Ada Hayden Park (eBird Hotspot) (Important Bird Area)

**GPS Coordinates:** 42.0728262,-93.6245656

**Ownership:** None listed

**Description:**

**Habitat:**

**Directions:** (Formerly Hallett’s Quarry) - The park is just outside the north edge of Ames along U.S. 69/Grand Ave., in western Story Co.

**Amenities:**

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Ames High Prairie (eBird Hotspot)

**GPS Coordinates:** 42.0398105,-93.6370642

**Ownership:** None listed

**Description:**

**Habitat:**

**Directions:**

**Amenities:**

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Brookside Park (eBird Hotspot)

**GPS Coordinates:** 42.0319543,-93.6318827

**Has Site Guide**

**Ownership:** None listed

**Description:**

**Habitat:**

**Directions:** The entrance to Brookside is located along 6th Street in central Ames, immediately east of Elwood Drive and several blocks west of Grand Avenue (Figure 1). To reach this area, begin with U.S. highway 30, which serves as an expedient artery through south Ames. Exit north from this divided highway onto Elwood Dr., and then follow Elwood up to 6th Street. After making a right turn at a traffic light on 6th Street, Brookside Park will be on your left immediately following a railroad underpass. This is a surprisingly direct route that allows access to the interior of Ames, without the added hassle of mid-town traffic. (This route is less advisable on days of Iowa State University football games or other events that lead to concentrations of traffic along Elwood Dr. In such cases, use Grand Avenue by way of 13th Street, which connects to Interstate 35. Heading west on 6th Street from Grand then leads to the park’s entrance.) After entering Brookside Park, turn left and proceed past several baseball diamonds around to a final parking lot. From this convenient position, you can start birding as soon as you step out of your vehicle. Please see the Brookside Park article contained on this website for more information, including a detailed map. The article can be easily accessed by clicking on "Brookside Park" to the left of these directions.

**Amenities:**
Colo Ponds (eBird Hotspot) (Important Bird Area)
GPS Coordinates: 42.016333,-93.2627678
Has Site Guide
Ownership: State
Description:
Habitat:
Directions: East of Colo in eastern Story Co. Take E-41/Lincoln Hwy. 2.5 miles east from U.S. 65, past 720th Ave. There is a pond on the north side here. Walking north from the parking area on Lincoln leads to more wetlands. Also, continue east to 730th Ave., then south just over the tracks, and another wetland is to the southwest.
Amenities:

Doolittle Prairie State Preserve (eBird Hotspot)
GPS Coordinates: 42.1492376,-93.5895784
Ownership: None listed
Description:
Habitat:
Directions: - in northwest Story Co. Just south of Story City, take the Roland/Hwy. 221 exit west off I-35 onto 130th/E-18. One half mile west on E-18 take 560th south (left), more than one mile to the parking area on the west side of the road.
Amenities:

Emma McCarthy Lee Park (eBird Hotspot)
GPS Coordinates: 42.0307662,-93.6614186
Ownership: None listed
Description:
Habitat:
Directions:
Amenities:

Hendrickson Marsh WMA (eBird Hotspot)
GPS Coordinates: 41.9362129,-93.2398612
Ownership: None listed
Description:
Habitat:
Directions: In southeast Story Co. Near Colo, take U.S. 65 south four miles from U.S. 30 to 280th St. Go four miles east on 280th to Arney Ave., on the county border. About three-quarters of a mile south on Arney there is viewing of the marsh on both sides of the road.
Amenities:
Hickory Grove Park
GPS Coordinates: 41.9902464299116,-93.3504867553711
Ownership: None listed
Description:
Habitat:
Directions: - a couple of miles southwest of Colo in Story Co. About two miles west along U.S. 30 from U.S. 65, look for signs to the park, which is a mile south of U.S. 30.
Amenities:

McFarland Park (eBird Hotspot)
GPS Coordinates: 42.0945436,-93.5704596
Ownership: None listed
Description:
Habitat:
Directions:
Amenities:

Pammel Woods (eBird Hotspot)
GPS Coordinates: 42.0324556,-93.6536724
Ownership: None listed
Description:
Habitat:
Directions:
Amenities:

Peterson Pits RA (eBird Hotspot)
GPS Coordinates: 42.0850717,-93.5957452
Ownership: None listed
Description:
Habitat:
Directions:
Amenities:

Roland sewage ponds
GPS Coordinates: 42.1585998880203,-93.5050678253174
Ownership: None listed
Description:
Habitat:
Directions: The sewage ponds are located just south of Roland along R-77. Turn west on the gravel
driveway and please be courteous to others using the driveway (it leads to the city's yard waste drop-off area) when parking.

**Amenities:**

**Roland Wetlands**
**GPS Coordinates:** ,
**Ownership:** County
**Description:** Former farmland converted to upland game and waterfowl public hunting habitat.
**Habitat:** Public hunting area including wetlands and prairie. Many waterfowl, shorebird, and grassland species can be found here.
**Directions:** Directly on the northeast side of Roland. About 1/4 mile east of Roland on E18 you will find 610th St. Go north 1/2 mile on 610th St. You will see the pond and prairie on the left (west) side of the road.

**Public Hunting Area**

**Amenities:**

**Skunk River Greenbelt (eBird Hotspot)**
**GPS Coordinates:** 42.1374123,-93.5671658
**Ownership:** None listed
**Description:**
**Habitat:**
**Directions:**

**Amenities:**

**Slater Ponds (eBird Hotspot)**
**GPS Coordinates:** 41.8916557,-93.6828876
**Ownership:** None listed
**Description:**
**Habitat:**
**Directions:**

**Amenities:**

**Soper’s Mill**
**GPS Coordinates:** 42.1051956537786,-93.5739898681641
**Ownership:** None listed
**Description:**
**Habitat:**
**Directions:** North of Ames in northwest Story Co. From the intersection of U.S. 69 and E-23/170th St., the road to Gilbert, go east 2.5 miles to the access, in the vicinity of 563rd Ave. and on the south.

**Amenities:**
Story Co. I-35 rest area (southbound) (eBird Hotspot)

GPS Coordinates: 42.1102739,-93.5578966

Ownership: None listed

Description:

Habitat:

Directions:

Amenities: