



MAGEE BOARDWALK
(more details on separate map)

WILDLIFE BEACH TRAIL

COUNTY LINE
Lucas Co.
Ottawa Co.

BIRDING MAP OF
**MAGEE MARSH
WILDLIFE AREA,
NORTHWEST OHIO**

OTTAWA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

MAGEE CAUSEWAY

OPEN MARSH

OBSERVATION TOWER
(HAWKWATCH)

SPORTSMEN'S
MIGRATORY
BIRD CENTER

MAGEE
WALKING
TRAIL

MAGEE - OTTAWA
PARTNERSHIP
TRAIL

BLACK SWAMP
BIRD OBSERVATORY
NATURE CENTER



Produced by Kenn Kaufman for the
Black Swamp Bird Observatory.
Updated April 2012.
This copyrighted map is available
for free downloading and printing.
www.bsbobird.org/birding

GALLAGHER
MEMORIAL
TRAIL

ENTRANCE SIGN FOR
MAGEE MARSH WILDLIFE AREA

Please support birding
and wildlife diversity
-
Purchase the Ohio
Wildlife Legacy Stamp

TO
TOLEDO
18 miles

OHIO STATE ROUTE 2

TO
PORT CLINTON
16 miles

Birding Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, Ohio

Notes by Kenn Kaufman, updated April 2012

To accompany the "birding map" provided by Black Swamp Bird Observatory

One of the most famous birding sites in the Midwest. The boardwalk that provides spectacular views of migrating warblers is located on Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, administered by the Division of Wildlife. The adjacent beach was formerly included in Crane Creek State Park, and many birders still use the term "Crane Creek" (and that creek does run through the adjacent Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, administered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service). Black Swamp Bird Observatory is a nonprofit organization supported by its members, but we have a good working relationship with the state and federal agencies that own the land here.

Directions to Magee Marsh: The entrance road leads north from Ohio State Route 2 about 18 miles east of Toledo and 16 miles west of Port Clinton, or 1.5 miles east of S.R 590, 1.5 miles west of S.R. 19.

Access: There is no entry fee. During waterfowl hunting season in late fall, the road is closed beyond the Sportsmen's Migratory Bird Center except on Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

Notes on sites along the road, starting at the entrance and working north:

Black Swamp Bird Observatory Nature Center: Hours vary by season. Open on most days during peak migration periods. Educational programs and displays, nature shop, window on wildlife, information on local birding.

Gallagher Memorial Trail: Named for the late John F. Gallagher of Springfield, Ohio, who led the effort to save Ohio's Cedar Bog from destruction. The trail leads through woodland edge, scrub-shrub habitat, and meadow, and connects with the Magee-Ottawa Partnership Trail.

Sportsmen's Migratory Bird Center:

Some Division of Wildlife personnel work out of offices here, but the center is also open to the public and has fine educational displays. Open weekdays all year and on weekends during spring and summer.

Hawkwatch Tower (Observation

Tower): Near the east end of the parking lot for the Sportsmen's Center. A good vantage point for seeing migrating raptors on spring days with southwest winds.

Magee Walking Trail: This trail loops through the woods and past marsh and ponds. This trail may be closed in spring (as it is currently, in 2012) to protect a nest site for Bald Eagles in these woods.

Magee Causeway: Runs straight north across the marsh. Three gravel pullouts on the east side of the road offer easy parking. The Magee Marsh Wildlife Area extends a short distance west and far to the east of here. The causeway offers opportunities to see waterfowl and marsh birds.

Wildlife Beach Trail: From the small parking lot north of the bend in the road, a trail leads to the east beach. This is a good place to see waterfowl, gulls, and terns on Lake Erie. Thickets and woods along the edge of the beach often have big concentrations of songbirds during migration seasons.

Magee Boardwalk: The single best-known birding location in northwest Ohio. The woods here, along the beach ridge between Lake Erie and the marsh, host major concentrations of migrant birds throughout the spring and fall. During late April and May, this is one of the best places in North America to get superb views of migrating warblers and other songbirds.

For County Listers: The Lucas / Ottawa county line is now shown on the map.

Black Swamp Bird Observatory also produces a detail map of the boardwalk itself, also available free from our website: www.bsbobird.org/birding