**December 17, 2023**

December 17, 2023 was the last park walk of the year.  Foul weather was predicted but managed to arrive later than expected and most of the walk was able to be completed.  Those participating were Chris Krueger, Donna McAdams, Sue Tomlin, Heidi Young, Jane Frigo and newcomer Mary Jane (MJ) Hall.  Ducks were in abundance from the beginning.  A large raft was spotted and led the group to the boat dock for a better view.  Canada Geese, Ruddy Ducks, Hooded Mergansers and Ring-necked Ducks made up the bulk of the group.  Later Gadwall were seen, a female Bufflehead,  a pair of American Wigeons and Pied-billed Grebe were spotted.  A number of Ring-billed Gulls were seen being fed by visitors.  Not a good thing.  Other outstanding sights were a female Purple Finch, a Rusty Blackbird and the sound of Pine Siskin.  Misses included Northern Mockingbird, Barred Owl and Vultures.  A complete species list follows

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck\***

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**Mallard**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Bufflehead**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Ruddy Duck**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Mourning Dove**

**Virginia Rail\***

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Bald Eagle**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Winter Wren**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Purple Finch**

**Pine Siskin\***

**American Goldfinch**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Rusty Blackbird**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Northern Cardinal**

**December 3, 2023**

The regular Newport News Park walk was held on December 3, 2023.  Unfortunately our regular leader, Jane Frigo, was feeling unwell and so did not participate. Leadership duties were shared between Bill Boeh, Stuart Sweetman, and Cindy Schulz (who maintained the paper checklist record).  Skies were overcast, winds were 7-10 from the S-SW and the temperature was warm, in the 60’s.  Those participating were Pete and Charm Peterman, Marc Nichols, Donna McAdams, Dianne Snyder, Chris Krueger, Catherine Bond, John and Marilyn Adair, Stuart Sweetman, Tom Charlock, Heidi Young, Cindy Schulz, and Bill Boeh.  We were later joined by Lauren Forero and Sean Amodeo.  Lauren is a Newport News Park ranger; her expertise and recent observations in the park made for a great addition to our party.  The group observed 55 species.  Ducks observed included (numerous) Gadwall, American Wigeon, American Black Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Mallard, Hooded Merganser and Ruddy Duck; two Pied-billed Grebes were also spotted.  An interesting highlight was that whistling calls were heard among from the ducks near the swamp; after checking the Audubon app it was discovered that the whistles were part of the Mallard male’s courtship display!  No one present was familiar with this phenomenon, so it was a learning experience for all!  While 4 Bald Eagles were observed, buteos and accipiters were in short supply as only one Red-shouldered Hawk and no accipiters were seen.  A Barred Owl was once again spotted near the trail and provided great views for 10+ minutes.  Brown Creepers and Hermit Thrushes were seen as well as both Kinglets.  A complete species list follows:

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The trip report is available through the following link: https://ebird.org/tripreport/166580

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**Canada Goose**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**Mallard**

**American Black Duck**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Ruddy Duck**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Mourning Dove**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Egret**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Winter Wren**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

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**November 19, 2023**

The regular Newport News Park walk was held on November 19, 2023.  Skies were clear, winds were calm and the temperature was seasonal, in the 50’s.  Those participating in the morning of bird watching were Jen and Mike Hendrix, Pete and Charm Peterman, Sarah Saville, Marc Nichols, Donna McAdams, John Adair, Stuart Sweetman, Sue Tomlin, Todd Trousdell, Elizabeth Wilkins, Jacque van Montfrans, Hannah Montalvo, Tom Charlock, Heidi Young, Cindy Schulz, Bill Boeh and Jane Frigo.  New ducks seen were American Wigeon, American Black Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Hooded Merganser and Ruddy Duck.  Two Pied-billed Grebe were also spotted.  A Cooper’s Hawk and two Red-shouldered Hawks were seen.  The “windows” on the Red-shouldered Hawks were very evident in the clear skies as they circled in the thermals.  Several Brown Creepers and Hermit Thrushes were seen as well as both Kinglets.  A big highlight was a Rusty Blackbird!  Two misses for the morning were Barred Owl and Brown Thrasher.  A complete list follows.

​

The trip report is available through the following link: https://ebird.org/tripreport/172778

**Canada Goose**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**Mallard**

**American Black Duck**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Ruddy Duck**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Mourning Dove**

**Virginia Rail\***

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Cooper’s Hawk**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Winter Wren**

**Carolina Wren**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Rusty Blackbird**

**Yellow-rumpled Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

**November 5, 2023**

It is official, fall has arrived and daylight savings time is over.  November 5, 2023 gave everyone an extra hour of sleep. A big group of birders decided to participate in the morning walk.  The 18 participants were Bill Boeh, June Hartzler, Kate Shaller, Cindy Schulz, Todd Trousdell, Sue Tomlin, Emily Grojean (and Avery), Stuart Sweetman, Melissa Freudenberg, Pete Peterman, Heidi Young, Tom Charlock, Jane Frigo, Marilyn and John Adair and newcomers Chris Krueger, Clay Wygant and Louise Ford.  There was a lot of chatter as friends caught up with the latest news but the group was still able to identify 51 species.  Winter arrivals included Kinglets, Winter Wren, Hermit Thrush, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Dark-eyed Junco, Gadwall and Pied-billed Grebe. Sadly the Barred Owl did not make an appearance. A complete species list follows.

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The trip report is available through the following link: https://ebird.org/tripreport/166578

**Canada Goose**

**Gadwall**

**Mallard**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Mourning Dove**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Sharp-shinned Hawk**

**Cooper’s Hawk**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**White-breasted Nuthatch\***

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Winter Wren**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumpled Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

**October 15, 2023**

October 15, 2023 began with overcast skies and a little mist but by noon, skies were clear!  Winds which blew away the clouds kept the temperature in the 50’s and reminded everyone how cold it can feel on these walks.  15 people participated in the walk.  It was the first walk for Jen Hendrix and Melissa Whipple.  Jenna Cruz brought her husband, Jason, to see what it was like.  Others included Marc Nichols, Dianne Snyder, John Adair,  Heidi Young,  Donna McAdams, Stuart Sweetman, Terry Moore, Hannah Montalvo, Tom Charlock, Emily Adkins (and Avery) and Jane Frigo. The group identified 58 species.  A Blue-headed Vireo was spotted along with FOS (first of season) Ruby and Golden-crowned Kinglets.  Swamp Sparrows were seen but no White-throated Sparrows.   A late Yellow-billed Cuckoo was spotted.  Emily was able to see the Barred Owl that she missed on the last walk. 10 warblers were spotted!  Interestingly not a single American Robin could be found!  A complete species list follows.

​

The trip report is available through the following link: https://ebird.org/tripreport/160555

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Mourning Dove**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Tern species-unidentified**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Sharp-shinned Hawk**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue-headed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Brown Creeper\***

**House Wren**

**Carolina Wren**

**Gray Catbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch\***

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Black-and-white Warbler**

**Orange-crowned Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**American Redstart**

**Northern Parula**

**Magnolia Warbler**

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**

**Palm Warbler**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumpled Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

**October 1, 2023**

October 1 is here and fall is in the air.  With migration in full swing 12 people got up early to see what might have arrived.  The group included Cindy Schulz, Bill Boeh, Dianne Snyder, Terry Moore, Heidi Young, Kim Amaya, Jane Frigo, newcomers Lauren White, Jim Perry, Brittany Sugar, Trish Jackson and Emily Adkins with 6 month old Avery.  52 species were identified.  Migrants included Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Cape May Warbler, American Redstart, Canada Warbler and Rose-breasted Grosbeak.  Winter resident arrivals were Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Brown Creeper.  Yellow-shafted Flickers must have been migrating across the area because multiple groups of 5 or more were seen flying over the reservoir.  It was a remarkable slight to see.  The Barred Owl was spotted again on the return trip from the Swamp Bridge.  He was seen perched watching a snake coiled at the base of the tree.  There was no winner before the group felt they must move on.  A complete species list follows.

​

The trip report is available through the following link: https://ebird.org/tripreport/160554

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Mourning Dove**

**Chimney Swift**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Laughing Gull**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Cooper’s Hawk**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red- bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee\***

**Acadian Flycatcher**

**Eastern Phoebe**

**White-eyed Vireo\***

**Red-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Gray Catbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**House Finch\***

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Common Grackle**

**Ovenbird**

**Northern Waterthrush**

**Black-and-white Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**American Redstart**

**Cape May Warbler**

**Northern Parula**

**Pine Warbler\***

**Canada Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak\***

**September 17, 2023**

Migration is in full swing. September 17, 2023 produced several great warblers…Northern Waterthrush, Black-and-white, Nashville, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Northern Parula, Magnolia and Pine.  Yellow-rumpled warblers should arrive soon along with some winter residents.  The weather was pleasant, in the 70-low 80’s and mostly clear skies.  The group of participants included Sarah Foster, Kate Schiller, Bill Boeh, Dianne Snyder, Cindy Schulz, Todd Trousdell, Heidi Young, Marc Nichols, Tom Charlock, Hannah Montalvo, Elizabeth Wilkins, Jacque van Montfrans, Jane Frigo, Ellis and Wendy Maxey and first timer Sarah Ware. The bridge at the Ranger Station was by far the most productive.  The Nashville Warbler gave everyone in the group a good look.  The eye ring was so distinctive.  The Northern Parula, Black-and-white Warbler and Common Yellow-throat added excitement.  The Carolina Chickadees and Tufted Titmice ran interference and made everyone keep checking field marks.  The Barred Owl was seen again, this time near the Spawning Pond.  He allowed those interested to get the best pictures EVER!  A special shout-out goes to Cindy who made most of the morning with a broken ankle in a boot cast.  Talk about dedication!!!  A complete list follows.

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The trip report is available through the following link: https://ebird.org/tripreport/148375

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Mourning Dove**

**Chimney Swift**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Greater Yellowlegs\***

**Laughing Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher\***

**White-eyed Vireo**

**Red-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Carolina Wren**

**Gray Catbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**House Sparrow**

**House Finch\***

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Northern Waterthrush**

**Black-and-white Warbler**

**Nashville Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**American Redstart**

**Northern Parula**

**Magnolia Warbler**

**Pine Warbler**

**Summer Tanager\***

**Northern Cardinal**

**September 3, 2023**

September 3, 2023 began with cooler and less humid conditions but gradually warmed up and brought back the uncomfortable humidity.  Signs of fall were beginning with occasional falling leaves making birders take a second look.  Newcomer Trish Jackson joined Dianne Snyder, Marc Nichols, Sandy Graham, Melissa Freudenburg, Heidi Young, Tom Charlock, Cathy Bond, Jane Frigo, Ranger Lauren Forero and John and Marilyn Adair participating.  Summer residents still spotted included Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Osprey, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher and three warblers—Black-and-white, Common Yellowthroat and Northern Parula.  A pair of Bald Eagles were seen in the dead pine tree across the water at the first overlook.  By far the best sighting of the day was of the Barred Owl near Swamp Point.  This time the owl seemed unbothered by the group.  Everyone got great views and photo opportunities.  Then, the owl flew down to the ground but returned to his perch with a huge crawfish.  He proceeded to remove both claws, one at a time, dropping them to the ground.  Then he turned the crawfish around and swallowed it whole!  All in all another wonderful day outside birding.  45 species were identified.  A list follows.  Remember an \* after the bird means it was heard only.

**Canada Goose\***

**Mallard**

**Mourning Dove**

**Chimney Swift**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Laughing Gull**

**Caspian Tern**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker\***

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher**

**Yellow-throated Vireo\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Common Grackle**

**Black-and-white Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Northern Parula**

**Pine Warbler\***

**Summer Tanager\***

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**August 20, 2023**

August heat and humidity persisted for the August 20, 2023 walk at Newport News Park.  The temperature at 7 AM was only 66 degrees but the humidity and lack of a breeze made it seem warmer.  Those participating in the walk were Ellis Maxey, Pete Peterman, Cindy Schulz, Heidi Young, Marc Nichols, Stuart Sweetman, Tom Charlock, Jane Frigo, Marilyn and John Adair and Minnesota visitor, Seth Neidhandt.  The group identified 54 species.  There were several misses for the morning.  No Mallard or Canada Geese were spotted!  Also Green Heron, Acadian Flycatcher and Double-crested Cormorant and Indigo Bunting were missed.  White-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireo were heard and Red-eyed Vireo was seen.  By far the best bird of the morning was a Chestnut-sided Warbler in confusing fall plumage spotted in the shrubs/trees near the paddle boat launches. This was a real reminder to check out the fall plumage of the migrating warblers!  A complete species list follows.

​

The trip report is available through the following link: https://ebird.org/tripreport/148373

**Mourning Dove**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Killdeer\***

**Spotted Sandpiper**

**Shorebird Species-unidentified**

**Laughing Gull**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Cooper’s Hawk**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk\***

**Red-tailed Hawk\***

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker\***

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker\***

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird**

**White-eyed Vireo\***

**Yellow-throated Vireo\***

**Red-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow\***

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow**

**Purple Martin**

**Barn Swallow**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Prothonotary Warbler\***

**Chestnut-sided Warbler**

**Pine Warbler\***

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak\***

**August 6, 2023**

**​**

The “Dog Days of Summer” have arrived.  August 6, 2023 was warm and humid.  Skies were cloudy but at least there was no rain  A large group of birders gathered to spend the morning outdoors.  They included Donna McAdams, Dianne Snyder, Bill Boeh, Cindy Schulz, Shawn Dash, Stuart Sweetman, Marc Nichols, Heidi Young, Tom Charlock, Melissa Freudenberg, Elizabeth Wilkins, Jacque van Montfrans, Jane Frigo, Marilyn and John Adair and Diane, Nick and Grace Ferree.  The group identified a total of 59 species over the morning which was a good number considering the time of year.  Surprisingly not one Mallard was seen and Canada Geese were not spotted until the end of the morning by Elizabeth and Jacque and they left the park!  The most exciting sighting was of a Northern Bobwhite heard near the Discovery Center and actually tracked down by several birders.  Spirits rose when several people thought they spotted a Scoter, but it turned out to be a stump….which became a Stump Scoter  The Barred Owl was seen again and was a life bird for Donna McAdams  An Ovenbird was seen by Stuart and a Yellow-billed Cuckoo was heard by several in the group.  A complete species list follows.  (\* indicates heard only)

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The trip report is available through the following link: https://ebird.org/tripreport/148372

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck\***

**Northern Bobwhite**

**Mourning Dove**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo\***

**Chimney Swift**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Laughing Gull**

**Double0crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Green Heron**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher\***

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird**

**White-eyed Vireo\***

**Red-eyed Vireo\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Purple Martin**

**Barn Swallow**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Carolina Wren**

**Gray Catbird\***

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Cedar Waxwing\***

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat\***

**Pine Warbler\***

**Ovenbird**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak\***

**Indigo Bunting**

**July 16, 2023**

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July 16, 2023 was a typical summer day.  Skies were cloudy but no rain The temperature stayed in the 80’s but the humidity was oppressive and made it feel much warmer.  Twelve birding enthusiasts showed up to count the summer residents.  Participants were Pete Peterman, Dianne Snyder, Heidi Young, Bill Boeh, Marc Nichols, Todd Trousdell, Tom Charlock, Hannah Montalvo, Stuart Sweetman, Jane Frigo and John and Marilyn Adair.  They were able to identify 57 species by noon.  The Barred Owl was seen again near Swamp Point and Cedar Waxwings at the Arboretum.  What was assumed to be a family of Pileated Woodpeckers was spotted at the Tea House area.  It appeared each parent had a youngster and was giving them a life lesson in foraging.  The juveniles looked comical with their slightly fluffy crests!  Color lit up the sky with red Tanagers, blue Grosbeaks, yellow Prothonotary Warblers and Green Herons.  A lone Yellow-billed Cuckoo was heard. A complete list follows.

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[The trip report is available through the following link::](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/140262>

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Mourning Dove**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo\***

**Laughing Gull**

**Royal Tern**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Green Heron**

**Yellow-crowned Night Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker\***

**Eastern Wood Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher\***

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird**

**Red-eyed Vireo\***

**Blue Jay\***

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Purple Martin**

**Tree Swallow**

**Barn Swallow**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Northern Parula\***

**Pine Warbler\***

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Indigo Bunting**

**July 2, 2023**

Summer is in full swing.  July 2, 2023 was hot, humid, clear and calm.  Any breath of air was appreciated.  Bill Boeh, Marc Nichols, Heidi Young, Stuart Sweetman, Cindy Schulz, Tom Charlock, Jane Frigo and John and Marilyn Adair participated in the morning walk.  Many summer residents were busy with young noisily begging for handouts.  Eastern Kingbirds were seen going in and out of a nest near the boat ramp.  The Barred Owl was spotted again near Swamp Point.  Green Herons have been hard to find but one was heard.  A beautiful Indigo Bunting was seen at the Swamp Bridge and a female Blue Grosbeak was spotted.  Several Summer Tanagers were heard but couldn’t be seen.  A total of 55 species were identified.  A list follows.

​

[The trip report is available through the following link::](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/140261>

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**American Black Duck**

**Mourning Dove**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Laughing Gull**

**Royal Tern**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Green Heron\***

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher\***

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird**

**Red-eyed Vireo\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Northern Parula\***

**Pine Warbler\***

**Summer Tanager\***

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Indigo Bunting**

**June 18, 2023**

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June 18, 2023 was Father’s Day. The weather was beautiful, warm and clear and calm, a perfect morning to spend the holiday outside.  14 birders participated in the morning.  They were Marilyn and John Adair, Ellis and Wendy Maxey, Samantha Denny, Marc Nichols, Pete Peterman, Stuart Sweetman, Cindy Schulz, Todd Trousdell, Dianne Snyder, Kate Shaller, Mellisa Freudenberg, and Jane Frigo.  The group identified 61 species.  As with every walk, there seems to be some special observations.  Today, the group was hoping to spot the owls again.  Happily, they were not disappointed.  The pair of Barred Owls were found again near Swamp Point. Although they didn’t give the display seen last walk, they were identifiable and even gave some vocalizations.  On the return trip from the Swamp Bridge, the Great Horned Owl was heard and briefly glimpsed in the dense foliage.  Turtles seemed to be everywhere laying their eggs. Crows hovered above the turtles as they worked and quickly took the eggs as soon as the turtles left.  Empty turtle eggs could be found scattered everywhere.  Another first time observation occurred at the Discovery Center.  While enjoying the snacks break, a lone female deer ventured close, obviously hoping for a handout.  She appeared hungry and may have been pregnant.  As she ventured off when failing to get fed, a group of ducklings emerged from the meadow.  They looked lost and didn’t look like Mallards.  Then an orange blurr crossed the clearing chasing something dark heading toward the golf course. It turned out to be a fox chasing a mother Wood Duck.  She was leading the fox away from her young.  She finally returned to her family and led them to safety.  Todd was able to find them hiding in the woods behind the Discovery Center rehab cages.  Everyone got to watch them scurrying around and trying to stay hidden.  A complete species list follows.

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[The trip report is available through the following link::](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/122871>

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Mallard**

**Mourning Dove**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Royal Tern**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Great Horned Owl**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker\***

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher\***

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird**

**White-eyed Vireo**

**Yellow-throated Vireo\***

**Red-eyed Vireo\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Purple Martin\***

**Barn Swallow’**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Carolina Wren**

**European Starling**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Orchard Oriole**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed  Cowbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat\***

**Northern Parula\***

**Pine Warbler**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Indigo Bunting**

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**June 4, 2023**

**​**

June 4, 2023 began as another cool, breezy, overcast day.  The temperature stayed in the 60’s before the clouds finally burned off around noon.  Marc Nichols, Dianne Snyder, Cindy Schulz, John Adair, Stuart Sweetman, Sue Tomlin, Hannah Montalvo and Jane Frigo identified 57 species.  As with every walk there were high points and definite misses.  One high point was seeing a PAIR of Barred Owls near Swamp Point. The two were seen preening each other on a branch.  They stayed close for some time before separating. It was a great photo opportunity.  Then at the Swamp Bridge, the group encountered a Prothonotary Warbler on the walkway  He was so engrossed with a dragonfly that, again, provided a great photo opportunity.  A great view was gotten of a Red-eyed Vireo at the stream at the Arboretum.  Another surprise was a Killdeer. There were, however, some surprising misses.  No Mallard, Bald Eagle or Laughing Gulls were seen. A complete species list follows.

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[The trip report is available through the following link::](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/122870>

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Chimney Swift**

**Killdeer**

**Royal Tern**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Green Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Barred Owl**

**Red-headed Woodpecker\***

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker\***

**Eastern Wood Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher\***

**Great Crested Flycatcher\***

**White-eyed Vireo**

**Yellow-throated Vireo**

**Red-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow**

**Tree Swallow**

**Barn Swallow**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Northern Parula\***

**Pine Warbler**

**Summer Tanager\***

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Indigo Bunting**

**May 21, 2023**

May 21, 2023 began with overcast skies and a light drizzle and a cool 63 degrees.  Hopes were high that the bad weather would clear. Beatrix Whitehead, Victoria West, Marc Nichols, Stuart Sweetman, John Adair, Tom Charlock, Melissa Freudenberg, Shawn Dash and Jane Frigo assembled at the park and began counting species.  They were quickly forced into a shelter when the drizzle changed to rain.  It took nearly and hour before the shower finally stopped.  The rest of the morning and into the early afternoon was productive, however.  A first of season Green Heron was spotted along with Great Egret and Great Blue Heron.  Several pairs of Wood Ducks were swimming close enough to get some great pictures!  Drumming was heard and finally revealed a Downy Woodpecker that looked big enough to be a Hairy! Field marks made it clear that it was, in fact, a Downy.  Miraculously a true Hairy was seen feet above on the same tree and provided the group with a rare visual comparison.  Other exciting glimpses included a Wilson’s Warbler with his tiny black skull cap, a Hooded Warbler announcing his presence before being seen, a Veery and Swainson’s Thrush at the boat landing.  Both male and female Summer Tanagers were seen and gave the best photo op ever! 65 species were counted by 2:30 when the last few birders called it quits.  A species list follows

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[The trip report is available through the following link::](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/116368>

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Mallard**

**Mourning Dove\***

**Chimney Swift**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Green Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher**

**Great Crested Flycatcher\***

**Eastern Kingbird**

**White-eyed Vireo\***

**Red-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**TuftedTitmouse**

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow**

**Purple Martin**

**Tree Swallow**

**Barn Swallow**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**House Wren\***

**Carolina Wren**

**Gray Catbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Veery**

**Swainson’s Thrush**

**American Robin**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Hooded Warbler**

**American Redstart**

**Northern Parula\***

**Blackpoll Warbler**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-throated Warbler\***

**Wilson’s Warbler**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Indigo Bunting**

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**May 7, 2023**

**​**

The weather on May 7, 2023 was almost perfect.  Skies were clear and the temperature rose from the 60's to the 80's.  Ten people turned out to enjoy the morning and were able to identify 62 species over the morning.  Those participating were Kate Schaller, Dianne Snyder, June Hartzler, Gary Wright, Marc Nichols, Sue Tomlin, Jane Frigo, John and Marilyn Adair and newcomer Kim Amaya.  The morning began with a great sighting of a Yellow-billed Cuckoo!  Shortly after that, Wood Ducks were spotted.  Great Crested Flycatchers were calling along with Northern Parula.  At the first bridge, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers flitted in the trees.  While trying to catch a good look at the Gnatcatchers, a spectacular male Baltimore Oriole was spotted.  Prothonotary Warblers were seen along with Common Yellowthroats.  A Magnolia Warbler was spotted among the many Yellow-rumped Warblers.  Gray Catbirds, Blue Grosbeak and Indigo Buntings were seen.  Both male and female Summer Tanagers were observed.  The elusive Blackpoll Warbler had arrived for a brief stopover on his long migration journey,  Near Swamp Point both a Louisiana Waterthrush and Barred Owl were found.  And at the Swamp Bridge the group watched a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher feed his nestlings!  Another rare sighting, although brief, was a Chat!  A complete species list follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Mallard**

**Mourning Dove**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**

**Laughing Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Barred Owl**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird**

**White-eyed Vireo**

**Yellow-throated Vireo**

**Red-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Tree Swallow**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Carolina Wren**

**European Starling**

**Gray Catbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee\***

**Yellow-breasted Chat**

**Baltimore Oriole**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Louisiana Waterthrush**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Northern Parula\***

**Magnolia Warbler**

**Blackpoll Warbler\***

**Pine Warbler\***

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Indigo Bunting**

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**April 16, 2023**

**​**

Migration is beginning and birders are ready to spot the new arrivals! 19 people turned out to see what the beautiful day brought.  Those participating were Dianne Snyder, Marc Nichols, Bill Boeh, David Yeager, Cindy Schulz, Elizabeth Wilkins, Jacque van Montfranz, Lee Morris, Todd Trousdell, Sue Tomlin, Melissa Freudenberg, Tom Charlock, Heidi Young, Hannah Montalvo, Jane Frigo, Beata and Chip Whitehead and newcomers David Karlson and Angier Brock.  The group decided to make the 2 mile White Oak Trail walk.  They were able to identify 11 FOS (first of season) birds.  Those birds were Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Louisiana Waterthrush, Black-and-white Warbler, Ovenbird, Prothonotary Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler and Summer Tanager.  A total of 67 species were identified during the entire morning.  The walk was tiring but well worth it.  A complete species list follows.

​

[The trip report is available through the following link:](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/116366>

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Mallard**

**Mourning Dove**

**Spotted Sandpiper**

**Greater Yellowlegs**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Sharp-shinned Hawk**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Eastern Phoebe**

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird**

**White-eyed Vireo**

**Red-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Tree Swallow**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Carolina Wren**

**European Starling**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Louisiana Waterthrush**

**Black-and-white Warbler**

**Ovenbird**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Northern Parula**

**Yellow Warbler**

**Palm Warbler**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Yellow-throated Warbler**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**April 2, 2023**

What a beautiful day for a bird walk.  April 2, 2023 was chilly, temperatures beginning in the 40's, but skies were clear and winds not too bad.  Pete Peterman, Marc Nichols, Dianne Snyder, Bill Boeh, David Yeager, Stuart Sweetman, Sue Tomlin, Jane Frigo, Beata and Chip Whitehead and Marilyn and John Adair were able to identify 62 species.  FOS--first of season-- birds were Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Common Yellowthroat and Yellow-throated Warbler.  A lone Bufflehead hen was spotted and only a few Gadwall remained.  Gulls and terns seemed to make up for the lack of ducks with Laughing Gull, Ring-billed Gull and a surprise Bonaparte's Gull along with both Royal and Caspian Terns being seen.  Both Great Blue Heron and Great Egret were seen, as expected, but on the return walk from the Swamp Bridge a Snowy Egret was spotted among the waders.  Woodpeckers made a good showing, with the exception of Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.  Ruby-crowned Kinglets were seen, but not Golden-crowned Kinglets. All three nuthatches were identified.  A complete species list follows.

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[The trip report is available through the following link:](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/116365>

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Gadwall**

**Mallard**

**Bufflehead**

**Mourning Dove**

**Bonaparte's Gull**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Caspian Tern**

**Royal Tern**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Snowy Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Cooper's Hawk**

**Bald Eagle**

**Great Horned Owl\***

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow**

**Tree Swallow**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Blue-gray Gnatcatchers**

**Carolina Wren**

**European Starling**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush\***

**American Robin**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Yellow-throated Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

**March 19, 2023**

The March 19, 2023 bird walk was the first since the return to Daylight Savings Time.  Since sunrise wasn't until 7:11 AM, skies were just beginning to lighten.  The weather was cold (40's), skies clear, but winds gusty. The only participants in the morning were Marc Nichols, Hannah Montalvo and Jane Frigo.  Even with such a small group, they were able to identify 58 species during the morning.  Ducks were still around and included Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon and Hooded Merganser.  Regretfully, no Ring-necked Ducks were seen.  Pied-billed Grebes were spotted and two Wood Ducks flew over,  Great Egrets were still present with one male sporting a beautiful breeding plumage cape!  All seven  woodpecker species were seen.  Most winter residents were located including Brown Creeper, both Kinglets and a Hermit Thrush, but no Red-breasted Nuthatch or Fox Sparrow were found.  The group FINALLY found a House Finch.  Hopes are high that some Spring migrants and Summer residents may be in by the first walk in April.  A complete species list follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Northern Shoveler**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**Mallard**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Mourning Dove**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Herring Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Tree Swallow**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Winter Wren**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

**March 4, 2023**

March always brings challenges for our first Sunday bird walk.  The All City Marathon is scheduled for that date and makes it impossible to get into the park.  To adjust, the bird walk is moved to the Saturday before the race. 16 people attended the Saturday, March 4, 2023 bird walk. Those participating were Kate Schaller, Dianne Snyder, Pete Peterman, Cindy Schulz, Stuart Sweetman, Todd Trousdell, Heidi Young, Rock Moeslein, Marc Nichols, Tom Charlock, Jane Frigo, Beata and Chip Whitehead and Marilyn and John Adair.  The weather that day was clear but very windy.  White caps could be seen on the water.  As on the last walk, Great Egrets were numerous along the shore and in the cove.  Ducks too were seen in good numbers.  Species included Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Mallard and Hooded Merganser.  The first Osprey of the season was spotted.   Again, all possible woodpeckers were identified.   Other outstanding species included both Kinglets, a Fox Sparrow, Tree Swallows, Winter Wren, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Purple Finch and Rusty Blackbird.  Finally, a Chipping Sparrow was seen.  Misses were Northern Mockingbird and Virginia Rail.  A complete list follows.

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[The trip report is available through the following link:](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/112296>

**Canada Goose**

**Northern Shoveler**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**Mallard**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Tree Swallow**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Brown Creeper**

**Winter Wren**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Purple Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Fox Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Rusty Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

**February 19, 2023**

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February 19, 2023 was a very productive birding day!  The group was able to identify 58 species over the morning and that was with a couple of misses like Black Vulture, Northern Mockingbird, Chipping Sparrow and House Finch.  Participants included Bill Boeh, Pete Peterman, John Adair, Cindy Schulz, Heidi Young, Dianne Snyder, Grace Buskirk, June Hartzler, Gary Wright, Marc Nichols, Dave Youker, Sue Tomlin, Hannah Montalvo and Jane Frigo.  The morning began with a large group of Great Egrets congregating in the cove by the Ranger parking lot.  Ducks, too, were in larger numbers.  Hooded Mergansers were in large numbers but also Gadwall.  Several Northern Shovelers and American Wigeon were seen along with a couple Ruddy Duck and Pied-billed Grebe.  All possible Woodpeckers were identified and also all Nuthatches, including Red-breasted.  Several sightings of Winter Wrens were enjoyed and several beautiful Fox Sparrows.  Another great observation a flock of Rusty Blackbirds foraging in the shallows on the way to the Swamp Bridge. They were picking up wet leaves and flicking them in the air.  A SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT THE NEXT WALK-- because of the One City Marathon scheduled for the first Sunday in March, the next walk will be held on SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2023.  A complete species list follows.

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[The trip report is available through the following link:](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/103920>

**Canada Goose**

**Northern Shoveler**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**Mallard**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Ruddy Duck**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Mourning Dove**

**Virginia Rail \***

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Cooper's Hawk**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow\***

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Tree Swallow**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Winter Wren**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**American Goldfinch\***

**Fox Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**SwampSparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Rusty Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

**February 5, 2023**

It was cold, but not as bad as the day before when temperatures couldn't get above freezing! Skies were clear and the morning temperature began just above freezing and steadily rose over the morning.  John and Marilyn Adair, Dianne Snyder, Bill Boeh, Stuart Sweetman, Rory Johnson, Cindy Shultz, Sue Tomlin, Jane Frigo and first timer David Yeager participated in the morning walk and were able to identify 53 species!  The cold fronts from the previous week certainly pushed in more ducks! Hooded Mergansers, again, were the dominant species but Gadwall were making headway.  Several Northern Shovelers were spotted along with American Wigeon and Ring-necked Ducks.  The group talked to some hikers who flushed some Wood Ducks from the water at the Swamp Bridge but they could not be found when the group got there. All seven woodpecker species were seen.  Long, long, long trails of blackbirds were enjoyed, and the total number could only be estimated.  Adult and immature Bald Eagles were observed along with a Cooper's and Red-tailed Hawk. There were some misses, however.  They included Winter Wren, Chipping Sparrow and Fox Sparrow.  Another observation, not bird related, was extensive beaver activity around the shoreline near the Ranger station and along the trail to the Swamp Bridge.  It was still a great day to be outside with friends.  A complete species list follows.

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[The trip report is available through the following link:](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/103918>

**Canada Goose**

**Northern Shoveler**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**Mallard**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Mourning Dove**

**Carolina Wren**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Cooper's Hawk**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow\***

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**American Goldfinch**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

**January 15, 2023**

Skies on January 15, 2023 were beautiful but the weather was deceiving.  The temperature turned cold and failed to rise above the 30's.  A stiff wind made it feel like the 20's!    Still, 8 people braved the conditions and identified 46 species over the morning---with justified complaining.  Those hardy souls were Stuart Sweetman, John Adair, Marc Nichols, Pete Peterman, Melissa Freudenberg, Jane Frigo and newcomers Sofia Marino and Ashley Shonk.  Canada Geese were easy to spot and hear.  Other waterfowl included Gadwall, Mallard, Ring-necked Duck, Hooded Merganser, American Wigeon and a flyover of Ruddy Ducks.  Sadly the Northern Shoveler seen at the last walk could not be located.  Many of the birds were sheltering from the cold and wind and were hard to find.  A pair of Bald Eagles, however, were enjoying the breezes and playing "tag".  A sizable group of blackbirds were foraging in the field.  Fox Sparrows were seen near where they were spotted on the last walk.  One of the best sightings was of a Red-tailed Hawk perched right over the path.  The Red-breasted Nuthatch was located at the Arboretum but no Chipping Sparrows were spotted.  In spite of the cold it was still a good day of birding.  A species list follows.

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[The trip report is available through the following link:](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128)<https://ebird.org/tripreport/87129>

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**Canada Goose**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**Mallard**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Ruddy Duck**

**Mourning Dove**

**Carolina Wren**

**Virginia Rail\***

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet\***

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**American Goldfinch**

**Fox Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**

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**January 1, 2023**

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Happy New Year!  2023 began with a nice group of birders participating in a beautiful day and identifying 55 species over the course of the morning.  Those getting a start on their 2023 year list were Marilyn and John Adair, Gary Wright, June Hartzler, Dianne Snyder, Cindy Schulz, Sue Tomlin, Tom Charlock and Jane Frigo.  The morning began with heavy fog and damp, bone chilling conditions even though the temperature was in the 50's and winds were calm.  As the day progressed and the fog burned off it was simply spectacular!  Hooded Mergansers were the dominant duck with Gadwall coming in a close second.  The group thought they had 2 Ruddy ducks but closer inspection revealed they were male Hooded Mergansers hunkered down with tails erect.  A couple males were performing a toe dance for an uninterested female!  One of the best finds was a pair of Northern Shovelers close to shore feeding and later an immature preening.  Laughing, Ring-billed and Herring Gulls were seen.  Great woodpecker sightings were enjoyed and a pair of Fox Sparrows provided a super photo opportunity.  A Purple Finch sighting was also exciting.  Several Virginia Rails were heard on the approach to the Swamp Bridge.  The previous night's rain must have pushed them farther from the dam.  Two of the best birds were seen at the very end of the walk at the Arboretum...a Red-breasted Nuthatch and a Brown Creeper.  There were misses however.  No Black Vulture was seen and yet another walk without a House Finch!  A complete list follows.

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[The trip report is available through the following link.  https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128](https://ebird.org/tripreport/87128).

**Canada Goose**

**Northern Shoveler**

**Gadwall**

**Mallard**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Mourning Dove**

**Carolina Wren**

**Virginia Rail\***

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Herring Gull**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

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**Brown Creeper**

**Winter Wren**

**Carolina Wren**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**HermitThrush**

**American Robin**

**Purple Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Fox Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Northern Cardinal**