:

Cherokee Park is a 409-acre municipal park located in Louisville and is part of the Louisville Olmsted Parks Conservancy. It was designed in 1891 by Fredrick Law Olmsted, along with 18 of Louisville's 123 parks. Beargrass Creek runs through much of the park.

The park features a 2.4 mile Scenic Loop through a pastoral setting featuring rolling hills, open meadows and woodlands. There are separate lanes for vehicle traffic (one-way) and recreational users.

Birds and birder comments:

Cherokee Park is great for birding year round with nesting Wood Duck, Great Horned Owl, Eastern Screech Owl, Red-shouldered Hawk, Prothonotary Warbler, Hooded Warbler, KY Warbler, Baltimore Oriole and much more.

Spring migration is where the park really shines and attracts birders eager to find warblers, vireos and other migrants.

The park usually has the first wave of spring migrants the last week in March or first week of April. By mid to late May most migrants have passed through but the Nettleroth Bird Sanctuary and Board Walk should be checked for Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied flycatcher, Mourning Warbler and the elusive Connecticut Warbler. Cherokee Park is the best place in the Louisville area to find Connecticut Warbler in mid to late May.

A detailed map of the park can be found at <http://www.olmstedparks.org/our-parks/cherokee-park/cherokee-park-map/>