

# Spring Bird Count

## April 28, 2019

*Submitted by: Elizabeth Link, Bird Count Coordinator*

The Spring Bird Count for Greensboro was held on Saturday, April 28. In a spring with a lot of rain, we lucked out on the weather. With a low of 45°F and a high of 75°F, light westerly winds and no rain, the day was about as pleasant as you could wish for.

Thirty participants spent a total of 85 party hours counting, with 45 miles hiked on foot and 330 miles driven. Their efforts found 5,920 individual birds of 114 species. There were also 13 species seen during count week that were not found on count day.

In the last 35 years, there have been only two other years when we had 114 or fewer species, and only seven years when we had fewer than 120 species. During that same 35-year period, there were only seven years when we had fewer individual birds than on this year's count. Our average individual count for that period is 7,212.

Notable absences included a number of warbler species. Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, and Blackpoll Warblers were only found on count week, and others such as Canada and Yellow that are usually seen weren't found at all during the count period. Waterfowl were also missing, as they had largely left the area before the count. Among the few species seen were two Gadwall, which we have had on only one other count since 1967.

On the other hand, there were several Red-breasted Nuthatches on count day, something that has only happened on six other counts in the 35-year period. (And I did check - the years in which Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen weren't the low species count years!)

The low warbler count seems to correlate with observations in other areas of the state through the migration period.

The species list is below. This year's data will be added to the list compiled by George Wheaton containing Spring Count data from 1967 to the present, which is posted on the PBC website.

Many thanks to the counters who gave their time to help continue to gather data for the spring migration:

Nancy Adamson, Carolyn Allen, Lynn Allison, Frank Cashwell, Sue Cole, Scott DePue, Jim Eldrett, Lynne Gray, Chris Groh, Mary Hankins, Megan Hankins, Elizabeth Link, Henry Link, Clarence Mattocks, Scott Mortenson, Lynn Moseley, Jean Murdick, Roberta Newton, Lane Oldham, Sandy Post, Wallace Sills, Lou Skrabec, Melanie Stadler, Emily Talbert, Emily Tyler, Ann VanSant, Marty Wall, Ann Walter-Fromson, Matt Wangarin and Melissa Whitmire

<u>Species</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Count</u>
Canada Goose	324	Eastern Wood-Pee wee	CW	Louisiana Waterthrush	1
Wood Duck	9	Acadian Flycatcher	1	Black & White Warbler	9
Gadwall	2	Eastern Phoebe	36	Prothonotary Warbler	2
Mallard	74	Gr-crested flycatcher	28	Common Yellowthroat	23
Lesser Scaup	CW	Eastern Kingbird	35	Hooded Warbler	8
Red-Breasted Merganser	CW	White-eyed Vireo	7	American Redstart	3
Wild Turkey	9	Yellow-throated Vireo	CW	Cape May Warbler	8
Rock Pigeon	129	Blue-headed Vireo	3	Northern Parula	28
Mourning Dove	134	Red-eyed Vireo	100	Magnolia Warbler	CW
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	Blue Jay	127	Chestnut-sided Warbler	CW
Chimney Swift	157	American Crow	267	Blackpoll Warbler	CW
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	12	Fish Crow	41	Black-thrtd Blue Warbler	21
Killdeer	18	Common Raven	2	Palm Warbler	4
Spotted Sandpiper	10	Purple Martin	259	Pine Warbler	32
Solitary Sandpiper	9	Tree Swallow	112	Yellow-rumped Warbler	108
Bonaparte's Gull	5	N. Rgh-winged Swallow	70	Prairie Warbler	13
Ring-billed Gull	12	Cliff Swallow	39	Black-thrd Green Warbler	CW
Caspian Tern	4	Barn Swallow	45	Blue-winged Warbler	2
Double-cr. Cormorant	55	Carolina Chickadee	124	Yellow-breasted Chat	8
Great Blue Heron	144	Tufted Titmouse	141	Eastern Towhee	103
Green Heron	7	Red-brsted Nuthatch	3	Chipping Sparrow	50
Yellow-cr Night Heron	1	White-brsted Nuthatch	31	Field Sparrow	14
Black Vulture	57	Brown-hded Nuthatch	38	Grasshopper Sparrow	2
Turkey Vulture	99	House Wren	34	Song sparrow	92
Osprey	9	Carolina Wren	156	Swamp sparrow	CW
Bald Eagle	4	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	7	White-crn Sparrow	CW
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	88	White-thrtd Sparrow	103
Cooper's Hawk	13	Eastern Bluebird	121	Dark-eyed junco	1
Accipiter sp.	1	Veery	1	Summer Tanager	5
Red-shouldered Hawk	32	Swainson's Thrush	CW	Scarlet Tanager	16
Broad-winged Hawk	4	Hermit Thrush	5	Northern Cardinal	385
Red-tailed Hawk	16	Wood Thrush	22	Rose-brsted Grosbeak	4
Eastern Screech Owl	CW	American Robin	199	Blue Grosbeak	7
Great Horned Owl	1	Gray Catbird	97	Indigo Bunting	26
Barred Owl	6	Brown Thrasher	35	Bobolink	23
Belted Kingfisher	5	Northern Mockingbird	108	Red-winged Blackbird	56
Red-headed Woodpecker	3	European Starling	247	Eastern Meadowlark	19
Red-bellied Woodpecker	85	Cedar Waxwing	27	Common Grackle	150
Downy Woodpecker	32	House Finch	114	Brown-headed Cowbird	55
Hairy Woodpecker	9	Amer. Goldfinch	174	Orchard Oriole	12
Northern Flicker	23	Ovenbird	15	Baltimore Oriole	6
Pileated Woodpecker	12	Worm-eating Warbler	2	House Sparrow	27
American Kestrel	3	Northern Waterthrush	CW		
				<b>Total individuals</b>	<b>5921</b>
				<b>Total species count day</b>	<b>114</b>
				<b>Total species count week</b>	<b>13</b>