

Conococheague Audubon

P.O. Box 20 • Fayetteville, PA 17222 http://www.ConococheagueAudubon.org

November 2023

Dear Citizen Scientist.

Our Christmas Bird Count will be on Saturday, December 16, 2023.

We really appreciate your participation in this nationwide endeavor. Audubon and other organizations use data collected in this longest-running wildlife census to assess the health of bird populations and to help guide conservation action. Please see the reverse of this letter for the reporting form.

Please follow these guidelines to make the count as accurate as possible.

- 1. Be sure feeders are within the count circle.
- 2. If two or more people are counting in the immediate area, compare your counts and report only the largest number of each species.
- 3. Birds coming to feeders should not be totaled for the day. Report only the highest number of individuals of any species seen at one time. For example, when watching a feeder over a period of time, if 11 American Goldfinches are seen all at once then leave, 5 more appear then leave, and 6 visit the feeder later, the number you should report is 11, not 22.
- 4. In some species (e.g., Northern Cardinal) males and females look different. Count the largest number of each sex. Thus if you see 4 male Cardinals at one time and later see 3 female Cardinals at one time, report 7 Cardinals.
- 5. Please keep track of and report the total time you spend watching your feeders. If you watch for two separate half-hour periods, report 1 hour.
- 6. Telephone your report to <u>Marguerite Fries</u> at 717-263-2934 by 7 PM on count day, Saturday, December 16. Notice that we are encouraging you to include the birds' typical late afternoon feeding time by extending the reporting time to 7:00 PM. ☺
- 7. If you happen to see an unusual species during count week (December 13-19) that you do not see on count day, call the compiler, Valerie Barnes at 717-352-4397.
- 8. Record details if you see a rare bird for our area in winter.

There will be no tally dinner this year.

Thanks again for your help. Have a great day watching your feeders! Remember to **telephone your report to**Marguerite Fries at 717-263-2934 by 7 PM on count day, Saturday, December 16.

Compiler Valerie B. Barnes

Christmas Bird Count – Feeder Watch Species List – **Saturday, December 16, 2023**

Canada Goose	Red-breasted Nuthatch
American Black Duck	White-breasted Nuthatch
Mallard	Brown Creeper
Wild Turkey	Winter Wren
Ring-necked Pheasant	Carolina Wren
Mourning Dove	European Starling
Great Blue Heron	Northern Mockingbird
Sharp-shinned Hawk	American Robin
Cooper's Hawk	House Sparrow
Red-tailed Hawk	House Finch
Eastern Screech-Owl	——— Pine Siskin
Great Horned Owl	American Goldfinch
Barred Owl	Fox Sparrow
Belted Kingfisher	Dark-eyed Junco
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	White-crowned Sparrow
Red-bellied Woodpecker	White-throated Sparrow
Downy Woodpecker	Song Sparrow
——— Hairy Woodpecker	Brown-headed Cowbird
——— Pileated Woodpecker	Common Grackle
Northern Flicker	— Northern Cardinal
Blue Jay	
American Crow	
Carolina/Black-capped Chickadee	
Tufted Titmouse	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	
Total time watching	Your observer number

If you see an unusual species at your feeder between December 13 and December 19 that you do <u>not</u> see on count day, it can be reported as seen in the count week. Notify the compiler, Valerie Barnes, to report it.

Please phone in your report by 7 PM on count day, Saturday, December 16, to Marguerite Fries at 717-263-2934. Provide details if you see a rare bird for our area in winter.