**Forbush Bird Club 2014 Trip Reports**

The following are highlights of the 2014 field trips of the Forbush Bird Club, listed in reverse chronological order.

**November 16, 2014. Salisbury and vicinity.**

8 participants. Mostly cloudy. Temps between upper 20's to low 40's. Light winds increasing in p.m. 48 species recorded. Highlights: 3 snowy owls, 1 barred owl, late great egret, American bittern, great looks at feeding snow buntings, Bald eagle

Complete list:

Red-necked grebe

Horned grebe

Double-crested cormorant

Great cormorant

Mute swan

Canada goose

American wigeon

Gadwall

Mallard

American black duck

Northern pintail

Common eider

White-winged scoter

Common goldeneye

Hooded merganser

Great blue heron

GREAT EGRET

AMERICAN BITTERN

BALD EAGLE

Northern harrier

Wilson's snipe

Dunlin

Black-bellied plover

Ring-billed gull

Great black-backed gull

Herring gull

Red-throated loon

Common loon

Rock pigeon

Mourning dove

SNOWY OWL (3)

BARRED OWL

Downy woodpecker

Blue jay

American crow

American robin

Northern mockingbird

European starling

Red-breasted nuthatch

White-breasted nuthatch

Black-capped chickadee

American goldfinch

SNOW BUNTING (est 30+)

Song sparrow

Darked-eyed junco

American tree sparrow

Northern cardinal

House sparrow

(48 species)

And - 1 unidentified raptor- very possible Rough-legged hawk

 (trip report from Dick Knowlton)

**October 26, 2014. Saw-whet Owl banding program, Lookout Rock, Northbridge**

Four Forbush members and several other visitors participated in the Saw-whet Owl banding program at Lookout Rock in Northbridge on Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014. This is a continuing research program conducted by Strickland Wheelock and his banding team. Just past New Moon, the conditions were favorable with the dark sky and cooler temperatures--a bit breezy at the beginning of the evening. One N. Saw-whet Owl, an adult female, was netted about 8:15pm. Two more female owls (one adult, one hatch year) did not appear until nets were being closed at 10:15pm.

(trip report from Beth Milke)

**October 25, 2014. Wachusett Reservoir IBA**

The Forbush Bird Club had a great trip throughout the Wachusett Reservoir IBA yesterday.

6 members participated. The weather was clear with a slight breeze and a high temperature of about 64F.

Complete list:

Canada Goose (93, one domestic x hybrid)

Mute Swan (2)

Wood Duck (8)

American Black Duck (1)

Mallard (51)

Green-winged Teal (16)

Lesser Scaup (2)

Bufflehead (3)

Common Goldeneye (5)

Hooded Merganser (3)

Common Merganser (4)

Ruddy Duck (47, all at East Waushacum pond)

Common Loon (26)

Pied-billed Grebe (2)

Horned Grebe (4, North reservoir)

Red-necked Grebe (7, North reservoir)

Double-crested Cormorant (19)

Turkey Vulture (6)

Osprey (4)

Sharp-shinned Hawk (4)

Cooper's Hawk (2)

Red-tailed Hawk (14)

Ring-billed Gull (124)

Herring Gull (1)

Mourning Dove (5)

Belted Kingfisher (1)

Red-bellied Woodpecker (3)

Downy Woodpecker (6)

Hairy Woodpecker (3)

Northern Flicker (1)

American Kestrel (1)

Merlin (4, migrating)

Eastern Phoebe (2)

Blue Jay (39)

American Crow (75)

Black-capped Chickadee (32)

Tufted Titmouse (16)

Red-breasted Nuthatch (3)

White-breasted Nuthatch (5)

Carolina Wren (4)

Golden-crowned Kinglet (4)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (6)

Eastern Bluebird (13)

Hermit Thrush (1)

American Robin (28)

Northern Mockingbird (1)

European Starling (6)

American Pipit (2)

Cedar Waxwing (30)

Yellow-rumped Warbler (78)

American Tree Sparrow (2)

Song Sparrow (9)

White-throated Sparrow (2)

Dark-eyed Junco (27)

Northern Cardinal (6)

Red-winged Blackbird (1)

Common Grackle (1)

House Finch (4)

Purple Finch (5)

Pine Siskin (3)

American Goldfinch (42)

House Sparrow (15)

 (trip report from Kevin Bourinot)

**October 19, 2014. Lake Quaboag and vicinity.**

Seven observers including leader Rodney Jenkins. Mostly cloudy, breezy, 45-50 degrees.

Highlights: 1 Long-Tailed Duck, 1 White-winged Scoter, 24 Ruddy Ducks, 2 Bald Eagles, 3 palm Warblers and a Rusty Blackbird.

48 Species:

Great Blue heron 2

Turkey Vulture 3

Canada Goose 15

Mute Swan 2

Black Duck 12

Mallard 350

Ring-necked Duck 22

Greater Scaup 1

Long-tailed Duck 1

Bufflehead 3

Ruddy Duck 24

Osprey 1

Bald Eagle 2 adults

Cooper's hawk 4

Red-tailed hawk 3

Ring-billed Gull 18

Rock Dove 30

Mourning Dove 6

Kingfisher 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker 2

Downey Woodpecker 1

Northern Flicker 1

Phoebe 1

Blue jay 12

Crow 12

B-C- Chickadee 10

Titmouse 4

White br Nuthatch 4

Carolina Wren 2

Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1

Robin 25

Starling 60

Cedar Waxwing 12

Yellow-rumped Warbler 15

Palm Warbler 3

Savannah Sparrow 10

Song Sparrow 45

Swamp Sparrow 25

White throated Sparrow 125

Dark-eyed Junco 4

Cardinal 4

Red-winged Blackbird 60

Rusty Blackbird 1

Grackle 2

Cowbird 1

Purple Finch 8

Goldfinch 2

 (trip report from Rodney Jenkins)

**October 5, 2014. New Braintree.**

10 observers including leader Rodney Jenkins. Clear skies 45 to 55 degrees with a West wind increasing to 10 mph.

Highlights: actually quiet except for the "blueberry patch hill" where we enjoyed looking over literally scores of birds.

Particular highlights: 1 male Northern harrier, 11 palm Warblers, 92 Savannah Sparrows, 4 Lincoln's Sparrows 3 Indigo Buntings, and 14 late Bobolinks.

Species:

Turkey Vulture 4

Canada Goose heard

Northern harrier 1 male

Sharp-shinned hawk 2

Cooper's Hawk 1

Red-tailed hawk 4

Kestrel 3

Merlin 1

Ruffed Grouse 1

 Dead. (This bird was pointed out to us by a bystander who said it was alive. When we approached it it was warm but dead.)

Rock Dove 10

Mourning Dove 32

Kingfisher 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker 1

Downy Woodpecker 1

Hairy Woodpecker 3

Northern Flicker 3

Phoebe 6

Blue jay 30

Crow 12

Raven 1

BC Chickadee 6

Titmouse 2

Carolina Wren 2

House Wren 2

Bluebird 3

Robin 15

Catbird 1

Starling 15

American Pipit 1 heard

Cedar Waxwing 40

Yellow-rumped Warbler 16

Palm Warbler 11

Common Yellowthroat 1

Chipping Sparrow 30

Savannah Sparrow 92

Song Sparrow 40

Lincoln's Sparrow 4

Swamp Sparrow 22

White-throated Sparrow 18

White-crowned Sparrow 1

Cardinal 2

Indigo Bunting 3

Bobolink 14

Red-winged Blackbird 8

Purple Finch 2

House Finch 6

Goldfinch 3

House Sparrow 1

49 species.

 (trip report from Rodney Jenkins)

**September 21, 2014 Bolton Flats**

Two Forbush Bird Club members braved the early, heavy rains on Sunday morning and birded Bolton Flats. The weather cleared up by 9AM for the most part. The main field north of 110 has been plowed, but produced only Killdeer. Sparrow numbers have increased over the last week with Swamp Sparrows dominating as expected. Warblers were noticeably low compared to previous years.

Species:

Canada Goose (14)

Wood Duck (3)

Mallard (2)

Double-crested Cormorant (1)

Great Blue Heron (1)

Northern Harrier (1)

Cooper's Hawk (1)

Red-tailed Hawk (3)

Killdeer (16)

Mourning Dove (6)

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (2)

Belted Kingfisher (1)

Red-bellied Woodpecker (4)

Downy Woodpecker (4)

Northern Flicker (3)

American Kestrel (3)

Eastern Phoebe (12)

Warbling Vireo (1)

Blue Jay (23)

American Crow (5)

Black-capped Chickadee (9)

Tufted Titmouse (6)

White-breasted Nuthatch (5)

House Wren ( 4)

Marsh Wren (1)

Eastern Bluebird (2)

American Robin (182)

Gray Catbird (15)

Northern Mockingbird (1)

European Starling (12)

Cedar Waxwing (27)

Common Yellowthroat (5)

Magnolia Warbler (1)

Prairie Warbler (1)

Eastern Towhee (3)

Savannah Sparrow (4)

Song Sparrow (36)

Lincoln's Sparrow (2)

Swamp Sparrow (108)

White-throated Sparrow (1)

Northern Cardinal (8)

Indigo Bunting (1)

Red-winged Blackbird (13)

American Goldfinch (2)

 (trip report from Kevin Bourinot)

**September 13, 2014. Quabbin Gate 40 Petersham walk.**

Cloudy early then partly sunny. Mid 60's, little wind. 6 observers including the leader, Rodney Jenkins.

Very poor birding but an enjoyable walk.

Species:

Turkey Vulture 2

Accipitor sp. 1

Broad-winged hawk 2

M. Dove 1

Ruby-throated Hummingbird 1

Downy Woodpecker 6

Northern Flicker 1

Eastern Pewee 1

Phoebe 10

Blue jay 25

Crow 1

Raven 1

B-C-Chickadee 40

Tufted Titmouse 6

Red-breasted Nuthatch 2

White-breasted Nuthatch 10

Carolina Wren 1

House Wren 2

Wood Thrush 3

Robin 1

Catbird 8

Cedar Waxwing 6

Northern Parula 2

Black-throated Blue Warbler 1

Yellow-rumped Warbler 1

Black-throated green Warbler 8

Blackburnian Warbler 1

Pine Warbler 20

Black-and-White Warbler 2

Redstart 2

Ovenbird 1

Yellowthroat 7

Scarlet Tanager 4

Eastern Towhee 8

Chipping Sparrow 2

Song Sparrow 1

Rose-breasted grosbeak 2

Goldfinch 2

38 species.

 (trip report from Rodney Jenkins)

**August 30, 2014 Wachusett Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton**

Leader: Joan Gallagher. Observers: 18 Weather: Partly cloudy 58 degrees to start ending with a sunny high of 76 degrees. Highlights: Good close looks at a Red-shouldered Hawk and a Broad-winged Hawk in flight; the distant call and close looks of two Common Loons as they flew overhead; a friendly Ruffed Grouse that had to be protected by the group from an approaching automobile along the road.

Species: 44

Mallard

Hooded Merganser

Ruffed Grouse

Common Loon

Double-Crested Cormorant

Green Heron

Turkey Vulture

Cooper's Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

Broad-winged Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

Mourning Dove

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Belted Kingfisher

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker

Hairy Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

Eastern Wood-pewee

Eastern Phoebe

Red-eyed Vireo

Blue Jay

American Crow

Barn Swallow

Black-capped Chickadee

White-breasted Nuthatch

Brown Creeper

House Wren

Wood Thrush

Gray Catbird

European Starling

Cedar Waxwing

Black-and-white Warbler

American Redstart

Common Yellowthroat

Scarlet Tanager

Eastern Towhee

Chipping Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Northern Cardinal

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Brown-headed Cowbird

American Goldfinch

House Sparrow

 (trip report from Joan Gallagher)

**8/21 Nighthawk Watch - route 56 (Worcester Airport overlook)**

On 8/21/2014 John Shea lead 6 people on a trip to the Route 56 overlook for Common Nighthawks. They saw 15 Nighthawks. It was a very cloudy and cool night and not much was flying. We saw 8 species.

Species:

Egret Species. 1

Turkey Vulture 1

Red-tail Hawk 1

Common Nighthawks 15

Blue Jay 2

Barn Swallow 1

Grackle 2

Brown-headed Cowbird 1

C. Goldfinch 4

 (Trip report from John Shea)

**7/20/14 Leicester / Birds & Butterflies with Massachusetts Butterfly Club**

Twelve members of the Forbush Bird Club and the Massachusetts Butterfly Club spent three hours in very cloudy Leicester on Sunday, July 20. The sun really didn't come out until about 11 a.m., so we did the best we could in finding the butterflies. Not surprisingly, the birds outnumbered the butterflies, with 37 bird species and 19 butterfly species. Many thanks to Marjorie Watson for keeping the bird list.

Leader: Dolores Price

Highlights: Eastern Meadowlark, Eastern Bluebird, Savannah Sparrow, Wild Turkey, Song Sparrow (2 adults with 3 fledglings), Chimney Swift, American Kestrel

Complete species list:

Canada Goose 1

Wild Turkey 7

Great Blue Heron 1

Green Heron 1

Turkey Vulture 2

Red-tailed Hawk 1

Mourning Dove 4

Chimney Swift 1

Hairy Woodpecker 1

American Kestrel 2

Eastern Wood-Pewee 1

Eastern Phoebe 1

Red-eyed Vireo 1

Blue Jay 2

American Crow 10

Tree Swallow 1

Barn Swallow 6

Black-capped Chickadee 2

House Wren 5

Eastern Bluebird 1

Veery 1

Wood Thrush 1

American Robin 4

Gray Catbird 5

Northern Mockingbird 1

European Starling 40

Cedar Waxwing 6

Common Yellowthroat 2

Eastern Towhee 1

Chipping Sparrow 1

Field Sparrow 1

Savannah Sparrow 1

Song Sparrow 5

Northern Cardinal 2

Bobolink 6

Eastern Meadowlark 2

American Goldfinch 7

And the butterflies:

Black Swallowtail 6

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail 4

Spicebush Swallowtail 1

Cabbage White 1

Clouded Sulphur 4

Eastern Tailed-Blue 2

Summer Azure 1

Fritillary Species 4

Pearl Crescent 3

Viceroy 2

Little Wood Satyr 1

Common Wood Nymph 15

Monarch 2

Silver-spotted Skipper 25

Dun Skipper 6

Crossline Skipper 2

Northern Broken Dash 1

Little Glassywing 3

Common Sootywing 1

 (trip report from Dolores Price)

**7/13 Wachusett Reservoir: Forbush Bird Club Annual Breeding Bird Count**

This morning the Forbush Bird Club had an excellent trip around Wachusett Reservoir to monitor breeders.

56 Species

Canada Goose (20)

Mallard (5)

Wild Turkey (23) 6 fledglings with adult

Common Loon (16) 11 adults, 2 non-breeding plumage, 3 fledglings; 2 in the North proper with adult pair and 1 in South Bay with 1 adult.

Double-crested Cormorant (18)

Great Blue Heron (1)

Green Heron (1)

Turkey Vulture (1)

Bald Eagle (3) 2 adults, 1 young on nest

Broad-winged Hawk (2)

Red-tailed Hawk (1)

Spotted Sandpiper (9)

Ring-billed Gull (39)

Mourning Dove (4)

Black-billed Cuckoo (1)

Chimney Swift (3)

Downy Woodpecker (5)

Northern Flicker (3)

American Kestrel (2) 1 in nest box

Eastern Wood-Pewee (4)

Eastern Phoebe (3)

Eastern Kingbird (11)

Red-eyed Vireo (18)

Blue Jay (32)

American Crow (28)

Tree Swallow (27)

Bank Swallow (1)

Barn Swallow (4)

Black-capped Chickadee (24)

Tufted Titmouse (8)

Red-breasted Nuthatch (1)

White-breasted Nuthatch (2)

Veery (2)

Wood Thrush (4)

American Robin (8)

Gray Catbird (9)

European Starling (15)

Cedar Waxwing (16)

Ovenbird (5)

Black-and-white Warbler (1)

Common Yellowthroat (4)

Pine Warbler (13)

Eastern Towhee (3)

Chipping Sparrow (21)

Savannah Sparrow (1)

Song Sparrow (17)

Scarlet Tanager (5)

Northern Cardinal (6)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (2)

Indigo Bunting (1)

Red-winged Blackbird (14)

Eastern Meadowlark (4)

Common Grackle (16)

Brown-headed Cowbird (5)

American Goldfinch (8)

House Sparrow (10)

(trip report from Kevin Bourinot)

**Sunday, 6/8/14 -- 48th Annual Breeding Bird Census MAS Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary**

Dick Knowlton sent this report:

Below find the final results of the 49th annual breeding bird census at Wachusett Meadow WS. While the number of species was down a bit from 2013 the overall number of birds was up and SIX new record highs were established. I took the liberty of adding with a notation the American bittern which was seen early the following morning and has been recorded regularly both before and after the census. Our Monday morning group this week had great views as it preened from atop one of the beaver lodges. If not breeding it, at least, seems to have taken up residence in and around the sanctuary.

Many thanks to the 21 participants who made a successful count possible. Your efforts are much appreciated.

* 
* 
* 

**6/1/2014 - Barre Falls Dam & Rutland State Park**

Leaders: Donna Schilling and Dave Grant

Weather: Sunny, 42 to 65 degrees, with variable wind under 7 mph.

Eleven participants enjoyed beautiful weather on a morning trip through a portion of the Ware River Watershed IBA. Areas visited were the Army Corps of Engineers property north of Barre Falls Dam, Brigham Road at the river's West Branch, Coldbrook Road, Reuben Walker Road at Stevens Brook, Prison Camp Road, and Intervale Road at Longmeadow Brook.

Highlights included a Black-billed Cuckoo, Green Heron, and the Barre Falls Common Ravens feeding their fledgling. Eleven species of breeding warblers were observed.

64 species were recorded:

Canada Goose 15

Great Blue Heron 4

Green Heron 1

Turkey Vulture 4

Broad-winged Hawk 1

Red-tailed Hawk 1

Mourning Dove 2

Black-billed Cuckoo 1

Ruby-throated Hummingbird 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker 1

Downy woodpecker 1

Northern Flicker 2

Pileated Woodpecker 2

Eastern Wood-Pewee 3

Alder Flycatcher 1

Willow Flycatcher 2

Least Flycatcher 6

Eastern Phoebe 7

Great Crested Flycatcher 3

Eastern Kingbird 3

Blue-headed Vireo 2

Warbling Vireo 4

Red-eyed Vireo 19

Blue Jay 3

American Crow 4

Common Raven 3 (two adults feeding a fledgling)

Tree Swallow 12

Black-capped Chickadee 14

Red-breasted Nuthatch 1

White-breasted Nuthatch 3

Brown Creeper 1

Eastern Bluebird 1

Veery 4

Wood Thrush 1

American Robin 22

Gray Catbird 5

 (trip report from Donna Schilling)

**5/31/2014 - DCR Kristoff Farm**

Leaders: Beverley Renaud and Richard Beaudreau

Observers: 6

Weather: cloudy, 55-60 degrees

36 species.

Killdeer

Carolina wren

House wren

Red-wing blackbird

Mockingbird

Red-eyed vireo

Blue-headed vireo

Wood thrush

Crow

Chickadee

Gold finch

Cardinal

Song sparrow

Eastern towhee

Gray catbird

Robin

Mourning dove

Red-bellied woodpecker

Brown-headed cowbird

Ovenbird

Eastern wood-pewee

Willow flycatcher

Rose-breasted grosbeak

Pleated woodpecker

Northern flicker

Tree swallow

Kestrel

Red-tailed hawk

Turkey vulture

Black and white warbler

Yellow warbler

Yellow-throated warbler

Blue-winged warbler

Chestnut-sided warbler

Pine warbler

American redstart

**May 25, 2014 Upton State Forest, Worcester**

Forbush Bird Club hike, 3.5 miles. 15+ participants. Only one migrant wave of Blackburnian and Blackpoll. All others breeders. Main entrance to Dean Pond via loop rd and back middle rd. Then swamp loop. Chilly morning. Clear.

63 species

Canada Goose (Branta canadensis) 2

Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) 2

Hooded Merganser (Lophodytes cucullatus) 2

Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 2

Broad-winged Hawk (Buteo platypterus) 1

Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 4

Chimney Swift (Chaetura pelagica) 7

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (Archilochus colubris) 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker (Melanerpes carolinus) 2

Downy Woodpecker (Picoides pubescens) 3

Hairy Woodpecker (Picoides villosus) 2

Northern Flicker (Yellow-shafted) (Colaptes auratus auratus/luteus) 1

Eastern Wood-Pewee (Contopus virens) 2

Eastern Phoebe (Sayornis phoebe) 2

Great Crested Flycatcher (Myiarchus crinitus) 3

Eastern Kingbird (Tyrannus tyrannus) 1

Yellow-throated Vireo (Vireo flavifrons) 1

Blue-headed Vireo (Vireo solitarius) 1

Warbling Vireo (Vireo gilvus) 3

Red-eyed Vireo (Vireo olivaceus) 8

Blue Jay (Cyanocitta cristata) 10

American Crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos) 2

Tree Swallow (Tachycineta bicolor) 12

Bank Swallow (Riparia riparia) 2

Barn Swallow (Hirundo rustica) 8

Black-capped Chickadee (Poecile atricapillus) 8

Tufted Titmouse (Baeolophus bicolor) 4

Red-breasted Nuthatch (Sitta canadensis) 2

White-breasted Nuthatch (Sitta carolinensis) 6

Brown Creeper (Certhia americana) 7 Singing in different locations. Common breeder here.

House Wren (Troglodytes aedon) 1

Winter Wren (Troglodytes hiemalis) 6 All singing. They have been more abundant here this year.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea) 4

Eastern Bluebird (Sialia sialis) 1

Veery (Catharus fuscescens) 10

Hermit Thrush (Catharus guttatus) 1

Wood Thrush (Hylocichla mustelina) 3

American Robin (Turdus migratorius) 10

Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 5

Cedar Waxwing (Bombycilla cedrorum) 20

Ovenbird (Seiurus aurocapilla) 40 Low estimate. Generally always present throughout hike. But less than usual.

Northern Waterthrush (Parkesia noveboracensis) 3

Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia) 1

Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 5

American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 9

Blackburnian Warbler (Setophaga fusca) 1

Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia) 8

Blackpoll Warbler (Setophaga striata) 3

Pine Warbler (Setophaga pinus) 12

Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle) (Setophaga coronata coronata) 2

Black-throated Green Warbler (Setophaga virens) 3

Eastern Towhee (Pipilo erythrophthalmus) 3

Chipping Sparrow (Spizella passerina) 8

Song Sparrow (Melospiza melodia) 8

Swamp Sparrow (Melospiza georgiana) 3

Scarlet Tanager (Piranga olivacea) 18 Common breeder. Singing birds, pairs observed.

Northern Cardinal (Cardinalis cardinalis) 4

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (Pheucticus ludovicianus) 3

Red-winged Blackbird (Agelaius phoeniceus) 16

Common Grackle (Quiscalus quiscula) 12

Brown-headed Cowbird (Molothrus ater) 8

Baltimore Oriole (Icterus galbula) 6

American Goldfinch (Spinus tristis) 6

 (trip report from Nickilas Paulson)

**5/17/2014 Millbury/Sutton area (morning)**

Four Forbush members joined leader Alan Marble for a trip to the Millbury Bike path, Oakhurst Rd in Sutton and the Brierly Pond Conservation Area in Millbury. The rain ended by the start of the trip and the day turned warm and sunny.

Highlights of the trip were: Blackburnian Warbler, a pair of Orchard Orioles and 2 Grasshopper Sparrows.

Here is the list of the 56 species recorded:

Wood Duck 5

Mallard 4

Wild Turkey 1

Turkey Vulture 5

Broad-winged Hawk 1

Red-tailed Hawk 1

Killdeer 3

Spotted Sandpiper 1

Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) 6

Chimney Swift 5

Ruby-throated Hummingbird 1

Belted Kingfisher 1

Downy Woodpecker 1

Northern Flicker 1

Eastern Phoebe 1

Great Crested Flycatcher 1

Eastern Kingbird 2

Warbling Vireo 4

Red-eyed Vireo 1

Blue Jay 3

American Crow 6

Northern Rough-winged Swallow 2

Tree Swallow 3

Barn Swallow 3

Black-capped Chickadee 1

Tufted Titmouse 1

White-breasted Nuthatch 1

Carolina Wren 1

Veery 1

American Robin 12

Gray Catbird 5

Brown Thrasher 1

Ovenbird 2

Blue-winged Warbler 2

Black-and-white Warbler 3

Common Yellowthroat 4

American Redstart 4

Blackburnian Warbler 1

Yellow Warbler 3

Chestnut-sided Warbler 1

Yellow-rumped Warbler 1

Prairie Warbler 2

Eastern Towhee 2

Field Sparrow 2

Grasshopper Sparrow 2

Song Sparrow 5

Scarlet Tanager 1

Northern Cardinal 4

Rose-breasted Grosbeak 1

Red-winged Blackbird 10

Common Grackle 8

Brown-headed Cowbird 2

Orchard Oriole 2

Baltimore Oriole 5

American Goldfinch 5

House Sparrow 9

 (trip report from Alan Marble)

**5/18/2014 Buck Hill, Spencer**

Leader: Susan LaBree. Seven participants joined this walk on a nice sunny day at 58 degrees.

Species list (60):

Mallard duck 2

Hooded Merganser 2

Canada goose 2

Wood duck 1

Great Blue Heron 1

Turkey Vulture 1

Red-Tailed Hawk 1

Mourning Dove 4

Ruby-throated Hummingbrd 1

Belted Kingfisher 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker 2

Downy Woodpecker 4

Hairy Woodpecker 1

Pileated Woodpecker 1

Eastern Wood peewee 4

Least Flycatcher 3

Eastern Phoebe 3

Great Creasted Flycatcher 1

Eastern Kingbird 2

Tree Swallow 4

Blue-headed Vireo 2

Warbling Vireo 2

Red Eyed Vireo 5

Blue Jay 4

American Crow 2

Black-capped Chickadee 10

Tufted Titmouse 3

White-breasted Nuthatch 4

Brown Creeper 2

House Wren 1

Veery 2

Hermit Thrush 2

Wood Thrush 1

American Robin 5

Gray Catbird 3

Blue-winged Warbler 1

Yellow Warbler 4

Chestnut-sided Warbler 4

Black-throated Blue Warbler 2

Yellow-rumped Warbler 4

Black-throated Green Warbler 5

Blackburnian 1

Pine Warbler 3

Black and White Warbler 2

Ovenbird 18

Northern Waterthrush 1

Common Yellowthroat 6

Northern Cardinal 2

Scarlet Tanager 4

Eastern Towhee 2

Chipping Sparrow 4

Song Sparrow 5

Rose-breasted Grosbeak 2

Bobolink 8

Red-winged Blackbird 2

Common Grackle 2

Brown-headed Cowbird 5

Baltimore Oriole 6

American Goldfinch 8

House Sparrow 4

 (trip report from Susan LaBree)

**5/11/2014 Mt. Auburn Cemetery (morning)**

This morning I was joined by 30+ participants for the Annual Forbush Bird Club Mother's Day Mt Auburn Walk. And Mt Auburn did not disappoint!

We spent much of the time standing in a few select spots letting the birds come to us. Most notable of these were Indian Ridge and Aspen Lane(?).

Warbler highlights were numerous but the highlight for me was watching a titmouse land near a sleeping raccoon and pull out a few pieces of loose fur. I've only seen this behavior a few times before, mostly on dogs.

Many thanks to everyone who helped spotting birds and informing us of hotspots (Gary, Barry and Leslie)!

Full list w/ select locations -

Canada Goose - 4

Mallard - 5

Wild Turkey - 1

Double-crested Cormorant - 16

Green Heron - 1 (Spectacle Pond)

Turkey Vulture - 1

Osprey - 3

Cooper's Hawk - 1

Red-tailed Hawk - 2

Ring-billed Gull - 1

Herring Gull (American) ~ 5

Mourning Dove ~ 5

Chimney Swift ~ 5

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 1

Belted Kingfisher - 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker - 2

Downy Woodpecker - 3

Northern Flicker (Yellow-shafted) - 1

Eastern Phoebe - 2

Great Crested Flycatcher - 2

Eastern Kingbird - 2

Yellow-throated Vireo - 1 (Dell)

Blue-headed Vireo - 3

Warbling Vireo - 1

Red-eyed Vireo - 2

Blue Jay ~ 7

American Crow - 2

Tree Swallow - 3

Barn Swallow - 1

Black-capped Chickadee ~ 8

Tufted Titmouse ~ 5

White-breasted Nuthatch - 3

Carolina Wren - 1

House Wren - 3

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 1

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 1

Veery - 2

Swainson's Thrush - 3 (Indian Ridge and Dell)

Hermit Thrush - 1

Wood Thrush - 1

American Robin ~ 14

Gray Catbird ~ 5

Northern Mockingbird - 1

European Starling - 2

Cedar Waxwing - 2

Tennessee Warbler - 1 (Indian Ridge and Aspen)

Nashville Warbler ~ 3

Northern Parula ~ 11

Yellow Warbler - 4

Chestnut-sided Warbler - 3

Magnolia Warbler - 5

Cape May Warbler - 1 (Indian Ridge and Aspen)

Black-throated Blue Warbler ~ 5

Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle) ~ 60

Black-throated Green Warbler - 4

Blackburnian Warbler - 4

Pine Warbler - 3

Prairie Warbler - 1

Palm Warbler (Yellow) - 1

Bay-breasted Warbler ~ 1 (Aspen and Tower)

Blackpoll Warbler - 4

Black-and-white Warbler ~ 11

American Redstart ~ 6

Ovenbird - 4

Northern Waterthrush - 1 (Halcyon Pond)

Common Yellowthroat - 3

Hooded Warbler - 1 (In Rhododendrons and Forsythia near Indian Ridge)

Wilson's Warbler - 3

Canada Warbler - 2

Chipping Sparrow ~ 11

Song Sparrow ~ 2

White-throated Sparrow ~ 2

White-crowned Sparrow - 1 (Indian Ridge)

Scarlet Tanager - 2

Northern Cardinal - 3

Rose-breasted Grosbeak ~ 4

Indigo Bunting - 3

Bobolink ~ 1 (singing near Halcyon and a single bird flying over)

Red-winged Blackbird ~ 5

Common Grackle ~ 15

Brown-headed Cowbird ~ 6

Orchard Oriole - 3

Baltimore Oriole ~ 7

House Finch - 2

American Goldfinch ~ 7

House Sparrow - 5

Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) - 3

 Butterflies -

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail - 1

Cabbage White ~ 3

Comma/Questionmark - 1

 Also...

Raccoon - 1

Eastern Painted Turtle ~ 8

Red-eared Slider - 1

Happy Mother's Day!

 (trip report from Dan Berard, Douglas, MA)

**5/10/2014 Mt Wachusett, Westminster**

Leader: Susan LaBree. Seven participants for this walk in drizzle and fog

Species list:

Canada Geese 4

Mallard 2

Wild Turkey 3

Great Blue Heron 1

Turkey Vulture 8

Red-Tailed Hawk 1

Killdeer 2

Broad-winged Hawk 1

Morning Dove 4

Chimney Swift 2

Red-bellied Woodpecker 2

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1

Downy Woodpecker 3

Hairy Woodpecker 2

Pileated Woodpecker 1

Northern Flicker 3

Eastern Phoebe 4

Least Flycatcher 3

Great Crested Flycatcher 1

Kingbird 2

Blue-headed Vireo 3

Rose-breasted Grosbeak 2

Blue Jay 6

American Crow 3

Tree Swallow 11

Barn Swallow 8

Black-capped Chickadee 6

Tufted Titmouse 4

White-breasted Nuthatch 5

Brown Creeper 3

House wren 1

Winter Wren 6

Eastern Bluebird 2

Veery 2

Hermit Thrush 2

Wood Thursh 3

American Robin 14

Gray Catbird 5

Blue-winged Warbler 3

Nashville Warbler 4

Northern Parula 2

Yellow Warbler 4

Chestnut-sided Warbler 6

Black-throated Blue Warbler 3

Yellow-rumped Warbler 4

Black-throated Green Warbler 9

Blackburnian Warbler 1

Pine Warbler 3

Black and White Warbler 8

American Redstart 3

Ovenbird 16

Northern Waterthrush 4

Common Yellowthroat 6

Scarlet Tanager 2

Eastern Towhee 9

Chipping Sparrow 8

Song Sparrow 4

Dark-eyed Junco 4

Northern Cardinal 4

Rose-breasted Grosbeak 2

Bobolink 12

Red-winged Blackbird 6

Common Grackle 6

Brown-headed Cowbird 7

Baltimore Oriole 4

Purple Finch 2

House Finch 1

American Goldfinch 8

House Sparrow 6

 (trip report from Susan LaBree)

**5/3/2014 Oxford, Dudley and vicinity (morning)**

8 observers enjoyed the following species at Hodges Village ACE in Oxford MA. Weather was sunny, a slight breeze, and temperatures in the 60s.

Species:

Canada Goose

Wood Duck

Mallard

Double-crested Cormorant 8 (flyover)

Green Heron

Great Blue Heron

Great Egret (1)

Turkey Vulture

Osprey (3) a pair appearing to be trying to nest and a rival

Cooper's Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

Killdeer

Rock Pigeon

Mourning Dove

Belted Kingfisher (4) 2 pairs constantly chasing each other

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

Downy Woodpecker

Eastern Phoebe

Great Crested Flycatcher

Eastern Kingbird

Yellow-throated Vireo

Blue-headed Vireo

Warbling Vireo

Blue Jay

American Crow

Tree Swallow

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Tufted Titmouse

Black-capped Chickadee

Brown Creeper

White-breasted Nuthatch

House Wren

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Eastern Bluebird

American Robin

Gray Catbird

Brown Thrasher (2)

Northern Mockingbird

European Starling

Northern Parula (3)

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Black-and-white Warbler (2)

Black-throated Green Warbler (1)

Pine Warbler

Palm Warbler

Yellow Warbler

Ovenbird

Northern Waterthrush (2)

Louisiana Waterthrush (1)

Common Yellowthroat

Eastern Towhee

Chipping Sparrow

Savannah Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Swamp Sparrow

White-throated Sparrow

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Northern Cardinal

Red-winged Blackbird

Common Grackle

Brown-headed Cowbird

Baltimore Oriole

American Goldfinch

House Sparrow

We also took a side trip to Webster Lake to observe a nest pair of Bald Eagle. One chick was observed in the nest.

66 total species were observed.

 (trip report from Paul Meleski)

**4/22/2014 Earth Day Walk**

Leader - Mike Bellows. Eight people, wonderful spring day

17 bird species total

2 kestral

2 savannah sparrow

yellow rump warbler

flicker

phoebe

 (trip report from Mike Bellows)

**4/27/2014 High Ridge WMA**

12 members enjoyed a 5 1/2 mile walk around High Ridge WMA, concentrating on the roads in Westminster and a little of Gardner. Bird song was fairly quiet with the cold temps, however we did manage to piece together a decent list of bird. Notably absent were Yellow-rumped, Black and White and Blue-headed Vireo.

The complete list:

Canada Goose 6

Wood Duck 4

Mallard 6

Green-winged Teal (American) 2 Pr

Hooded Merganser 1 F

Common Merganser 8 all F

Double-crested Cormorant 1

Great Blue Heron 2

Northern Harrier 1 F

Cooper's Hawk 1 Ad

Red-shouldered Hawk 1

Broad-winged Hawk 2

Red-tailed Hawk 1 imm

Mourning Dove 4

Red-bellied Woodpecker 2

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1

Downy Woodpecker 4

Hairy Woodpecker 1

Eastern Phoebe 8

Blue Jay 65

American Crow 5

Tree Swallow 15

Black-capped Chickadee 12

Tufted Titmouse 4

White-breasted Nuthatch 3

Brown Creeper 5

Winter Wren 1

Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1

Eastern Bluebird 6

Hermit Thrush 1

American Robin 25 most on ridge in field near "airport"

Louisiana Waterthrush 1

Palm Warbler (Yellow) 2

Pine Warbler 6

Eastern Towhee 2

Chipping Sparrow 4

Song Sparrow 3

Swamp Sparrow 5

White-throated Sparrow 1

Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored) 2

Northern Cardinal 2

Red-winged Blackbird 16

Common Grackle 6

Brown-headed Cowbird 8

House Finch 1

Purple Finch 3

American Goldfinch 5

(trip report from Tom Pirro)

**4/11/2014 Woodcock Walk - Westboro Wildlife Management Area**

We managed to walk a loop around the Westboro Wildlife Management area off Lyman Street between rain showers. This was a change of location from our usual meeting place off Milk Street where the entrances were gated this year. Four birders joined in. Despite the presence of American Woodcock performing their aerial displays earlier in the week at this location, the Featured Bird of the night was a no-show!

Species list:

Canada Goose 13

Mute Swan 6

Wood Duck 2

Mallard 6

American Kestrel 1

Killdeer 1

Ring-billed Gull

Mourning Dove 2

Blue Jay 1

American Crow 3

American Robin

Song Sparrow 3

White-throated Sparrow 2

Northern Cardinal 3

Red-winged Blackbird

Common Grackle

American Goldfinch

Plus one Muskrat

 (trip report from Laura Lane)

**4/6/2014 Bolton Flats**

On April 6, John Shea led 8 members on a trip to Bolton Flats. Some highlights were: 1 Blue-winged Teal, 4 Northern Pintail, 1 Male Northern Harrier and 3 Red-tailed Hawks.

We saw 44 species:

Canada Geese 1062

Wood Duck 21

A.Widgeon 2

Black Duck 15

Mallard Duck 113

Blue-winged Teal 1

N. Pintail 4

Green-winged Teal 125

Ring-neck Duck 31

Bufflehead 1

Common Merganser 8

Turkey 12

Pied-billed Grebe 1

Great Blue Heron 1

Turkey Vulture 2

N. Harrier 1

Coopers Hawk 1

Red-tailed Hawk 3

Killdeer 18

Pectoral Sandpiper 2

Wilson?s Snipe 2

Ring-billed Gull 15

Morning Dove 4

Red-Bellied Woodpecker 2

Downy Woodpecker 2

Blue Jay12

A.Crow 15

Tree Swallow 12

Black-capped Chickadee 4

Tufted Titmouse 1

White-breasted Nuthatch 2

Carolina Wren 1

Eastern Bluebird 4

Robin 153

N. Mockingbird 1

Starling 21

Song Sparrow 12

White- throated Sparrow 1

N. Cardinal 3

Red-winged Blackbird 52

Grackle 53

Brown-headed Cowbird 1

House Sparrow 2

A. Goldfinch 8

 (trip report from John Shea)

**3/23/2014 The Brookfields**

Rodney Jenkins reports: I led 7 people around the Brookfield's on a cold (low 30's) cloudy morning. Lake Quaboag was almost totally frozen as were the other ponds. The Quaboag River was open. Highlights among the 41 species were a Red-necked Grebe, a minimum of 4 Bald Eagles, 1 Phoebe, and a minimum of 22 Tree Swallows.

List of species:

Red-necked grebe 1

Great Blue Heron 1

Turkey Vulture 1 (leader only)

Canada Goose 53

Mute Swan 2 (leader only)

Wood Duck 14

Black Duck 18

Mallard 10

Ring-necked Duck 16

Greater Scaup 3

C.Goldeneye 2

Hooded merganser 16

Common merganser 3

Bald Eagle 4+

Killdeer 1 (leader only)

Ring-billed Gull 12

Rock Dove 15

Mourning Dove 3

Red-bellied Woodpecker 1

Downy Woodpecker 4

Hairy Woodpecker 1

Eastern phoebe 1

Blue jay 6

Tufted Titmouse 3

White-breasted nuthatch 6

Carolina Wren 3

Eastern Bluebird 3

Robin 30

Starling 15

Song Sparrow 2

White-throated Sparrow 6

Junco 4

Cardinal 6

Red-winged Blackbird 20

Grackle 15

House Finch 4

Goldfinch 2

House Sparrow 2

(trip report from Rodney Jenkins)

**3/2/14 - Sachuest Point NWR & Coastal Rhode Island, all day**

5 members enjoyed a trip to Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge and Norman Bird Sanctuary. Weather was overcast with temps in the 30's and little wind: Highlights included 2 Snowy Owls, a female Northern Harrier, 30 Purple Sandpipers, 6 Ruddy Turnstone, 40 Harlequin Ducks, calling Black Scoters, and courting Common Goldeneye. A Barn Owl was reported to occur in the area, but is usually seen late in the day, after we have left.

Species:

Canada Goose

American Black Duck

Mallard

Common Eider

Surf Scoter

White-winged Scoter

Black Scoter

Bufflehead

Common Goldeneye

Harlequin Duck

Red-breasted Merganser

Common Loon

Great Cormorant

Northern Harrier

Red-tailed Hawk

Ruddy Turnstone

Purple Sandpiper

Sanderling

Dunlin

Ring-billed Gull

Herring Gull

Great Black-backed Gull

Rock Pigeon

Mourning Dove

Snowy Owl

Downy Woodpecker

Blue Jay

American Crow

Black-capped Chickadee

Tufted Titmouse

White-breasted Nuthatch

Carolina Wren

American Robin

European Starling

Song Sparrow

White-throated Sparrow

Northern Cardinal

Red-winged Blackbird

House Finch

House Sparrow

40 species...

(trip report from Paul Meleski)

**2/8/14 - Cape Ann**

Cape Ann trip        Feb 8, 2014

Leader: Dan Berard        Participants: 15

Species seen: 60

Highlight: The highlight was not just the number of alcids seen, but the views. We started off with a Thick-billed Murre that eventually came within 15 feet giving fantastic views!!!

Species List:

Canada Goose

Mute Swan

Gadwall

American Black Duck

Mallard

Ring-necked Duck

Greater Scaup

Common Eider

Harlequin Duck

Surf Scoter

White-winged Scoter

Black Scoter

Long-tailed Duck

Bufflehead

Common Goldeneye

Red-breasted Merganser

Ruddy Duck

Wild Turkey

Red-throated Loon

Common Loon

Horned Grebe

Red-necked Grebe

Northern Gannet

Great Cormorant

Cooper's Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

Purpled Sandpiper

Ring-billed Gull

Herring Gull

Iceland Gull

Glaucous Gull

Great Black-backed Gull

'Nelson's Gull' American Herring x Glaucous hybrid

Thick-billed Murre

Dan Berard also noted: here is the link to the murre that we got excellent views of -

* [Dan's murre photo](http://www.flickr.com/photos/28853318%40N08/12396272853/)
* (trip report from Dan Berard.)

**1/1/2014 - Around Worcester**

John Shea lead 12 hardy members on our New Years day trip around Worcester. Temps were around 26 most of the day with a light wind we could have done without. We saw 26 species, highlights were 2 Peregrine Falcons 2 Red tail Hawks 1 Canvasback and 2 Lesser Scaup.

Canada Geese 165

Mute Swan 8

Mallard Duck 77

Canvasback 1

Lesser scaup 2

Hooded Merganser 8

Common Merganser 3

Great Blue Heron 1

Red tail Hawk 2

Peregrine Falcon 2

Ring billed Gull 138

Herring Gull 3

Great Black backed Gull 3

Rock Pigeon 5

Morning Dove 6

Downy Woodpecker 2

Hairy Woodpecker 1

Blue Jay 2

Crow 12

White breasted Nuthatch 2

Robin 43

Starling 55

Cedar Waxwing 5

Song Sparrow 1

Dark eyed Junco 4

House sparrow 5

  (trip report from John Shea.)