

Robert Long, Walled Lake, Heritage Park Trip – March 15, 2017
Leader: Mike Mencotti

On Wednesday, March 15, eight hardcore (or should we call them hard-headed) birders braved 15°F temperatures and blustery, below-zero wind chills to sharpen their birding skills at Robert Long, Walled Lake and Heritage Park. Long had a fraction of its water open, but we were able to view the differences between the gulls as well as many ducks. Unfortunately, most were along the back shore to block the strong winds, but the lighting was excellent, giving us great views. Walled Lake had a huge group of mixed species that allowed us to study Redhead, Canvasback and Lesser Scaup. After the winds blew over a scope, we figured that was the sign to head to the Heritage Park Nature Center. There we enjoyed the warmth and feeders, as we watched in comfort some early migrants taking advantage of an easy lunch. A walk on the trails yielded Turkey Vulture as well as Cedar Waxwings and a number of woodpeckers. A total of 38 species were found, not too shabby for cold winter day.

Mallard
Northern Shoveler
Canvasback
Redhead
Ring-necked Duck
Lesser Scaup
Bufflehead
Common Goldeneye
Hooded Merganser
Pied-billed Grebe
Turkey Vulture
American Coot
Ring-billed Gull
Herring Gull
Mourning Dove
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Blue Jay
American Crow
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
American Robin
European Starling
Cedar Waxwing
American Tree Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
White-throated Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Red-winged Blackbird

Common Grackle
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow