

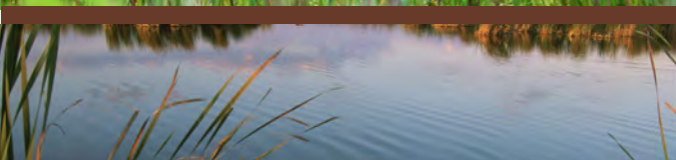
Visit Pearland
— Texas —



**PREPEAR
TO LOVE IT**
Birding in Pearland



Great Blue Heron



INTRODUCTION

Pearland is located in northern Brazoria County, home to the Upper Texas Coast – Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail. Pearland preserves several habitats that are critical for birds flying in for migration and the city sits directly in the middle of the Central Flyway. As these birds fly in from across the Gulf of Mexico they typically prefer habitats that are just inland, like Brazoria County. As the saying goes “location is everything” and for bird watchers, novice and seasoned alike, Pearland is ideal!

Birding is available in Pearland year round, but many species like warblers and hawks can be spotted seasonally during the migration times of Fall & Spring. During the winter, many sparrows, Goldfinches and water fowl choose to call Pearland home. Birding in Pearland – PrePEAR to love it!

LOCAL HOT SPOTS

While there are multiple locations throughout the City of Pearland to enjoy birding, these spots are excellent locations for spotting a variety of birds.

1. Shadow Creek Ranch Nature Trail 1801 Kingsley Drive, Pearland TX 77584

This green space offers paved trails, educational signage, and natural vistas for viewing wildlife throughout the trail. An observation deck is available to enjoy the beautiful scenery and take photos.

- Winter months: Sparrows, Blue-winged Teal, Yellow-Rumped Warbler, Herring Gull and Cedar Waxwing.
- Early spring: Sandhill Crane, Pectoral Sandpiper and Crested Caracara.
- Year round: Killdeer, Herons, Egrets, Red-Shouldered Hawk and Mottled Duck can be seen.

2. John Hargrove Environmental Complex/Delores Fenwick Nature Center, 5800 Magnolia Street, Pearland TX 77584

This park has a trailhead to enjoy waterfowl and other birds on Texas’s first municipal floating wetlands and leisurely walk on the 1.7 mile recreational nature trail. Rookeries, a nesting colony of water birds, can be observed from spring into the summer.

Less than a ½ mile west on Magnolia Road are two large retention ponds. These ponds are an excellent place to find foraging water birds and are full of waterfowl in the winter. A local bat colony calls the Fite Road bridge home for half of the year. The Edible Fruit trail east picnic area is a great spot to view their emergence at dusk during the late summer.

- Winter months: you will likely see Cedar Waxwing, Killdeer, Yellow-Rumped Warbler, American White Pelican and American Coot.
- Year round: a wide variety of Herons, Egrets, Roseate Spoonbill, Ring-billed Gull, Ibis and Blue Jay can be found. Bald Eagles can be spotted in this area as well.



Photo Credit: Pete Romfh, Texas Master Naturalist-Cradle of Texas Chapter

3. El Franco Lee Park, 9400 Hall Road, Houston TX 77089

While managed by Harris County, this park offers 80 acres of protected wetlands, nature trails, and an elevated boardwalk with a gazebo, perfect for wildlife observation.

- Winter/Spring: - Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Green-Winged Teal, Northern Harrier, Wilson’s Snipe, Eastern Phoebe, Vermillion Flycatcher, House Wren, American Robin and Orange-Crowned Warbler.
- Summer months: Yellow-Billed Cuckoo, Common Nighthawk, Purple Martin and Chimney Swift.
In the fall season, Warblers are a common sight.
- Year round: –Woodpeckers, Black-Bellied Whistling Duck and Barred Owl.

ADDITIONAL PEARLAND LOCATIONS

Centennial Park

3219 McLean Road, Pearland, TX 77584

- Purple Martin, Cedar Waxwing, Savannah Sparrow, American Pipit

Christia V. Adair Park

15107 Cullen Blvd., Houston, TX 77047

- Northern Cardinal, American Goldfinch, Blue gray gnatcatcher

Tom Bass Park, Section 3

15108 Cullen Blvd., Houston, TX 77047

- Kinglets, Carolina Chickadee, Eastern Bluebird, Pie-billed Grebe



TIPS FOR A GREAT EXPERIENCE

You may want to pick up a field guide or download an app to help track and identify your sightings. E-Bird and Merlin Bird are great starting points. Additionally, you will want to wear muted colors, bring a hat, sunscreen and/or bug spray, and binoculars if you have them.

Locally, binoculars may be purchased at Wild Birds Unlimited, Bass Pro Shop, or Academy Sports & Outdoors.

Don’t forget to bring your camera! If you enjoy nature photography, walking the trails at the various sites in Pearland will be sure to yield some great snapshots.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Visit Pearland – visitpearland.com/birding

Texas Parks & Wildlife – tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/birding

City of Pearland Parks & Recreation – pearlandparks.com

CHECKLIST FOR BIRDS SPOTTED IN PEARLAND

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- Eastern Phoebe
- Vermillion Flycatcher
- Blue Jay
- Carolina Chickadee
- House Wren
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- Eastern Bluebird
- American Robin
- Northern Mockingbird
- American Pipit
- Cedar Waxwing
- Northern Cardinal
- Indigo Bunting
- Red-winged Blackbird
- American Goldfinches

RAPTORS:

- Northern Harrier
- Bald Eagle
- Red shouldered Hawk
- Barred Owl
- Crested Caracara

SWIFTS & SWALLOWS:

- Swallows and Swifts
- Purple Martin
- Barn Swallow
- Chimney Swift
- Common Nighthawk



SPARROWS:

- Chipping Sparrow
- Savannah Sparrow
- White-crowned Sparrow
- White-throated Sparrow
- Swamp Sparrow

WARBLERS:

- Orange-crowned Warbler
- Tennessee Warbler
- Magnolia Warbler
- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- Yellow-throated Warbler
- Black and White Warbler
- Hooded Warbler

WATER BIRDS

- Snow Goose
- Black-bellied Whistling Duck
- Gadwall
- Mallard
- Mottled Duck
- Blue-winged Teal
- Green-winged teal
- Northern Shoveler
- Pie-billed Grebe
- American Coot
- Sandhill Crane
- Killdeer
- Least Sandpiper
- Pectoral Sandpiper
- Wilson's Snipe



WATER BIRDS [CONT.]:

- Herring Gull
- Laughing Gull
- Ring-billed Gull
- Double-crested Cormorant
- Neotropic Cormorant
- American White Pelican
- Great Blue Heron
- Great Egret
- Snowy Egret
- Little Blue Heron
- Tricolored Heron
- Cattle Egret
- Green Heron
- Yellow-crowned Night Heron
- White Ibis
- Roseate Spoonbill

WOODPECKERS

- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
- Red-bellied Woodpecker
- Downy Woodpecker
- Pileated Woodpecker



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