

Evansville Audubon Society offers Birdwatching Merit Badge for Girl Scouts

Some of the things you will learn:

Identify birds by
sight, sound and behavior



Proper care and use of
binoculars



Using field guides, birding
apps, and other resources



Complete the skill and knowledge requirements to
earn your merit badge.



(Merit Badge Requirements on back of this page. Email info@evvaudubon.org to sign up.)

Girl Scout Merit Badge Requirements:

1. Attend a meeting that will provide an introduction to birds that includes a discussion of the major features of a bird and why learning about birds is important. In this meeting we will do a series of demonstrations and hands-on activities to learn how to identify birds and become familiar with resources used in bird identification.

- What is a bird? (Handout: Major parts of a bird)
- What to look for when identifying a bird: Size, Shape, Silhouette. (Handout: Bird Silhouettes)
- Aids in bird identification: field guides, binoculars. (Activity: Making your own binoculars)
- Bird Identification (Activity: Memory Game)
- Attracting Birds to Observe (Activity: Making a Bird Feeder)

2. Observe and be able to identify 5 (or 10) common birds you might see at a backyard bird feeder or bird feeding station at a nature center. You will complete a field notebook (provided to you) to record your observations for each bird species you see. In this notebook you will record date and time, location and habitat, the bird's behavior, and draw and/or describe the bird so that you can identify the bird.

- Observe birds at the bird feeding station at Wesselman Wood's Nature Preserve (or other location) in the presence of volunteers from the Evansville Audubon Society to assist you in bird identification.
- Activity: Complete your bird watching notebook.

3. Go on a Jr. Birder field trip to a local birding area (e.g. Wesselman Woods) to use your knowledge and skills in identifying birds in the field.

- Keep a list of birds (or use a bird checklist) as a record of all the birds observed on the field trip.
- Share your findings with family and friends. (Bring the list home or post your list on the Jr. Birder Facebook page).