

Dave Dister attended Miami University (Oxford, OH) where he received a BA in Botany. Subsequently, he earned a secondary education teaching certificate in biology and earth science at the University of Cincinnati.

His career has included positions as assistant director at the Roger Tory Peterson Nature Center in Jamestown, NY, editorial assistant for Birder's World magazine in Holland, MI, and 17 years as environmental scientist with a consulting firm in Dayton, Ohio. Lastly, Dave was the seasonal botanist for the Manistee District of the Manistee National Forest for seven years (2008-2014).

Dave has been birding nearly 50 years and has conducted numerous bird surveys and censuses in the Great Lakes region, including breeding bird atlas work in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and New York. He formerly was a committee member of the Ohio Bird Records Committee and the Audubon Ohio Important Bird Areas Committee.

Dave moved to Ludington, Michigan in 2008 and is the compiler for the [Ludington Christmas Bird Count](#) and the Michigan Spring Migration Count for Mason County. He also conducts an annual Breeding Bird Survey Route for the US Fish & Wildlife Service that runs 25 miles through parts of Mason, Lake, and Newaygo Counties.

He is drafting "The Birds of Mason County, Michigan" and recently published a six-year survey of the vascular plants at Ludington State Park.