


**From:** Alice Horst [ahorst@comcast.net](mailto:ahorst@comcast.net) 

**Subject:** [the-village-birders] The Village Birders' bird walk at Emeraldal Marsh Boat Ramp on 2/22/2024

**Date:** February 22, 2024 at 10:55 PM

**To:** VILLAGE BIRDERS [the-village-birders@googlegroups.com](mailto:the-village-birders@googlegroups.com), Birders Brownwood [brownwood-birders+noreply@googlegroups.com](mailto:brownwood-birders+noreply@googlegroups.com)

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AH

15 Village Birders enjoyed a magnificent morning of birding at Emeraldal Marsh Boat Ramp in Leesburg.

The day was a bit cool at the start but quickly warmed up.

We tallied 47 species with several definite “winners”.

Bald Eagles, 2 Northern Harriers, 2 Snail Kites, Limpkin, and an Ovenbird.

Tammy Martin, who was with us today, had reported Swampheens on earlier trips to Emeraldal Marsh.

We scoped the marshes and half of our group was lucky enough to observe the very large version of a Common Gallinule

After seeing the Gray-headed Swampheens we headed to Gator Bay Bar and Grill just 3 miles away in Leesburg- fabulous burgers, etc.

BUT, on the way to the restaurant, Linda and Jerry Bell observed a SWALLOW-TAILED KITE!!!!

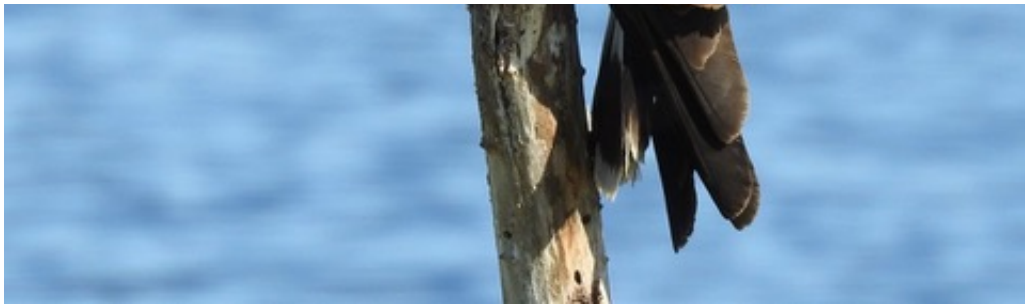
(I did not put STKI on our trip list because it was not in Emeraldal Marsh)

STKIs are arriving so keep your eyes open!

Thank you for joining us.

Our eBird list can be viewed on our website: [www.villagebirders.org](http://www.villagebirders.org)





Snail Kite - by me



Photo of gray-headed swamphen by Tammy Martin

Thank you for coming out with us today.  
Every day is a GREAT day to go birding!  
Alice Horst  
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