April 28, 2021 – Robert Long Park – Walled Lake

Leader: Don Burlett

A group of seven birders enjoyed a warm April day for birding at the park. We did get some rain later in the morning, but it was pleasant otherwise. We birded all the trail areas and found a handful of shorebirds at the muddy pond on the east side of the park. Ducks were scarce as we only had Mallard at Robert Long. We did find some warblers in the northwestern section of the park including Palm, Yellow and Yellow-rumped. We also had two flycatchers — Eastern Phoebe and Eastern Kingbird. So, it appeared that spring was going to happen with a bird migration.



We subsequently headed to Walled Lake, fully expecting to see an empty lake and were quite surprised by our first sighting – 6 American White Pelicans. We noted some water birds at the far west end of the lake and investigation proved correct with rafts of Ruddy Ducks, Bufflehead, Lesser Scaup and one female Red-breasted Merganser. All totaled, we had 44 species on this warm morning.

List of species seen:

Mute Swan Mallard **Lesser Scaup**

Bufflehead

Red-breasted Merganser

Ruddy Duck

Pied-billed Grebe

Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)

Mourning Dove

American Coot

Sandhill Crane

Killdeer

Spotted Sandpiper

Solitary Sandpiper

Lesser Yellowlegs

Ring-billed Gull

Bonaparte's Gull

Great Blue Heron

Great Egret

Common Loon

American White Pelican

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

Eastern Phoebe

Eastern Kingbird

Blue Jay

American Crow

Tree Swallow

Barn Swallow

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

White-breasted Nuthatch

European Starling

Gray Catbird

American Robin

House Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Red-winged Blackbird

Rusty Blackbird

Common Grackle

Yellow Warbler

Palm Warbler

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Northern Cardinal