



BIRDS of OHIO

FIELD CHECKLIST



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
wildohio.gov

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES **DIVISION OF WILDLIFE**

This checklist represents a comprehensive list of all birds seen in Ohio as of October 2015. Only species that have indisputable documentation supporting an unequivocal record are included. At present, the Ohio state list stands at 427 species. Species are arranged taxonomically, and separated by family. Taxonomic order follows the American Ornithologists' Union.

Approximately 180 species breed in Ohio every year, and including historical nesters, 212 species have been documented as breeding in the state. Species which have been validated as nesting are boldfaced. Six species are non-native, but established; they are printed in italics.

Each species is denoted by a number, 1 through 5, or as extirpated or extinct. Some species tagged with a 4 exceed the threshold of a 3 based largely on historical records, and are very difficult to find now. Following are the definitions of these categories, and how many species fall into each:

1 = ONE RECORD (39 species)

2 = TWO TO TEN RECORDS (50 species)

3 = ELEVEN TO TWENTY RECORDS (12 species)

4 = RARE TO UNCOMMON; MAY NOT OCCUR ANNUALLY (94 species)

5 = OCCURS ANNUALLY; EASILY FOUND (225 species)

EXTINCT = NO LONGER EXISTS ANYWHERE (4 species)

EXTIRPATED = NO LONGER PRESENT IN OHIO, ALTHOUGH FOUND ELSEWHERE (3 species)

The Ohio Division of Wildlife owns and/or manages 139 wildlife areas totaling approximately 195,000 acres. Some of these wildlife areas are among the most iconic birding sites in the state, such as Magee Marsh, Killbuck Marsh, Big Island, Killdeer Plains, Pickerel Creek, and Crown City. Collectively, the Division of Wildlife's holdings support nearly all of the bird species regularly seen in Ohio.

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BIRDS of OHIO

FIELD CHECKLIST

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Ducks, Geese, Swans

- ___ Black-bellied Whistling-Duck 2
- ___ Fulvous Whistling-Duck 3
- ___ Greater White-fronted Goose 4
- ___ Snow Goose 5
- ___ Ross's Goose 4
- ___ Brant 4
- ___ Cackling Goose 4
- ___ **Canada Goose 5**
- ___ *Mute Swan* 5
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- ___ **Green-winged Teal 5**
- ___ **Canvasback 5**
- ___ **Redhead 5**
- ___ Ring-necked Duck 5
- ___ Tufted Duck 2
- ___ Greater Scaup 5
- ___ **Lesser Scaup 5**
- ___ King Eider 4
- ___ Common Eider 2
- ___ Harlequin Duck 4
- ___ Surf Scoter 5
- ___ White-winged Scoter 4
- ___ Black Scoter 5
- ___ Long-tailed Duck 4
- ___ Bufflehead 5
- ___ Common Goldeneye 5
- ___ Barrow's Goldeneye 2
- ___ **Hooded Merganser 5**
- ___ **Common Merganser 5**
- ___ **Red-breasted Merganser 5**
- ___ **Ruddy Duck 5**

Quail

___ Northern Bobwhite 5

Pheasant, Grouse, Prairie-Chicken, Turkey

___ *Ring-necked Pheasant* 5

___ Ruffed Grouse 5

___ Greater Prairie-Chicken (Extirpated)

___ Wild Turkey 5

Loons

___ Red-throated Loon 4

___ Pacific Loon 2

___ Common Loon 5

___ Arctic Loon 1

Grebes

___ Pied-billed Grebe 5

___ Horned Grebe 5

___ Red-necked Grebe 4

___ Eared Grebe 4

___ Western Grebe 3

Petrel

___ Black-capped Petrel 1

Storm-Petrel

___ Leach's Storm-Petrel 1

Stork

___ Wood Stork 2

Frigatebird

___ Magnificent Frigatebird 2

Gannet

___ Northern Gannet 4

Cormorants

___ Neotropic Cormorant 1

___ Double-crested Cormorant 5

Anhinga

___ Anhinga 2

Pelicans

- ___ American White Pelican 4
- ___ Brown Pelican 2

Bitterns, Egrets, Herons

- ___ **American Bittern 4**
- ___ **Least Bittern 4**
- ___ **Great Blue Heron 5**
- ___ **Great Egret 5**
- ___ **Snowy Egret 5**
- ___ **Little Blue Heron 4**
- ___ Tricolored Heron 4
- ___ Reddish Egret 1
- ___ **Cattle Egret 4**
- ___ **Green Heron 5**
- ___ **Black-crowned Night-Heron 5**
- ___ **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron 4**

Ibis, Spoonbill

- ___ White Ibis 3
- ___ Glossy Ibis 4
- ___ White-faced Ibis 3
- ___ Roseate Spoonbill 2

Vultures

- ___ **Black Vulture 5**
- ___ **Turkey Vulture 5**

Osprey

- ___ **Osprey 5**

Eagles, Harrier, Kites, Hawks

- ___ Swallow-tailed Kite 2
- ___ **Mississippi Kite 4**
- ___ **Bald Eagle 5**
- ___ **Northern Harrier 5**
- ___ **Sharp-shinned Hawk 5**
- ___ **Cooper's Hawk 5**
- ___ Northern Goshawk 4
- ___ Harris's Hawk 1
- ___ **Red-shouldered Hawk 5**
- ___ **Broad-winged Hawk 5**
- ___ Swainson's Hawk 2
- ___ **Red-tailed Hawk 5**
- ___ Rough-legged Hawk 5
- ___ Golden Eagle 4

Coot, Gallinule, Moorhen, Rails

- ___ **Yellow Rail 4**
- ___ **Black Rail 3**
- ___ **King Rail 4**
- ___ **Virginia Rail 5**
- ___ **Sora 5**
- ___ **Purple Gallinule 4**
- ___ **Common Gallinule 5**
- ___ **American Coot 5**

Crane

- ___ **Sandhill Crane 5**

Avocet, Stilt

- ___ Black-necked Stilt 4
- ___ American Avocet 4

Lapwing, Plovers

- ___ Northern Lapwing 1
- ___ Black-bellied Plover 5
- ___ American Golden-Plover 5
- ___ Snowy Plover 2
- ___ Wilson's Plover 1
- ___ Semipalmated Plover 5
- ___ **Piping Plover 4**
- ___ **Killdeer 5**

Sandpipers

- ___ **Spotted Sandpiper 5**
- ___ Solitary Sandpiper 5
- ___ Spotted Redshank 1
- ___ Greater Yellowlegs 5
- ___ Willet 4
- ___ Lesser Yellowlegs 5
- ___ **Upland Sandpiper 4**
- ___ Eskimo Curlew (Extinct)
- ___ Whimbrel 4
- ___ Long-billed Curlew 2
- ___ Hudsonian Godwit 4
- ___ Marbled Godwit 4
- ___ Ruddy Turnstone 5
- ___ Red Knot 4
- ___ Ruff 4
- ___ Sharp-tailed Sandpiper 2
- ___ Stilt Sandpiper 5
- ___ Curlew Sandpiper 2

Sandpipers (cont.)

- ___ Red-necked Stint 1
- ___ Sanderling 5
- ___ Dunlin 5
- ___ Purple Sandpiper 4
- ___ Baird's Sandpiper 5
- ___ Least Sandpiper 5
- ___ White-rumped Sandpiper 5
- ___ Buff-breasted Sandpiper 4
- ___ Pectoral Sandpiper 5
- ___ Semipalmated Sandpiper 5
- ___ Western Sandpiper 5
- ___ Short-billed Dowitcher 5
- ___ Long-billed Dowitcher 5
- ___ **Wilson's Snipe 5**
- ___ Eurasian Woodcock 1
- ___ **American Woodcock 5**
- ___ **Wilson's Phalarope 4**
- ___ Red-necked Phalarope 4
- ___ Red Phalarope 4

Jaegers

- ___ Pomarine Jaeger 4
- ___ Parasitic Jaeger 4
- ___ Long-tailed Jaeger 3

Guillemot, Murre, Murrelets, Puffin

- ___ Thick-billed Murre 3
- ___ Black Guillemot 1
- ___ Long-billed Murrelet 1
- ___ Ancient Murrelet 1
- ___ Atlantic Puffin 1

Gulls, Terns

- ___ Black-legged Kittiwake 4
- ___ Ivory Gull 1
- ___ Sabine's Gull 4
- ___ Bonaparte's Gull 5
- ___ Black-headed Gull 4
- ___ Little Gull 4
- ___ Ross's Gull 1
- ___ Laughing Gull 4
- ___ Franklin's Gull 4
- ___ Black-tailed Gull 1
- ___ Heermann's Gull 2
- ___ Mew Gull 2

- ___ **Ring-billed Gull 5**
- ___ California Gull 4
- ___ **Herring Gull 5**
- ___ Thayer's Gull 4
- ___ Iceland Gull 4
- ___ Lesser Black-backed Gull 4
- ___ Glaucous Gull 4
- ___ Great Black-backed Gull 5
- ___ Sooty Tern 1
- ___ Least Tern 4
- ___ Large-billed Tern 1
- ___ Caspian Tern 5
- ___ **Black Tern 4**
- ___ **Common Tern 5**
- ___ Arctic Tern 2
- ___ Forster's Tern 5
- ___ Royal Tern 2

Doves, Pigeons

- ___ *Rock Pigeon 5*
- ___ *Eurasian Collared-Dove 4*
- ___ **Passenger Pigeon (Extinct)**
- ___ Common Ground-Dove 1
- ___ White-winged Dove 2
- ___ **Mourning Dove 5**

Anis, Cuckoos

- ___ **Yellow-billed Cuckoo 5**
- ___ **Black-billed Cuckoo 5**
- ___ Smooth-billed Ani 1
- ___ Groove-billed Ani 2

Barn Owl

- ___ **Barn Owl 4**

Typical Owls

- ___ **Eastern Screech-Owl 5**
- ___ **Great Horned Owl 5**
- ___ Snowy Owl 4
- ___ Northern Hawk Owl 2
- ___ Burrowing Owl 2
- ___ **Barred Owl 5**
- ___ Great Gray Owl 2
- ___ **Long-eared Owl 4**
- ___ **Short-eared Owl 4**
- ___ Boreal Owl 1
- ___ **Northern Saw-whet Owl 4**

Nightjars

- ___ **Common Nighthawk 5**
- ___ **Chuck-will's-widow 4**
- ___ **Eastern Whip-poor-will 4**

Swift

- ___ **Chimney Swift 5**

Hummingbirds

- ___ **Green Violetear 1**
- ___ **Ruby-throated Hummingbird 5**
- ___ **Anna's Hummingbird 1**
- ___ **Rufous Hummingbird 4**
- ___ **Allen's Hummingbird 1**
- ___ **Calliope Hummingbird 1**

Kingfisher

- ___ **Belted Kingfisher 5**

Woodpeckers

- ___ **Red-headed Woodpecker 5**
- ___ **Red-bellied Woodpecker 5**
- ___ **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 5**
- ___ **Downy Woodpecker 5**
- ___ **Hairy Woodpecker 5**
- ___ **Red-cockaded Woodpecker 2**
- ___ **Black-backed Woodpecker 3**
- ___ **Northern Flicker 5**
- ___ **Pileated Woodpecker 5**
- ___ **Ivory-billed Woodpecker (Extinct)**

Caracara, Falcons

- ___ **Crested Caracara 1**
- ___ **American Kestrel 5**
- ___ **Merlin 5**
- ___ **Gyr Falcon 2**
- ___ **Peregrine Falcon 5**
- ___ **Prairie Falcon 2**

Parakeet

- ___ **Carolina Parakeet (Extinct)**

Flycatchers

- ___ **Olive-sided Flycatcher 4**
- ___ **Eastern Wood-Pewee 5**
- ___ **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher 5**

- ___ **Acadian Flycatcher 5**
- ___ **Alder Flycatcher 5**
- ___ **Willow Flycatcher 5**
- ___ **Least Flycatcher 5**
- ___ Gray Flycatcher 2
- ___ Dusky Flycatcher 1
- ___ **Eastern Phoebe 5**
- ___ Say's Phoebe 2
- ___ Vermilion Flycatcher 2
- ___ **Great Crested Flycatcher 5**
- ___ **Western Kingbird 4**
- ___ **Eastern Kingbird 5**
- ___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 2

Shrikes

- ___ **Loggerhead Shrike 4**
- ___ Northern Shrike 4

Vireos

- ___ **White-eyed Vireo 5**
- ___ **Bell's Vireo 4**
- ___ **Yellow-throated Vireo 5**
- ___ **Blue-headed Vireo 5**
- ___ **Warbling Vireo 5**
- ___ Philadelphia Vireo 5
- ___ **Red-eyed Vireo 5**

Crows, Jay, Magpie, Raven

- ___ **Blue Jay 5**
- ___ Black-billed Magpie 2
- ___ **American Crow 5**
- ___ **Fish Crow 2**
- ___ **Common Raven 4**

Lark

- ___ **Horned Lark 5**

Martin, Swallows

- ___ **Purple Martin 5**
- ___ **Tree Swallow 5**
- ___ Violet-green Swallow 1
- ___ **Northern Rough-winged Swallow 5**
- ___ **Bank Swallow 5**
- ___ **Cliff Swallow 5**
- ___ Cave Swallow 3
- ___ **Barn Swallow 5**

Chickadees, Titmouse

- ___ **Carolina Chickadee 5**
- ___ **Black-capped Chickadee 5**
- ___ Boreal Chickadee 2
- ___ **Tufted Titmouse 5**

Nuthatches

- ___ **Red-breasted Nuthatch 5**
- ___ **White-breasted Nuthatch 5**
- ___ Brown-headed Nuthatch 1

Creepers

- ___ **Brown Creeper 5**

Wrens

- ___ Rock Wren 2
- ___ **House Wren 5**
- ___ **Winter Wren 5**
- ___ **Sedge Wren 4**
- ___ **Marsh Wren 5**
- ___ **Carolina Wren 5**
- ___ **Bewick's Wren (Extirpated)**

Gnatcatcher

- ___ **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 5**

Kinglets

- ___ **Golden-crowned Kinglet 5**
- ___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet 5

Wheatear

- ___ Northern Wheatear 2

Thrushes

- ___ **Eastern Bluebird 5**
- ___ Mountain Bluebird 2
- ___ Townsend's Solitaire 2
- ___ **Veery 5**
- ___ Gray-cheeked Thrush 5
- ___ Swainson's Thrush 5
- ___ **Hermit Thrush 5**
- ___ **Wood Thrush 5**
- ___ **American Robin 5**
- ___ Varied Thrush 4

Catbird, Thrasher, Mockingbird

- ___ **Gray Catbird 5**
- ___ **Brown Thrasher 5**
- ___ **Northern Mockingbird 5**

Starling

- ___ *European Starling 5*

Pipits

- ___ American Pipit 5
- ___ Sprague's Pipit 2

Waxwings

- ___ Bohemian Waxwing 4
- ___ **Cedar Waxwing 5**

Longspurs, Snow Bunting

- ___ Lapland Longspur 5
- ___ Smith's Longspur 4
- ___ Snow Bunting 5

Warblers

- ___ **Ovenbird 5**
- ___ **Worm-eating Warbler 5**
- ___ **Louisiana Waterthrush 5**
- ___ **Northern Waterthrush 5**
- ___ **Golden-winged Warbler 4**
- ___ **Blue-winged Warbler 5**
- ___ **Black-and-white Warbler 5**
- ___ **Prothonotary Warbler 5**
- ___ Swainson's Warbler 3
- ___ Tennessee Warbler 5
- ___ Orange-crowned Warbler 4
- ___ **Nashville Warbler 5**
- ___ Connecticut Warbler 4
- ___ **Mourning Warbler 4**
- ___ **Kentucky Warbler 5**
- ___ **Common Yellowthroat 5**
- ___ **Hooded Warbler 5**
- ___ **American Redstart 5**
- ___ Kirtland's Warbler 4
- ___ Cape May Warbler 5
- ___ **Cerulean Warbler 5**
- ___ **Northern Parula 5**
- ___ **Magnolia Warbler 5**

Warblers (cont.)

- ___ Bay-breasted Warbler 5
- ___ **Blackburnian Warbler 5**
- ___ **Yellow Warbler 5**
- ___ **Chestnut-sided Warbler 5**
- ___ Blackpoll Warbler 5
- ___ **Black-throated Blue Warbler 5**
- ___ Palm Warbler 5
- ___ **Pine Warbler 5**
- ___ Yellow-rumped Warbler 5
- ___ **Yellow-throated Warbler 5**
- ___ **Prairie Warbler 5**
- ___ Black-throated Gray Warbler 2
- ___ Townsend's Warbler 2
- ___ **Black-throated Green Warbler 5**
- ___ **Canada Warbler 5**
- ___ Wilson's Warbler 5
- ___ Painted Redstart 1
- ___ **Yellow-breasted Chat 5**

Sparrows

- ___ Green-tailed Towhee 2
- ___ Spotted Towhee 2
- ___ **Eastern Towhee 5**
- ___ Cassin's Sparrow 1
- ___ **Bachman's Sparrow (Extirpated)**
- ___ American Tree Sparrow 5
- ___ **Chipping Sparrow 5**
- ___ **Clay-colored Sparrow 4**
- ___ **Field Sparrow 5**
- ___ **Vesper Sparrow 5**
- ___ **Lark Sparrow 4**
- ___ Black-throated Sparrow 2
- ___ Lark Bunting 3
- ___ **Savannah Sparrow 5**
- ___ **Grasshopper Sparrow 5**
- ___ Baird's Sparrow 1
- ___ **Henslow's Sparrow 5**
- ___ Le Conte's Sparrow 4
- ___ Nelson's Sparrow 4
- ___ Fox Sparrow 5
- ___ **Song Sparrow 5**
- ___ Lincoln's Sparrow 5
- ___ **Swamp Sparrow 5**
- ___ **White-throated Sparrow 5**
- ___ Harris's Sparrow 4

- ___ White-crowned Sparrow 5
- ___ Golden-crowned Sparrow 2
- ___ **Dark-eyed Junco 5**

Buntings, Dickcissel, Cardinal, Grosbeaks, Tanagers

- ___ **Summer Tanager 5**
- ___ **Scarlet Tanager 5**
- ___ Western Tanager 2
- ___ **Northern Cardinal 5**
- ___ **Rose-breasted Grosbeak 5**
- ___ Black-headed Grosbeak 2
- ___ **Blue Grosbeak 5**
- ___ **Indigo Bunting 5**
- ___ Painted Bunting 2
- ___ **Dickcissel 5**

Blackbirds

- ___ **Bobolink 5**
- ___ **Red-winged Blackbird 5**
- ___ **Eastern Meadowlark 5**
- ___ **Western Meadowlark 4**
- ___ **Yellow-headed Blackbird 4**
- ___ Rusty Blackbird 5
- ___ Brewer's Blackbird 4
- ___ **Common Grackle 5**
- ___ Great-tailed Grackle 1
- ___ **Brown-headed Cowbird 5**
- ___ **Orchard Oriole 5**
- ___ Bullock's Oriole 2
- ___ **Baltimore Oriole 5**

Finches

- ___ Brambling 1
- ___ Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch 1
- ___ Pine Grosbeak 4
- ___ *House Finch 5*
- ___ **Purple Finch 5**
- ___ **Red Crossbill 4**
- ___ White-winged Crossbill 4
- ___ Common Redpoll 4
- ___ Hoary Redpoll 3
- ___ **Pine Siskin 5**
- ___ **American Goldfinch 5**
- ___ Evening Grosbeak 4

Old World Sparrow

- ___ *House Sparrow 5*

Wishful Thinking?

The first checklist of Ohio birds was published by Jared Kirtland in 1838, and included 222 species. In 1968, ornithologist Milton B. Trautman produced a list reporting 344 naturally occurring species.

Bruce Peterjohn's book *Birds of Ohio* appeared in 1987 and included 387 species. This checklist includes 427 species, and it will keep growing. One or two new birds are added to the Ohio list each year on average. The following 20 species have been reported in adjacent states multiple times, but have not yet been found in Ohio. Keep your binoculars clean and your eyes peeled!

Ash-throated Flycatcher	Great Cormorant
Band-rumped Storm-Petrel	Gull-billed Tern
Band-tailed Pigeon	Inca Dove
Black-chinned Hummingbird	Lewis's Woodpecker
Broad-billed Hummingbird	Roseate Tern
Chestnut-collared Longspur	Sage Thrasher
Dovekie	Slaty-backed Gull
Ferruginous Hawk	Virginia Warbler
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	White-tailed Kite
Gray Kingbird	Yellow-billed Loon

YOU CAN HELP!

Please help support conservation in Ohio, and protection of Ohio's birds. Consider purchasing an Ohio Wildlife Legacy Stamp, a Cardinal or Bald Eagle license plate, or making a donation to the Wildlife Diversity Fund. Your money directly supports habitat acquisition, endangered species research, and educational publications such as this checklist. Information about these programs can be found at:

wildohio.gov or by calling **1-800-WILDLIFE**

