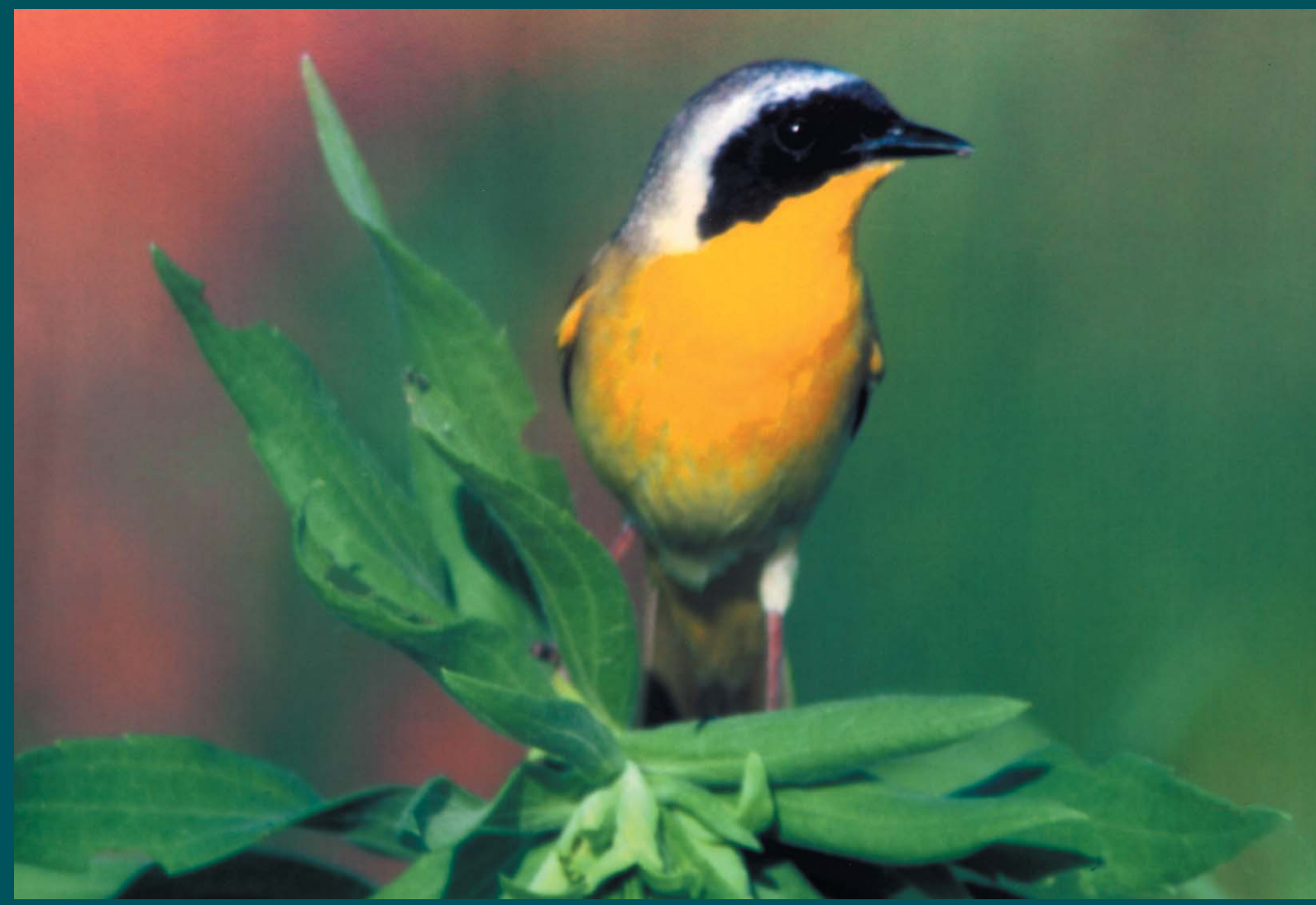


# Birds of Otter View Park



Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*)

USFWS



Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*)

USFWS/Donna Deahurst



Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapilla*)

USFWS/Donna Deahurst



Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*)

USFWS/Donna Deahurst



Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)

USFWS/Lee Kerney



Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*)

USFWS/Gary Kramer

## Life on the Edge

The bushes and shrubs at the edges of cultivated landscapes and woodlands provide excellent nesting habitat for a variety of bird species, such as the Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) and the Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*). These edge habitats also attract their predators, such as skunks, raccoons and domestic cats that take advantage of the many different food sources located along the edge.

## Upland Bird Habitat

Look to the strip of forest between the edge of the field and the shoreline of Otter Creek. The diversity of trees provides habitat for birds typically found in more forested areas, such as the Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapilla*) and Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*). These woods provide safety from predators and a variety of food sources—worms, insects and spiders—in the decaying wood and leaf litter.

## Shorebirds

The shoreline of Otter Creek attracts many aquatic birds. Its shallow waters, gravel edges, occasional sandbars and exposed mud provide habitat for high-stepping Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*), the bobbing and teetering Spotted Sandpipers (*Actitis macularia*) and many other seasonal migrants. The long legs and sharp beaks of these birds help them hunt along the water's edge.