



**Site 1 Dimmick Pond:** Take the footpath that loops around the body of water, where waterfowl are usually present. Keep an eye out for great blue herons and mallards that probe the shallows of the pond. Massachusetts' common

bird species are often found throughout the park, including blue jay and Eastern phoebe.

**Parking:** Enter the Hubbard Park parking lot from Parker Street. Continue right and park near Dimmick Pond.

**Instructions after parking:** Use the trail visible from this parking area to walk around Dimmick pond.

**Facilities:** Playground, water fountain, picnic area, outdoor grilling, soccer field, tennis court, basketball court, baseball fields

**Additional information:** eBird Hotspot / notable species; Eastern phoebe, great blue heron, blue jay, mallard, warbling and red-eyed vireo. Best during migration when many warblers can be found (both spring and fall.)



**Site 2 Five Mile Pond:** The park overlooks Five Mile Pond. Keep an eye out for osprey who frequent the area in search of something to eat. Yellow-rumped warblers can be heard singing from the beach and parking area.

**Parking:** Park at the boat launch

**Hours:**

Summer: 11am to 6pm daily.

Weekends only, August 8 through Labor Day.

Closed from late fall to spring.

Birders may park at the gate and walk in during the off-season / off-hours, or use the fisherman's parking lot, which also provides a good vantage point to the pond.

**Facilities:** Seasonal restrooms at beach entrance.

**Additional information:** eBird Hotspot / notable species: osprey, mallard, yellow-rumped warbler, cormorant, ring-billed gulls. In spring, migrating yellowlegs and least sandpipers, as well as ring-necked ducks and pied-bill grebes.



**Site 3 Loon Pond:** Loon Pond offers good winter views of beaches and water. Scan for gulls and waterfowl. Wading birds are possible during migration. This site is typically surveyed in a short amount of time due to size and location. **Parking:** Parking area located off of Pas-

co Road **Facilities:** N/A **Additional information:** eBird Hotspot / notable species:— gulls. A good place to check for migratory ducks, grebes, and swallows (barn, rough-wing and tree).



**Site 4 Blunt Park:** Blunt Park is a good migrant trap in spring and fall, and a great place to look for over-wintering species.

**Parking:** There are multiple parking areas

throughout Blunt Park

**Facilities:** Seasonal public restrooms, porta-potties for the off-season, water fountain, picnic area, outdoor grilling, athletic fields

**Additional Information:** eBird Hotspot Notable species: migratory warblers and common Massachusetts species (blue jay, northern mockingbird,

mourning dove, northern cardinal, American robin, black-capped chickadee, tufted titmouse, red-bellied woodpecker, grey catbird, song sparrow, downy woodpecker, red-tailed hawk, white-breasted nuthatch).



**Site 5 Oak Grove Cemetery:** The cemetery is productive year-round but particularly in winter, when it is one of the prime locations to look for juncos, song sparrows, American tree sparrows, and white throated sparrows.

Gates open from 8am-4:30pm

**Parking:** There are multiple parking areas throughout the cemetery

**Additional Information:** eBird Hotspot / notable species: sparrows (mainly in the winter)

**Facilities:** N/A



**Site 6 Abbey Brook Conservation Area:** This area provides excellent birding opportunity in all seasons.

Expect to see Massachusetts' common bird species, as well as an influx of migrants during spring and fall

seasons.

**Parking:** Designated parking area at the head of the trail.

**Instructions after parking:** Trail sign indicates start of trail

**Facilities:** N/A .

**Additional Information:** eBird Hotspot / notable species: blue jay, northern mockingbird, mourning dove, northern cardinal, American robin, common grackle, chimney swift, mallard, northern flicker, black-capped chickadee, tufted titmouse, red-winged blackbird, red-bellied woodpecker, grey catbird, song sparrow, downy woodpecker, great blue heron, Indigo bunting, red-tailed hawk, white-breasted nuthatch, wood thrush, Eastern pewee.



**Site 7 Van Horn Park and Reservoirs:** At Van Horn Park Upper Pond, birders can experience great sightings throughout the year.

**Parking:** Park at the pavilion **Instructions after parking:** Walk from pavilion to sidewalk along

Armory Street to access the pond loop trail (extremely short walking distance from parking lot to Armory Street entrance)

**Facilities:** Playground, water fountain, picnic area, outdoor grilling, two baseball fields, soccer field, football field, tennis court, porta-potties.

**Additional information:** eBird Hotspot / notable species: Canada goose, American robin, red winged blackbird, common grackle, red-tailed hawk, downy, hairy and red-bellied woodpecker, black-capped chickadee, white breasted nuthatch, northern cardinal, American goldfinch. Chimney swift, and red-eyed vireo breed here. Many warblers during spring and fall migration. Great blue and green herons have been found here regularly. Pied-billed grebes and ducks during migration.



**Site 8 Riverfront Park North:** The park sits along the paved foot and bike path that hugs the banks of the Connecticut River. North Riverfront Park is often visited in spring wood thrush, veery, orioles, as well as migrating Swainson's thrushes

(mid-May). In combination with Riverfront Park South, as both locations are connected via the CT Riverwalk and Bikeway Trail.

**Parking:** Parking at Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club, accessed from Rt. 20. 121 West St, Springfield, MA 01104.

**Facilities:** Picnic tables

**Additional Information:** notable species: common goldeneye, glaucous and Iceland gull (in winter). This is a hotspot for gulls.



**Site 9 Connecticut River Walkway and Bikeway at Riverfront Park South:** The site is an ADA accessible, paved foot and bike path that hugs the banks of the Connecticut River.

Riverfront Park South is often visited in combination with Riverfront Park North, as both locations are

connected via the CT Riverwalk and Bikeway Trail. In winter, scan for common species such as dark-eyed juncos and downy woodpeckers.

**Parking:** There are designated parking areas

**Facilities:** Benches, picnic area, ADA accessible

**Additional information:** eBird Hotspot / notable species: dark-eyed junco, great egret, common merganser, warbling vireo, common grackle, double-crested cormorant, cedar waxwing, belted kingfisher, spotted sandpiper.

**Site 10 Porter Lake, Fountain Lake, and Duck Pond area of Forest**



**Park:** These bodies of water can be exceptional year-round. A paved road, in combination with a footpath trail system provides excellent vantage points for all 3 bodies of water that attract waterfowl and wading birds during migration. Year round residents include white-

throated sparrow, golden-crowned kinglets, red-bellied woodpecker, and Cooper's hawk. In the winter months, expect to see common mergansers and other over-wintering waterfowl.

**Parking:** Park at the ECOs building parking lot.

**Facilities:** Entry fee (\$3 in state, \$5 out of state), public restrooms, playground, water fountain, picnic area, outdoor grilling, athletic fields, pool,

**Additional Information:** eBird Hotspot / notable species: Eastern phoebe, American goldfinch, common yellowthroat, American redstart, song sparrow, nesting Baltimore and orchard orioles. Great for warbler migration in May. Eastern phoebe, American goldfinch, common yellowthroat, song sparrow, chimney swift. In



**Site 11 King Phillip's Stockade:** This location marks the site of the last major effort by Native Americans of Southern New England, led by Chief Metacomet and known as King Phillip to the English, to drive out the English settlers.

**Parking:** Park at Picknelly Baseball Field **Facilities:** N/A.

**Instructions after parking:** Use the crosswalk to cross Columbus Ave. to access the King Phillip's Stockade Loop Trail

**Additional Information:** eBird Hotspot / notable species: Eastern phoebe, American goldfinch, common yellowthroat, song sparrow, chimney swift



**Site 12 Fannie Stebbins Wildlife Refuge:** Fannie Stebbins is extraordinary any time of year, where warblers, woodpeckers, and thrushes are abundant. A trail system provides approximately 6 miles of footpaths that meander through a diverse set of habitats, including floodplain forest that produces a great variety of bird species. Golden-crowned kinglets, swamp sparrows, Eastern

screech-owls, and belted kingfishers can be observed year-round. The wildlife refuge sits atop roughly 1,000 acres of former farmland along the Connecticut River, where ospreys, hawks, and bald eagles are common sights.

**Parking:** Park at the intersection of Bark Haul Rd. and Pondsides Rd.

**Instructions after parking:** Refer to the map of trails in the kiosk for walking areas

**Facilities:** N/A

**Additional Information:** eBird Hotspot / notable species: golden-crowned kinglet, swamp sparrow, Eastern screech-owl, belted kingfisher, white-throated sparrow, rose-breasted grosbeak, hairy woodpecker, black-throated green warbler. In spring the ponds attract green-winged teal, blue-winged teal, American wigeon, ring-necked duck and several species of waders. Wood duck, mallard, and Canada goose breed here.



**Site 13 Gunnery Sergeant Thomas J. Sullivan Park:** This park sits on Dan Baker Cove, featuring a narrow footpath that hugs the water's edge. The path is lined with low shrubs making it ideal for sparrows.

Waterfowl species can be observed from the pavilion or from the footpath. Limited parking is available at the entrance gate, and it is recommended to stay on the dirt trails.

**Parking:** Parking is limited at Gunnery Sergeant Thomas J. Sullivan Park. Pedestrians are welcome at all times. To obtain a key to the gate, contact the Springfield Division of Parks and Recreation.

**Instructions after parking:** Follow the trail that begins at the park sign.

**Facilities:** Pavilion and boat launch.

**Additional Information:** eBird Hotspot/notable species: waterfowl, song sparrow.

**Special thanks to:**

- Allen Bird Club
- Springfield Buildings & Recreation Management
- Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds
- ReGreen Springfield
- Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge
- U.S Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S Forest Service



This is the official sign of the Great Springfield Birding Trail. You can find this sign at the locations noted below. Each site represents a different urban birding opportunity in Springfield. Your adventure starts here!

**Sites:**

**1. Dimmick Pond at Hubbard Park**  
42.15051, -72.49118  
205 Parker St, Indian Orchard, MA

**2. Five Mile Pond**  
42.13958, -72.5095  
1020 Boston Road

**3. Loon Pond**  
42.14198, -72.502  
On Pasco Road two hundred feet from edge of retail parking lot,  
1284 Boston Road

**4. Blunt Park**  
42.12863, -72.54644  
1780 Roosevelt Avenue

**5. Oak Grove Cemetery**  
42.12102, -72.56397  
426 Bay Street

**6. Abbey Brook**  
42.1358, 72.5793  
1170 Crew Street; Behind the Renaissance School

**7. Van Horn Park**  
42.1252, -72.59095  
494 Armory Street

**8. North Riverfront Park**  
42.10952, -72.61203  
State St. & West Columbus Avenue

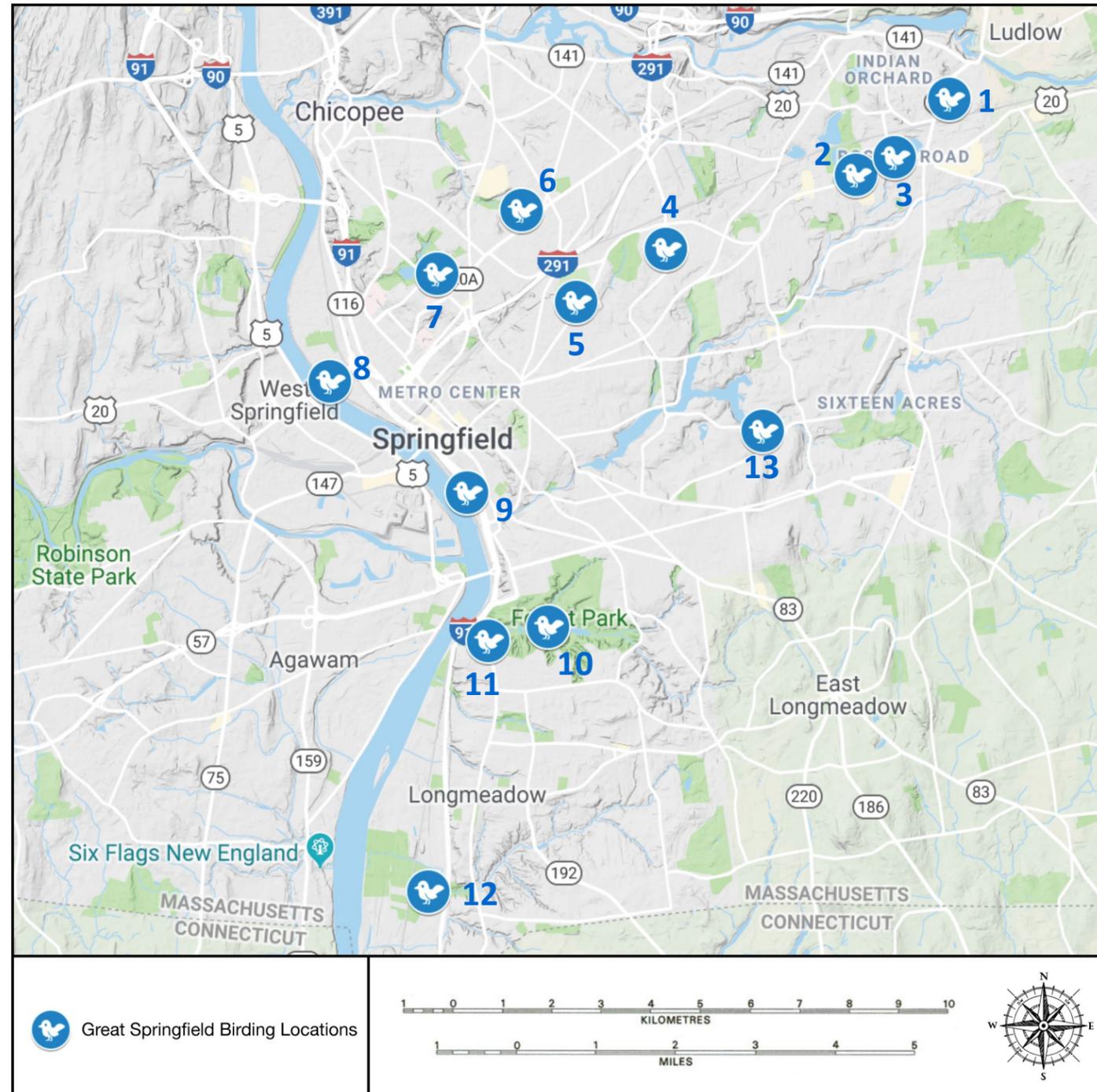
**9. Connecticut River Walk And Bikeway**  
42.09377, -72.58512  
Entrance on West Columbus Ave at St

**10. Porter Lake**  
42.07443, -72.56977  
200 Trafton Road

**11. King Phillip's Stockade**  
42.07206, -72.58128  
70 Columbus Avenue

**12. Fannie Sterbbin**  
42.03616, -72.59128  
202 Bark Haul Rd, Longmeadow, MA 01106

**13. Gunnery Sergeant Thomas J. Sullivan Park at Dan Baker Cove**  
42.10276, -72.52761  
South Branch Parkway



A partnership of the following:



ReGreenSpringfield

# The Great Springfield Birding Trail



Photo: Bill Thompson

The Great Springfield Birding and Nature Trail is a series of locations within the City of Springfield's parks and open spaces, where quality viewing spots have been mapped out by avid birders for the public to enjoy. The birding and nature trail is part of the Connecticut River Watershed, and is an urban bird haven along the Atlantic flyway. The city is an important resting and nesting area for migratory and resident birds. We hope you enjoy observing the birds that make Springfield a special city. Springfield, Massachusetts is an official Urban Bird Treaty City.



Visit [www.regreenspringfield.org/birdingtrail](http://www.regreenspringfield.org/birdingtrail)

To view a digital version of the map visit <https://bit.ly/37GFSdw>