

The Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy is a non-profit 501(c)(3) group of volunteers dedicated to promoting the preservation and proliferation of healthy wildlife habitats in Loudoun County, Virginia. We offer educational programs, field trips, habitat and species monitoring, habitat restoration projects, and conservation advocacy. For more information, visit our website at www.loudounwildlife.org.

This checklist includes over 295 birds identified in Loudoun County through September 2008, with over 110 confirmed or probable breeders. The taxonomic order is in accordance with the seventh American Ornithologists' Union Checklist. We gathered this information from the following resources: the Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve bird list, the Virginia Avian Records Committee (VARCOM) report, eBird, the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship bird list, the Virginia Society of Ornithology's *Virginia's Birdlife*, the Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas Project (1985-1989), Maryland Osprey and Virginia Bird list servers archives, countywide Christmas and migratory bird counts (1997-2007), and several individuals' personal records.

This checklist serves as the foundation for an upcoming Loudoun County Bird Atlas project (2009-2013). The atlas project will establish a more comprehensive list of birds in Loudoun County, including their dates of occurrence throughout the year and distribution throughout the county. This project will create a baseline of information that can be used to indicate particular areas in need of conservation and measure the success of future conservation activities. If you are interested in volunteering with this project or would like more information, please contact the Atlas Coordinator, Spring Ligi, at sligi@loudounwildlife.org. Monetary donations for the project are greatly appreciated and can be mailed to:
Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy
P.O. Box 2088
Purcellville, VA 20134-2088

The following codes can be used to interpret the checklist. Note that avian migration does not coincide exactly with the change of seasons.

SEASON
s – Spring; March – May
S – Summer; June – August
F – Fall; September – November
W – Winter; December – February

RELATIVE ABUNDANCE
a – abundant - hard to miss; a common species which is very numerous
c – common - likely to be observed in suitable habitat
u – uncommon - present in correct habitat, but not always observed
o – occasional - observed only a few times during the season
r – rare - may be present, but not every year; occurs irregularly
x – accidental species - out of normal species range
***** – confirmed breeder
****** – irregular or probable breeder
Ψ – historical record

Birds in italics are listed as threatened or endangered in Virginia. The Bald Eagle is listed as threatened at both the state and federal levels.

	s	S	F	W
SWANS - GEESE - DUCKS				
___ Greater White-fronted Goose				r
___ Snow Goose	r	r	r	r
___ Brant				r
___ Barnacle Goose			x	
___ Cackling Goose				r
___ Canada Goose*	a	a	a	a
___ Mute Swan	r			r
___ Tundra Swan	o		o	o
___ Wood Duck*	c	c	c	o
___ Gadwall	o	r	o	o
___ American Wigeon	u		u	o
___ American Black Duck	o	r	o	o
___ Mallard*	c	c	c	c
___ Blue-winged Teal	u		u	r
___ Northern Shoveler	u	r	u	o
___ Northern Pintail	o	r	o	o
___ Green-winged Teal	c	r	c	o
___ Canvasback	r		r	r
___ Redhead	r		r	r
___ Ring-necked Duck	u		u	o
___ Greater Scaup	r		r	r
___ Lesser Scaup	r		r	r
___ Surf Scoter			r	

	s	S	F	W
___ White-winged Scoter			r	
___ Black Scoter			r	
___ Long-tailed Duck	r		r	
___ Bufflehead	o		o	o
___ Common Goldeneye	r		r	r
___ Hooded Merganser	o		o	o
___ Common Merganser	r		r	r
___ Red-breasted Merganser	r			r
___ Ruddy Duck	r	r	r	r

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS

___ Ring-necked Pheasant ^Ψ	r	r	r	r
___ Ruffed Grouse**	r	r	r	r
___ Wild Turkey*	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Bobwhite*	o	o	o	o

LOONS – GREBES

___ Red-throated Loon	r			r
___ Common Loon	o	r	o	r
___ Pied-billed Grebe*	o	o	o	o
___ Horned Grebe	o		o	o
___ Red-necked Grebe	r			
___ Eared Grebe	r		r	

CORMORANTS – ANHINGAS

___ Neotropic Cormorant			x	
___ Double-crested Cormorant	o	o	o	
___ Great Cormorant			x	
___ Anhinga	x		x	

BITTERN – HERONS

___ American Bittern	o		o	
___ Great Blue Heron*	c	c	c	c
___ Great Egret	r	u	o	r
___ Snowy Egret			r	
___ Little Blue Heron			r	
___ Green Heron*	u	c	u	
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron	o	o	o	r
___ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron		r		

IBISES

___ White Ibis			r	
___ Glossy Ibis	r			

VULTURES

___ Black Vulture*	u	u	u	u
___ Turkey Vulture*	a	a	a	a

HAWKS - EAGLES

___ Osprey	o		o	
___ Mississippi Kite		r		
___ <i>Bald Eagle*</i>	o	o	o	o

	s	S	F	W
___ Northern Harrier	u	r	u	u
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk**	u	o	u	u
___ Cooper's Hawk*	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Goshawk			r	
___ Red-shouldered Hawk*	c	c	c	c
___ Broad-winged Hawk*	u	r	u	
___ Swainson's Hawk			r	
___ Red-tailed Hawk*	c	c	c	c
___ Rough-legged Hawk			r	r
___ Golden Eagle			r	

FALCONS

___ American Kestrel*	u	u	u	u
___ Merlin			o	o
___ Gyrfalcon			x	
___ <i>Peregrine Falcon</i>	r		r	r

RAILS - COOTS

___ Black Rail		r		
___ King Rail	r		r	
___ Virginia Rail*	u	u	u	r
___ Sora	o		o	
___ Common Moorhen	o	o	o	
___ American Coot	o	o	o	r

CRANES

___ Sandhill Crane	r	r		r
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PLOVERS

___ Black-bellied Plover			r	
___ American Golden-Plover	r		r	
___ Semipalmated Plover	r	o		
___ Killdeer*	u	u	u	o

SANDPIPERS

___ Spotted Sandpiper	u	c		
___ Solitary Sandpiper	u	c		
___ Greater Yellowlegs	o	u	r	
___ Willet	r			
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	o	u		
___ <i>Upland Sandpiper*</i>		r		
___ Whimbrel	r			
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	o	o		
___ Western Sandpiper	r	r		
___ Least Sandpiper	u	c		
___ White-rumped Sandpiper	r		r	
___ Baird's Sandpiper		r		
___ Pectoral Sandpiper	o	o		
___ Dunlin	r			
___ Stilt Sandpiper	r	r		
___ Buff-breasted Sandpiper			r	
___ Short-billed Dowitcher	o	o		

	s	S	F	W
___ Long-billed Dowitcher		r		
___ Wilson's Snipe	o	r	o	o
___ Eurasian Woodcock ^Ψ				x
___ American Woodcock*	o	o	o	r
___ Wilson's Phalarope	r	r		
___ Red Phalarope			r	

GULLS – TERNS – JAEGERS

___ Sabine's Gull				r
___ Bonaparte's Gull	o			
___ Little Gull	r			
___ Laughing Gull	r			r
___ Franklin's Gull	r			
___ Ring-billed Gull	c	o	c	c
___ Herring Gull	o	o	o	o
___ Great Black-backed Gull				r
___ Least Tern		r		
___ Caspian Tern	r	o	r	
___ Black Tern	r		r	
___ Common Tern	o		o	
___ Arctic Tern	r			
___ Forster's Tern	r		r	
___ Royal Tern				x
___ Pomarine Jaeger		x		

PIGEONS –DOVES

___ Rock Pigeon*	a	a	a	a
___ Eurasian Collared-Dove	r	r		
___ Mourning Dove*	a	a	a	a

CUCKOOS

___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	u	u	u	
___ Black-billed Cuckoo	r		r	

OWLS

___ Barn Owl*	o	o	o	o
___ Eastern Screech-Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Great Horned Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Snowy Owl	r		r	
___ Barred Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Long-eared Owl	r		r	
___ Short-eared Owl				r
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl				r

NIGHTJARS

___ Common Nighthawk**	u	r	u	
___ Whip-poor-will**	r	r		

SWIFTS

___ Chimney Swift*	c	c	c	
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	s	S	F	W
HUMMINGBIRDS				
__ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	u	u	u	
__ Rufous Hummingbird			r	r
KINGFISHERS				
__ Belted Kingfisher*	u	u	u	u
WOODPECKERS				
__ Lewis's Woodpecker				x
__ Red-headed Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
__ Red-bellied Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
__ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	u	u	u	
__ Downy Woodpecker*	a	a	a	a
__ Hairy Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
__ Northern Flicker*	c	c	c	c
__ Pileated Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
FLYCATCHERS				
__ Olive-sided Flycatcher		r	r	
__ Eastern Wood-Pewee*	c	c	c	
__ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	r	r	r	
__ Acadian Flycatcher*	c	c	c	
__ Alder Flycatcher	r	r		
__ Willow Flycatcher*	u	u	u	
__ Least Flycatcher	o	r	r	
__ Eastern Phoebe*	c	c	c	o
__ Great Crested Flycatcher*	c	c	c	
__ Eastern Kingbird*	u	u	u	
__ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher		x		
SHRIKES				
__ Loggerhead Shrike*	r	r	r	r
__ Northern Shrike			r	r
VIREOS				
__ White-eyed Vireo*	u	u	u	
__ Yellow-throated Vireo*	u	u	u	
__ Blue-headed Vireo	o	r	o	
__ Warbling Vireo*	o	o	o	
__ Philadelphia Vireo			r	
__ Red-eyed Vireo*	c	c	c	
JAYS – CROWS				
__ Blue Jay*	a	a	a	a
__ American Crow*	a	a	a	a
__ Fish Crow*	u	u	u	u
__ Common Raven*	u	u	u	u
LARKS				
__ Horned Lark**	r	r	r	r

	s	S	F	W
SWALLOWS				
__ Purple Martin*	u	u	u	
__ Tree Swallow	c	c	c	
__ Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	u	u	u	
__ Bank Swallow	o	r	o	
__ Cliff Swallow	o	r	o	
__ Cave Swallow				x
__ Barn Swallow*	c	c	c	
CHICKADEES - TITMICE				
__ Carolina Chickadee*	a	a	a	a
__ Black-capped Chickadee			r	r
__ Tufted Titmouse*	a	a	a	a
NUTHATCHES				
__ Red-breasted Nuthatch	r	r	r	
__ White-breasted Nuthatch*	c	c	c	c
CREEPERS				
__ Brown Creeper	u		u	u
WRENS				
__ Carolina Wren*	a	a	a	a
__ House Wren*	c	c	c	r
__ Winter Wren	o		o	u
__ Sedge Wren**		r		
__ Marsh Wren	r	r	r	
KINGLETS				
__ Golden-crowned Kinglet	u		u	u
__ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	u		u	o
OLD WORLD WARBLERS				
__ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	c	c		
THRUSHES – MIMIC THRUSHES				
__ Eastern Bluebird*	c	c	c	c
__ Veery	o		o	
__ Gray-cheeked Thrush	r		r	
__ Bicknell's Thrush	r		r	
__ Swainson's Thrush	u		u	
__ Hermit Thrush	u		u	u
__ Wood Thrush*	c	c	c	
__ American Robin*	a	a	c	c
__ Gray Catbird*	c	c	c	r
__ Northern Mockingbird*	a	a	a	a
__ Brown Thrasher*	c	c	u	r
STARLINGS				
__ European Starling*	a	a	a	a

	s	S	F	W
PIPITS				
__ American Pipit	o		o	r
WAXWINGS				
__ Cedar Waxwing*	u	u	u	u
WOOD WARBLERS				
__ Blue-winged Warbler*	o	u	o	
__ Golden-winged Warbler			r	
__ Tennessee Warbler	o			
__ Orange-crowned Warbler			r	r
__ Nashville Warbler	o		o	
__ Northern Parula*	u	u	u	
__ Yellow Warbler*	c	c	c	
__ Chestnut-sided Warbler	u		u	
__ Magnolia Warbler	u		u	
__ Cape May Warbler	o		o	
__ Black-throated Blue Warbler	u	r	u	
__ Yellow-rumped Warbler	c		c	c
__ Black-throated Green Warbler	u		u	
__ Blackburnian Warbler	o		o	
__ Yellow-throated Warbler	r			
__ Pine Warbler*	u	u	u	
__ Prairie Warbler*	u	u	u	
__ Palm Warbler	u		u	r
__ Bay-breasted Warbler	o		o	
__ Blackpoll Warbler	c		c	
__ Cerulean Warbler**	o	r	r	
__ Black-and-white Warbler**	u	r	u	
__ American Redstart*	c	u	c	
__ Prothonotary Warbler	r	r		
__ Worm-eating Warbler*	o	o	o	
__ Ovenbird*	c	c	c	
__ Northern Waterthrush	o		o	
__ Louisiana Waterthrush*	u	u	u	
__ Kentucky Warbler*	o	r		
__ Connecticut Warbler			r	
__ Mourning Warbler	r	r	o	
__ Common Yellowthroat*	c	c	c	r
__ Hooded Warbler**	o	o		
__ Wilson's Warbler	r		r	
__ Canada Warbler	o		o	
__ Yellow-breasted Chat*	u	u	u	r
TANAGERS				
__ Summer Tanager	r	r		
__ Scarlet Tanager*	u	u	u	
TOWHEES - SPARROWS				
__ Eastern Towhee*	c	c	c	o
__ American Tree Sparrow			r	u
__ Chipping Sparrow*	c	c	c	r

	s	S	F	W
__ Clay-colored Sparrow			r	
__ Field Sparrow*	c	c	c	u
__ Vesper Sparrow*	o	r	o	
__ Lark Sparrow			r	
__ Lark Bunting	r			
__ Savannah Sparrow**	u	o	u	o
__ Grasshopper Sparrow*	u	u	u	
__ Henslow's Sparrow ^ψ		r		
__ Le Conte's Sparrow			r	
__ Fox Sparrow	o		o	o
__ Song Sparrow*	a	a	a	a
__ Lincoln's Sparrow	o		o	u
__ Swamp Sparrow	u		u	u
__ White-throated Sparrow	a		a	a
__ White-crowned Sparrow	u		u	u
__ Dark-eyed Junco	a		a	a
__ Lapland Longspur				r
__ Snow Bunting			r	
CARDINALS - GROSBEAKS - BUNTINGS - ALLIES				
__ Northern Cardinal*	a	a	a	a
__ Rose-breasted Grosbeak**	u	r	u	r
__ Blue Grosbeak*	u	u	u	
__ Indigo Bunting*	c	c	c	
__ Dickcissel*	r	r		
BLACKBIRDS – ORIOLES				
__ Bobolink*	u	u	u	
__ Red-winged Blackbird*	c	c	c	o
__ Eastern Meadowlark*	u	u	u	o
__ Yellow-headed Blackbird			r	
__ Rusty Blackbird	o		o	r
__ Brewer's Blackbird			r	r
__ Common Grackle*	c	c	c	c
__ Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	c	c	o
__ Orchard Oriole*	u	u	u	
__ Bullock's Oriole			r	
__ Baltimore Oriole*	u	u	u	
FINCHES				
__ Purple Finch	o		o	o
__ House Finch*	a	a	a	a
__ Red Crossbill				r
__ White-winged Crossbill				r
__ Common Redpoll				r
__ Pine Siskin	r		r	o
__ American Goldfinch*	a	a	a	a
__ Evening Grosbeak				r
OLD WORLD SPARROWS				
__ House Sparrow*	a	a	a	a

BIRDS

of

Loudoun County,
Virginia



www.loudounwildlife.org

Compiled by Spring Ligi
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