

Bird Walk At The Pinnacle Nature Area Preserve

Report by Tom Hunter with photos by Richard Kretz

On Saturday, May 10, the Russell County Bird Club and the Russell County Tourism Committee sponsored a bird walk at the Pinnacle Natural Area Preserve in Russell County, Virginia. Despite threatening weather at the beginning, 11 people participated in the walk. By mid-morning the skies cleared and it was a beautiful hike in a beautiful area of Southwestern Virginia. The walk was led by members of the Russell County Bird Club. Birding highlights included singing Louisiana Waterthrushes, Red-Eyed Vireos, Northern Parulas, and dueling Wood Thrushes. In all 43 species of birds were sighted.

In addition to the birds, wildflowers such as Green and Gold, Fire Pink, Yellow Pimpernel, Smooth Meadow Parsnip, Fairy Wand, and Lyre-Leaf Sage were in bloom and butterflies including Giant Swallowtails, Zebra Swallowtails, and Pipevine Swallowtails flitted about.



Group photo: Richard Kretz, Dave Worley, Laverne Hunter, Tom Hunter, Jane Thornhill, Jerry Thornhill, and Kelly McBride



Red-Eyed Vireo



The Pinnacle



Giant Swallowtail with Pipevine Swallowtails

Complete Species List

Great Blue Heron
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
Canada Goose
Mallard

Ruffed Grouse
Spotted Sandpiper
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Pileated Woodpecker
Acadian Flycatcher

Eastern Phoebe
White-eyed Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Blue Jay
American Crow
Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
Carolina Wren
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Wood Thrush
Gray Catbird
Brown Thrasher
Northern Parula
Black-throated Green Warbler
Yellow-throated Warbler
Black and White Warbler
American Redstart

Worm-eating Warbler
Ovenbird
Louisiana Waterthrush
Hooded Warbler
Scarlet Tanager
Eastern Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Field Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
Common Grackle
American Goldfinch