

# 7th Annual Bird Fest~ May 20 & 21, 2011

CHOICE OF ONE AM FIELD TRIP 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

## Powell Marsh Wildlife Area Hike

Join your experienced guide State Ecologist Colleen Matula for an exploration into one of the true gems of the Northwoods. This hike offers participants insight into the past, present, and future management of the area, as well as providing greater insight into the species of concern that birders may encounter upon their journey through one of the largest marshes in the state. Signature species include Sandhill Cranes, Bobolinks, Northern Harriers, Bald Eagles, Wood Ducks, Pied-billed Grebes, American Bittern, Yellow-headed Blackbirds, Semipalmated Plovers, trumpeter swans, Lincoln sparrow.

## Little Turtle Flowage Hike

Join birding enthusiast Amber Roth and naturalist Troy Walters on a hike around the Little Turtle Flowage, which is part of the Little Turtle Waterfowl Management Area. Participants are guided along on an exploration of a hidden treasure and birding hotspot in the Northwoods. The diverse habitat of the flowage promotes a wide variety of migratory and resident wildlife species such as Black Terns, Osprey, Bald Eagles, Wood Ducks and Hooded Mergansers. Other species include Common Loons, Pied-billed Grebes, Great Blue Herons, Trumpeter Swans, Ring-necked Ducks, Merlins, American Kestrel, Common Snipe, Sora, Yellow Rail, Eastern Kingbird, Marsh and Sedge Wrens, Yellow Warblers, Common Yellowthroats, and Song, Lincoln's and Swamp Sparrows.

## Powell Marsh- Off Hwy 47

Join Bird Club members Jim and Cynthia Krakowski on this fun morning hike. They will take you to a different part of the Powell Marsh Wildlife Area, located off of HWY 47. Discover this water controlled wetland marsh that includes a nice mixture of upland black spruce and tamarack. Northern water thrush, Sandhill cranes, bobolinks, sharp tailed grouse, and numerous other marsh birds are all species that may be encountered on this hike.

## Birding Along the Manitowish River

The Manitowish River flows 44 miles through a predominately wooded and wild watershed. Flatwater dominates, three dams alter the flow along its course, large wetlands flourish, and waterfowl and songbirds utilize the river as a migration stopover site as well as a nesting site. We'll slowly paddle a short stretch of the river, stopping very frequently to experience the birdlife and enjoy the calm. Canoes, paddles and life jackets will be provided. In the event of inclement weather, participants will join John at Van Vliet Old Growth Hemlocks for a hike.

## Turtle-Flambeau Flowage Pontoon

Participants will hop aboard a pontoon and spend the morning on the picturesque Turtle-Flambeau Flowage. This Scenic Waters Area is an area rich in diversity of wildlife habitats, providing important migratory and breeding habitat for many species of birds, and offering the highest number of nesting loons, eagles, and osprey in the state. In the event of inclement weather, participants will have the choice of joining in on either the Powell Marsh hike or the Little Turtle Flowage hike.

## Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area Auto Tour

This tour will give you a glimpse of the spectacular resources of the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area. We will be stopping at a wide variety of habitats that surround the Flowage from bogs to red pine plantation and old growth hemlock hardwood forests. The tour highlights will include stops at an osprey and loon nest, and will focus on species such as shorebirds, waterfowl and warblers.