

1) **Trip Name:** Snowy Owl Searchin'

Location: Cornfields near Rochelle, IL (30 min west of Dekalb)

Trip Objectives:

1. Search for everyone's favorite winter visitors from the high Arctic: Snowy Owls! This is one of the best areas in the state to observe this incredible species.
2. See other winter corn birds like Horned Larks, Lapland Longspurs, and Snow Buntings.
3. Have fun and stay warm!

Travel Information:

- Please meet us at the NIU parking garage @ 3:00 pm for carpooling
- We will be on flat asphalt or gravel, but there with ice and snow on the roads
- This involves roadside birding around private property, so restrooms will not be available

2) **Trip Name:** Snow Geese Galaxy at Chautauqua NWR on Sunday, March 5th

Location: Chautauqua NWR in Mason County, IL

Trip Objectives:

- See the massive numbers of migrating Snow Geese (tens or even hundreds of thousands)
- Enjoy many other waterfowl species, including swans, dabblers, and divers
- Have fun and stay warm!

Travel Information:

- Please meet us at the NIU parking garage at 4:30 AM for carpooling
- We will be on gravel/dirt roads and/or maintained trails
- Public and accessible restrooms will be available at NWR facilities

3) **Trip Name:** Weird & Wonderful Woodcocks: Fri. March 24 in the evening (sunset)

Location: Potawatomi Woods, Kirkland IL

Trip Objectives:

- See some awesome [woodcock courtship displays](#).
- Listen for other cool birds, like owls.
- Have fun and keep warm!

Travel Information:

- Please meet us at the NIU parking garage @ 6:15 pm for carpooling **OR** at Potawatomi Woods @ 6:45 (<https://goo.gl/maps/rGDbT92BenkE8CHQ6>)
- Bring a jacket and gloves!
- The site has restrooms and handicap access.

4) **Trip Name:** Spring Owl Prowl @ Potawatomi Woods FP on Friday, April 7th (evening)

Location: Potawatomi Woods, Kirkland IL

Trip Objectives:

- Look and listen for Barred Owls hooting it up.
- Have fun and keep warm!

Travel Information:

- Please meet us at the NIU parking garage @ 6:30 pm for carpooling **OR** at Potawatomi Woods @ 7:00 (<https://goo.gl/maps/rGDbT92BenkE8CHQ6>)
- Bring a jacket and gloves!
- The site has restrooms and handicap access.

5) **Trip Name:** Global Big Day @ Nachusa Grasslands (5/13)

When: Saturday, May 13 (6:30 AM - 12:30 PM)

Where: [Nachusa Grasslands Visitor's Center](#)

Trip Objectives:

- Enjoy spring migration, blooming flowers, and bison on the prairie.
- Record as many different bird species as possible for the communal Big Day!
- Have fun!

Travel Information:

- Please meet us at the NIU Parking Deck @ 5:30 AM for carpooling OR at @ 6:30 AM at the visitor's center parking lot
- We will be on grass or gravel with gentle to moderate slopes
- Accessible restrooms are available at the Visitor's Center