Turn right on Windy Ridge Rd and go 2.4 miles to Veto Rd. (CR-3).

Windy Ridge - habitat is open fields, and woods.
Listen carefully as bobwhite have been found around here.

Turn left onto Veto Rd and then turn right onto Cave Hill Rd. (T-247).

Cave Hill Road - For the next 2.5 miles, you will drive through open fields and woods. Look for Eastern kingbird, eastern meadowlark, horned lark and red headed woodpeckers

Turn right onto School House Rd. (T-15). Go .5 miles to right on SR 555. Go 3.5 miles to right onto Burnett Rd. (CR-6).

Root Covered Bridge - At the bottom of the hill is one of 7 covered bridges in the county. This is a good spot to pull over and have a picnic lunch and listen for blue-grey gnatcatchers, red-eyed vireos, scarlet tanagers, wood thrush, and yellow warblers. Continuing from the bridge you will pass thru older growth oak- hickory woods, and

Qualey - Pass through this little community which was another stop on the MC&C; it came through at the low spot in the center of the town. Between here and the Dunbar piers, to the east, two other trestles crossed Little Hocking valleys on wooden structures.

At the top of the hill (1.7 miles from SR 555) turn right at the intersection. The MC&C roadbed gradually joins Co. 6 from the right as Co. 6 proceeds east. Where Co. 6 takes a sharp left to the left, the MC&C crossed to what is now Walsh Road heading toward the Dunbar piers. Continue on CR 6 for 1.6 miles. At the bottom of hill after you cross the bridge is a good pull-off spot. Continue on to the 4.0 mile mark and turn left onto Falls Runs Rd. Go. 3 miles to:

Boord State Nature Preserve - parking area on your left. Park here and walk the trails or drive farther on to .5 mile and .8 mile to two pull-off spots to stop, listen and watch for birds down in the preserve's hemlock ravine. The road will continue for a total of 1.9 miles through private land. At 1.6 miles is a blue oil tank on the right. From here to the dead end, you may see vesper sparrows and Henslow's sparrows in the open pasture.

At the 1.9 mark is a barn on the left and a turn around spot on your right. Turn around (the road beyond is private), listen again for the sparrows.

Return on Fall's Run Road to left on Burnett.
Road, At .6 mile turn right onto SR 550 back.
east toward Marietta.

3.6 miles from this intersection is:

The Barlow Rest Area - on the left where red-headed woodpeckers have been found.

6 mile further on is:

The village of Barlow - where there is general store and various eateries.

From here it is 11.3 miles back to your starting point of St. Rt. 7 and St. Rt. 550.

As you pass the sign to Goodfellows Park, note the earthen dam in the distance. That was the roadbed for the MC&C on its way to the Stone Quarry. From here on east you will parallel the MC&C roadbed (on the south side of SR 550) to the community of Tunnel where the railroad grade gradually climbs the hill to where the tunnel toward the Ohio River Valley used to be.

We hope you have enjoyed this trail. (Suggestions may be made at 373-3372). These are but a few of the birding opportunities in Washington County. Please consider exploring the other 3 driving trails or find your own special places.

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Birding Crail



Western Washington County OHIO



START at the west end of the Washington St. Bridge.

Drive 1.1 miles on SR 7 to right on SR 550. Continue 9.3 miles to left onto Stone Quarry Rd. T-267). takes a sharp bend to the left and then back to the right. This is where Stone Quarry Road got its name. It's also where the Marietta, Columbus & Cleveland Railroad crossed this road on its way west. Some of the grindstone culls are visible just before the sharp bend. There is a loading platform just west of the road. For the next 1.6 miles you will be traveling through open fields, reverting fields, and woodland habitats. There are good pull-off spots at .9 mile and 1.3 miles. Birds you may find are cardinal, indigo bunting, white-eyed vireo, red-eyed vireo, scarlet tanager. blue-winged warbler, common yellowthroat, and field sparrow.

At 1.6 miles take the right fork onto CR 27 for 1.4 miles and turn onto Lake Rd.(T-268).

Veto Lake - For the next 3.5 miles you will be driving around the Veto Lake Area. *Veto Lake is owned and managed by Ohio Dopt. of Natural Resources* - *Div. of Wildlife.* The habitat is stream bottom, fields, marsh, lake side and oak-hickory woods. Many fishing access pull-off spots are available to stop, view the lake and bird watch. Birds here may include Baltimore and orchard orioles, great blue and green herons, belted kingfisher, tanagers, indigo bunting, American redstart, cerulean warbler, great crested flycatcher, eastern phoebe, Canada goose, wood duck, mallard, tree and rough-winged swallows, and along the shore various sandpipers/shorebirds.

Lake Rd. ends at Veto Rd. (CR-3). Turn right here and in .3 miles is the lake launching ramp on the right and on the left, a swampy stream bottom area. Go 1.1 miles. Cross 339. Continue on CR-3B for 2.1 miles to right onto Tick Ridge (T-17).

Tick Ridge - For the next 1.6 miles habitat is mostly brushy woodland that can be good for hooded, Kentucky warblers, and scarlet tanagers.

At the 1.6 mile mark turn left onto Darnold Rd. (T-53).

Darnold Road - The habitat here is heavy woodlands and stream bottom. There are several pull-off spots as you go down the hill, and a good spot at the bottom. Along this road there may be tanagers, acadian flycatchers, vireos, hooded and blue-winged warblers and Louisiana waterthrush.

At 1.3 mile you intersect with Walsh Rd. (T-239). Go straight ahead to:

Dunbar High Piers - The MC&C crossed this branch of the Little Hocking on a trestle built in 1857 on these piers, 120' above the valley floor. The area was timbered in 2003. A pull off spot is on your left next to one of the piers. Here might be American redstart, cerulean warbler, and cuckoos.

Follow this road for 1.7 miles through heavy woodland and field/pasture habitats back to Tick Ridge(T-17). Along the way look for brown thrashers, mockingbird, catbirds, eastern bluebirds.

At the intersection with Tick Ridge, stop and listen carefully as grasshopper sparrows often nest in the open fields around here.

Turn right onto Tick Ridge Rd and go 1.5 miles to Windy Ridge Rd. (T-242).

(You will have made a circle and gone past.

Darnold Rd. (T-53) again.) At a low spot in the road you will cross the MC&C roadbed once again with a house on the left. This was the site of a stop on MC&C called Napier.

