



## **Greensboro Spring Bird Count, May 2, 2020**

*submitted by Elizabeth Link, Count Coordinator*

The Spring Bird Count was held in Greensboro on Saturday, May 2nd, 2020. The weather was perfect for a spring day, with a low of 43° and a high of 74°. Skies were partly cloudy, and the wind was light from the southwest, averaging 5 to 10 mph with occasional gusts to 15 mph. We really couldn't have asked for better weather.

Because of the quarantine and stay-at-home orders in place for the COVID-19 pandemic, our count teams were a bit different than usual. Back in April when I first asked for volunteers I wasn't sure if we were going to have much of a count at all. As it turned out, teams broke up and covered their territories in ones or twos, found a way to get around without piling into one car, a few birded in their neighborhoods, and altogether we ended up with 40 people counting, which is about average for us, and pretty good coverage of our count circle.

Our species count was 125, and the number of individual birds counted was 7435, both of which are right about average for our count circle. We had a combination of winter birds that are sometimes gone by the time we do the count, such as Greater Scaup, Hooded Merganser, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet; and late-arriving birds, such as Acadian Flycatcher and Mississippi Kite, that frequently haven't arrived by the time we do the count. (While we have sometimes gotten the Mississippi Kite on count week, this is only the second time they've actually appeared on the count.)

Oddities included a Red-necked Grebe, seen by Matt Wangarin on Lake Townsend. The bird had been spotted on the lake at various times for at least a couple of months, and was still hanging out on count day. Other species that we don't usually pick up included Forster's Tern, Caspian Tern seen on count week, a Philadelphia Vireo, which has only been seen on the count 3 previous times, spotted by Melanie Stadler's group, and Blue-winged Warbler.

The prize for most individuals of a single species goes to Lynn Moseley's group for the 209 Chimney Swifts, probably mostly picked up by Amy Hanson downtown. Second prize goes to Roberta Newton, Ann Van Sant, and Melissa Whitmire for their 108 Northern Cardinals. I had thought that Cardinals were ubiquitous in my territory, but my count is nothing compared to theirs!

Results of the count are below. These results will be added to the historic results spreadsheet compiled by George Wheaton and posted on the PBC website. Many thanks to everyone who helped with the count—your efforts are appreciated more than ever!

Thanks to Nancy Adamson, Carolyn Allen, Frank Cashwell, Megan Damico, Scott DePue, Jim Eldrett, Lynne Gray, Chris Groh, Amy Hanson, Asha Khopkar, Elizabeth Link, Henry Link, Clarence Mattocks, Julien McCarthy, Shelley McDiarmid, Lynn Moseley, Roberta Newton, Lane Oldham, Judith Pait, Ann Presnell, Emily Reeve, Judy Roy, Danny Royster, Wallace Sills, Brian Stadler, Melanie Stadler, Ann Steighner, Linda Sumner, Paul Sumner, Emily Talbert, Andrew Thornton, Emily Tyler, Ann Van Sant, Anita Vigorito, Joe Vigorito, Ann Walter-Fromson, Matt Wangarin, Stella Wear, Tom Wear, and Melissa Whitmire.

Canada Goose	334
Wood Duck	26
American Black Duck	1
Mallard	98
Greater Scaup	CW
Red-breasted Merganser	5
Hooded Merganser	2
Wild Turkey	8
Red-necked Grebe	1
Rock Pigeon	29
Mourning Dove	175
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5
Chimney Swift	335
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	14
Killdeer	14
Semipalmated Sandpiper	2
Spotted Sandpiper	31
Solitary Sandpiper	27
Greater Yellowlegs	6
Lesser Yellowlegs	7
Ring-billed Gull	1
Caspian Tern	CW
Forster's Tern	4
Common Loon	1
Double-crested Cormorant	104

Great Blue Heron	221
Green Heron	8
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	1
Black Vulture	116
Turkey Vulture	79
Osprey	12
Mississippi Kite	1
Bald Eagle	6
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1
Cooper's Hawk	7
Red-shouldered Hawk	52
Red-tailed Hawk	20
Great Horned Owl	1
Barred Owl	5
Belted Kingfisher	10
Red-headed Woodpecker	16
Red-bellied Woodpecker	116
Downy Woodpecker	47
Hairy Woodpecker	7
Northern Flicker	22
Pileated Woodpecker	15
American Kestrel	1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1
Acadian Flycatcher	12
Eastern Phoebe	37

Great Crested Flycatcher	56
Eastern Kingbird	54
White-eyed Vireo	25
Yellow-throated Vireo	5
Blue-headed Vireo	2
Philadelphia Vireo	1
Red-eyed Vireo	133
Blue Jay	166
American Crow	278
Fish Crow	57
Common Raven	1
Purple Martin	105
Tree Swallow	95
North. Rough-winged Swallow	59
Cliff Swallow	36
Barn Swallow	128
Carolina Chickadee	159
Tufted Titmouse	155
White-breasted Nuthatch	49
Brown-headed Nuthatch	48
House Wren	30
Carolina Wren	247
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	80
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	23
Eastern Bluebird	202
Veery	7
Gray-cheeked Thrush	2
Swainson's Thrush	6
Hermit Thrush	1
Wood Thrush	31
American Robin	260
Gray Catbird	127
Brown Thrasher	56
Northern Mockingbird	166
European Starling	182
Cedar Waxwing	161
House Sparrow	60
House Finch	140
American Goldfinch	116
Ovenbird	40
Worm-eating Warbler	1

Louisiana Waterthrush	2
Northern Waterthrush	2
Blue-winged Warbler	2
Black-and-white Warbler	26
Prothonotary Warbler	3
Common Yellowthroat	50
Hooded Warbler	3
American Redstart	26
Northern Parula	86
Bay-breasted Warbler	2
Yellow Warbler	7
Chestnut-sided Warbler	5
Black-throated Blue Warbler	43
Pine Warbler	39
Yellow-rumped Warbler	105
Prairie Warbler	13
Canada Warbler	1
Yellow-breasted Chat	12
Eastern Towhee	119
Chipping Sparrow	78
Field Sparrow	20
Savannah Sparrow	2
Grasshopper Sparrow	3
Song Sparrow	82
White-throated Sparrow	41
Swamp Sparrow	1
Summer Tanager	14
Scarlet Tanager	37
Northern Cardinal	439
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	9
Blue Grosbeak	21
Indigo Bunting	82
Bobolink	103
Red-winged Blackbird	56
Eastern Meadowlark	28
Common Grackle	190
Brown-headed Cowbird	57
Orchard Oriole	25
Baltimore Oriole	7