



**Cary Institute**  
of Ecosystem Studies



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## Common Bird Checklist

### About Us

The **Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies** is a private, not-for-profit environmental research and education center. For more than twenty-five years, our scientists have been investigating the complex interactions that govern the natural world. Their objective findings lead to more effective policy decisions and increased environmental literacy. Focal areas include air and water pollution, climate change, invasive species, and disease ecology.

The Cary Institute is dedicated to connecting its findings to learners of all ages. To learn more about our educational offerings, public programs, and free scientific seminars, visit [www.caryinstitute.org](http://www.caryinstitute.org).

For general information, call: (845) 677-5343

Our **trail head** is located at:  
2917 Sharon Turnpike (Rt 44)  
Millbrook, New York 12545

Our **Main Campus** and **Auditorium** are located at:  
2801 Sharon Turnpike (Rt 44)  
Millbrook, New York 12545

Cover photo: American Tree Swallow, Lisa M. Dellwo;  
P.1 top: Wild Turkey, Lisa M. Dellwo.



A checklist of 101 birds you may see or hear  
at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies.



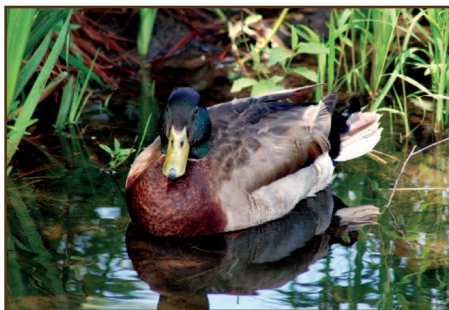
# One Hundred and One Birds at the Cary Institute

This is a list of the birds we see or hear frequently on the grounds of the Cary Institute. Your sightings will vary dependent on where and when you are observing.

For instance, Red-winged Blackbirds are abundant in wetlands in the spring and summer, but it would be nearly impossible to find one during the winter or in the deep forest.

## WATERFOWL

- Canada Goose\*  
Common, year-round in ponds and marshes, and flying overhead
- Wood Duck\*  
Common, except in winter, along Wappinger Creek
- Black Duck  
Fairly common, winter/spring in ponds and marshes
- Mallard\*  
Common, year-round in ponds and marshes
- Hooded Merganser\*  
Uncommon, spring/summer, in Wappinger Creek
- Common Merganser\*  
Fairly common, winter and spring, along Wappinger Creek



Mallard Duck

Steve VanHorn

## GROUSE, QUAIL AND ALLIES

- Ring-necked Pheasant  
Occasional, year-round, escape from local Hunt Clubs, pastures
- Wild Turkey  
Common, year-round, all habitats

\* Known to breed in Dutchess County. (DeOrsey and Butler, *The Birds of Dutchess County, New York, 2006*)

## WADING BIRDS AND ALLIES

- Great Blue Heron  
Common, spring to fall, wet habitats
- Green Heron  
Uncommon, spring/summer, wet habitats

## DIURNAL RAPTORS

- Turkey Vulture\*  
Common, spring to fall, soaring overhead
- Sharp-shinned Hawk\*  
Uncommon, year-round, woodlands and shrublands
- Red-tailed Hawk\*  
Common, year-round, treetops and soaring overhead
- American Kestrel\*  
Uncommon, spring/summer, hovering or in isolated trees in pastures



Red-tailed Hawk

Melinda Fowler

## SHOREBIRDS AND GULLS

- Solitary Sandpiper\*  
Uncommon, spring, wetland habitats
- American Woodcock\*  
Fairly common, spring (usually heard at dusk), shrublands

## DOVES

- Rock Pigeon\*  
Common, year-round, near bridges and barns
- Mourning Dove\*  
Common, year-round, all habitats

## OWLS

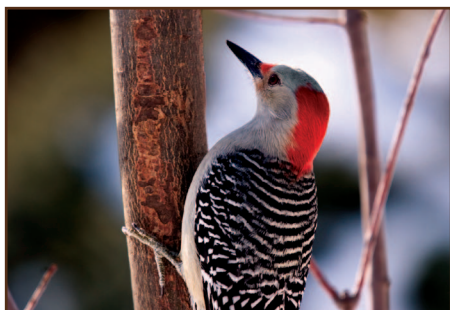
- Great-horned Owl\*  
Uncommon, year-round, woodlands
- Barred Owl\*  
Fairly common, year-round, woodlands

## SWIFTS AND HUMMINGBIRDS

- Chimney Swift\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, overhead
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands and gardens

## KINGFISHERS

- Belted Kingfisher\*  
Common, year-round, along Wappinger Creek



Christopher Ewing

Red-bellied Woodpecker

## WOODPECKERS

- Red Bellied Woodpecker\*  
Common, year-round, woodlands
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker\*  
Uncommon, winter/spring, woodlands
- Downy Woodpecker\*  
Common, year-round, woodlands
- Hairy Woodpecker\*  
Fairly common, year-round, woodlands
- Northern Flicker\*  
Fairly common, year-round, woodlands and pasture edge
- Pileated Woodpecker\*  
Fairly common, year-round, woodlands

## FLYCATCHERS

- Eastern Wood Pewee\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Willow Flycatcher\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, wet woodlands and shrublands
- Eastern Phoebe\*  
Common, spring to fall, along Wappinger Creek and near buildings
- Great-crested Flycatcher\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Eastern Kingbird\*  
Common, spring/summer, pastures and pasture edges

## VIREOS

- Yellow-throated Vireo\*  
Uncommon, spring/summer woodlands
- Blue-headed Vireo\*  
Uncommon, spring/summer woodlands
- Warbling Vireo\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Red-eyed Vireo\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands



James Pierce

Blue Jay

## JAYS AND CROWS

- Blue Jay\*  
Abundant, year-round, everywhere
- American Crow\*  
Abundant, year-round, everywhere
- Common Raven\*  
Uncommon, year-round, soaring overhead

## SWALLOWS

- American Tree Swallow\*  
Common, early spring/summer, wetlands, near nest boxes
- Rough-winged Swallow\*  
Uncommon, spring, along Wappinger Creek
- Barn Swallow\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, near bridges and buildings



Lisa M. Dellwo

Black-capped Chickadee

## CHICKADEES AND TITMICE

- Black-capped Chickadee\*  
Common, year-round, woodlands
- Tufted Titmouse\*  
Common, year-round woodlands

## NUTHATCHES

- Red-breasted Nuthatch\*  
Uncommon, year-round, coniferous woodland
- White-breasted Nuthatch\*  
Fairly common, year-round, woodlands

## CREEPERS

- Brown Creeper\*  
Uncommon, spring, woodlands

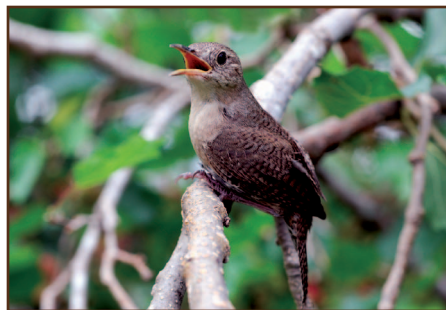


Robert Hambley

Brown Creeper

## WRENS

- Carolina Wren\*  
Fairly common, year-round, woodlands
- House Wren\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, deep woods
- Winter Wren\*  
Uncommon, spring/summer, deep woods



Guillermo Becerra

House Wren

## KINGLETS

- Golden-crowned Kinglet\*  
Fairly common, winter/early spring, coniferous woodlands
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet\*  
Fairly common, spring and fall migrant, woodlands



Norman Bateman

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

## GNATCATCHERS

- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands

## THRUSHES

- Eastern Bluebird\*  
Common, year-round, woodlands, pasture edge,  
near nest boxes
- Veery\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Hermit Thrush\*  
Uncommon, winter/spring, woodlands
- Wood Thrush\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands
- American Robin\*  
Common, year-round, woodlands



Quinn Emmerling

Brown Thrasher



Howard Cheek

Eastern Bluebird

## MIMICS

- Gray Catbird\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Northern Mockingbird\*  
Fairly common, year-round, woodlands
- Brown Thrasher\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands

## STARLINGS

- European Starling\*  
Common, year-round, near buildings

## WAXWINGS

- Cedar Waxwing\*  
Common, year-round, woodlands

## WOOD-WARBLERS

- Blue-winged Warbler\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands and shrublands
- Northern Parula (Warbler)\*  
Fairly common, spring migrant, forest
- Yellow Warbler\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands and shrublands
- Chestnut-sided Warbler\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Magnolia Warbler  
Fairly common, spring and fall migrant, woodlands
- Black-throated Blue Warbler\*  
Uncommon, spring/summer, woodlands
- Yellow-rumped Warbler  
Fairly common, winter/spring, woodlands
- Black-throated Green Warbler\*  
Uncommon, spring and fall migrant, woodlands



Lisa M. Dellwo

Prairie Warbler

- Prairie Warbler\*  
Common, spring/summer, shrublands (near conifers)
- Palm Warbler\*  
Uncommon, spring and fall migrant, woodlands
- Black-and-white Warbler  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands
- American Redstart\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Ovenbird\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Louisiana Waterthrush\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, forests along Wappinger Creek
- Common Yellowthroat\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands and shrublands

## TANAGERS

- Scarlet Tanager\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, forests

## SPARROWS

- Eastern Towhee\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands and shrublands
- Tree Sparrow\*  
Uncommon, winter visitor, woodlands
- Chipping Sparrow\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Field Sparrow\*  
Common, spring/summer, fields and pasture edges
- Song Sparrow\*  
Common, year-round, woodlands and shrublands
- Swamp Sparrow\*  
Uncommon, year-round, wet shrublands
- White-throated Sparrow\*  
Common, fall/winter/early spring, shrublands
- Dark-eyed Junco  
Fairly common, fall/winter/spring woodlands



Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Quinn Emmering

## CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS AND ALLIES

- Northern Cardinal\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Indigo Bunting\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, woodlands and shrublands

## BLACKBIRDS

- Red-winged Blackbird\*  
Common, spring/summer, wetlands
- Rusty Blackbird  
Uncommon, spring and fall migrant, woodlands
- Common Grackle\*  
Fairly common, spring/summer, overhead
- Brown-headed Cowbird\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands
- Northern (Baltimore) Oriole\*  
Common, spring/summer, woodlands



Lisa M. Dellwo

(L-R) Researcher Quinn Emmering and Visiting Scientist Dr. Kenneth Schmidt banding songbirds at the Cary Institute.

## FINCHES

- Purple Finch\*  
Uncommon, spring/summer, woodlands
- House Finch\*  
Uncommon, year-round, woodlands
- American Goldfinch\*  
Common, year-round, woodlands

## OLD WORLD SPARROWS

- House Sparrow\*  
Fairly common, year-round, near habitation

A wide range of field research on birds occurs at the Cary Institute, including studies of predation by chipmunks and other rodents on Veery and Wood Thrush nests; communication of information between bird species; changes in the spring-time arrival of migrants; and the effects of West Nile Virus on native bird populations.