

What Makes Oaks Bottom so bird friendly?

Shallow water and plant diversity are the main reasons that over 100 species of migratory birds visit Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge. This park is a 163-acre park located adjacent to the Willamette River in Southest Portland. Its shallow water with numerous fish, frogs and insects is a premier feeding spot for many water birds, including the City's bird, the Great Blue Heron. The oak-madrone bluffs surrounding the wetland provide berries and seeds for many of the songbirds flying through the area or remaining to nest for the summer. Osprey are regular nesters on the river's edge and can be seen from the Springwater Trail. Bald eagles are often seen overhead as they fly to and from their nests on islands in the Willamette next to Oaks Bottom.

Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

Portland's Migratory Bird Park

Only minutes from downtown Portland, Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge is designated as Portland's Migratory Bird Park. Maintenance practices, educational opportunities and volunteer efforts in this park are designed to improve habitat for migratory birds. Increased plantings of berried shrubs provide food for seed eaters, removal of ivy allows native plants useful for ground nesters to once again emerge from the ground under the trees and careful consideration of human impacts on both the land and water are all ongoing activites in support of migratory bird life in Oaks Bottom. This park is considered the test site for additional practices that will be found to improve habitat for the migratory birds visiting our city.

