



July / August 2022

## The Results of the 2022 WAS May Count Are in!

Dear 2022 May Count participants, Washtenaw Audubon, and friends,



*Orchard Oriole (Bonnie Penet)*

Thank you one and all for your help getting up and out early, counting birds and checking data for this year's May Count. With the help of a whopping 133+ volunteers, we were able to tally 167 bird species, on a gorgeous spring day, when most of the warbler flocks had already passed us on their way to their breeding grounds in the North. This year's Count Day was the latest possible day for a count always held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of May, this year May 14. So, we expected fewer large warbler flocks, and more later migrants like Cuckoos and Empidonax Flycatchers, and so it came to pass. In fact, 167 species is the lowest number of species in our 5-year average of 174. We found most of the warbler species, though in small numbers here and there. Almost all unusual duck species, except 1 late Ring-necked Duck found by Silas Bialecki and the Manchester crew, and some Green-winged Teal, in Saline and Lima, were already north of our area, as well as many of the other usual species found on earlier Count Days.

Here's the eBird Trip Report for our collective day of birding. <https://ebird.org/tripreport/66326> This new eBird feature allows us to see a visual representation of all the birding spots and birds seen by this year's volunteer counters. Also, following this article, you'll find a township-by-township comparison chart of common and rare species, put together by my esteemed partner in compilation, David Amamoto. It's another way to show and preserve our data from our counts. For those of us who like a little friendly competition, we always have a bit of it between the Townships. Each township has an Area Leader, who organizes volunteers and takes a significant role in the counting of birds and the checking of data quality in eBird. This year, Ann Arbor again tied for the top number of species, with Scio Township. Last year, Ann Arbor tied with Sharon Township. Both Ann Arbor and Scio townships' volunteers contributed to collective counts of 110 species, for each area. That's a lot of Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and House Wrens, in addition to Canada Warblers, Philadelphia Vireos and Gray-cheeked Thrushes.

The weather was nearly perfect for the 14<sup>th</sup> of May at the start of Count Day, ranging from the low 60's to the low 80's with sunny skies in the morning. We noticed right away that Warbler numbers were down, and only Scio Twp and a few isolated observers elsewhere, found any large flocks of our favorite spring migrants. We counted migrating Warblers in ones and twos, visiting our favorite and usually productive woodlots and hedgerows throughout Washtenaw and found a respectable 29 species (only missing out on a usually tallied Golden-winged). Fortunately, counters in Ann Arbor and Scio found a whopping 7 Canada Warblers, usually scarce on the Count. Scio observer Tim Gacioch also found our Count's only Mourning Warbler in Saginaw Forest. Roger Wykes tallied our Count's only Yellow-throated Warbler, at its usual haunt, Saline Mills. Russell Ryan heard our Count's only elusive Connecticut Warbler at the relatively new eBird Hotspot, Saline Fisheries Research Station (where he found an American Bittern last year—way to go Russell!). 170 Tennessee Warblers did not surprise, being one of the later migrating Warbler species. Breeding Warbler numbers were high, with a good number, 17, of canopy nesting Cerulean Warblers, 6 Prothonotary Warblers— with 2 at Hudson Mills found by Karen Markey and Norka Saldana, and high triple digits of Yellow Warbler (742) and Common Yellowthroat (613).

Many of our bird counters experienced a torrential downpour in mid-afternoon, that may have cut short some birding. In my area in Lodi Twp, Matthew Spoor, Dana Novak and I sat in the car while it poured for about 45 minutes, before resuming our survey of Wells Pumpkin Farm. Our patience was rewarded, with our day's only Cooper's Hawk, among other good birds. I went home late Count Day evening to find my basement flooded, which was a sad way to end a great day of birding. Lodi volunteers were especially proud of their tally this year, 108 species, practically a miracle for a Township with no public lands except a small cemetery and the Township Hall. Lodi and Ann Arbor volunteer Sue Miller, was fortunate to discover 2 rare Summer Tanagers singing near her property in Lodi, and recorded their songs for posterity in her eBird list here. <https://ebird.org/checklist/S110388777>

And speaking of miracles--Ben Lucking, that brilliant birder--how does he do it? He seems to time travel and doesn't require sleep, venturing all over the county, finding our only American Bittern at Lima Township's Four Mile Lake in the middle of the night, along with other secretive marsh birds, and then birding all of Lyndon and Sylvan Townships with Cathy Theisen, while finding 2 Eastern Whip-Poor-Wills and other great birds at so many crazy places. Noggles Rd., in Manchester, hosted another pair of Whips. A duo of Short-billed Dowitchers at Scio and Parker Rd. Ponds made quite a splash, causing more than one observer (including Ben) to divert from their tasks at hand, for a quick look. The first observer, Tim Gacioch, ticked the Dowitchers for Scio Township, though Lima, Freedom and Lodi Townships all had a turn with these birds in their respective corners.

Regarding raptors, we did passably well this year. Though we saw plenty of Red-tailed Hawks, and five Broad-winged Hawks, we missed the Buteo trifecta by dipping on Red-shouldered Hawk, no doubt a rare breeder in our County, but often found on the May Count. We observed very good numbers of Barred Owls (8) a species regularly missed on the Count, with 2 in Sharon Township and 2 in Manchester, alone, and birders tallied Screech and Great Horned, as well. Sam Heilman counted at UM's Central Campus this year, succeeding in spying both birds of our breeding pair of Peregrine Falcons, near Burton Tower/North Quad. Roger Wykes noted another Peregrine in Saline Township. Sharon Township counters found a Merlin on Lamb Rd. And, with 6 American Kestrels, we achieved the Falcon trifecta. Bald Eagle numbers were severely depressed, at 5 individuals, the lowest number since we added this species to the 'Common' list. Normally we see more than a dozen Bald Eagles on the Count. We found out later in the spring that several of our Eagles' nests had failed, most likely due to the outbreak of Avian Influenza plaguing the country this year. We lost the nests in Ann Arbor on private property, and on Four Mile Lake, with likely only one of the parents of each nest, and none of the young able to survive. Osprey, however, continue to thrive in Washtenaw, with 17 birds found.

In the Woodpecker family, Pileated numbers continue to climb (36), which is great news for the species. Downies, Hairies, Red-bellieds and Flickers continued their high tallies. Claire Sprau and Greg Jacks found a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in Northfield Township, on Hellner Rd. Red-headed Woodpeckers, a Special Concern species for the State of Michigan, seemed to be making a comeback in our area, with 22 found this year.

Flycatchers and Vireos were counted in good numbers, including the hard-to-find Alder Flycatcher (3), often missed on early Count days. Ben Lucking and Cathy Theisen found the White-eyed Vireo near >> *continued on page 6 <<*

Washtenaw County 2022 May Count	Species Count - Common: 136										Species Count - Rare: 31										v4.1 6/28/2022 dya	
	Species Count Rare + Common: 167																					
Species Count - Common w/o sp:	103	70	75	96	73	74	104	63	97	69	44	0	91	100	96	79	59	99	90	81	136	
Species Count - Rare:	7	1	4	5	1	8	4	3	7	6	2	0	7	10	4	4	1	4	2	3	31	
Species Count - Common + Rare:	110	71	79	101	74	82	108	66	104	75	46	0	98	110	100	83	60	103	92	84	167	
	Ann	Aug	Bri	Dex	Fre	Lim	Lod	Lyn	Man	Nor	Pit	Sal	Sln	Sci	Sha	Sup	Syl	Web	Yor	Yps	Grand Total	
<b>Bird Count - Common + sp:</b>	7151	324	2415	1506	848	860	4173	558	1773	672	279	0	1735	2248	928	2227	387	1772	854	1452	32162	
Canada Goose	C	363	11	90	42	61	44	154	12	127	60	30		78	127	30	443	10	105	47	108	1942
Mute Swan	C	49		2	10		4	1	1	1					2				9		27	106
Trumpeter Swan	C	1			2		3								1	2			1	2		21
Wood Duck	C	29			4	3		5	4	8		2		17	9	3			10	10	2	110
Blue-winged Teal	C							7		1					1	3				1		13
Mallard	C	255	1	8	3	9	18	55		7	13	5		29	22	13			75	11	28	571
Mallard (Domestic type)	sp	1								3												4
Mallard/American Black Duck	sp	2																				2
Greater/Lesser Scaup	sp	1																				1
Hooded Merganser	C	1						1		1										2	1	6
duck sp.	sp	2																				2
Wild Turkey	C	13	1	5	2		3	36	4	14	21	1		2	14	4	11	2	21	6		160
Ring-necked Pheasant	C			2	2	1	1	3						3	5	7			2		2	28
Pied-billed Grebe	C				2		1	4		2					3	3						15
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)	C	11	2	2				10		25				12	2	4	12		9	2	10	101
Mourning Dove	C	101	2	53	21	18	26	102	9	17	17	1		37	31	25	32	3	45	22	44	606
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	C	1			1		3	1		2									1			9
Black-billed Cuckoo	C				1	1		1									1	1				5
Chimney Swift	C	311	2	2			3	10		13		4		6	11	2	29		8	6	42	449
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	12			3	1	2	12		1	3				6	4	7		12	3	1	67
Virginia Rail	C				4		2			1	2			1	7	2			1			20
Sora	C				1		4	3		3				1	3				5			20
Sandhill Crane	C	3		3	24	9	19	51	20	14	14			6	12	30	8	7	50	4		274
Killdeer	C	28	8	18	10	9	16	64	1	12	15	4		19	26	5	25	1	18	9	12	300
Least Sandpiper	C						3	4									1					8
American Woodcock	C	1	2				3	2	1	3					3	4	1		4	1		25
Wilson's Snipe	C										3											3
Spotted Sandpiper	C	6	5		1	3	8							2	4		5	1			2	37
Solitary Sandpiper	C	1				1						1				1						4
Greater Yellowlegs	C			1																		1
Lesser Yellowlegs	C			1			4							1								6
Ring-billed Gull	C																				3	3
Herring Gull	C																				4	4
Larus sp.	sp																3					3
Double-crested Cormorant	C	3								1							1		1	3	27	36
Great Blue Heron	C	29	3	3	1	2	2	15		5	35	1		9	13	3	11		9	6	5	152
Great Egret	C	6					2								1		1		15		1	26
Green Heron	C	10		1	2	2		4		4	2				3	3			2	3	1	37
Turkey Vulture	C	73	5	45	12	46	18	65	2	31	19	1		35	42	9	22	2	19	7	10	463
Sharp-shinned Hawk	C	2																				2
Cooper's Hawk	C	6			1	1		2						1		3	2		1	1	1	19
Bald Eagle	C						1			1					1		1				1	5
Broad-winged Hawk	C	2			1					1												5
Red-tailed Hawk	C	12		2	5	1		10	1	3	3			6	7	3	1		3	3	2	62
Buteo sp.	sp	2																				2
hawk sp.	sp							1														1
Eastern Screech-Owl	C	1							1						2						1	5
Great Horned Owl	C	1			1				1													3
Barred Owl	C				4					1						2			1			8
Belted Kingfisher	C	4			2			1		2					3		1		4	1	1	19
Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	136	5	18	37	9	12	43	4	8	3	2		19	50	8	18	1	29	13	15	430
Downy Woodpecker	C	81	3	6	21	2	1	23	1	5	3			6	31	8	2	2	8	5	5	213
Hairy Woodpecker	C	18		1	5	1		13	2	4					8	1	1	2	3		1	60
Downy/Hairy Woodpecker	sp						1															1
Pileated Woodpecker	C	4			7	2		2	1	1	1			1	3	1	3	2	6	1	1	36
Northern Flicker	C	66	2	7	11	5	6	18	1	3	7	1		11	24	4	10	4	15	3	12	210
woodpecker sp.	sp	2					2										2					6
American Kestrel	C		1	1						1				1		2						6
Peregrine Falcon	C	2												1								3
Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	41	4	13	21	2	9	34	14	12	6			9	22	6	12	5	15	7	2	234
Acadian Flycatcher	C				6			1	12	2	1				3							25
Alder Flycatcher	C				1	1				1												3
Willow Flycatcher	C	1	2	9		1	1	9	1	6	1			5	5	2	1			3	2	49
Least Flycatcher	C	2	1	1	1			11		1				3	4				4		1	29
Empidonax sp.	sp									1							2		1	1		5
Eastern Phoebe	C	10	1	5	1		1	16	2	3	1			6	8	4	1		7	1	3	70

		Ann	Aug	Bri	Dex	Fre	Lim	Lod	Lyn	Man	Nor	Pit	Sal	Sln	Sci	Sha	Sup	Syl	Web	Yor	Yps	Grand Total
<b>Bird Count - Common + sp:</b>		<b>7151</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>2415</b>	<b>1506</b>	<b>848</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>4173</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>1773</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1735</b>	<b>2248</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>2227</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>1772</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>1452</b>	<b>32162</b>
Great Crested Flycatcher	C	38		6	11	1	1	26	3	9	2	3		12	15	4	12	1	7	5	1	157
Eastern Kingbird	C	43	6	6	6	7	3	21	3	15	2			5	14	7		6	8	13	14	179
Yellow-throated Vireo	C	13	5	3	14	2		4	7	7	4			2	4	2		8	2	5	1	83
Blue-headed Vireo	C	3	1		3		2	1		2				1				1				14
Warbling Vireo	C	64	1	17	6	9	4	20	1	6	1	1		21	35	5		2	4	13	7	238
Red-eyed Vireo	C	92	4	15	53	3	3	62	28	5	8	1		26	37	11		15	14	13	12	405
vireo sp.	sp	2						2												1		5
Blue Jay	C	351	13	65	76	20	20	132	8	44	17	10		33	83	18		63	18	76	28	1124
American Crow	C	83	5	24	22	17	4	57	16	35	13	1		11	44	11		43	9	25	21	459
Black-capped Chickadee	C	171	2	12	38	2	2	49	18	18	9			14	47	29		33	13	28	15	505
Tufted Titmouse	C	134	3	13	35	15	13	47	10	8	8	2		14	63	11		18	5	33	9	445
Horned Lark	C		2	12			2	23		2	2			8	2	1				2	3	59
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	33	3		3		5	12		7		10		4	9	1		20		9	1	133
Purple Martin	C			22	14	8		20		9						1		6				86
Tree Swallow	C	74	3	21	32	38	7	26	3	19	12	9		18	9	12		74	10	39	11	479
Bank Swallow	C				6		2	17		13	3				2	1						46
Barn Swallow	C	46	10	64	16	37	19	152		51	9	16		83	58	24		32	8	18	14	731
Cliff Swallow	C	54						2		12						2				1	1	123
swallow sp.	sp	1					3							10							1	15
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C															1						2
Red-breasted Nuthatch	C	1			1																	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	C	96	3	6	13	5	5	25	2	7	6			8	19	5		11	4	11	5	237
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	C	31	6	4	25	2		14	17	16	3			7	32	4		20	2	8	7	202
House Wren	C	54	10	48	7	7	7	66	2	17	10	1		15	23	8		11	6	30	16	344
Carolina Wren	C	64	1	6	3	1	1	20		1	3			4	13	3				7	2	131
European Starling	C	237	11	168	7	45	20	152		59	15			101	48	7		56		21	37	1051
Gray Catbird	C	85	12	25	16	8	13	73	9	31	8	3		36	42	13		27	4	34	35	496
Brown Thrasher	C		1	1	4	3	1	4		1	1			5	1	4			4	3	2	42
Eastern Bluebird	C	15	1	9	9	1	6	30		3	6	4		2	13	12		11	2	20	7	153
Veery	C				1			3	2	1									1	2	1	12
Swainson's Thrush	C	17	2	1	6	2		9	4	3				7	9	2			2	4	2	72
Hermit Thrush	C	1																1				2
Wood Thrush	C	9	1	2	20	1		24	8	3	4			3	12	5		5		7	5	109
American Robin	C	666	20	133	112	57	75	288	22	69	41	25		140	130	29		80	18	84	74	2201
thrush sp.	sp	2						2							1			1		1		7
Cedar Waxwing	C	96		3	11	8	9	61	3					7	33	7		12	9	2	10	279
House Sparrow	C	207	5	53	11	31	7	159		42	7	8		34	35	26		19	3	8	13	698
House Finch	C	78		14	6	8	13	60			7	1		7	13	8				23	1	250
American Goldfinch	C	193	6	42	36	14	4	118	7	15	18	6		23	58	14		32	7	35	16	663
finch sp.	sp	2																				2
Chipping Sparrow	C	22	2	40	29	5	9	96	11	22	9	3		22	43	11		19	2	24	8	383
Field Sparrow	C	6	2	19	8	5	1	30		10	5	12		6	7	14		35	14	13	15	208
White-crowned Sparrow	C							6								1						7
White-throated Sparrow	C			2				4								1						7
Vesper Sparrow	C		2					3						1		1				1		8
Savannah Sparrow	C		3	2		2		29		9	2			3	2	4		7		4		67
Song Sparrow	C	108	12	127	32	16	21	149	9	64	20	25		43	77	20		64	8	39	16	874
Swamp Sparrow	C	4		6	12	1	6	5	15	16	5				4	11			2	25	1	113
Eastern Towhee	C	1	2		12		4	11	31	7	3	1		1	4	6		12	9	3	4	113
sparrow sp.	sp	2					12															14
Bobolink	C				2			2		6	1			4		15					1	36
Eastern Meadowlark	C		3	9				21		5				5		6		2	1	8	1	64
Orchard Oriole	C	10			3		1	5		1		1		7	3	1		1		3		39
Baltimore Oriole	C	182	14	45	30	16	9	54		27	20	3		32	61	17		8	5	47	24	659
Red-winged Blackbird	C	979	11	493	157	134	179	464	36	464	69	42		298	215	131		435	53	215	66	4566
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	139	5	162	45	11	16	118	12	20	8	6		22	27	32		37	5	51	26	772
Common Grackle	C	206	4	175	21	31	31	122		19	18	6		80	55	23		52		38	15	970
blackbird sp.	sp	1									3			20								24
Ovenbird	C	2		1	24				4					1	3					1	1	38
Northern Waterthrush	C				1				1						2						1	5
Louisiana/Northern	sp				1																	1
Blue-winged Warbler	C		2		8				16	5	1				1	7		20	9	1	1	71
Black-and-white Warbler	C	1			1	1								2	2			8				15
Tennessee Warbler	C	60	2	14	7	4		37	8	1		1		7	1	7		7	7	3	3	170
Nashville Warbler	C	5			1			3	1			1				2				2		16
Common Yellowthroat	C	28	14	49	42	10	25	88	41	78	18	10		29	34	25		45	24	39	14	613
Hooded Warbler	C				5				8							1				3		17
American Redstart	C	26	7	8	17	1		11	23	1	1	4		7	17	4			11	3	5	147
Cape May Warbler	C	4						2								2						8
Northern Parula	C	13	1		2			3			1			1	4	3			1	1	8	38
Magnolia Warbler	C	8	2	3	1			12		1	2			3	2			1	4		1	40
Bay-breasted Warbler	C	11		1	2	1	1	5		1				4	9	1			1	2	5	44
Blackburnian Warbler	C	5	1					4		3				3	3					1	1	21
Yellow Warbler	C	91	16	72	49																	

	Ann	Aug	Bri	Dex	Fre	Lim	Lod	Lyn	Man	Nor	Pit	Sal	Sln	Sci	Sha	Sup	Syl	Web	Yor	Yps	Total	
<b>Bird Count - Common + sp:</b>	7151	324	2415	1506	848	860	4173	558	1773	672	279	0	1735	2248	928	2227	387	1772	854	1452	32162	
Blackpoll Warbler	C	6			2	1	1	1	1					2	3				4	4	3	31
Black-throated Blue Warbler	C	1												2								3
Palm Warbler	C			1	1									1						1		4
Pine Warbler	C	4			2				1													8
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C	6			4					1				11	8				1	2	4	37
Black-throated Green Warbler	C	9			2			3		4				4	4				1	1		28
Canada Warbler	C	2													5							7
Wilson's Warbler	C	1						1						1	2				2	2	1	10
warbler sp. (Parulidae)	sp	2			3																	10
Scarlet Tanager	C	14			17	1	6	10	3	1				4	6	2	11	2	3	2	1	83
Northern Cardinal	C	296	11	36	47	26	38	141	13	28	10	5		49	109	34	46	12	67	43	34	1045
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	89	5	29	16	7	2	47	3	7	7			19	19	15	38	5	29	7	14	358
Indigo Bunting	C	32	2	26	10	7	4	27	17	10	5	1		10	15	12	10	3	3	5	1	200
passerine sp.	sp	3															2					5
bird sp.	sp	3			1																	4
<b>Bird Count - Common + sp:</b>	7151	324	2415	1506	848	860	4173	558	1773	672	279	0	1735	2248	928	2227	387	1772	854	1452	32162	
Bird Count - Just Common:	7123	324	2415	1501	848	842	4168	558	1769	669	279	0	1705	2247	928	2217	387	1764	852	1452	32048	
Bird Count - Just sp:	28	0	0	5	0	18	5	0	4	3	0	0	30	1	0	10	0	8	2	0	114	
Species Count - Just sp:	15	0	0	3	0	4	3	0	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	5	0	4	2	0	20	
<b>Species Count - Rare only:</b>	7	1	4	5	1	8	4	3	7	6	2	0	7	10	4	4	1	4	2	3	31	
	Ann	Aug	Bri	Dex	Fre	Lim	Lod	Lyn	Man	Nor	Pit	Sal	Sln	Sci	Sha	Sup	Syl	Web	Yor	Yps	Grand Total	
<b>Bird Count - Rare only:</b>	16	2	4	11	1	42	9	10	10	8	10	0	20	15	5	6	1	8	4	5	187	
Green-winged Teal	R					2								1								3
Ring-necked Duck	R								1													1
Common Nighthawk	R							1			1										2	4
Eastern Whip-poor-will	R							2	2													4
Common Gallinule	R									1												1
Semipalmated Plover	R					18				1	9					2						30
Short-billed Dowitcher	R					3								3								6
American Bittern	R					1																1
Osprey	R	4		1		1				2				1		1					2	12
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	R									1												1
Red-headed Woodpecker	R			1	1	4	2		2	1			10				1					22
Merlin	R														1							1
White-eyed Vireo	R							1														1
Philadelphia Vireo	R	7			3								1	1		1		1				14
Sedge Wren	R								1					1								2
Marsh Wren	R	1				12				2				2				5	3			25
Northern Mockingbird	R			1					1				2	1	1					1		7
Gray-cheeked Thrush	R	1			2				2					3								8
American Pipit	R						4															4
Pine Siskin	R	1																				1
Grasshopper Sparrow	R															2						2
Clay-colored Sparrow	R																				1	1
Henslow's Sparrow	R		2						1				4			2						9
Lincoln's Sparrow	R	1		1	1									1					1			5
Rusty Blackbird	R					1																1
Prothonotary Warbler	R	1			2									1	1				1			6
Connecticut Warbler	R												1									1
Mourning Warbler	R													1								1
Cerulean Warbler	R				3			7														10
Yellow-throated Warbler	R												1									1
Summer Tanager	R						2															2
<b>Bird Count - Rare only:</b>	16	2	4	11	1	42	9	10	10	8	10	0	20	15	5	6	1	8	4	5	187	

>>continued from page 2<< Lyndon Twp Hall, the same location as on last year's Count. 14 Philadelphia Vireos made their migratory appearance throughout the County. Yellow-billed (9) and Black-billed (5) Cuckoos called and were counted in several townships. And, thanks to all, we tallied 83 of my favorite bird, the Scarlet Tanager, not a bad showing at all.

I would be up Bird Creek without a paddle, without the help of our dedicated Area Leaders, Mike Sefton (Ypsi and Pittsfield), Greg Jacks (Northfield, York and Augusta), Ben Lucking (Sylvan and Lyndon), Claire Arthurs and Carol Watson (Lima and Freedom), Roger Wykes (Bridgewater and Saline), Rob French (Dexter), Diana Kern (Scio), Dave Borneman (Sharon), Silas Bialecki (Manchester), Faye



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The Washtenaw Audubon Society is an active chapter of Michigan Audubon formed in the early 1950s. Monthly programs feature guest speakers on a wide variety of natural history and birding topics. We conduct field trips to places in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, and beyond.

Stoner (Webster), Dan Thiry (Salem and Superior) and myself (Lodi and Ann Arbor). Thank you to all of you, for your ongoing help and support of this project. Our eBird data benefits the bird science community greatly, and we have a super fun Big Day, too, so we have kept this Count going for these many years in a terrific win-win arrangement. We've been at it for more than 25 years—this is my 9<sup>th</sup> year as compiler for the Count. Thanks to Matthew Spoor, WAS Field Trip Chair, for being my partner in crime for all things 'bird'. Hugs to Dana Novak for saving me from a lonely May Count, when my husband, Scott, accidentally booked a fishing trip for the May Count weekend. A huge high five to Victor Chen for birding and being everywhere in Ann Arbor, for our team. And, many thanks, as well, to David Amamoto, for all his technical help with tallying, chart making, and moral supporting.

Please mark your calendars for May 13, 2023! We'll need everyone's help on next year's May Count!!!

In the meantime, enjoy the field trips that Washtenaw Audubon has to offer, including Swift Nights Out August 19-21, and the resumption of our Thursday morning Fall Migration walk series on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Our Pointe Mouillee field trip on August 13 is already fully booked with participants. All the best, stay safe, stay well and good birding.

As always, I am for the birds,

Juliet Berger, President, Washtenaw Audubon and May Count Compiler—wearing many hats.....



*Prothonotary Warbler (Victor Chen)*

## Field Trip Calendar

### **Shorebirds and Waders at Pointe Mouillee State Game Area      Saturday August 13, 8:00 am**

Pointe Mouillee, on Lake Erie near the mouth of the Huron River is one of the premier destinations in the Midwest for viewing shorebirds and waders, but access is limited. Jim Fowler knows this territory as well as anyone and leads several field trips each year at this location. Usually, vehicles are restricted, but for this event, we will be allowed to bring in 4 vehicles. As a result, this trip will be limited to 20-25 attendees depending on the size of the vehicles driven.

Confirmed participants will meet at the Pointe Mouillee SGA parking lot on Sigler Road at 8AM and from there will consolidate into 4 larger vehicles. Bring insect repellent, wear a hat and dress for warm weather—there is no shade or shelter at Pointe Mouillee. Bring all of the food and fluids you think you will need to sustain you for approximately five hours of birding.

>>>>THIS TRIP IS FULL<<<<

### **Swift Nights Out**

**August 19, 20, 21, 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

We are looking for volunteers for our 7th Annual Ann Arbor-Washtenaw County Chimney Swift count. Watching Chimney Swifts enter their roosts at dusk is a spectacular sight. Volunteers will choose a known Chimney Swift roosting location and stake it out before dusk, counting the Swifts as they enter the chimney, as darkness falls. See the website for sign up information.

### **Recurring: Thursday Fall Migration Walks at Nichols Arboretum**

**August 25-October 27, 8:00 am - 10:30 am**

Join us on Thursday mornings at Nichols Arboretum to observe birds and simply enjoy being in the Arb. These walks are a great opportunity to join with other birders of all skill levels. In addition to the birds, the Arb's trees and other plants offer delights of their own. Meet at the east end of the arboretum at the Dow Prairie entrance. From Geddes Ave., turn north onto Riverview Dr. and stay right until it terminates at Riverview Ct. cul-de-sac. Check the website for a link to the map if you have never been there.

### **Weekend Walk for Birds at Furstenberg Nature Area**

**Saturday, September 3, 8:00 am - 10:30 am**

This nature area has an uncanny ability to draw rarities. Join us as we explore the forest, prairie, and wet meadow habitats at this local hotspot. Meet at the Gallup parking lot at the east entrance to Furstenberg near the Gallup wooden bridge.

### **Fall Migration Walk at Hudson Mills Metropark**

**Saturday, September 10, 8:00 am - 10:30 am**

Join us for our annual fall migration walk with trip leader Karen Markey. Hudson Mills is one of the top county birding hotspots in September. Meet at the flagpole at the Activity Center-HQ building.

### **Weekend Walk for Birds at Matthaei Botanical Gardens**

**Saturday, September 17, 8:00 am - 10:30 am**

This is one of the top birding hotspots in September. Join us as we search the beautiful grounds of the botanical gardens in search of fall migrants. Meet at the steps to the conservatory. Matthaei members park for free with metered parking for everyone else.

### **Weekend Walk for Birds at Barton Nature Area**

**Saturday, September 24, 8:00 am - 10:30 am**

Join us for a wonderful walk as we search for migrating waterfowl along Barton Pond and explore the neighboring woods and savannah for other fall migrants. Meet at the main parking lot along Huron River Drive north of Bird Road.



*Dickcissel (Myles McNally)*



## May-June 2022: Spring Highlights

### The Highlight

For a county that is as actively and intensely birded as Washtenaw County, sightings of bird species that have never before been observed in the county are few and far between and occur roughly twice every three years. On 6/1, lightning struck for a birder checking the waterfowl around the entrance to Gallup and Furstenberg Parks: mixed in with the multitudes of Canada Geese and Mallards was a **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**. Records of this visitor from the southern United States have been increasing in the Great Lake area, so this was not a completely unexpected find, but most certainly a very welcome one for the dozens of birders that made the trip to see it. The bird was seen on 6/1 only.



Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*, Gallup-Furstenberg Park, June 1 2022 (left: Nolan Williams; right: Bill VanderMolen)

Roughly a month earlier, on 5/4, a homeowner in Saline Township picked out an unusual bird among the Chipping and White-crowned Sparrows and Cardinals coming to his feeders: an adult **Harris's Sparrow**. There are just two prior records of this dapper *Zonotrichia* in Washtenaw County: a bird on 5/16/57 in Nichols Arboretum and a long-staying bird near Chelsea in February-March 2020.

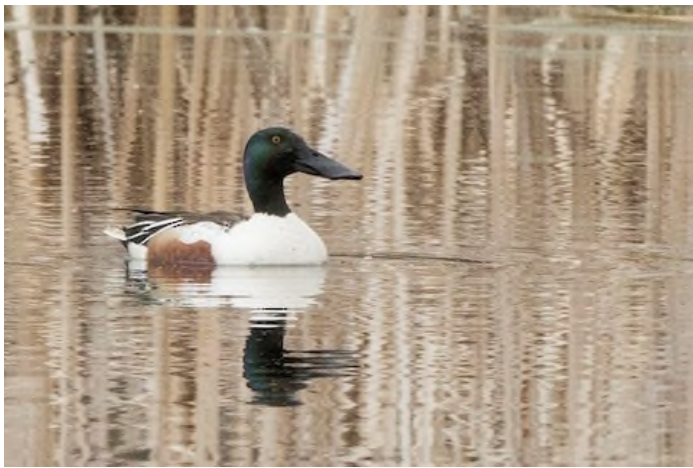


Harris's Sparrow *Zonotrichia querula*, Arkona & Goodrich, May 4 2022 (Bill VanderMolen)

### Waterfowl through Rails

**Northern Shovelers** departed the area by the first week of May, as did most **Gadwalls** and **American Black Ducks**. The exceptions were a molting **Gadwall** that stayed at North Bay Park from 6/3 – 6/10, and a lone **American Black Duck** at the Platt & Morgan fluddle on 6/3. The largest remaining group of **Green-winged Teals**, 35 of them, was at Four Mile Lake on 5/1 – after that, numbers dropped steadily and by 5/14 they, too, had vacated Washtenaw County.





Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata*, Trinkle Marsh, May 2 2022 (Michael Bowen)



Gadwall *Mareca strepera*, North Bay Park, June 10 2022 (Bill Nolting)

Not surprisingly, only a handful of diving ducks stayed into the period. One **Canvasback** was on Silver Lake on 5/4; another two were on Independence Lake. The only **Greater Scaup** was on Whitmore Lake on 5/14; a lone **Lesser Scaup** was at Gallup Park on 5/20.

There were some intriguing **Common Merganser** observations along the Huron River between Foster Rd and Tubbs Rd, that could possibly indicate a local breeding attempt. On 5/8, one was seen just west of the Foster Rd bridge. A few days later, on 5/12, a pair was observed near Tubbs Rd – subsequent observations, through 6/3, involved only the female. No chicks were observed, so if breeding was attempted, the nest likely failed. Small numbers of **Red-breasted Mergansers** were observed at four locations through mid-May. A **Ruddy Duck** was on Pierce Lake through 5/4; another three were on Four Mile Lake on 5/11.



Canvasback *Aythya valisineria*, Independence Lake, May 4 2022 (Jocelyn Anderson)



Black-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*, Conservancy Farm, May 16 2022 (Peter Lewis)

Although **Northern Bobwhites** in Washtenaw County are no longer considered wild birds, and a consistently calling bird along Mast Rd in late May was the only one observed. The rare of the two cuckoo species, **Black-billed Cuckoos** had a banner spring with reports coming in from dozens of locations throughout the county, mostly during the migration window. Quite a few birds stayed into June, and likely involve local breeders – the maximum number was three birds along Embury Rd on 6/3. Single **Common Nighthawks** were seen migrating northbound over dozens of locations, with a group of 30 birds over Tubbs Rd on 5/23 by far the largest congregation. Birds that stayed well into June are likely indicators of the small remaining local breeding population. Observations of single **Eastern Whippoorwills** were concentrated around Ann Arbor (5 locations) and their more traditional haunts in the northwest and southwest of the county, where two birds were heard near Green Lake, along Noggles Rd, and west of Manchester Village. There was a **Common Gallinule** at Furstenberg Park on 5/5, and one along Nollar Rd on 5/14 – for the first time in years, none were observed at Trinkle Marsh. Mirroring the dabbling duck pattern, **American Coots** had all departed by 5/8, with the exception of a bird seen at North Bay Park on 6/5.

## Shorebirds through Terns

May was the month to see **Semipalmated Plovers**; among the seven sites that hosted them, Four Mile Lake had a whopping 16 on 5/14. Small numbers of **Dunlins** were scattered among four fluddles – the maximum was seven at Platt & Morgan on 5/21. On the same date, there was a quartet of **White-rumped Sandpipers** at that same fluddle. **Pectoral Sandpipers** were surprisingly hard to come by this spring; apart from a group of six along Willow Rd on 5/5. Other than that, only single birds were reported from three more locations. A group of up to seven **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were at a fluddle along Vreeland Rd from 5/17 – 6/2; as many as ten of them were at the Platt & Morgan fluddle from 5/21 – 6/3. Three **Short-billed Dowitchers** were at Scio Church & Parker from 5/14 – 5/15. Small numbers of **Wilson's Snipes** moved through the county through 5/14, with up to three at a few sites.



White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis*, Platt & Morgan fluddle, May 21 2022 (Curt Powell)



Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus*, Scio Church & Parker, May 15 2022 (Bill VanderMolen)

The last of the **Bonaparte's Gulls** were at three lakes through 5/8. A gorgeous adult **Black Tern** was found over the Scio Church & Parker wetland on 5/15 but could not be relocated the next day. A group of 11 **Common Terns** over Whitmore Lake on 5/16; the next day, a group of ten of them was over Portage Lake. Single **Forster's Terns** were over North Bay Park (5/5), Gallup Park (5/5), and Four Mile Lake (5/8). It seems the latter species generally migrates through Washtenaw County earlier in spring than its congener. Although 2022 was clearly an excellent spring for terns, oddly enough no Caspian Terns were reported, even though they are generally the more common tern species in our area.



Black Tern *Chlidonia niger*, Scio Church & Parker, May 15 2022 (Ben Lucking)



Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*, Whitmore Lake, May 16 2022 (Ben Lucking)

## Loons through Falcons

Although the large majority move through during March and April, there were still quite a few **Common Loons** migrating over Washtenaw County into mid-May. An impressive total of nine birds were seen over Eberwhite Woods on 5/5. **American White Pelicans** are now annual migrants in the spring months; on 5/9, there were six on Independence Lake and four more over the Hickory Woods subdivision in Pittsfield Township. Three more were on Mirage Lake from 6/16 – 6/17.





Common Loon *Gavia immer*, Gallup Park, May 4 2022  
(Ben Lucking)



American White Pelican *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*, Mirage Lake, June 16 2022 (Linda Napier)

More often heard than seen, **American Bitterns** were noted at Independence Lake (5/4), near Warren & Nixon (5/9), and at the Chelsea SGA (5/11 – 5/14). The only **Least Bitterns** of this spring was at Independence Lake from 5/4 – 5/8; none were observed at its regular nesting location at LeFurge Woods. There was a pair of **Cattle Egrets** in a field near Kirk & Schleweis on 5/13; another individual was stalking the water's edge at the Platt & Bemis prison pond on 5/22. Likely the same bird was subsequently seen at the Bemis Rd marsh, just east of Saline. A **Black-crowned Night-Heron** was along the creek along Northbrook at Ann Arbor-Saline on 5/1; another one was at Oakwoods Nature Area on 5/13. For the third year in a row, a **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** spent a considerable amount of time, i.e. the entire month of June, at the subdivision ponds at Tuttle Hill & Merritt.



Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*, Kirk & Schleweis, May 13 2022,  
(Diana Cooper)



Yellow-crowned Night-Heron *Nyctanassa violacea*, Tuttle Hill & Merritt, June 1 2022 (Creston Burks)

The last of the northbound **Northern Harriers** had departed by 5/14, with the exception of a bird seen over the Cherry Hill Nature Preserve on 6/18. There were no such surprises for **Sharp-shinned Hawks**, all of whom had left Washtenaw County by 5/19. Although most of our **Red-shouldered Hawk** observations tend to involve migrating birds, there a small and apparently growing local breeding population. This was borne out by quite a few reports of this handsome *buteo* well into June. The same holds true for **Broad-winged Hawks**: even though the bulk of them best to our north and only migrate through, there are some that stay and nest locally. Interestingly, the largest number reported from any given place was two – nothing like the triple-digits numbers that can be (and are) seen during the fall migration window!

As mentioned before, it seems the maturing of woodland habitat has spurred an increase in the number of **Barred Owls** locally. This spring period seemed to confirm that trend, with some twenty reports of up to three birds. A handful of **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** stayed well into May, with singles at Nichols Arboretum (through 5/19), at Loch Highland (5/9), at Fairview Cemetery (5/12), and along Hellner Rd (5/14). **Merlin** occurrences matched those for Sharp-shinned Hawks, even if there were far fewer of them - they, too, were gone by 5/19. The only **Peregrine Falcon** seen away from the UM Campus nesting location was one near Saline on 5/14.





Barred Owl *Strix varia*, Stinchfield Woods, June 5 2022  
(Ben Lucking)



Red-shouldered Hawk *Buteo lineatus*, Ann Arbor Landfill  
Hayfields, May 28 2022 (Bill Nolting)

### **Passerines: Flycatchers through Wrens**

The first, and somewhat early, **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was noted at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens on 5/11.

The other three that were seen were smackdab in the middle of their typical migration window: at Nichols Arboretum (5/22 – 5/26), at Furstenberg Park (5/24 – 5/26), and at DeVine Preserve (5/29). As a common breeder, **Eastern Wood-Pewee** is not often mentioned in the rarity report, but a whopping 30 were tallied during a 6/11 float from Hudson Mills to Delhi, which set a new record high for the county. The same float down the Huron River also turned up a record high 14 **Great Crested Flycatchers**. It was a banner spring for **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** – they were reported from some 20 locations, with several of them hosting more than one bird (up to three). By contrast, only three **Alder Flycatchers** were reported: in Manchester (6/7 – 6/18), at Briarwood Mall (6/24), and at the Ervin-Stucki Preserve (6/29) – the latter two seem particularly tardy and may be indicative of nesting attempts. Setting yet another county record high, there were 18 **Acadian Flycatchers** at the Nan Weston Preserve at Sharon Hollow on 5/21.

**White-eyed Vireos** appear to be establishing an ever firmer nesting foothold in Washtenaw County, with a pair at Dolph Park (5/1 – 5/11), a long-staying bird at West Park (5/1 – 5/9), one at Sylvan Park (5/13), and a returning territorial bird at the head of the B2B Trail near the Lyndon Township Hall (5/14 – 5/28). **Blue-headed Vireos** almost certainly nested at Stinchfield Woods this year – the breeding bird survey on 6/4 turned up at least 7 individuals. Additional June reports came in six other locations. Much like Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, **Philadelphia Vireos** appeared to be much more widespread than they usually are; 25 locations were notable in their own right, but three individuals at Silver Lake on 5/14 was impressive, as well.



Yellow-bellied Flycatcher *Empidonax flaviventris*, Dolph Park,  
May 22 2022 (John Christensen)



Philadelphia Vireo *Vireo philadelphicus*, Nichols  
Arboretum, May 19 2022 (Bill Nolting)

As is the norm, the last migrating **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were noted on 5/10. However, the annual breeding bird survey at Stinchfield Woods (where they have nested in the past) turned up two birds and may have involved another nesting attempt. Similarly, scattered reports of **Brown Creepers** during May and June (6 and 5 locations, respectively) may indicate breeding for that species as well. Even for the largest local breeding colony the 200 **Cliff Swallows** over Gallup Park on 6/14 was a staggeringly large number and set a new local high mark.

By the end of the first week of May, the last of the 4 or 5 **Winter Wrens** had left. Scattered patches of grassland habitat throughout the county were home to territorial **Sedge Wrens** throughout the period, with as many as five singing birds at the DeVine Preserve. **Marsh Wrens** seemed to have set up territories wherever sufficient cattail habitat was present – most sites had the typical handful of birds, but the dozen at Four Mile Lake on 5/14 set a new county record high.



Brown Creeper *Certhia americana*, Nichols Arboretum, May 4 2022 (Ivan Prates)



Sedge Wren *Cistothorus stellaris*, Sharon Hollow Rd, June 12 2022 (John Christensen)

### **Passerines: Mimids through Blackbirds**

There were three distinct clusters of **Northern Mockingbird** observations this spring: one around Ann Arbor, one near Saline, and one in the Manchester area. During the month of May nearly twenty locations hosted **Gray-checked Thrushes**, with the individual at West Park being particularly cooperative. **American Pipits** were hard to come by this spring: a pair along Arkona Rd (5/4 – 5/5), as many as 12 along Vreeland Rd (5/8 – 5/10), 4 at the Platt & Morgan fluddle (5/10 – 5/11), and 4 more at Textile & Zeeb (5/14). A handful of **Purple Finches** stayed into May, but they had all departed by 5/8. The only **Pine Siskin** of the spring period was on UM's Central Campus on 5/14.



Gray-checked Thrush *Catharus minimus*, West Park, May 1 2022 (Bill VanderMolen)



American Pipit *Anthus rubescens*, Platt & Morgan fluddle, May 11 2022 (Bill VanderMolen)

Out of the eight sites with **Grasshopper Sparrows**, the four birds at Sharonville SGA on 6/16 was the biggest concentration. The first **Clay-colored Sparrow** was found at the Argo Nature Area on 5/4; nesting colonies returned to Rolling Hills Park (4, 5/7 – 6/28), the Urquhart Tree Farm (3, 5/31), and the Conservancy Farm (1, 6/19). A few tardy **American Tree Sparrows** hung around until 5/5; their fellow winter visitor, the **Dark-eyed Junco**, stayed until two days later, after which both species were gone until the fall. **Henslow's Sparrows** appear to be on the increase in the county, which is likely tied to more suitable grasslands. Although there is still a healthy colony at the Sharonville SGA, the largest cluster was at the Conservancy Farm, where 8 birds were noted on 5/30. Over the first two weeks of May, **Lincoln's Sparrows** moved through in decent numbers with individuals at 15 locations.

A very confiding **Yellow-breasted Chat** thrilled observers at LeFurge Woods from 6/5 – 6/15, with another bird at the Sharonville SGA on 6/20. Straggler **Rusty Blackbirds** trickled through until 5/17; no more than two birds were reported from any of the nine locations.





Grasshopper Sparrow *Ammodramus saviannarum*, Sharonville SGA, May 27 2022 (Michael Bowen)



Yellow-breasted Chat *Icteria virens*, LeFurge Woods, June 6 2022 (Michael Bowen)

### **Passerines: Wood-Warblers through Cardinalids**

Even though spring brings the arrival of lots of migrants from areas (much) farther south, for many the main attraction is the plethora of wood-warblers that either move through or take up temporary residence to raise a family before flying back south. This spring an impressive 34 species were observed in Washtenaw; it goes without saying that among them there were some notables. A **Louisiana Waterthrush** was reported from along the Arb-Gallup bikepath on 5/7; another bird (or the same?) was at the Arb on 6/1. Only two **Golden-winged Warblers** were noted, both on 5/9: one was on private property in Lodi Township, the other in Whitmore Lake. Always a tricky species to find (and identify), there were 8 Orange-crowned Warbler observations through 5/23, all involving single birds.

There was close to a plethora of **Connecticut Warblers** this spring – five separate sightings, in widely separated spots, is well above average. Of note was the good fortune of a small group of birders that stopped by the Lyndon Twp White-eyed Vireo spot after the 5/24 WAS outing to Embury Road, missed the vireo, but encountered a singing Connecticut Warbler instead! **Mourning Warblers** had a similarly good spring migration (5/11 – 5/28) – although all reports involved only single birds, 15 of them was a great showing. One lucky observer encountered a silent **Kentucky Warbler** during an evening visit to the Arb on 5/12.



Connecticut Warbler *Oporornis agilis*, Conservancy Farm, May 22 2022 (Baxter Beamer)



Mourning Warbler *Geothlypis philadelphia*, Waterloo SRA, May 11 2022 (MJack13)

Non-breeding **Cerulean Warblers** were noted in three Ann Arbor area parks from 5/1 through 5/10; other than that, sightings were restricted to the woodlands of the Pinckney SRA. The most reliable location in recent years has been Embury Rd, and this year was no exception with a maximum of six birds there. A sign of how rare the species still is, only two **Yellow-throated Warblers** were found this spring: one at Furstenberg Park (5/10) and one at Saline Mills (5/14), a spot where they have nested in past years. A cooperative male **Prairie Warbler** thrilled many observers during his 3-day stay at Furstenberg Park from 5/2 – 5/4. On 5/1, just inside the spring period, a staggering 150 **Yellow-rumped Warblers** at Crooked Lake established a record high count.





Cerulean Warbler *Setophaga cerulea*, Park Lyndon County Park, June 18 2022 (Russell Ryan)



Yellow-throated Warbler *Setophaga dominica*, Furstenberg Park, May 10 2022 (Jocelyn Anderson)

A male **Summer Tanager** visited a yard near Scio Church & Zeeb on 5/11, a few days later, on 5/14, two of them were reported from a woodlot near Wagner & Waters, setting a record high. At the tail end of the spring period, from 6/26 on, a pair of **Blue Grosbeaks** set up shop at Sharon Mills County Park. This park has been home to Blue Grosbeaks on four separate occasions since 2015, when they were first observed in Washtenaw County. Another species that typically arrives later in spring, **Dickcissels** were first noted on May 30 and were subsequently found at some ten sites.



Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*, Scio Church & Zeeb, May 11 2022 (Scott Fishwick)



Blue Grosbeak *Passerina caerulea*, Sharon Mills County Park, June 29 2022 (Ben Lucking)



[Read our full statement at washtenawaudubon.org](https://washtenawaudubon.org)

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

The birds Washtenaw Audubon pledges to protect differ in color, size, behavior, geographical preference, and countless other ways. As we honor and celebrate the equally remarkable diversity of the human species, Washtenaw Audubon considers the work of inclusion, diversity, and equity a top priority moving forward. We hope that, in doing so, we can bring creativity and energy to our work in Washtenaw County and beyond for birds and people alike.

## Update from the Education Chair

As summer chugs along, folks all around town have been engaging in summer library programs around the county. If you are a member of the Ypsilanti District Library, Washtenaw Audubon Society helped put together a birding geocache hunt. This offers an opportunity for you to explore some of the best birding locations in the Ypsilanti area. For more information, please visit: [https://www.ypsilibrary.org/2022/06/summer\\_challenge/](https://www.ypsilibrary.org/2022/06/summer_challenge/)



I would also like to share one of several 'Thank you' notes I have received from local elementary school students. Washtenaw Audubon has been involved in a number of nature walks with local elementary schools and, judging by this note, several of them may have caught the birdwatching bug. Who knows, maybe in a few years, one or more of them will be the next in a long line of young birding talent nurtured by the Washtenaw Audubon birding community!

To become a member of Washtenaw Audubon Society, please complete the form below (or a copy) and mail it with a check or money order payable to **Washtenaw Audubon Society—WAS Membership, P.O. Box 130923, Ann Arbor, MI 48113.**

<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	<b>Membership Dues</b>	
Additional Donation \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Household	\$25 (online only \$20)
Name: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$15 (online only \$10)
Address: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Senior	\$15 (online only \$10)
Phone: _____	Email: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$50

We encourage you to join at a lower rate if the suggested rates would otherwise preclude your membership, or at a higher rate if you possess the means. **Note:** WAS will only use your email address to communicate with you about WAS programs, field trips, or matters of interest to you, such as membership renewal and emailed WAS newsletters (in color!). We will not give your email address to anyone else.

## WAS Monthly Programs

Washtenaw Audubon's in-person programs at the Botanical Gardens are on hold until the University allows gatherings to take place. To view our online Zoom programs, you will need access to an internet-capable computer, phone, or similar device. An announcement of the web address to view the program will be on our web site, Facebook page, and on the Birders email list a few days before the program. We may also add more online programs for June and the future, which will be announced on the same internet platforms.

**August**

**No WAS Program**

**September 21, 7:30 p.m.**

**Challenging a 27-Year-Old Birding Record**

Join birding phenoms Ben Lucking, Andy Dettling, and Colin Dobson as they try to bring the Michigan Big Day record home. In May 1995, out of state birders set the Michigan Big Day record of 203 species seen within a 24-hour period. Ben, Andy, and Colin attempted to break the record this year on May 28, finding 200 species. Come hear the account of their efforts from midnight in the Upper Peninsula, followed by a mad dash south, and the unexpected birds found, along with the frustrating species they were unable to find. This will be a Zoom event.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://umich.zoom.us/j/93611857032>

Meeting ID: 93611857032

Passcode: 551598

Or dial-in: 312-626-6799

**October 20, 7:30 p.m.**

**Program to be announced**



## Washtenaw Audubon Society

P.O. Box 130923

Ann Arbor, MI 48113-0923