



Birding with Kevin Cook



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Fort Collins Audubon Society

A class presented in five sessions with two supporting field trips.
May 2005

Each class session presents a two-part program of instruction. The first part addresses a specific aspect of cultivating personal interest in birds and birding, and the second part explains how to find and identify specific birds associated with a particular kind of landscape.

Thursday, May 5 - Developing Personal Birding Knowledge

How to acquire then apply relevant information first to find birds, then to identify them, and ultimately to understand them. Explains what you need to know, and why, to get good at birding. **Focus Group: Wetland Birds**

Tuesday, May 10 - Developing Personal Birding Skills

How to find birds on purpose, how to observe birds productively, and how to identify them with certainty. Explains what you need to do to get good at birding. **Focus Group: Grassland Birds**

Tuesday, May 17 - Developing Personal Birding Accomplishment

Not all little green birds are related because color is not a criterion of relatedness, and not all people who enjoy birds are the same because birding interests differ. Explains how to assess your own connection to birds as a necessary condition for experiencing optimum life-time satisfaction with birds. **Focus Group: Shrubland Birds**

Tuesday, May 24 - Birding Equipment: Matching Need with Ambition

What to buy and not buy; what to upgrade and what to replace, and when; what to carry afield and what to leave in your car or at home. Explains the difference between what equipment you need and what you think you need. **Focus Group: Treeland Birds**

Tuesday, May 31 - The Connection between Birds and Place

Birds associate with certain landscapes for reasons of food and nesting, which explains why not all birds occur in all places. Explains how to use natural history and geography information to find birds deliberately with high success. **Focus Group: Colorado Specialties**

Field Trip Dates are planned for the first two weekends in May, and will be announced at the first class session.

Field Trip Details

The first field trip will be either to the Denver Zoo or to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science: nice weather we go outdoors to the zoo; harsh weather we go inside to the museum. This will be a work session of intensive directed study. Participants will be guided in observing specific details of bird anatomy plus size and shape of vital features. The museum dioramas and the zoo flight cages offer unexcelled opportunity for bird enthusiasts to see aspects of birds that can be very difficult to comprehend in a field setting without prior experience. The second field trip will be to a setting where participants will be challenged to find and identify wild birds.

Class Meeting Time and Place

- Class Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Location: JAX Outdoor Gear, 1200 N. College Ave., Fort Collins, in the conference room. ([map](#))

Cost: Class

- Per session paid separately: \$7 for Fort Collins Audubon Society members, \$8 for nonmembers ([Join now!](#))
- Entire class paid at once: \$33 for Fort Collins Audubon Society members, \$38 for nonmembers ([Join now!](#))

Cost: Field Trips

- Each field trip is \$20 for members, \$22 for nonmembers ([Join now!](#))
- Museum or zoo entrance fee is extra. Carpooling will be arranged

Registration:

Call Kevin Cook at 223-8392 during afternoon or evenings for full details.