

## Heron Happenings

On Saturday, February 14, 2026, one of our Friends of Maddax Woods 'Heron Watchers' braved the chilly, cloud-covered day at Maddax Woods to survey Goat Island's Great Blue Heron colony. The morning started with the exciting sight of a heron pair settling into a nest, while dozens more solo herons stood guard over preexisting nests, or perched nearby, filling the air with lively movement as a few took short flights among the nests.

By the afternoon, the heron community was still buzzing—three pairs appeared to claim their own nests, and many solo birds remained on lookout for potential mates. The consistent activity and early nesting signs promise a vibrant start to the season. Stay tuned as 'Heron Watch' volunteers continue to track the colony's progress, hoping to witness a flourishing heron rookery in the weeks ahead.

**Besides our scheduled 'Heron Watch' events, watch your email for mid-week pop-up sessions, offering exclusive bird viewing with spotting scopes when weather allows.**



Great Blue Herons seen flying above Goat Island from Maddax Woods observation area, 2025.