

Birds of Occoquan Bay NWR



The Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge is recognized for its unique diversity of habitats. This checklist is the result of nearly 2 decades of “citizen science” to ascertain the presence, frequency of occurrence, and abundance of bird species in and around the refuge. To date, a total of 237 of the 270 species of birds listed for Prince William County have been documented here.

The Friends of the Potomac River Refuges
and
The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia

Seasonal Periods

Sp Spring March-May
Su Summer June-August
F Fall September-November
W Winter December-February

Presence of species in seasons

C Common-likely to be found in appropriate habitat
U Uncommon-possibly present; not always observed
R Rare-infrequently observed and not every year
V Irregular Visitor-rare
X Accidental-rare; occurring outside normal geographic range
H Historical-rare; not documented in recent years

Usual habitat association(s)

O Open water-bays and rivers
M Marshes-tidal and non-tidal creeks and wetlands
F Fields-cultivated or natural open areas
E Edges-transitional zones with non-woody and woody vegetation
W Woodlands-predominately woody (coniferous or deciduous) growth

* **Breeding Status Confirmed**
 nest building activity, adults on nests, eggs, carrying food, fledged young, etc.

^ **Observed in vicinity, but not yet at this site**

Italics—Non-native species

NOTES

Date _____

Time: _____

Observers: _____

Weather: _____

√	Common Name	Sp	Su	F	W	Habitat
GEESE-SWANS-DUCKS						
	Snow Goose	H				M,F
	Canada Goose*	C	C	C	C	O,M,F
	Tundra Swan	U	R	U	U	O
	<i>Muscovy Duck</i>	H	H	H	H	M
	Wood Duck*	C	C	C	C	M
	Gadwall	U		U	U	M
	American Wigeon	U		U	U	M
	American Black Duck	C		U	C	M
	Mallard*	C	C	C	C	O,M
	Blue-winged Teal	U		U	U	M
	Northern Shoveler	U		U	U	O,M
	Northern Pintail	U		U	U	M
	Green-winged Teal	C		C	C	M
	Canvasback	U		U	U	O
	Redhead	R		R	R	O
	Ring-necked Duck	R		R	U	O,M
	Greater Scaup	R			R	O
	Lesser Scaup	C	R	C	C	O
	Long-tailed (Oldsquaw) Duck	R				O
	Bufflehead	C		C	C	O
	Common Goldeneye	R		R	R	O
	Hooded Merganser*	C		C	C	O,M
	Common Merganser	C		U	C	O
	Red-breasted Merganser	U		U	U	O
	Ruddy Duck	C	R	C	C	O
GROUSE-TURKEY-QUAIL						
	<i>Ring-necked Pheasant</i>	H	H			F,E
	Wild Turkey*	U	U	U	U	M,F,E,W
	Northern Bobwhite*	C	C	C	U	F,E
LOONS-GREBES						
	Common Loon	U	R	U	R	O
	Pied-billed Grebe	U	R	U	U	O,M
	Horned Grebe	U		U	U	O
	Red-necked Grebe	R				O
PELICANS-CORMORANTS						
	American White Pelican	X				O
	Double-crested Cormorant	C	C	C	U	O,M
BITTERNS-HERONS-EGRETS						
	American Bittern	R		R		M
	Least Bittern	U		U		M
	Great Blue Heron	C	C	C	C	O,M
	Great Egret	C	C	C	R	M
	Snowy Egret	V		V		M
	Little Blue Heron	V		V		M
	Cattle Egret	R				F
	Green Heron*	C	C	C		M
	Black-crowned Night-Heron	R	R		R	O,M
	Yellow-crowned Night Heron		H	H		M
IBISES						
	White Ibis			X		M
	Glossy Ibis		R			M

√	Common Name	Sp	Su	F	W	Habitat
VULTURES						
	Black Vulture	U	U	U	U	O,M,F,E,W
	Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	C	O,M,F,E,W
EAGLES-HAWKS						
	Osprey*	C	C	C		O,M
	Mississippi Kite	R	R			M,F,E
	Bald Eagle*	C	U	C	C	O,M
	Northern Harrier	C		U	C	M,F
	Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	R	U	U	F,E
	Cooper's Hawk	U	R	U	U	F,E
	Northern Goshawk		R	R	R	M,F,E,W
	Red-shouldered Hawk	C	U	C	C	M,F,E,W
	Broad-winged Hawk	U		U	R	F,E
	Red-tailed Hawk*	C	U	C	C	M,F,E,W
	Rough-legged Hawk	V			V	F,E
	Golden Eagle	V				M,F
FALCONS						
	American Kestrel*	U	R	U	U	F,E
	Merlin	U		U	R	F,E
	Peregrine Falcon	R		R		M,F,E
RAILS-COOTS						
	King Rail*	U	C	U	R	M
	Virginia Rail	R		R		M,E
	Sora	R	R	R		M
	American Coot	U		U	U	O,M
	Sandhill Crane	X				F
PLOVERS						
	Semipalmated Plover	R				M
	Killdeer*	C	C	C	C	M,F
STILTS-SANDPIPERS						
	Black-necked Stilt	X				M
	Greater Yellowlegs	C	R	C	R	M
	Lesser Yellowlegs	C	R	C	R	M
	Solitary Sandpiper	C	R	C		M
	Spotted Sandpiper	C	U	U		M
	Semipalmated Sandpiper	R	R			M
	Western Sandpiper	R		R		M
	Least Sandpiper	U		U		M
	Baird's Sandpiper			R		M
	Pectoral Sandpiper			R		M
	Dunlin	R		R		M
	Short-billed Dowitcher			H		M
	Wilson's (Common) Snipe	U		U	U	M
	American Woodcock*	U	U		R	M,F,E
GULLS-TERNS						
	Laughing Gull	C	C	C	R	O,M
	Bonaparte's Gull	U		U	R	O,M
	Ring-billed Gull	C	U	C	C	O,M,F
	Herring Gull	C	R	C	C	O,M
	Lesser Black-backed Gull [^]					
	Great Black-backed Gull	C		C	C	O,M
	Caspian Tern	C	U	C		O,M

√	Common Name	Sp	Su	F	W	Habitat
	Royal Tern	R		R		O
	Common Tern			R		O
	Forster's Tern	C	R	C	R	O,M
	Least Tern	H		H		O,M,F
	Black Tern	R				O,M
DOVES						
	<i>Rock Pigeon</i>	U	U	U	U	E
	Mourning Dove*	C	C	C	C	F,E,W
CUCKOOS						
	Black-billed Cuckoo	R				W
	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	C	C	C		E,W
OWLS						
	Eastern Screech-Owl [^]					
	Great Horned Owl*	U	U	U	U	E,W
	Barred Owl*	U	U	U	U	E,W
	Short-eared Owl	R		R		M,F
GOATSUCKERS						
	Common Nighthawk	U		U		M,F,E
SWIFTS						
	Chimney Swift	C	C	C		O,M,F,E,W
HUMMINGBIRDS						
	Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	C	C	C		F,E,W
KINGFISHERS						
	Belted Kingfisher	C	R	C	C	O,M
WOODPECKERS						
	Red-headed Woodpecker	R		R	R	M,W
	Red-bellied Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C	M,E,W
	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	R		R	U	E,W
	Downy Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C	M,F,E,W
	Hairy Woodpecker	U	R	U	U	M,E,W
	Northern Flicker*	C	C	C	C	M,F,E,W
	Pileated Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C	M,E,W
FLYCATCHERS						
	Eastern Wood-Pewee*	C	C	C		E,W
	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher			R		M,W
	Acadian Flycatcher*	C	C	U		M,W
	Alder Flycatcher	R				M,E,W
	Willow Flycatcher*	U	U			M,E
	Least Flycatcher [^]					
	Eastern Phoebe*	C	C	C	R	M,F,E,W
	Vermilion Flycatcher				H	F,E
	Great Crested Flycatcher	C	U	U		E,W
	Eastern Kingbird*	C	C	C		M,F,E
SHRIKES						
	Loggerhead Shrike				H	M,F,E
VIREOS						
	White-eyed Vireo*	C	C	U		E
	Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U			E,W
	Blue-headed (Solitary) Vireo	R		R		E,W
	Warbling Vireo*	U	R			E,W
	Philadelphia Vireo	R				E,W
	Red-eyed Vireo*	C	C	C		M,E,W

√	Common Name	Sp	Su	F	W	Habitat
JAYS-CROWS						
	Blue Jay*	C	C	C	C	M,F,E,W
	American Crow*	C	C	C	C	O,M,F,E,W
	Fish Crow*	C	C	C	C	O,M,W
	Common Raven^					
LARKS						
	Horned Lark	R		R		F
SWALLOWS						
	Purple Martin	C	C	C		O,M,F,E,W
	Tree Swallow*	C	C	C		O,M,F,E,W
	Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	C	C	C		O,M,F
	Bank Swallow	U	U			O,M
	Cliff Swallow	R				M
	Barn Swallow*	C	C	C		O,M,F,E,W
CHICKADEES-TITMICE						
	Carolina Chickadee*	C	C	C	C	M,E,W
	Black-capped Chickadee				H	E,W
	Tufted Titmouse*	C	C	C	C	M,F,E,W
NUTHATCHES-CREEPERS						
	Red-breasted Nuthatch	R		R	R	E,W
	White-breasted Nuthatch*	C	C	C	C	F,E,W
	Brown Creeper	U		U	U	E,W
WRENS						
	Carolina Wren*	C	C	C	C	M,F,E,W
	House Wren*	U	U	U	R	F,E
	Winter Wren	R		R	U	M,E,W
	Sedge Wren			R		M
	Marsh Wren	U		R		M
KINGLETS-GNATCATCHERS						
	Golden-crowned Kinglet	U		U	U	M,E,W
	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U		U	U	M,E,W
	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	C	C	C		M,E,W
THRUSHES						
	Eastern Bluebird*	C	C	C	C	F,E,W
	Veery	R	R			M,W
	Gray-cheeked Thrush	R				M,E,W
	Bicknell's Thrush^					
	Swainson's Thrush	U		R		M,E,W
	Hermit Thrush	U		U	U	M,E,W
	Wood Thrush	U		U		W
	American Robin*	C	C	C	U	M,F,E,W
MIMIDS-THRASHERS						
	Gray Catbird*	C	C	C	U	M,E
	Northern Mockingbird*	C	C	C	C	M,E
	Brown Thrasher*	C	C	C	U	M,E
STARLINGS						
	<i>European Starling*</i>	C	C	C	C	M,F,E,W
PIPITS						
	American Pipit	R	R	R	R	M,F,E
WAXWINGS						
	Cedar Waxwing*	U	U	U	U	M,E,W

√	Common Name	Sp	Su	F	W	Habitat
WARBLERS						
	Blue-winged Warbler	R				F,E
	"Lawrence's" W. [BW/GW Hybrid]	R				F,E
	Golden-winged Warbler^					
	Tennessee Warbler	R		R		F,E,W
	Nashville Warbler	R		R		F,E,W
	Northern Parula	C	U	U		W
	Yellow Warbler*	C	C	C		E,W
	Chestnut-sided Warbler	R		R		E,W
	Magnolia Warbler	R		R		E,W
	Cape May Warbler			R		E,W
	Black-throated Blue Warbler	U	R	U		W
	Yellow-rumped Warbler	U		U	C	M,F,E,W
	Black-throated Green Warbler	R		R		W
	Blackburnian Warbler	R		R		W
	Yellow-throated Warbler	U		R		W
	Pine Warbler	U	R	U		E,W
	Prairie Warbler	U	R	U		F,E
	Palm Warbler	C		C		F,E,W
	Bay-breasted Warbler	R				W
	Blackpoll Warbler	U		U		W
	Cerulean Warbler^					
	Black-and-White Warbler	U		U		W
	American Redstart	U	R	U		E,W
	Prothonotary Warbler*	C	C	U		M,E,W
	Worm-eating Warbler	R				E,W
	Ovenbird	R		R		M,E,W
	Northern Waterthrush	U	R	U		M,W
	Louisiana Waterthrush	U				M,W
	Kentucky Warbler	R		R		M,E,W
	Connecticut Warbler			R		M,E,W
	Mourning Warbler	R				M,E,W
	Common Yellowthroat*	C	C	C	R	M,F,E
	Hooded Warbler	U	R	R		W
	Wilson's Warbler	R		R		E,W
	Canada Warbler	R		R		E,W
	Yellow-breasted Chat*	C	C	C		F,E
TANAGERS						
	Summer Tanager	R				W
	Scarlet Tanager	U	R	U		E,W
SPARROWS						
	Eastern (Rufous-sided) Towhee*	C	C	C	U	M,F,E,W
	American Tree Sparrow	R		R	U	F,E
	Chipping Sparrow	U	U	U	U	M,F,E
	Field Sparrow	C	C	C	C	M,F,E
	Vesper Sparrow	U	R	U		F,E
	Lark Sparrow				H	M,F,E
	Savannah Sparrow	U		U	R	F,E
	Grasshopper Sparrow	U	U	U		F
	Henslow's Sparrow		H	H		F,E
	LeConte's Sparrow			X		F

√	Common Name	Sp	Su	F	W	Habitat
	Seaside Sparrow	X				M,F
	Fox Sparrow	U		R	U	F,E
	Song Sparrow*	C	C	C	C	M,F,E,W
	Lincoln's Sparrow	R		R	R	M,F,E
	Swamp Sparrow	C	R	C	C	M,F,E
	White-throated Sparrow	C		U	C	M,F,E
	White-crowned Sparrow	U		U	U	M,F,E
	Dark-eyed Junco	C		U	C	M,F,E
	Snow Bunting			V		F
CARDINALS-GROSBEAKS-BUNTINGS						
	Northern Cardinal*	C	C	C	C	M,F,E,W
	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	R				E,W
	Blue Grosbeak*	C	C	C		F,E,W
	Indigo Bunting*	C	C	C		F,E,W
BLACKBIRDS-ORIOLES						
	Bobolink	U	R	U		F,E
	Red-winged Blackbird*	C	C	C	C	M,F,E
	Eastern Meadowlark*	C	U	C	U	F,E
	Rusty Blackbird	U		R	U	M,E
	Common Grackle*	C	C	C	C	M,E,W
	Brown-headed Cowbird*	C	C	C	C	F,E,W
	Orchard Oriole*	C	C	C		E,W
	Baltimore Oriole*	U	U	U		E,W
GROSBEAKS-FINCHES						
	Purple Finch	R			R	E,W
	<i>House Finch*</i>	C	C	C	C	F,E,W
	Common Redpoll				V	F,E
	Pine Siskin^					
	American Goldfinch	C	C	C	C	F,E
	Evening Grosbeak^					
OLD WORLD SPARROWS						
	<i>House Sparrow*</i>	U	U	U	U	F,E,W

Presence of species in seasons

- C** Common
 - U** Uncommon
 - R** Rare
 - V** Irregular Visitor
 - X** Accidental
 - H** Historical
- Usual habitat association(s)**
- O** Open water
 - M** Marshes
 - F** Fields
 - E** Edges
 - W** Woodlands

* Breeding Status Confirmed

^ Observed in vicinity, but not yet at this site

Italics—Non-native species