

Christmas Bird Count, Greensboro, NC

December 19, 2015

By Elizabeth Link

This year's Christmas Count in Greensboro was held on Saturday, December 19th. The number of species counted was 91, which is two less than our all-time high species count of 93 set just last year. There were an additional 3 species found during the count week. The number of individual birds counted was 12,107, which is about average for our count.

The most unusual bird found on the count was a Black-crowned Night Heron, found by Clarence Mattocks, Lane Oldham and Wallace Sills in the brushy growth along a large pond in an office park near the airport. Other highlights were a Greater Scaup found on Lake Townsend, Rusty Blackbirds found in 2 separate locations, and 2 Kestrels and 70 American Pipits found at the White Street Landfill. We also had a large number of Robins, Grackles, and Red-winged Blackbirds. These birds frequently move out of the area for the winter, and we regularly have Christmas Counts with few or none of these species.

The weather was cold in a month that has otherwise had temperatures well above normal. The morning low was 27 and the high was 45. The month has also been unusually rainy, but fortunately we had no rain on count day, and skies were partly cloudy to sunny. 40 people in 13 parties participated in the count putting in 114.75 party hours. The participants ranged from veterans of many years to folks taking part in their first count.

The following people participated in the count:

Nancy Adamson, Carolyn Allen, Bruce Billings, Tripti Billings, Diana Bowman, Dennis Burnette, Lynn Burnette, Frank Cashwell, Scott DePue, Amy Hanson, Judy Hoag, Craig Lawrence, Annette Lineberry, Elizabeth Link, Henry Link, Clarence Mattocks, Scott Mortenson, Lynn Moseley, Jean Murdick, Roberta Newton, Lane Oldham, Dierdre Poe, Marie Poteat, Ann Presnell, Wallace Sills, Lou Skrabec, Ann Steighner, Jim Strickland, Nate Swick, Danny Royster, Emily Talbert, Emily Tyler, Ann Van Sant, Marty Wall, Ann Walter-Fromson, Matt Wangerin, Stella Wear, Tom Wear, George Wheaton, and Melissa Whitmire.

Thanks to everyone for your work and time to help make the count happen!

BIRD LIST – Christmas Bird Count, Guilford County December 19, 2015

Canada Goose	1093	Ring-necked Duck	75
Wood Duck	8	Greater Scaup	1
Gadwall	63	Lesser Scaup	10
American Wigeon	4	Bufflehead	155
American Black Duck	7	Hooded Merganser	120
Mallard	423	Red-breasted Merganser	CW
Northern Shoveler	82	Ruddy Duck	48
Northern Pintail	12	Wild Turkey	8
Green-winged Teal	168	Common Loon	1
Canvasback	1	Pied-billed Grebe	35
Redhead	7	Horned Grebe	5

Double-crested Cormorant	14
Great Blue Heron	45
Black-crowned Night Heron	1
Black Vulture	148
Turkey Vulture	86
Bald Eagle	3
Northern Harrier	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1
Cooper's Hawk	1
Accipter sp	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	24
Red-tailed Hawk	24
American Coot	26
Killdeer	39
Wilson's Snipe	1
Ring-billed Gull	594
Herring Gull	CW
Rock Pigeon	252
Mourning Dove	235
Great Horned Owl	1
Barred Owl	4
Belted Kingfisher	12
Red-headed Woodpecker	24
Red-bellied Woodpecker	93
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	28
Downy Woodpecker	48
Hairy Woodpecker	5
Northern Flicker	48
Pileated Woodpecker	3
American Kestral	2
Eastern Phoebe	5
Blue Jay	129
American Crow	671
Fish Crow	18
Crow sp	40
Common Raven	2
Carolina Chickadee	199
Tufted Titmouse	151
White-breasted Nuthatch	66
Brown-headed Nuthatch	49
Brown Creeper	7
Winter Wren	6
Carolina Wren	115
Golden-crowned Kinglet	38
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	35
Eastern Bluebird	232
Hermit Thrush	10
American Robin	1405
Brown Thrasher	5
Northern Mockingbird	63

European Starling	979
American Pipit	70
Cedar Waxwing	298
Pine Warbler	4
Yellow-rumped Warbler	105
Eastern Towhee	89
Chipping Sparrow	106
Field Sparrow	49
Fox Sparrow	9
Song Sparrow	169
Swamp Sparrow	11
White-throated Sparrow	627
Dark-eyed Junco	511
Northern Cardinal	287
Red-winged Blackbird	203
Eastern Meadowlark	16
Rusty Blackbird	117
Common Grackle	692
Brown-headed Cowbird	105
House Finch	146
Pine Siskin	CW
American Goldfinch	154
House Sparrow	21