

## REVIEW OF FIELD TRIP TO AUDUBON PARK ON MARCH 20, 2015

Seven people joined me on what was initially a foggy morning however the sun quickly burnt this off and it turned out to be a very warm sunny day. March is a transition month with the winter visitors departing and the early spring migrants arriving. It is also true that the losses are normally greater than the gains - that will change in April.

White-eyed Vireos were widespread as were Northern Parula. On the other hand we only had two Yellow-rumped Warblers and two Eastern Phoebes. There was just one American Goldfinch, one Palm Warbler and two House Wrens. With the recent spell of very warm weather I am probably looking for more bird song than is normal of this time of year.

What we did have was a late Orange-crowned Warbler, a Wilson's Snipe and extended views of a Swallow-tailed Kite. A dead Luna Moth was found on the bike trail; there is a picture below.

As usual I was at the park early; I had ten Chuck-will's widows, a Barred Owl, a Common Gallinule and a Purple Martin (the latter being currently a "vagrant"). On the field trip 51 species were recorded so with these four the day's total was 55.

At the moment these field trips are due to end after the May visit but I now intend to continue them indefinitely. They could remain on the third Friday but I am looking to switch the field trip to either the third Saturday or Sunday; your votes please.

Harry Robinson