**December 18, 2022**

Another year has come to an end.  December 18, 2022 was the last bird walk for 2022.  Those participating in the day were Todd Trousdell, Dianne Snyder, Marc Nichols, Cindy Schulz, Sue Tomlin, Stuart Sweetman, Tom Charlock and Jane Frigo.  The weather was cold (in the 30's) but dry and clear.  The group identified 53 species before they called it quits at 1:30 PM.  American Wigeon were spotted among the abundance of Hooded Mergansers.  A loan American Coot was still hanging around.  All possible woodpeckers were accounted for.  Fox Sparrows were seen and a beautiful pair of Eastern Towhees.  Multiple Virginia Rails were heard at the Swamp Bridge.  One miss was House Finch for the second time.  A complete list follows.

​The trip report can be viewed here: https://ebird.org/tripreport/83756

**Canada Goose**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**Mallard**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Cooper's Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Virginia Rail\***

**American Coot**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Fox Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**American Goldfinch**

​

**December 4, 2022**

**​**Another absolutely wonderful day at the park!  December 4, 2022 was clear but chilly with the temperature staying in the 40's and winds gentle.  Even though the sun was just rising, ducks could be seen and hungry birds were flitting around in the tops of the trees searching for food.  A large group turned out to sharpen their skills before the upcoming Audubon Christmas Counts.  Participants were Stuart Sweetman, Marilyn and John Adair, Hannah Montalvo, Rob Nichols, Melissa Freudenberg, Sue Tomlin, Dianne Snyder, Heidi Young, Tom Charlock, Marc Nichols, Rob Nichols, George Reiske, Jane Frigo and newcomer Cory Davis.  Two American Coots were spotted which was a treat.  Both Ring-billed and Laughing Gulls were spotted on the pipeline.  All seven woodpecker species were seen!  A pair of Fox Sparrows and a beautiful Field Sparrow were found.  Even an Orange-crowned Warbler showed up!  Finally, a large V formation of Tundra Swans passed over with their haunting honk announcing their journey. In total 61 species were identified.  A complete species list follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Tundra Swan**

**Wood Duck\***

**Gadwall**

**Mallard**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Ruddy Duck**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Sharp-shinned Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Virginia Rail\***

**American Coot**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-billed Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Orange-crowned Warbler**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Field Sparrow**

**Fox Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Purple Finch**

**Pine Siskin**

**American Goldfinch**

​**November 29, 2022**

November 20, 2022 was certainly colder than the November 6, 2022 walk.  Instead of 70 degrees, the temperature didn't get out of the 40's and a stiff wind off the water made it feel even colder!  That said, it was still an exciting day of birdwatching with an amazing 56 species recorded.  Those participating were Pete Peterman, Bill Boeh, Tracy Tate, John and Marilyn Adair, Heidi Young, Marc Nichols, Stuart Sweetman, Tom Charlock, Hannah Montalvo, Jane Frigo and newcomers Jacqueline Keener and Kysee Weatherford.  The morning started with a bang with several first of season duck species spotted.  In addition to Canada Geese and Mallards, Gadwall, Ring-necked Duck, Hooded Mergansers, Pied-billed Grebe and even a Ruddy Duck were spotted.  Ring-billed Gulls had replaced Laughing Gulls.  Red, White, and Brown-headed Nuthatches were seen.  Also a couple of VERY cooperative Hermit Thrushes stayed perched just 5 feet from the group.  Bluebirds were everywhere with what might be called "flocks" circling the water like swallows. A group of four Greater Yellowlegs were spotted skimming over the shore  Bird of prey species seen were Osprey, Bald Eagle, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Red-tailed Hawk but sadly no owls and not a House Finch.  A complete species list follows.

To see the corresponding eBird Trip Report, click:  **https://ebird.org/tripreport/79812**

​**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck\***

**Gadwall**

**Mallard**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Ruddy Duck**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Cooper's Hawk**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Virginia Rail\***

**Greater Yellowlegs**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Fox Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**American Goldfinch**

**Novcember 6, 2022**

The first day of the return to regular time began with the sun up and the birds busy searching for  breakfast.  November 6, 2022 was warm and calm and felt more like springtime.  The great weather and the extra hour of sleep resulted in a large group of participants at the regular walk.  The group of 21 included Cindy and Kenny Schulz, John and Marilyn Adair, Kate Schaller, Pete Peterman, Marc Nichols, Dave Youker, Bill Boeh, Todd Trousdell, Lindsey Zandbergen, Sue Tomlin, Shawn Dash, Betsey Garrrett, Stuart Sweetman, Tom Charlock, Melissa Freudenberg, Emily Grojean, Jane Frigo and first timers Holly Horton and Deb Heller.  By the end of the morning 51 species were identified and included 3 first of season (FOS) birds--Brown Creeper, Hermit Thrush and Dark-eyed Junco. Thanks to an observant walker, the group got to see the Barred Owl on the way to the Swamp Bridge.  All 7 species of woodpeckers were seen.  Sadly, no Bald Eagle was found.  A complete species list follows.

​

To see the corresponding eBird Trip Report, click **https://ebird.org/tripreport/79811?view=checklists**

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Virginia Rail\***

**Laughing Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Phoebe**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Eastern Towhee\***

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**October 16, 2022**

**​**

The season continues to change and the end of Daylight Savings Time approaches.  7 AM was pretty dark but a few birders managed to make it to the Ranger Station to watch the sun rise and the birds wake up.   Those participating were Bill Boeh, Marc Nichols, John Adair, Melissa Freudenberg, Jane Frigo and first timer John Christy.  John almost missed us!  There was a big Cancer Awareness walk and festival planned for the park and booth's and billboards blocked our small group  We got connected in the end and were actually able to identify 48 species including several first of season (FOS) arrivals.   FOS included Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Brown Creeper, Winter Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, White-throated Sparrow and a mass of Yellow-rumped Warblers. The group did shorten the morning and skip several birding spots so some species may have been missed.  It was still a great day.   A complete species list follows.

​

To see the corresponding eBird Trip Report, click **https://ebird.org/tripreport/72421**

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Laughing Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee\***

**Eastern Phoebe**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**Red-breasted Nuthatch\***

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet\***

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Gray Catbird**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**American Redstart**

**Northern Parula**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Common Grackle**

**House Finch**

​

**October 2, 2022**

What a beginning to the month of October, 2022!  Hurricane Ian dominated the news and resulted in many cancellations in the area  Sadly, Ft. Myers, Florida received the brunt of the storm, and this area missed the heavy rains and only suffered tidal flooding.  With the Fall Festival canceled at the park, the bird walk did not need to meet at the campground but could assemble at the usual meeting spot.  Those participating were Grace Buskirk, Pete Peterman, Dianne Snyder, Marc Nichols, Heidi Young, John Adair, Stuart Sweetman, Sue Tomlin, Elizabeth Wilkins, Jacques van Montfrans and Jane Frigo.  The group identified 9 warblers, 6 species of  woodpeckers, Philadelphia, Red and White-eyed Vireos, a Barred Owl and a late Yellow-billed Cuckoo.  The group missed Canada Goose and many anticipated winter residents.  A complete species list follows.

**Mallard**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Laughing Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Eastern Phoebe**

**White-eyed Vireo**

**Philadelphia Vireo**

**Red-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow\***

**N. Rough-winged Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Carolina Wren**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Gray Catbird**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Waterthrush**

**Black-and-white Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**American Redstart**

**Northern Parula**

**Magnolia Warbler**

**Blackpoll Warbler**

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**

**Pine Warbler**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Northern Cardinal**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch\***

**September 18, 2022**

**​**

September 18, 2022 was a beautiful fall day and perfect for spending time outdoors during migration.  A large group shared that feeling with 16 people participating in the morning walk.  They were Pete Peterman, Bill Boeh, Cindy Schulz, Marc Nichols, Dianne Snyder, Kate Schaller, Stuart Sweetman, Heidi Young, Melissa Freudenberg, Lindsey Van Zandbergen, Jane Frigo, and newcomers Jaime Joy, Emily Grojean,Wiki West and Beata and Chip Whitehead.  The group identified 48 species which were better than the last walk.  Outstanding sightings included a pair of Barred Owls near Swamp Point, Northern Waterthrush, Black-and-white Warbler, American Redstart and Veery.  Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were still around, A pair of Wood Ducks were heard and then flushed up at the Swamp Bridge.  All six woodpeckers were seen with quite a show put on by dueling Pileated and Red-headed Woodpeckers. One miss was the common House Finch.  A complete species list is below.   A SPECIAL NOTE......the next walk will be meeting at the Campground because

of the scheduled festival at the main park.

To see the corresponding eBird Trip Report, click **https://ebird.org/tripreport/72419**

​

**Canada Goose\***

**Wood Duck**

**Mallard**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Laughing Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Barred Owl**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**White-eyed Vireo**

**Red-eyed Vireo\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Carolina Wren**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Veery**

**American Robin**

**Gray Catbird**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Northern Waterthrush**

**Black-and-white Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**American Redstart**

**Northern Parula**

**Pine Warbler**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed CowbirdAmerican Goldfinch**

**September 4, 2022**

**​**

Hopes were high for a great birding day with fall migrants possible. However, September 4, 2022 was disappointing.  The weather was clear, calm and not too warm.  There were 14 participants:  John and Marilyn Adair, Marc Nichols, Ellis Maxey, Dianne Snyder, Heidi Young, Cindy Schulz, Todd Trousdell,  Hannah Montalvo, Sue Tomlin, Sandy Graham, Jane Frigo and first timers Jackie Trickel and Jenny Devasher,  Yet the group was only able to identify 41 species during the morning.  The only migrant warbler spotted was a Cape May Warbler seen by Marc Nichols.  Most of the group was able to get a fairly good sighting.  After the first stop the group opted to try the Arboretum for more warblers but with not much luck.  The group then tried Stable Road and that too was disappointing.  The group then moved onto the Discovery Center. There the group got the bird of the day.   A group of 5 Bobolinks were seen!  Other birds there included a pair of Blue Grosbeaks and a Summer Tanager.  The majority of the group dropped off then but Heidi, John and Jane made the trek to the Swamp Bridge. They didn't find much for their efforts.  Hopefully the next walk will be better.  A list of sightings follows.

​

To see the corresponding eBird Trip Report, click  **https://ebird.org/tripreport/72418**

**Mallard**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk\***

**Laughing Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker\***

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher**

**Red-eyed Vireo\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow\***

**Fish Crow\***

**N. Rough-winged Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Carolina Wren**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Cape May Warbler**

**Pine Warbler**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Bobolink**

**Brown-headed Cowbird\***

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch\***

**August 21, 2022**

August 21, 2022 was a typical late summer day.  The weather was hot and humid with not a breath of air to provide relief.  Still quite a group braved the weather and identified 59 species, total.  Those participating were John and Marilyn Adair, Pete and Charm Peterman, Bill Boeh, Terry Moore, Cindy Schulz, Elizabeth Wilkins, Jacques van Montfrans, Tom Charlock, Todd Trousdell, Stuart Sweetman, Sue Tomlin, Jane Frigo and newcomer Kate Schaller.  The reservoir was covered with grass growth which brought in more shore birds than usual.   Terry Moore alerted us to look for Little Blue Heron he had seen earlier in the week.  The group was not disappointed.  Both adult and immature Little Blues were seen along with Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets.  It was a great opportunity to compare sizes, leg and bill color. Before long Solitary Sandpipers were seen flying along the shore and landing in the alcove  Several Belted Kingfishers joined the sandpipers.  All possible woodpeckers were seen, with both adult and immature Red-headed spotted.  Both White-eyed and Red-eyed Vireo were seen and heard along with a pair of Summer Tanagers.  No Common Yellowthroat, Northern Parula,  Prothonotary or Acadian Flycatchers were seen or heard.  Terry Moore broke away from the main group when they headed to the Swamp Bridge. He crossed the White Oak Trail Bridge and checked out the first overlook.  He was rewarded with seeing Spotted Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Northern Waterthrush more Kildeer, Belted Kingfishers and an Osprey. He was able to get some great photo's too. It was a wonderful morning.  A species list follows.  (remember \* indicates heard only, \*\* will indicate species only seen by Terry)

​

To see the corresponding eBird Trip Report, click **https://ebird.org/tripreport/67879**.

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Little Blue Heron**

**Green Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk\***

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Killdeer**

**Spotted Sandpiper\*\***

**Solitary Sandpiper**

**Greater Yellowlegs\*\***

**Least Sandpiper\*\***

**Laughing Gull**

**Royal Tern**

**Mourning Dove**

**Chimney Swift**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird**

**White-eyed Vireo**

**Red-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Carolina Wren**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**European Starling**

**Northern Waterthrush\*\***

**Pine Warbler\***

**Eastern Towhee**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**​**

**August 7, 2022**

This summer has been hot and humid with heat indexes over 100 degrees.  August 7, 2022 was no different. The morning began with a temperature of 76 and no breeze!  Surprisingly 16 people braved the weather and participated in the morning walk.  They included John and Marilyn Adair, Pete and Charm Peterman, Elizabeth  Wilkins and Jacques van Montfrans, Bill Boeh, Grace Buskirk, Marc Nichols, Tom Charlock, Sue Tomlin, Heidi Young, Stuart Sweetman, Melissa Freudenberg, Lindsey Vansenyerger and Jane Frigo.  It truly was a banner day because the group saw BOTH owls!!!  They were located on the walk to the Swamp Bridge.  First, the Barred Owl was spotted near Swamp Point.  He has been seen there before and the group assumes a pair has established residency in that area.  For several participants it was their first glimpse of an owl in the wild.  As the group continued toward the bridge, Melissa spotted a BIG bird at the very top of a tree.  It turned out to be a Great Horned Owl.  John Adair was able to get his scope on it and all enjoyed seeing the ear tufts and piercing eyes.  Another outstanding experience was a Red-tailed Hawk being pursued by a pair of very unhappy Eastern Kingbirds.  A surprising miss for the morning was Canada Goose!  A total of 54 species were identified.  (\* indicates heard only).

​

To see the corresponding eBird Trip Report, click here: **https://ebird.org/tripreport/67878**

**Mallard**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Green Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Solitary Sandpiper**

**Laughing Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**

**Great Horned Owl**

**Barred Owl**

**Chimney Swift**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Eastern Wood Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher\***

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird**

**Red-eyed Vireo\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow\***

**Purple Martin**

**Tree Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch\***

**Brown-headed Nuthatch'**

**Carolina Wren**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Common Yellowthroat\***

**Eastern Towhee\***

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Summer Tanager\***

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**July 18, 2022**

Another bird walk was held at Newport News Park on July 17, 2022.  Participants knew it was summer when the temperature at 7 AM was already 75 degrees and only expected to continue rising during the morning.  To add to the misery the day was humid and winds were calm.  Still a nice sized group turned out.  They were Dianne Snyder, Tom Charlock, Bill Boeh, Stuart Sweetman, Sue Tomlin, Melissa Freudenberg, Heidi Young, Jane Frigo and Marilyn and John Adair.  A special note here...a huge THANK YOU to John Adair for his faithful participation and ever present scope. John carries his scope on all our walks and can focus it on anything!  He certainly adds to all participant's experiences.  There were some pluses and minuses in today's walk.  Misses included Bald Eagle, Northern Flicker, Prothonotary Warbler and Northern Parula.  Great sightings included Green Heron, Common Yellowthroat, Red-tailed Hawk and a young Eastern Towhee.  A list of the 53 species identified follows.

​

To see the corresponding eBird Trip Report, click here:  **https://ebird.org/tripreport/65768**

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Green Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Red-shouldered Hawk\***

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Laughing Gull**

**Royal Tern**

**Mourning Dove**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker\***

**Downy Woodpecker\***

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Wood Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher**

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird**

**White-eyed Vireo**

**Red-eyed Vireo\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Purple Martin**

**Barn Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Carolina Wren**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**NOrthern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Summer Tanager\***

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Indigo Bunting**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**July 3, 2022**

The year is half over! July 3, 2022 at the park was calm, humid and warm, a typical summer day.  Those attending the bird walk were Tom Charlock, Dianne Snyder, Todd Trousdell, Stuart Sweetman, Marc Nichols, Hannah Montalvo, Sue Tomlin, Jane Frigo and Marilyn and John Adair.  The group identified 59 species!  All woodpeckers were identified with Red-headed and Northern Flicker by vocalization only.  Yellow-billed Cuckoo was another species heard but not seen.  An outstanding behavioral observation was captured at the Swamp Bridge.  A Prothonotary Warbler was seen and photographed feeding young in a nest cavity just feet off the boardwalk! Marc Nichols also had a surprising look at a Cliff Swallow over the water.  He is quite familiar with the species from his frequent trips birding in Walkerton where they are much more common.  All in all it was a great morning.  A complete species list follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Laughing Gull**

**Royal Tern**

**Mourning Dove**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo\***

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker\***

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker\***

**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**

**Tree Swallow**

**Cliff Swallow**

**Barn Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Carolina Wren**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Northern Parula\***

**Pine Warbler**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Indigo Bunting**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

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**June 19, 2022**

**​**

June 19, 2022 was Father's Day.  The weather was beautiful with clear skies, a comfortable breeze and temperatures ranging from 65 to 75.  Those participating in the morning were Dianne Snyder, Bill Boeh, Stuart Sweetman, Tom Charlock, Marc Nichols, Lindsey Vanzarrberger, Sue Tomlin, Jane Frigo, John and Marilyn Adair and first timers Jessica and Brock Lascara.  The group identified 51 species for the morning.  There were several misses for the morning including Bald Eagle, Green Heron, Northern Parula, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Red-bellied Woodpecker and Pileated Woodpecker.  Twelve species were heard only.  Good sightings of Indigo Bunting, Blue Grosbeak and Eastern Bluebird were enjoyed as well as Red-shouldered and Red-tailed Hawks.  A complete species list follows. (remember \* indicated heard only)

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Cooper's Hawk**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Laughing Gull**

**Royal Tern**

**Mourning Dove**

**Chimney Swift**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Eastern Wood Pewee\***

**Acadian Flycatcher\***

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Eastern Kingbird\***

**Yellow-throated Vireo\***

**Red-eyed Vireo\***

**Blue Jay**

**Fish Crow\***

**Purple Martin**

**swallow species?**

**Carolina Chickadee\***

**Tufted Titmouse\***

**White-breasted Nuthatch\***

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Carolina Wren**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Prothonotary Warbler\***

**Common Yellowthroat\***

**Pine Warbler\***

**Yellow-throated Warbler\***

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Indigo Bunting**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird\***

**Orchard Oriole**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**Summer Tanager**

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**June 5, 2022**

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June 5, 2022 at Newport News Park was a beautiful day for a bird walk.  The weather was nice with  the temperature ranging from 60 to 80, clear skies, light winds and LOW HUMIDITY!  A group of 7 participated in the morning and identified 57 species.  They were John and Marilyn Adaiar,  Dianne Snyder, Pete Peterman, Stuart Sweetman, Cindy Schulz, Sue Tomlin and Jane Frigo.  The group spent about an hour and a half circling the parking lot and bridge and identified over 30 species.  A Royal Tern started the morning off, followed by Osprey, Egrets and Herons.  Great Crested Flycatchers were busy in the early morning as were Chimney Swifts and N.Rough-winged Swallows.  After that the group headed straight to the Spawning Pond to make the walk to the Swamp Bridge.  On the way White-eyed Vireo were singing everywhere along with Prothonotary Warblers and Acadian Flycatchers.  Eastern Kingbirds were also seen perched and preening.  One of the best sightings was of a Barred Owl near Swamp Point.  Speculation is that a pair lives in that area.  It flew, perched and flew again.  Always a good day when you see an owl!  On a sad note, the power company had removed the large hardwoods and pines that lined the golf course at the Discovery Center  A species list follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Green Heron**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Laughing Gull**

**Royal Tern**

**Mourning Dove**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo\***

**Chimney Swift**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Belted Kingfisher\***

**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**

**N. Rough-winged Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch\***

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Carolina Wren**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird\***

**Brown Thrasher**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Northern Parula\***

**Pine Warbler\***

**Yellow-throated Warbler\***

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Indigo Bunting**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird\***

**Orchard Oriole**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

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**May 15, 2022**

**​**

The population (of birders) was limited on the May 15, 2022, Sunday walk in Newport News Park because HRBC ran a field trip to Sandy Bottom on the same morning. Marc Nichols ably led Dianne Snyder, Susan and Lee Morris, Hannah Montalvo, Terry Moore, and Tom Charlock, starting as usual at the Ranger Station. At 7:00 AM we had a temperature of 63F and light southwesterly winds but were socked in by a thick fog. Despite the poor lighting, Marc was nevertheless confident about identifying a Royal Tern by beak color. Other early observations included Eastern Phoebe, Red-eyed Vireo, Northern Parula and Great-crested Flycatcher. But for a Red-tailed Hawk, we identified few additional species at the arboretum because heavy fog persisted. By 10:00 AM it had lifted at the Discovery Center, where a Turkey Vulture strutted on a power tower. We did not cross to White Oak Swamp and instead drove to the spawning pond. At the first water outlook roughly a quarter mile along the trail, Hannah spotted Prothonotary Warblers tending their nest [3 snags are 30 feet to the right of the platform, and the nest hole is in the snag closest to shore, about a man’s height above water]. More warblers, such as a high-canopy-neck-craning American Redstart were picked out along the trail. We did not reach the Swamp Bridge. At the bridge over feeble Deer Run Creek on the way back, Marc called attention to several birds quickly sounding off and then falling silent. He suspected – and found – a Barred Owl about a third of the way up the canopy. We concluded around noon, having observed 56 species, 10 of which were warblers. Weather had been dominated by a nor’easter off the coast for the previous few days. Marc said that he had not earlier experienced a May in this area with so few species; and it was likely that the northeasterly winds here caused birds to choose a more inland route for spring migration.

​

**Canada Goose**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Green Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Royal Tern**

**Mourning Dove**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**

**Barred Owl**

**Read Headed Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Wood Pewee**

**Acadian Flycatcher**

**Eastern Phoebe**

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Yellow-throated Vireo**

**Red-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Purple Martin**

**Tree Swallow**

**Barn Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Carolina Wren**

**House Wren**

**Blue-grey Gnatcatcher**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Black-and-white Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**American Redstart**

**Cape May Warbler**

**Northern Parula**

**Blackpoll Warbler**

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Yellow-throated Warbler**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Summer Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Indigo Bunting**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**American Goldfinch**

**May 1, 2022**

**​**

Migration was in full swing on May 1, 2022 and the Newport News Park walk reflected the influx of species. 76 species were identified by the group.  Participants were Grace Buskirk, Bill Boeh, Sue Tomlin, Stuart Sweetman, Tom Charlick, Todd Troussdell, Marc Nichols, Terry Moore and Jane Frigo.  Stuart Sweetman led the group around the White Oak Trail and was able to identify several first of season arrivals.  Some of those were Green Heron, Eastern Kingbird, House Wren, Gray Catbird, Louisiana Waterthrush, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Blue Grosbeak, Blackpoll, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Acadian Flycatcher and Eastern Wood-Pewee.  There were misses for the morning, however.  like Northern Flicker, Red-headed Woodpecker and Song Sparrow.  The walk lasted until early afternoon and the group definitely was tired but the morning was well worth it!  A complete species list follows.  Remember an \* after the species indicates "heard only."

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Mallard**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Green Heron**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Virginia Rail\***

**Solitary Sandpiper**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Chimney Swift**

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy 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**

**Tree Swallow**

**Barn Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Carolina Wren**

**House Wren**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Veery**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Gray Catbird**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**Ovenbird\***

**Louisiana Waterthrush**

**Black-and-white Warbler**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Northern Parula\***

**Blackpoll Warbler\***

**Black-throated Blue Warbler\***

**Pine Warbler\***

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Yellow-throated Warbler\***

**Eastern Towhee\***

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Summer Tanager**

**Scarlet Tanager**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Blue Grosbeak**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Orchard Oriole**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**April 17, 2022**

April 17, 2022 was Easter Sunday and 10 people chose to celebrate the holiday by participating in the Newport News Park walk.  Those spending the morning at the park were Todd Trousdell, Tom Charlock, Dianne Snyder, Stuart Sweetman, Elizabeth Wilkins, Jacques van Montfrans, Jane Frigo and Marilyn and John Adair.  The group began a little tired because most had participated in the Hampton Roads Bird Club Spring Count the previous day, but early migration possibilities made the effort worthwhile.  The group was able to identify 68 species. Marc Nichols found the Great Horned Owl in the Arboretum and most of the group got to see the owl before it took flight across Constitution Avenue.  Several Palm Warblers were seen pumping their tails and showing off their beautiful rusty caps and vibrant yellow chests.  Royal and Caspian terns were seen and provided a lively discussion among the group about ways to differentiate the two species.  Another treat was a Blue-headed Vireo at the Arboretum.  The group got to see the vireo vocalize.  An Orchard Oriole was seen, too.  A FOS Prothonotary Warbler was particularly cooperative at Swamp Point and many were able to get some excellent photos.  By far the best sighting was of a FOS Hooded Warbler! The group missed it on the way to the Swamp Bridge but spent extra time looking for it on the return trip and were rewarded.  Jacque got some wonderful pictures!!  Please note that on the next walk, May 1, Stuart Sweetman will be leading the group around the White Oak Trail.  This special walk will be to catch the peak of the migrating birds and will involve a bit more walking.  A complete species list follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Caspian Tern**

**Royal Tern**

**Mourning Dove**

**Great Horned Owl**

**Barred Owl\***

**Chimney Swift**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Phoebe**

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

**Blue-headed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Purple Martin**

**Tree Swallow**

**N. Rough-winged Swallow**

**Barn Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch\***

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Carolina Wren**

**House Wren**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**Common Yellowthroat\***

**Hooded Warbler**

**Northern Parula**

**Palm Warbler**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Yellow-throated Warbler\***

**Eastern Towhee**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**Orchard Oriole**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**April 3, 2022**

April 3, 2022 was a perfect day to enjoy Newport News City Park and experience birding.  Skies were clear and the temperature pleasant, staying in the 50's and 60's.  18 people participated in the morning walk.  They included Elizabeth Wilkins, Melissa Freudenberg, Rob Nichols, Dianne Snyder, June Hartzler, Gary Wright, Bill Boeh, Stuart Sweetman, Marc Nichols, Cindy Schulz, Hannah Montalvo, Tom Charlock, Jane Frigo, John and Marilyn Adair, Lynn and Chris Hakanson and first timer Grace Buskirk.  Together the group identified 59 species which included 4 FOS,,,Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-throated Warbler, Palm Warbler and White-eyed Vireo.  The group could not be sure if one bird was a Sharp-shinned or Cooper's Hawk so agreed to just count it as "hawk species".  Cedar Waxwings were still at the Arboretum along with Dark-eyed Juncos.  Only the Ruby-crowned Kinglet could be found so there was speculation the Golden-crowned Kinglet may have left for the season.  Brown Creepers were spotted and Hooded Mergansers.  Surprisingly, no Northern Mockingbird or Brown Thrasher could be found.  The group spent time discussing Muskrats and Beavers as one or the other was swimming in the area near the paddle boats. Also a beautiful butterfly was seen and the group wondered if it was a Black-swallowtail or dark morph Tiger-swallowtail.  A heads up to those planning on attending the first walk in May, Stuart Sweetman will be leading the group around the 2 and a half mile White Oak Trail in an effort to get more of the woodland warblers.  A complete species list follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Mallard**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Osprey**

**Bald Eagle**

**Hawk species**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Royal Tern**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Phoebe**

**White-eyed Vireo**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Purple Martin**

**Tree Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**Common Yellowthroat**

**Palm Warbler**

**Pine Warbler\***

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Yellow-throated Warbler**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Field Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**​**

**March 20, 2022**

**​**

Time is passing quickly and Spring is in full swing.  March 20, 2022 at the park brought the departure of a majority of the duck species and the arrival of two summer residents--Purple Martin and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.  Participants in the morning included Pete and Charm Peterman, Chris and Lynne Hakanson, Tom Charlock, Todd Trousbell, Stuart Sweetman, SueTomlin, Melissa Freudenberg, Shawn Dash and Jane Frigo.  Winter residents included Winter Wren, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and both Kinglets, to name a few.  Misses for the morning were Black Vulture, Mourning Dove and Northern Mockingbird.  A species list follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Gadwall**

**Mallard**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Virginia Rail**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Herring Gull**

**Belted Kingfisher\***

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Phoebe**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Purple Martin**

**Tree Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren\***

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**​**

**March 5, 2022**

Time is passing quickly and Spring is in full swing.  March 20, 2022 at the park brought the departure of a majority of the duck species and the arrival of two summer residents--Purple Martin and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.  Participants in the morning included Pete and Charm Peterman, Chris and Lynne Hakanson, Tom Charlock, Todd Trousbell, Stuart Sweetman, SueTomlin, Melissa Freudenberg, Shawn Dash and Jane Frigo.  Winter residents included Winter Wren, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and both Kinglets, to name a few.  Misses for the morning were Black Vulture, Mourning Dove and Northern Mockingbird.  A species list follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Wood Duck**

**Gadwall**

**Mallard**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

**Virginia Rail**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Herring Gull**

**Belted Kingfisher\***

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Phoebe**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Purple Martin**

**Tree Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren\***

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**March 5, 2022**

**​**

The regular first Sunday walk at Newport News Park, scheduled for March 6, 2022, had to be cancelled due to the One City Marathon.  A last minute change to Saturday, March 5, 2022, was decided and proved to be a great decision.  The only problem was getting the word of the change out to everyone,  Thanks to Tom Charlock sending an email to members, a few loyal birders turned out on Saturday.  The group included Pete Peterman, Dave Youker, Heidi Young. Marc Nichols, Sue Tomlin, Stuart Sweetman, Jane Frigo and John and Marilyn Adair.  The weather was perfect, 40-60 degrees, skies variable and winds light.  By noon the group was able to identify 63 species!  It was a banner day for ducks with 8 species seen, the best being a pair of Northern Shovelers.  A thrilling sign that migration was beginning was a huge V of Tundra Swans moving northwest!  16 Great Egrets were feeding in the upper reservoir.  Water levels were exceptionally low and the group felt that the shallow water made feeding more appealing to both ducks and Great Egrets.  An early walk to the Swamp Bridge gave everyone a wonderful view of the Virginia Rail.  As with the last walk, several rails were heard but only one was curious enough to walk into the open and show his beautiful rusty plumage!  On the return trip from the swamp, Marc Nichols was able to locate a Barred Owl being mobbed by jays.  Anytime an owl is seen is a great day!  The cherry blossoms were blooming at the Arboretum and Cedar Waxwings were seen gleaning the last of the holly berries.  A species list follows (\*seen only).

**Canada Goose**

**Tundra Swan**

**Wood Duck**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**American Black Duck**

**Mallard**

**Northern Shoveler**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Virginia Rail**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Barred Owl**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Eastern Phoebe**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Tree Swallow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren\***

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Eastern Towhee**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Rusty Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch\***

**February 20, 2022**

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February 20, 2022 was clear and cold with freezing temperatures at 7 AM and not rising  much over the morning.  Emily Argo, Pete Peterman, Bill Boeh, Dianne Snyder, Stuart Sweetman, Rob Nichols, Cindy Schulz, John Adair, Heidi Young and Jane Frigo participated in the walk and were able to identify 50 species.   Not as many varieties of ducks were seen but Great Egrets dotted the banks.  A lone Laughing Gull was seen among the many Double-crested Cormorants and Ring-billed Gulls lined up on the pipeline.  By far the best sighting was a group of Virginia Rails at the Swamp Bridge.  Although the rails have been heard occasionally their secretive behavior makes them very difficult to see.  This morning was the exception.  Quite a bit of time was spent on the Swamp Bridge platform waiting for a glimpse of the rails chasing each other through the reeds.  At least 3 were seen with more possible in the group.  A complete list of sightings follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**Mallard**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Black Vulture**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Sharp-shinned Hawk**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Virginia Rail**

**Laughing Gull**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Eastern Phoebe**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**Pine Warbler\***

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

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**February 6, 2022**

**​**

At last, a Sunday bird walk that didn't require sprinting from shelter to shelter to avoid rain!  February 6, 2022 was clear but cold (29 to 35 degrees).  Shifting breezes made it seem even colder.  Those braving the weather included Rob Nichols, Emily Argo, Bill Boeh, Stuart Sweetman, Melissa Freudnberger, Marc Nichols, Hannah Montalvo, Jane Frigo and Bay Journal reporter Jeremy Cox.  Winter storms hitting the northern states and bringing two weekends of snowfall to the Tidewater area also brought in a variety of ducks.  They included Gadwall, American Wigeon, American Black Duck, Mallard, Ring-necked Duck, Buffelhead, Hooded Merganser and a possible Northern Pintail hen.  A group of Canada Geese seemed smaller and had what appeared to be shorter necks than those usually seen on the golf course.  The idea that they may be a migrating flock was considered.  Ring-billed Gulls and Double-crested Cormorants lined the pipeline.  All 7 woodpecker species were seen with the exception of Hairy and Pileated being  heard only.   A group of Cedar Waxwings was enjoyed at the Arboretum..  Surprisingly, the usually ever abundant Yellow-rumped Warbler was not seen until the group made the walk to the Swamp Bridge.  Jeremy Cox was doing research on the Merlin app.   The birders matched their skills with Merlin.  It was amazing how much they agreed.  At the end of the morning 55 species were identified, an amazing number for the first of February!  A complete species list follows.  \* indicates birds heard only.

**Canada Goose**

**Gadwall**

**American Wigeon**

**American Black Duck**

**Mallard**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Bufflehead**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-Bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker**

**Hairy Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**Pine Warbler\***

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Field Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Common Grackle**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**House Finch**

**American Goldfinch**

**January 16, 2022**

At last a morning walk that didn't begin with rain but rather ended with rain.  January 16, 2022 began with the temperature at freezing, cloudy skies and rain/snow to arrive later in the day.  Heidi Young,, John Adair, Stuart Sweetman, Marc Nichols, Cindy Schulz and Jane Frigo birded from 7 AM to 10:30 AM and identified 48 species before the sleet started.  All birds counted were seen with the exception of Downy Woodpecker and House Finch heard only.  Adult and juvenile Red-headed Woodpeckers were seen again.  Herring and Ring-billed gulls were identified. Surprisingly no Great Blue Heron was seen, possibly because of ice near the shore line.  Other misses were Pine Warbler and Yellow-rumped Warbler.  A Hermit Thrush gave quite a show at the Arboretum providing long looks from every angle. Ring-necked Ducks, Hooded Mergansers, Mallards and Pied-billed Grebes were spotted but it took Marc Nichols to find a couple Gadwalls and Great Egrets and a Kingfisher in the Spawning Pond after the group called it quits.  Stuart Sweetman added the Winter Wren by the Ranger Station as he exited the park.  All in all it was a great, but cold, morning.  A complete species list follows.

**Canada Goose**

**Gadwall**

**Mallard**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Egret**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Red-tailed Hawk**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Herring Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Belted Kingfisher**

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Downy Woodpecker\***

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Winter Wren**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**Field Sparrow**

**Song Sparrow**

**Swamp Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Rusty Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**House Finch\***

**American Goldfinch**

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**January 2, 2022**

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January 2, 2022 was the beginning of another year of bi-monthly bird walks at Newport News Park.  Rain dampened the mood but didn't stop the birdwatchers!  Cindy Schulz, Jacque van Montfrans, Elizabeth Wilkins, John Adair, Tom Morocco, Melissa Freudenberg, Shawn Dash, Marc Nichols and Jane Frigo braved the weather and were able to identify 44 species before 10 AM.  The morning began with a pair of Horned Owls vocalizing from the campground. In the Ranger Parking Lot the group moved from shelter to shelter until the rain turned to a light mist. Water species seen included Canada Goose, Mallard, Ring-necked Duck, Hooded Merganser, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant and Great Blue Heron. Hopefully more duck species will be pushed down with the approaching cold fronts.  Adult and juvenile Bald Eagles were seen but no Kingfisher.  Finally an adult Red-headed Woodpecker showed up and gave the group a real show.  Kinglets, both Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned, brightened up the morning.  The group also got to see a beaver crossing reservoir!  A complete species list follows. \*indicates heard only

**Canada Goose**

**Mallard**

**Ring-necked Duck**

**Hooded Merganser**

**Pied-billed Grebe**

**Double-crested Cormorant**

**Great Blue Heron**

**Turkey Vulture**

**Bald Eagle**

**Ring-billed Gull**

**Mourning Dove**

**Great Horned Owl\***

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**Northern Flicker**

**Pileated Woodpecker\***

**Blue Jay**

**American Crow**

**Fish Crow**

**Carolina Chickadee**

**Tufted Titmouse**

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Brown-headed Nuthatch\***

**Brown Creeper**

**Carolina Wren**

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**Eastern Bluebird**

**Hermit Thrush**

**American Robin**

**Northern Mockingbird**

**Brown Thrasher**

**Cedar Waxwing**

**Pine Warbler**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

**Chipping Sparrow**

**White-throated Sparrow**

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**Northern Cardinal**

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**American Goldfinch\***