



Bird Watching at Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site

Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site is the home to many bird species which are indigenous to the midwest. Four distinct habitats exist on this ten-acre site. The main yard surrounding the house is heavily wooded and numerous tree-dwelling birds make this part of the site their home. Behind the house along the walking trace, a field of natural plantings and grasses attract very different types of birds and relatively few trees give a clear view of the open sky where circling raptors are regularly spotted.

Along the western edge of the park, Little Prairie Creek is home to a number of wetland birds, although direct public access to this area is generally limited.

Finally, a rain garden was constructed behind the Visitor Center as part of the rainwater management system for the site. Numerous bird species are attracted to the variety of flowering plants in this garden.

Little Prairie Creek



Carolina Wren
Thryothorus ludovicianus



Indigo Bunting
Passerina cyanea



Great Blue Heron
Ardea herodias



American Crow
Corvus brachyrhynchos

Rain Garden



Eurasian Tree Sparrow
Passer montanus
(non-native species)



House Finch
Haemorhous mexicanus
(considered invasive)



Mourning Dove
Zenaida macroura



Eastern Bluebird
Sialia sialis



American Goldfinch
Spinus tristis



Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Archilochus colubris



Dark-eyed Junco
Junco hyemalis



American Robin
Turdus migratorius

(All bird photos: Adobe Stock)