

# The Chickadee

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Issued annually chronicling the affairs of the Club, reporting items of interest concerning Worcester County birds, and stimulating a more serious study of birds.

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## AIM OF THE FORBUSH BIRD CLUB

To promote the study of birds with relation to their distribution,  
ecology, food requirements and populations;  
and to promote a desire for the conservation of all our natural resources.

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### Field Notes: WORCESTER COUNTY BIRDS 2016

The weather during January and February of 2016 averaged a bit warmer than normal. There were rain and snow storms but nothing too extreme. March was mild, but there was snow in early April. Beginning in May all of Massachusetts entered an extended period of high temps and little rain. Water bans spread across the state. This meant that conditions were right in several locations for late summer shorebirds as edge habitat was exposed. Particularly productive were the strictly off-limits reservoirs of Worcester. The drought continued well into fall. December saw cold temps, especially as the Christmas Count period began.

County birders tallied 247 species for the year. Though there were no new species added to the County list, there were plenty of high points. Among them was a Cackling Goose. The lack of reports of this species in the County is something of a mystery to me. Cackling Geese are regular along the Connecticut River to our immediate west, where small flocks have even been reported. Cackling Geese are also reported yearly to the east of the County. But Worcester County seems to be like Kryptonite to this species. This is odd because the County regularly hosts other uncommon to rare goose species like Snow, Greater White-fronted and even Pink-footed. Personally, I have scanned what seems like many thousands of goose flocks, and Cackling Geese are just not a yearly species here. Here I must interject a note of caution as small Canada Geese ARE regular here and can easily be mistaken for Cackling by birders not familiar with the species. You cannot just go by size of the body, stubby bill and rounded head; you also need to look at fine details of plumage. All reports should be accompanied by full particulars or photos.

Other good finds included Cattle Egret, now much rarer in the state than it was twenty years ago. A Red-necked Phalarope flew in with a small flock of yellowlegs at Quinapoxet Reservoir and was photo documented as it flew off. This again points out the importance of photo-documenting rarities in the County. Also found was a Rufous Hummingbird, now almost yearly in the County.

The Laughing Gull found by Kevin Bourinot at Wachusett Reservoir in mid-August stayed until early September. This species is a real rarity in the County, and birders needed patience and skill to spot it as it seemed to wander all over the reservoir. This is only the second accepted report of this species in the County. The first accepted report was seen at Wachusett Reservoir after a hurricane on 9-17-99 by Sheila Carroll, Mark Lynch, Simon Perkins (of Mass Audubon at the time) and others. There are 3 previous reports of this species in the County mentioned in Bob Bradbury's *Bird List of Worcester County* (1991): "Late August 1949 E. Brookfield 1 (Allen); May 9, 1950 Blackstone 3 (Crompton); May 13, 1979 Boylston 2ad (Blodgett)". But none of these reports were accepted by the Chickadee because of the "three viewer" rule begun by Blodgett: any new species to the County has to be seen by at least three observers or photographed for the bird to be accepted on the official County list. I should mention that this "rule" is not followed by the Massachusetts Avian Reports Committee.

The Harris's Sparrow at the Westborough WMA also required some patience because one had to wait quietly for the stream of joggers and dog walkers to pass for this striking sparrow to finally come out onto the trail. The last Harris's Sparrow that I saw in the County was a bird found by

Charlie Quinlan at Bolton Flats on 10-19-85 and seen by Charlie, Sheila Carroll and me the following day.

A much more frustrating bird was the Varied Thrush coming to feeders in Rutland. It was in an area of icy dirt roads and private homes on a lake. There were no great places to park without blocking roads or driveways. Soon neighbors began to become incensed as some birders stupidly began to trespass on private property in order to try to spot this not too cooperative bird. Word soon got out that birders were no longer welcomed to the area and we have no idea what the actual out date was.

Finally, one of the most exciting reports was of the first apparent nesting of Merlin in the County. This was in a planted conifer in a cemetery in Barre. Noisy fledglings were spotted being tended by an adult. Unfortunately, this event was not repeated the following year. Merlins are opportunistic nesters, nesting when the time is right and they use an already constructed nest. Outliers often do not return to the same area the following year.

All in all, 2016 was another good year for birds in the County. Be sure to get out there in all seasons and keep detailed field notes of anything unusual.

Mark Lynch

# Annual Compilation

## 2016

Abbreviations: # (and others); ACC (Athol Christmas Count); BBC (Brookline Bird Club); CSA (Community Supported Agriculture); GOCC (Groton-Oxbow Christmas Count); IBA (Important Bird Area); NWR (National Wildlife Refuge); QCC (Quabbin Christmas Count); Res. (Reservoir); SCC (Sturbridge Christmas Count); SF (State Forest); UCC (Uxbridge Christmas Count); v.o. (various observers); WMA (Wildlife Management Area); WoCC (Worcester Christmas Count); WRW (Ware River Watershed IBA); WS (Wildlife Sanctuary).

Taxonomy and species order follow the American Ornithological Society's Checklist 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, 58<sup>th</sup> Supplement.

Maximum counts can also be found in the Worcester Christmas Bird Count and Hawk Watch sections.

**SNOW GOOSE (*Anser caerulescens*):** All reports: Jan. 9 Westborough 4 (Larson), Nov. 23 Westborough WMA 1 (Spahr) and Dec. 12 Nipmuc Pond in Mendon 50 (Canovale).

**GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE (*A. albifrons*):** Jan. 17 (Bourinot) to Feb. 11 (Lynch & Carroll) probably same single bird also reported by various observers during time period from Coachlace Pond, Clinton High baseball field, Bolton Flats, and Dexter Drumlin. Also, Mar. 27 Rutland 1 (Bailey) and Oct. 24 Holden 1 (Lynch & Carroll).

**BRANT (*Branta bernicla*):** Two reports: Oct. 7 Wachusett Res. Boylston 7 (B. Kamp) and Nov. 6 Gate 40 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot).

**CANADA GOOSE (*B. canadensis*):** Permanent resident. Max. Feb. 28 Bolton Flats 1302 (Lynch & Carroll) and Jan. 30 Dexter Drumlin 1000 (Johnson, Murray).

**ACKLING GOOSE (*B. hutchinsii*):** Fifth Worcester County Record. Two reports, possibly same single bird Nov. 26 Lake Quinsigamond and Dec. 8 to Dec. 16 Wachusett Res. (both by Lynch & Carroll).

**MUTE SWAN (*Cygnus olor*):** Permanent resident. Max. Nov. 20 Westborough 123 (Lynch & Carroll) and Jan. 1 Westborough 93 (Paulson).

**WOOD DUCK (*Aix sponsa*):** Reported throughout the year, but only scattered reports during winter. Max. Mar. 20 Bolton Flats 35 (Ammerman), Oct. 16 Sterling 45 (Robo) and Sept. 2 Ekblaw Sanctuary Paxton 62 (Jenkins).

**BLUE-WINGED TEAL (*Spatula discors*):** Apr. 2 Bolton Flats 1 (Johnson) to May 13 Bolton Flats 1 (Paulson). Then, Aug. 29 Sterling 1 (B. Kamp) to Oct. 15 Northborough 1 (Dowling). Max. Apr. 13 Bolton Flats 3 (Beattie) and May 5 Westborough WMA 3 (Paulson).

**NORTHERN SHOVELER (*S. clypeata*):** Winter report Jan. 24 Lake Quinsigamond 1 (Lawson). Then, Mar. 19 Bolton Flats 2 (Pirro#) to May 11 Oxford 1 (Meleski, Dufault). Max. May 9 West Boylston 6 (D. Williams). No fall reports.

**GADWALL (*Mareca strepera*):** Lingerers continued until Feb. 15 Clinton 1 (Pirro), and either an over-winterer or early migrant Mar. 12 Westborough 1 (Johnson). Then, in spring 1 or 2 birds reported from Broad Meadow Brook WS Apr. 13 (Liller) to May 27 (Robo). Unusual

summer report July 14 Warren 1 (Cook). Then, Oct. 18 Quaboag Pond 1 (Bourget) to Nov. 4 Broad Meadow Brook WS 2 (Gach, Robo). Max. Jan. 16 Millbury 4 (Lawson).

**AMERICAN WIGEON (*M. americana*):** Either an early migrant or over-winterer Feb. 22 Westborough 1 (Miller). Then, main spring period Mar. 16 Bolton Flats 1 (Johnson) to May 2 Spencer (Lynch & Carroll). One summer report Aug. 31 to Sept. 1 Westborough 1 (Spahr, Miller). In the fall, Oct. 9 Quaboag Pond 3 (Lynch & Carroll) to Dec. 6 Holden 1 (Robo). Max. Mar. 19 Bolton Flats 4 (Pirro) and Oct. 23 Northborough 4 (Lawson).

**MALLARD (*Anas platyrhynchos*):** Permanent resident. Max. Jan. 6 Brookfield 322 (Lynch & Carroll), Jan. 31 Charlton 550 (Jenkins), and Nov. 11 Gardner 400 (Pirro).

**AMERICAN BLACK DUCK (*A. rubripes*):** Permanent resident, but only scattered reports during breeding season. Max. Oct. 8 Delaney WMA 35 (Oxley, Sgroi, Markiewicz).

**NORTHERN PINTAIL (*A. acuta*):** Winter reports Jan. 1 Quaboag Pond 4 (Lynch & Carroll#), Jan. 24 Lake Quinsigamond 1 (Lawson), and Jan. 31 Fitchburg 1 (Pirro). Then, Feb. 28 Bolton Flats 2 (Lynch & Carroll) to Apr. 8 Bolton Flats 4, also max., (Dengler & Miller). In the fall, Oct. 27 Westborough WMA 2 to Dec. 4 Broad Meadow Brook WS 1 (Robo).

**GREEN-WINGED TEAL (*A. crecca*):** Winter report Jan. 1 Auburn 2 (Marble). Then, Feb. 28 Bolton Flats 40 (Murray) to May 9 Westborough WMA 1 (Paulson). In the fall, Aug. 24 Gate 43 Quabbin 2 (Lawson) to Dec. 26 1 Wachusett Res. (Lynch & Carroll). Spring Max. Mar. 29 Bolton Flats 300 (Johnson). Fall Max. Sept. 17 Rutland 46 (Lynch & Carroll).

**CANVASBACK (*Aythya valisineria*):** All reports: Jan. 18 Southborough 1 (Young) and up to 5 birds were reported from Lake Quinsigamond by various observers from Jan. 24 (Robo) to Jan. 27 (v.o.)

**REDHEAD (*A. americana*):** All reports: Jan. 18 Southborough 1 (Young) and a single bird was reported from Lake Quinsigamond by various observers from Jan. 24 to Jan. 27 (Robo, v.o.)

**RING-NECKED DUCK (*A. collaris*):** Winter reports: Jan. 1 Westborough WMA 2 (Paulson), Millbury 2 (Marble), and first half max. Jan. 2 Southborough 228 (Paulson). Returning in spring Feb. 23 Templeton 1 (Pirro) to May 11 Petersham 1 (Watkevitch). Returning Oct. 15 Westborough 8 (Dowling) to year's end Westborough WMA 4 (Spahr). Second half max. Dec. 9 Southborough 230 (Garvey).

**GREATER SCAUP (*A. marila*):** Winter reports: Jan. 1 Clinton 1 (Bourinot), Jan. 12 Wachusett Res. 130, also first half max., (Lynch & Carroll), and Feb. 4 Wachusett Res. 53 (Bourinot). Returning Mar. 16 Clinton 16 (Lawson) to year's end Wachusett Res. 26 (Davies). Second half max. Nov. 26 Clinton 80 (Pirro).

**LESSER SCAUP (*A. affinis*):** Nine reports from five locations during winter beginning Jan. 18 Southborough 5 (Young) to Feb. 4 Clinton 13 (Bourinot). Returning Mar. 17 Clinton 2 (Johnson) to Apr. 20 Petersham 2 (Castriotta). In fall, returning Oct. 13 Northborough 1 (Dowling) to Nov. 26 Clinton 6 (Pirro). Two birds continued through Dec. at Wachusett Res. (Lynch & Carroll).

**SURF SCOTER (*Melanitta perspicillata*):** All reports, only in fall: up to 9 birds reported from Wachusett Res. from Oct. 14 (Robo) to Oct. 19 (Lynch & Carroll), Oct. 29 a single bird reported there (Bourinot), up to 4 birds there Nov. 5 (Lynch & Carroll, Bourinot), Nov. 24 a single bird (Dowling), and another single Dec. 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Away from Wachusett Res., Oct. 27 Gardner 6 (Pirro) and Nov. 26 Quaboag Pond 1 (Bourget).

- WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (*M. fusca*):** No spring reports. In the fall, Oct. 10 Wachusett Res. 12, also max., (Lynch & Carroll) to Nov. 27 Quaboag Pond 1 (Bourget).
- BLACK SCOTER (*M. americana*):** One spring report, Mar. 25 Worcester 2 (Robo, Kittredge). Fall: Oct. 10 with arrival at four locations (v.o.), and max. at Wachusett Res. 180 (Lynch & Carroll). Only other date reported in fall was Nov. 7 Gardner 3 (Pirro).
- LONG-TAILED DUCK (*Clangula hyemalis*):** Only reported in the fall, Oct. 17 Wachusett Res. 4 (Robo) with six interim reports. Last reported Dec. 19 Wachusett Res. 1 (Meleski).
- BUFFLEHEAD (*Bucephala albeola*):** Four winter reports: Jan. 1 West Waushacum Pond, Sterling 4 (Bourinot), Jan. 27 Clinton 3 (B. Kamp), Jan. 31 Coachlace Pond, Clinton 1 (Bourinot), Feb. 4 Wachusett Res. 2 (Bourinot), and Feb. 6 Westborough WMA 3 (Lane). In spring, Feb. 25 Westborough 2 (Paulson) to May 7 Wachusett Res. 3 (Bourget, Johnson). Spring max. Apr. 10 Southborough 28 (Lynch & Carroll). In fall, Oct. 10 Quaboag Pond 1 (Bourget) to Nov. 19 Southborough 34 (Dowling, Sovay), and a fall max. Nov. 6 Westborough 37 (Paulson). A second half winter report Dec. 26 Wachusett Res. 7 (Lynch & Carroll).
- COMMON GOLDENEYE (*B. clangula*):** Scattered winter reports with a first half max. Jan. 6 Wachusett Res. 45 (B. Kamp). In spring, Feb. 9 Lake Quinsigamond 34 (Lynch & Carroll), to Apr. 11 Gardner 3 (Pirro). In fall, Oct. 27 Westborough WMA up to 2 birds (v.o.) to Dec. 28 Wachusett Res. 14 (Davies). Fall max. Nov. 19 Southborough 76 (Dowling, Sovay).
- BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (*B. islandica*):** Two reports: a single bird from Nov. 19 Southborough 1 (Dowling, Sovay) to Nov. 27 (Lawson) and a female Dec. 16 to the 18<sup>th</sup> at Wachusett Res. (Lynch & Carroll).
- HOODED MERGANSER (*Lophodytes cucullatus*):** Present year round with open water. First half max. Feb. 25 Westborough 65 (Paulson). Second half max. Dec. 3 Brookfields 132 and Dec. 16 Wachusett Res. 104 (Lynch & Carroll).
- COMMON MERGANSER (*Mergus merganser*):** First half through May 8 Wachusett Res. 1 (Kittredge, Miller). Spring max. Mar. 10 Westborough 1,000 (Gove). Two late spring reports: May 25 Gardner 1 (Roesset) and June 26 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot). Scattered breeding reports around Quabbin and northwestern Worcester County. In fall, Sept. 22 Holden 12 (Lynch & Carroll) to year's end. Second half max. Dec. 3 Brookfields 570 (Lynch & Carroll) and Dec. 10 South Pond, Brookfield 610 (Jenkins).
- RED-BREASTED MERGANSER (*M. serrator*):** Five reports: Jan. 21 Wachusett Res. 3 (B. Kamp), May 7 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourget, Johnson). Then, joined by a second bird May 14 (Bourinot). In fall, Nov. 5 Wachusett Res. 1 and Nov. 12 Brookfields 1 (Lynch & Carroll).
- RUDDY DUCK (*Oxyura jamaicensis*):** Four winter reports: Jan. 1 Brookfields 22, also max., (Lynch & Carroll), Jan. 8 Westborough WMA 1 (Spahr), Jan. 24 to Jan. 29 Lake Quinsigamond 12, 4 (Robo, eBird), and Jan. 31 Wachusett Res. 1 (Dowling). Four spring reports: Mar. 11 Westborough WMA 2 (Kittredge), Mar. 26 Charlton 1 (B. Kamp), Apr. 2 Southborough 2 (Toledano), and a late report June 3 Sterling 1 (Robo). In fall, six reports from Oct. 10 Quaboag Pond 11 (Bourget) to Dec. 22 Westborough WMA 1 (Rosenblatt). Fall max. Dec. 3 Brookfields 16 (Lynch & Carroll).
- RUFFED GROUSE (*Bonasa umbellus*):** Permanent resident, but scarce reports away from Quabbin area and northwestern Worcester County. Max. Apr. 15 Quabbin Res. 9 (Richards).
- WILD TURKEY (*Meleagris gallopavo*):** Permanent resident. Max. Jan. 4 Petersham 65 (Small) and Mar. 10 Templeton 85 (Pirro).

- PIED-BILLED GREBE (*Podilymbus podiceps*):** In spring, Mar. 11 Auburn 1 (Rees), Westborough WMA 1 (Spahr) to Apr. 18 WRW 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Only report during breeding season: June 19 Bolton Flats WMA 1 (Arena). In fall, Aug. 16 Sterling 1 (Robo) to Dec. 18 Boylston 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. Oct. 7 Bartlett Pond, Northborough 5 (Dowling).
- HORNED GREBE (*Podiceps auritus*):** In spring, Mar. 24 Wachusett Res. 1 (Robo) to Apr. 9 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot). In fall, Oct. 19 Wachusett Res. 2 (Lynch & Carroll) to Dec. 28 Wachusett Res. 2 (Davies). Max. Oct. 31 Gardener 7 (Pirro) and Nov. 19 Gate 37 Quabbin Res. 7 (Hoye, Robo).
- RED-NECKED GREBE (*P. grisegena*):** All reports: Sept. 10 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot#), Oct. 15 to Oct. 22 Wachusett Res. 2 (Lawson, v.o.), Nov. 11 to Nov. 12 Lake Lashaway 1 (Robo#), Nov. 12 Gate 35 Quabbin Res. 1 (Pirro), Nov. 18 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot), and Dec. 19 Wachusett Res. 1 (Meleski).
- ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*):** Permanent resident. Max. Nov. 24 Quaboag Pond 150 (Lynch & Carroll) and Dec. 17 ACC 464.
- MOURNING DOVE (*Zenaida macroura*):** Permanent resident. Max. Nov. 30 Westborough 125 (Spahr) and Dec. 14 SCC 414.
- YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus americanus*):** May 11 Westborough 1 (Williams) to Sept. 7 Athol 1 (Watkevich). Max. June 4 Westborough 6 (Spahr) and June 17 Quabbin Res. 6 (Swain).
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO (*C. erythrophthalmus*):** May 10 Oxbow NWR 1 (Bourinot) to Aug. 26 Athol 1 (Watkevich). Max. June 17 Quabbin Res. 9 (Swain).
- COMMON Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*):** Spring: May 13 Westborough 1 (Paulson) to June 28 Worcester 1 (Meleski). Fall: Aug. 7 Lancaster 1 (Barstow) to Sept. 18 Westborough 1 (Robo). Max. Aug. 26 Leicester 104 (Lynch & Carroll).
- EASTERN WHIP-POOR-WILL (*Caprimulgus vociferous*):** May 2 Lancaster 1 (Johnson) to June 14 Bolton Flats 4 (Kembel). One fall report: Sept. 3 Wachusett Res 1 (Robo). Max. June 11 North Brookfield 11 (Lynch & Carroll).
- CHIMNEY SWIFT (*Chaetura pelagica*):** Apr. 20 Worcester 1 (Meleski) to Sept. 15 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. May 20 Templeton 48 (Pirro).
- RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilochus colubris*):** Apr. 25 Bolton 1 (Skillin) to Oct. 4 Worcester 1 (LaBree). Max. Aug. 28 Uxbridge 12 (Huntington).
- RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD (*Selasphorus rufus*):** Oct. 7 to Oct. 29 Westborough 1 (Williams, v.o.). This bird showed up at a residential feeder and was banded and measured.
- KING RAIL (*Rallus elegans*):** Two reports: May 22 Bolton Flats 1 (Arena) and June 25 Brookfield 1 (Jenkins).
- VIRGINIA RAIL (*R. limicola*):** Mar. 27 Petersham 1 (Small) to Oct. 24 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Also, a late report Nov. 24 Brookfield 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. May 7 New Braintree 8 (Buelow), May 10 Westborough 7 (Paulson), and June 19 Bolton Flats 34 (Arena).
- SORA (*Porzana carolina*):** May 4 Westborough WMA 1 (Garvey) to Oct. 5 Worcester 1 (Robo). The only summer reports were from Bolton Flats. Max. May 21 Bolton Flats 3 (Arena).
- COMMON GALLINULE (*Gallinula galeata*):** Up to 3 birds reported from Bolton Flats from May 7 (Bourget, Johnson) to June 25 (K. & P. Thompson).



- AMERICAN COOT (*Fulica americana*):** In the first half of the winter, up to 7 birds were reported from Westborough WMA from Jan. 1 (Paulson) to Jan. 20 (Kittredge). Two spring reports Mar. 25 Bolton Flats 1 (Robo) and Apr. 2 Oxford 1 (Meleski). In the fall, only one bird from Northborough from Oct. 31 to Nov. 5 (Dowling). In the second half of winter, up to 2 birds reported from Westborough WMA from Dec. 12 (Spahr) to Dec. 26 (Gauthier, Gosselin).
- SANDHILL CRANE (*Antigone canadensis*):** All reports: May 1 Oxbow NWR 1 (Lapite, Young), May 10 Shrewsbury 1 (ebird), May 12 WRW 2 (Dowling, Sovay), May 20 to May 22 Bolton Flats 1 (Marble, v.o.), July 3 Bolton Flats 1 (B. Kamp), and 4 birds were seen together in the Muschapoage Pond cornfields in Rutland during the WoCC Dec. 18 Rutland 4 (Sharp).
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER (*Pluvialis squatarola*):** One spring report: May 8 Wachusett Res. 3 (Lynch & Carroll). *Note:* one was seen killed by a Peregrine Falcon later in the day at the same location (Lawsons). Fall: Aug. 14 Holden 1 (Jenkins), Sept. 24 Petersham 7 (B. Kamp) and Oct. 2 Quabbin Res. 1 (Lafley) to Nov. 12 Quabbin Res. 1 (Pirro). Fall max. Nov. 5 Quabbin Res. 3 (Small, v.o.).
- AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER (*P. dominica*):** Two reports: Sept. 4 Quinapoxet Res. 1 (Lynch & Carroll) and Oct. 1 to Oct. 9 Quaboag Pond 1 (Lynch & Carroll, v.o.).
- SEMPALMATED PLOVER (*Charadrius semipalmatus*):** Spring: May 18 Clinton 3 (B. Kamp). Fall: July 28 Winchendon 1 (Pirro, Lawson) to Sept. 17 Paxton 2 (Jenkins). Max. Aug. 21 Holden 6 (Lynch & Carroll).
- KILLDEER (*C. vociferous*):** Feb. 25 Bolton Flats 4 (B. Kamp) to Nov. 26 Westborough 1 (Robo, Bourget, Lawson). Max. July 30 Holden 46 (Lynch & Carroll).
- UPLAND SANDPIPER (*Bartremia longicauda*):** One report: Aug. 30 Quinapoxet Res. Holden 1 (Lynch & Carroll).
- SANDERLING (*Calidris alba*):** One report: Sept. 17 Pine Hill Res., Rutland 1 (Lynch & Carroll).
- DUNLIN (*C. alpina*):** Two spring reports: May 14 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot) and May 18 Wachusett Res. 1 (B. Kamp). One fall report: Sept. 29 Quabbin Res. 1 (Robo).
- BAIRD'S SANDPIPER (*C. bairdii*):** Four reports: Aug. 17 and Aug. 27 Quinapoxet Res. 1 (Lynch & Carroll), Aug. 30 Westborough 1 (Spahr) and Sept. 11 Quaboag Pond 1 (Lynch & Carroll).
- LEAST SANDPIPER (*C. minutilla*):** Spring: Apr. 26 Sterling 1 (Robo) to May 29 Wachusett Res. 6 (Lynch & Carroll). Fall: July 5 Sterling 1 (Robo, v.o.) to Oct. 12 Paxton 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. Aug. 29 Holden 285 (Lynch & Carroll).
- WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER (*C. fuscicollis*):** July 29 Whitney Pond, Winchendon 1 (Robo, v.o.), July 30 to Aug. 12 Quinapoxet Res. up to 4, also max., (Lynch & Carroll, v.o.), and Oct. 6 and Oct. 13 Gate 43 Quabbin Res. 3, 1 (Robo).
- BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER (*C. subfruficollis*):** Three fall reports: Aug. 30 Holden, 1 (Lynch & Carroll), Sept. 1 Wachusett Res. 1 (Robo), and Sept. 17 Rutland 1 (Lynch & Carroll).
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER (*C. melanotos*):** Spring: Apr. 1 Bolton Flats 1 (Sowizral, v.o.) to May 8 Bolton Flats 1 (Miller). Spring max. Apr. 3 Bolton Flats 6 (Bourinot). Fall: Aug. 13 Sterling 1 (Pirro) to Oct. 19 Quabbin Res. 1 (Robo). Fall max. Aug. 26 Quabbin Res. 5 (Lawson).

- SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER (*C. pusilla*):** Spring; May 22 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot) and May 29 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot). Southbound: July 23 Quinapoxet Res. Holden 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to Sept. 15 Quaboag Pond 5 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. Aug 12 Quinapoxet Res. Holden 9 (Lynch & Carroll).
- SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER (*Limnodromus griseus*):** One report: May 21 Wachusett Res. 1 (B. Kamp)
- AMERICAN WOODCOCK (*Scolopax minor*):** Feb. 20 Paxton 1 (Gorman) to Oct. 31 Barre 1 (Castriotta). Also, Nov. 9 Sterling 1 (Robo). Max. Feb. 28 Bolton 16 (Lynch & Carroll).
- WILSON'S SNIPE (*Gallinago delicata*):** Spring: Mar. 10 Bolton Flats 15 (Robo) to June 1 Bolton Flats 2 (Bourget, Johnson). Spring Max. Mar. 25 Bolton Flats 60 (Murray). Then, Sept. 4 Wachusett Res. 10, also fall max., (Lawson) to Oct. 28 Westborough WMA 1 (Miller).
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER (*Actitis macularius*):** Apr. 21 Oxbow NWR 2 (Hoye) to Oct. 22 Wachusett Res. 1 (Kittredge). Max. July 30 Holden 17 (Lynch & Carroll).
- SOLITARY SANDPIPER (*Tringa solitaria*):** Spring: Apr. 18 Oxbow WMA 1 (Murray) to May 27 Bolton Flats 1 (Bates). Fall: July 4 Sterling 1 (B. Kamp) to Oct. 5 WRW 2 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. July 30 Holden 11 (Lynch & Carroll).
- LESSER YELLOWLEGS (*T. flavipes*):** Early spring report on Mar. 18 Bolton Flats 1 (Kittredge) to May 21 Bolton Flats 1 (Paulson). Fall: July 8 Quabbin Res. 1 (Sender) to Nov. 13 Quabbin Res. 1 (Shaw). Max. Aug. 26 Quabbin Res. 5 (Lawson).
- GREATER YELLOWLEGS (*T. melanoleuca*):** Spring: Mar. 17 Bolton Flats 1 (Johnson) to May 22 Rutland 1 (Bourinot). Fall: July 17 Holden 3 (Lynch & Carroll) to Nov. 1 Quabbin Res. 1 (Robo). Max. Aug. 26 Quabbin Res. 22 (Lawson).
- RED-NECKED PHALAROPE (*Phalaropus lobatus*):** Two reports: Sept. 1 Wachusett Res. 2 (Bourinot#) and Sept. 4 Holden 1 (Lynch & Carroll).
- BONAPARTE'S GULL (*Choicocephalus philadelphia*):** Two spring reports: Apr. 26 Wachusett Res. 1 (Lynch & Carroll) and May 7 Wachusett Res. 1 (Johnson). Then, Aug. 14 Quabbin Res. 1 (Pirro), Aug. 24 Wachusett Res. 1 (B. Kamp), and Oct. 26 to Oct. 28 Westborough up to 2 (Kittredge, v.o.).
- LAUGHING GULL (*Leucophaeus atricilla*):** Second Worcester County Record. Immature present at Wachusett Res. Aug. 17 to Sept. 5 (Bourinot, v.o.).
- RING-BILLED GULL (*Larus delawarensis*):** Non-breeding permanent resident local in summer. Max. Dec. 19 Wachusett Res. 855 (Meleski) and Dec. 18 WoCC 1293. *Note:* The numbers of gulls has steadily declined in the county. The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has increased the gull harassment program.
- HERRING GULL (*L. argentatus*):** Non-breeding permanent resident, with low numbers during the summer. Max. Jan. 8 Lunenburg 360 (Murray) to Nov. 23 Gardner 325 (Pirro). Max. Mar. 6 Westminster 500 (Pirro) and Dec. 17 GOCC 734.
- ICELAND GULL (*L. glaucoides*):** First half winter reports: Jan. 8 Lunenburg 2 (Murray) to Jan. 29 Shrewsbury 1 (eBird). One report on Mar. 13 Leominster State Forest 1 (Pirro). Then, Nov. 29 Gardner 1 (Pirro) to Dec. 26 Westborough WMA 1 (Gosselin).
- LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (*L. fuscus*):** Up to 3 birds May 7 and May 8 Wachusett Res. (Bourget, v.o.)
- GLAUCOUS GULL (*L. hyperboreus*):** One report: Jan. 7 Lake Whalom, Lunenburg 1 (B. Kamp).

- GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL (*L. marinus*):** First half to May 12 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot). Then, Sept. 1 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot) to Oct. 15 Lake Chauncy 1 (Dowling). Max. Jan. 9 Lake Whalom, Lunenburg 100 (Bourinot).
- CASPIAN TERN (*Hydroprogne caspia*):** Two reports: May 6 Westborough WMA 2 (Lawson, Kittredge), and May 29 to May 30 Wachusett Res. 1 (B. Kamp, v.o.).
- COMMON TERN (*Sterna hirundo*):** One spring report: May 3 Westborough WMA 1 (Bourget). Then, Sept. 1 to Sept. 10 Wachusett Res. 1 (Bourinot, v.o.). Max. Sept. 2 Wachusett Res. 2 (Bourinot, Lawson, Kittredge).
- RED-THROATED LOON (*Gavia stellata*):** Two reports: Jan. 31 Wachusett Res., Clinton 1 (B. Kamp) and Oct. 14 Wachusett Res., Boylston 1 (B. Kamp).
- COMMON LOON (*G. immer*):** Reported throughout the year, but scattered reports in winter. First half max. Jan. 9 Wachusett Res. 9 (Bourinot). Breeding reports at Wachusett and Quabbin Res. and northern Worcester County lakes. Second half max. Sept. 19 Wachusett Res. 24 and again on Nov. 5 at Wachusett Res. 25 (both by Lynch & Carroll).
- DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax auritus*):** A winter report, Jan. 4 Worcester 1 (Lawson). Then, in the spring, Apr. 1 Bolton Flats (v.o) to Dec. 8 Wachusett Res. 2 (Lynch & Carroll). Lynch & Carroll also reported eleven active nests at Sudbury Res. in Southborough on Apr. 10. Max. Oct. 16 Southborough 152 (Dowling) and Oct. 20 Westborough WMA 250 (Spahr).
- AMERICAN BITTERN (*Botaurus lentiginosus*):** Apr. 17 Bolton Flats 1 (Dowling, Sovay) to Sept. 22 Westborough WMA 1 (Paulson).
- LEAST BITTERN (*Ixobrychus exilis*):** Four reports, all from Bolton Flats: May 21, up to 2 birds (Paulson, Arena), May 27 a single bird (Bates), 4 on June 14 (Arena) and 3 on June 19 (Arena).
- GREAT BLUE HERON (*Ardea herodias*):** Winter first half reports: Jan. 3 Worcester 1 (Robo), Jan. 7 Millbury 1 (Marble), and Jan. 15 Sutton 1 (Lawson). In spring, Mar. 25 Brookfields 27, also max., (Lynch & Carroll) to June 11 Brookfields 20 (Lynch & Carroll). Second half winter reports: Dec. 19 Westborough 1 (Miller, Spahr) and Dec. 24 Spencer 1 (Holub).
- GREAT EGRET (*A. alba*):** Spring reports: Apr. 1 Sturbridge 1 (Kehir), Apr. 30 Westborough 1 (Rolfes, Slovin) and Delaney WMA Landreau), and May 10 Oxford 1 (Meleski). In the fall, July 10 Sturbridge 5 (Sturup) to Oct. 18 Quaboag Pond 1 (Bourget). Max. Aug. 17 Holden 13 (Lynch & Carroll).
- SNOWY EGRET (*Egretta thula*):** Two reports: July 30 Worcester 1 (v.o.) and one bird in Paxton Aug. 14 (Bailey) to Aug. 21 (Lawsons, Lynch & Carroll).
- LITTLE BLUE HERON (*E. caerulea*):** One bird was reported from Whitney Pond in Winchendon from July 25 (Robo, Pirro) to July 30 (Bourinot, Robo, Young).
- CATTLE EGRET (*Bubulcus ibis*):** Two reports, probably the same bird Nov. 9 Wachusett Res. (Robo) and Nov. 11 Lancaster (LaCelle III).
- GREEN HERON (*Butorides virescens*):** Apr. 29 Worcester 1 (Robo) to Oct. 6 Westborough WMA 1 (Laipis). Max. Sept. 7 Westborough 7 (Miller).
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*Nycticorax nycticorax*):** Various observers reported a single bird either at Coes Pond, New Swedish Cemetery, or behind Notre Dame Cemetery from July 30 to Sept. 17. Only other reports were Aug. 21 Worcester 3 (Lawson), and Aug. 23 Athol 1 (Small).

- GLOSSY IBIS (*Plegadis falcinellus*):** Two reports, one in spring and one in fall: Apr. 23 Bolton Flats 1 (Kembel) and July 20 to Aug. 7 Sterling Peat 1 (Robo, v.o.).
- BLACK VULTURE (*Coragyps atratus*):** First half winter reports Jan. 9 Milford 1 (Templeton) and Jan. 23 Blackstone 6 (Abbott). Then, May 11 Templeton 5 (Pirro) and Uxbridge 2 (Lawson) with 3 other interim reports to June 4 Grafton 1 (Smith). In fall, Aug. 30 Millbury 1 (Abbey) with 2 other interim reports to Oct. 20 Worcester 1 (Kittredge). Second half winter reports, both from Blackstone, two birds Dec. 1 (Robo) and three birds Dec. 31 (Russell).
- TURKEY VULTURE (*Cathartes aura*):** Winter reports: Jan. 2 Uxbridge 4 (Rosenblatt) and Jan. 23 Blackstone 10 (Abbott). Then, Feb. 20 Leominster 1 (Pirro) and Wachusett Res. 1 (Rusnica) to Nov. 22 Charlton 1 (Houlihan). Second half winter reports: Dec. 1 Blackstone 1 (Robo), Dec. 27 Uxbridge 1 (Gauthier) and Dec. 31 Blackstone 6 (Russell). Max. Sept. 23 Athol 54 (Small), Oct. 15 Mt. Watatic Hawk Watch 151, Barre Falls Hawk Watch 76, and Oct. 11 Mt. Wachusett Hawk Watch 134.
- OSPREY (*Pandion haliaetus*):** Mar. 27 Oxford 1 (Meleski) to Sept. 24 (Mt. Wachusett and Mt. Watatic Hawk Watches) and a late Nov. 21 Southborough 1 (Barndt). Increasing breeding reports throughout Worcester County. Spring Max. Apr. 13 Barre Falls Hawk Watch 6. Fall max. Sept. 24 Mt. Watatic Hawk Watch 15 and Mt. Wachusett Hawk Watch 20.
- BALD EAGLE (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*):** Permanent resident with increasing breeding reports throughout Worcester County. Nesting locations included Wachusett Res., Quabbin Res., Quaboag Pond, Webster Lake, and Lake Shirley. Max. Sept. 4 Mt. Watatic Hawk Watch 10, Sept. 12 and Sept. 16 Mt. Wachusett Hawk Watch 16.
- NORTHERN HARRIER (*Circus hudsonius*):** First half winter reports: Jan. 6 Wachusett Res. 1 (Robo), Jan. 9 to Feb. 4 Uxbridge 1 (Lodi, v.o.), and Jan. 16 Bolton Flats 1 (Murray). In spring, Mar. 3 Uxbridge 1 (Kittredge) to May 21 Bolton Flats (Handler, Howes, Lund). A summer report July 13 at the Worcester Airport 1 (E. & T. Metcalf). In fall, Aug. 10 Sterling 1 (Robo) to Dec. 14 Sturbridge 1 (Robo) and West Brookfield 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Second half winter reports: Dec. 27 to Dec. 31 Uxbridge 1 (Gauthier, v.o.) and Dec. 28 Westborough 1 (Miller). No spring max. Fall max. Sept. 15 Mt. Wachusett Hawk Watch 6 and Oct. 29 Barre Falls Hawk Watch 4.
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK (*Accipiter striatus*):** First half through May 15 Quabbin Res. 1 (Pirro). A summer report July 27 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Then, Sept. 24 Mt. Watatic 24 (Shaw) to end of year. Spring max. Apr. 19 Barre Falls Hawk Watch 6. Fall max. Sept. 21 Barre Falls Hawk Watch 28, Sept. 24 Mt. Wachusett Hawk Watch 51 and Mt. Watatic Hawk Watch 29.
- COOPER'S HAWK (*A. cooperii*):** Reported throughout the year. Max. Sept. 13 Barre Falls Hawk Watch 6 and Sept. 24 Mt. Wachusett Hawk Watch 15.
- NORTHERN GOSHAWK (*A. gentilis*):** Permanent resident with only nine reports of single birds. Only one report from a Hawk Watch. Possible breeder report on July 30 Hardwick 1 (B. Kamp).
- RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (*Buteo lineatus*):** Reported year round, but only scattered winter reports. Main period Feb. 11 Athol 1 (Small) to Nov. 24 Worcester 1 (Gosselin). Max. Oct. 26 Barre Falls Hawk Watch 5 and Oct. 31 Mt. Wachusett Hawk Watch 4.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK (*B. platypterus*):** Apr. 9 Bolton Flats 1 (Hoye) to Oct. 7 Northbridge 1 (Houle). Spring max. Apr. 25 Barre Falls Hawk Watch 84. Fall max. Sept. 15 Mt. Watatic Hawk Watch 1699, Sept. 24 Wachusett Mt. Hawk Watch 2281, and Sept. 27 Barre Falls Hawk Watch 307.

**SWAINSON'S HAWK (*B. swainsoni*):** Third Worcester County Record. Sept. 20 Mt. Wachusett 1 (Park and Roberts#).

**RED-TAILED HAWK (*B. jamaicensis*):** Permanent resident, with some movement spring and fall. Max. Oct. 20 Barre Falls Hawk Watch 11 and Oct. 31 Mt. Wachusett Hawk Watch 11.

**RED-SHOULDERED X RED-TAILED HAWK (*B. lineatus x jamaicensis*):** First reported in 2013 in the vicinity of the rail trail and Thomas Basin at Wachusett Res. (Schain). Reported at this same location sporadically through 2016.

**ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK (*B. lagopus*):** One report: Jan. 15 Gate 35 Quabbin Res. 1 (Lafley).

**GOLDEN EAGLE (*Aquila chrysaetos*):** One report: Nov. 19 Quabbin Res. 1 (Hoye).

**EASTERN SCREECH OWL (*Megascops asio*):** Permanent resident in warmer sections of Worcester County. Max. Dec. 18 WoCC 4 (Lynch & Carroll) and Dec. 31 Northbridge 7 (Jenkins#).

**GREAT HORNED OWL (*Bubo virginianus*):** Permanent resident. Max. Dec. 31 QCC 15.

**BARRED OWL (*Strix varia*):** Permanent resident. Max. Dec. 14 SCC 7.

**NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL (*Aegolius acadicus*):** Uncommon permanent resident. Five reports: Jan. 2 Petersham 5 (Lynch & Carroll), Oct. 14 Harvard Forest 7 (Schweinhart and Socala), Nov. 5 Uxbridge 7 (Lawson & Lawson), Dec. 1 Westborough 5 (Spahr) and Dec. 31 Petersham 4 (Lynch & Carroll).

**BELTED KINGFISHER (*Megasceryle alcyon*):** Reported year-round. Max. Dec. 18 WoCC 7 and Dec. 31 UCC 7.

**RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*):** All reports: A continuing bird found in Dec. 2015 (Shea) to the last report May 11 Broad Meadow Brook WS 1 (Liller), Sept. 25 Bolton Flats 1 (Bourinot, Robo), and Nov. 18 Lake Lashaway 1 (Lynch & Carroll).

**RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER (*M. carolinus*):** Permanent resident. Mar. 23 Bolton 7 (Miller) to Dec. 31 Douglas 11 (Meleski). Max. Dec. 14 SCC 80.

**YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER (*Sphyrapicus varius*):** Common summer resident in northwestern Worcester County. Several scattered winter reports. Max. June 17 Quabbin Res. 14 (Miller and Dengler).

**DOWNY WOODPECKER (*Picoides pubescens*):** Permanent resident. Max. Dec. 31 UCC 199.

**HAIRY WOODPECKER (*P. villosus*):** Permanent resident. Max. May 8 Upton SF 8 (Paulson) and Dec. 14 SCC 55.

**NORTHERN FLICKER (*Colaptes auratus*):** Becoming more common as a winterer. Usual period from Mar. 6 Westborough 1 (Dowling) to reports of southbound migrants in Oct. Max. Apr. 21 Westborough 14 (Paulson) and Dec. 14 SCC 18.

**PILEATED WOODPECKER (*Dryocopus pileatus*):** Permanent resident. Max. Dec. 17 GOCC 16.

**AMERICAN KESTREL (*Falco sparverius*):** Mar. 6 Barre 1 (Castriotta) to Nov. 3 Templeton 1 (Pirro). Max. Sept. 24 Mt. Watatic 14 (Shaw).

**MERLIN (*F. columbarius*):** Scattered winter reports to May 6 Athol (Small), June 3 Lancaster 1 (Hoye), and June 7 Gardner 1 (Pirro). Then, in early July, the first breeding record in Worcester County was reported in Glen Valley Cemetery in the town of Barre 6 (L. Allen *vide* Lawson, v.o.). Southbound: Aug. 30 Holden (Lynch & Carroll) to Sept. 24 Mt.

- Wachusett Hawk Watch 6, also max. Two reports thereafter: Dec. 17 ACC 1 and Dec. 27 Worcester 1 (Robo).
- PEREGRINE FALCON (*F. peregrinus*):** Continued nesting in downtown Worcester. Scattered reports throughout the year. Max. Sept. 12 Wachusett Mountain 3 (Kovner).
- OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER (*Contopus cooperi*):** All spring reports: May 27 Worcester 1 (Robo) and June 2 Oxbow NWR 1 (Hoye). All fall reports: Aug. 27 Westborough 1 (Spahr), Sept. 10 WRW 1 (Lynch & Carroll), and Sept. 30 Worcester 1 (Robo).
- EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE (*C. virens*):** May 14 Auburn, Worcester 1, 1 (Vandenboom, Glover, Noigeux) to Oct. 2 Westborough WMA 1 (Bourget). Max. June 1 Brookfields 14 (Lynch & Carroll).
- YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax flaviventris*):** One report: June 3 Leominster 1 (Lockwood).
- ACADIAN FLYCATCHER (*E. virescens*):** One report: June 6 Oxbow NWR 1 (Prentki).
- ALDER FLYCATCHER (*E. alnorum*):** May 18 Warren, Otter River SF 1, 2 (MacDougal, Lynch & Carroll) to July 30 Winchendon 3 (Bourinot). Max. June 2 Otter River SF 17 (Lynch & Carroll).
- WILLOW FLYCATCHER (*E. traillii*):** May 14 Worcester 2 (Robo) to Aug. 27 Westborough 1 (Lawson). Max. June 12 Bolton Flats 10 (Bourget, Johnson).
- LEAST FLYCATCHER (*E. minimus*):** Apr. 30 Paxton 1 (Robo) to Sept. 26 Westborough WMA (Spahr), late dates both from the Westborough WMA Oct. 26 and Nov. 16 (Robo, Spahr). Max. May 19 WRW 18 (Lynch & Carroll).
- EASTERN PHOEBE (*Sayornis phoebe*):** A lone winter report Jan. 27 Worcester 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Then, general arrival Mar. 10 Westminster 1 (Pirro) to Nov. 15 Westborough WMA 1 (Kittredge). Max. Aug. 28 Otter River SF 49 (Lynch & Carroll).
- GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus crinitus*):** May 16 Oxbow NWR 1 (Murray) to Sept. 21 Westborough WMA 1 (Miller). Max. May 12 Oxford 9 (Meleski).
- EASTERN KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus tyrannus*):** Apr. 28 Uxbridge 1 (Holden) to Sept. 17 Worcester 1 (Robo). Max. July 26 Brookfield (Lynch & Carroll) and Aug. 17 Lancaster 14 (Miller).
- NORTHERN SHRIKE (*Lanius borealis*):** Five reports: Jan. 2 Quabbin Res. 1 (Lafley), Jan. 12 Templeton 1 (Pirro). Then, Nov. 5 to Nov. 12 Westborough WMA 1 (Abbott, v.o.), and Dec. 8 Lancaster 1 (Lynch & Carroll).
- WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus*):** May 4 to May 5 Clinton 1 (Lafley *fide* Lynch & Carroll) and Sept. 17 Westborough WMA 1 (Spahr).
- YELLOW-THROATED VIREO (*V. flavifrons*):** Apr. 29 Bolton Flats 1 (Sowizral) to Sept. 23 Westborough WMA 1 (Kittredge), with max. May 10 Westborough WMA 8 (Spahr) and May 15 Brookfields 8 (Lynch & Carroll).
- BLUE-HEADED VIREO (*V. solitarius*):** Apr. 11 WRW 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to Nov. 5 New Braintree 1 (A&J Lawson). Max. May 15 Otter River SF 15 (Lynch & Carroll) and Sept. 25 WRW 14 (Lynch & Carroll).
- WARBLING VIREO (*V. gilvus*):** Apr. 29 Bolton Flats 1 (Sowizral) to Sept. 17 Westborough WMA 1 (Spahr). Max. May 18 Westborough WMA 24 (Spahr).
- PHILADELPHIA VIREO (*V. philadelphicus*):** All reports: Sept. 6 to Sept. 11 Westborough WMA 1 (Spahr#), Sept. 10 WRW 1 (Lynch & Carroll), Sept. 23 Crane Swamp, Westborough 1 (Miller), and Sept. 24 Mt. Watatic 1 (Shaw). A very late and well documented report Oct. 28 to Oct. 30 Westborough WMA 1 (Garvey, v.o.).

- RED-EYED VIREO (*V. olivaceus*):** May 7 Holden, Hardwick 1, 1 (Mahoney, Buelow) to Oct. 11 Northborough 1 (Spahr), and late Oct. 29 Northborough 1 (Spahr). Max. July 2 Phillipston 85 (Lynch & Carroll)
- BLUE JAY (*Cyanocitta cristata*):** Permanent resident. Max. Feb. 28 Brookfields 91 (Lynch & Carroll) and Dec. 14 SCC 670.
- AMERICAN CROW (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*):** Permanent resident. Max Dec. 31 QCC 2780.
- FISH CROW (*C. ossifragus*):** Permanent resident most common at lower elevations in southern half of Worcester County. Max. July 10 Sturbridge 10 (Sturup).
- COMMON RAVEN (*C. corax*):** Permanent resident. Max. Sept. 24 Mt. Watatic 30 (Shaw) and Dec. 17 GOCC 33.
- HORNED LARK (*Eremophila alpestris*):** First half reports: Jan. 1 Rutland 60 (Lynch & Carroll) to Apr. 19 Templeton 1 (Pirro). Possible breeding reports: Apr. 18 Lancaster 3 (Kittredge#) and Apr. 19 Gardner 1 (Pirro). Then, Sept. 27 Templeton 3 (Pirro) to year's end. Max. Nov. 16 Wachusett Res. 50 (Robo) and Dec. 31 UCC 95.
- TREE SWALLOW (*Tachycineta bicolor*):** Mar. 10 Bolton Flats 10 (Robo) to Sept. 18 Brookfields 30 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. May 4 Brookfields 1130 (Lynch & Carroll).
- NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*):** Apr. 9 Westborough WMA 1 (Kittredge, Paulson) to Aug. 1 Holden 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. May 5 West Boylston 15 (D. Williams).
- BANK SWALLOW (*Riparia riparia*):** Apr. 24 Westminster 2 (Pirro) to Sept. 7 Westborough WMA 1 (Spahr). Max. May 15 Brookfields 53 (Lynch & Carroll).
- CLIFF SWALLOW (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*):** Apr. 26 Bolton Flats 1 (Paulson) to Aug. 8 Brookfields 2 (Lynch & Carroll). No evidence of breeding was reported.
- BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*):** Apr. 17 Princeton 2 (Castriotta) to Sept. 17 Westborough WMA 4 (Bourget). Max. Aug. 8 Brookfields 76 (Lynch & Carroll).
- BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE (*Poecile atricapillus*):** Permanent resident. ...and of course our state and club bird!) Max. Jan. 2 Douglas 125 (Meleski) and Dec. 14 SCC 1491.
- TUFTED TITMOUSE (*Baeolophus bicolor*):** Permanent resident. Max. May 8 Upton 56 (Paulson) and Dec. 14 SCC 626.
- RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH (*Sitta canadensis*):** Permanent resident. Aug. 28 Otter River SF 79 (Lynch & Carroll).
- WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH (*S. carolinensis*):** Permanent resident. Max. Jan. 1 Westborough WMA 35 (Paulson) and Dec. 14 SCC 317.
- BROWN CREEPER (*Certhia americana*):** Permanent resident. Max. May 8 Upton 33 (Paulson).
- HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon*):** Apr. 21 Westborough WMA 1 (Paulson) to Oct. 11 Northborough 1 (Spahr), late Nov. 7 Westborough WMA 1 (Bradford) and Nov. 13 Westborough WMA 1 (Spahr). Max. May 15 Brookfields 20 (Lynch & Carroll).
- WINTER WREN (*T. hiemalis*):** Winter reports: Jan. 2 Northbridge 1 (Jenkins, Ricker), Jan. 17 Bolton Flats 1 (Muisse), and Jan. 23 Wachusett Res. 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Then, Mar. 27 to year's end. Max. May 27 Mt. Watatic 8 (Bates).
- MARSH WREN (*Cistothorus palustris*):** One winter report: Jan. 1 Westborough 1 (Paulson). May 8 Bolton Flats 1 (Hoye) to Oct. 1 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. May 21 Bolton Flats 13 (Paulson), June 25 Brookfield 4 (Jenkins). The most prevalent breeding locations in the County continue to be Bolton Flats WMA and the Brookfield in the Quaboag IBA.

- CAROLINA WREN (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*):** Permanent resident. Max. June 11 Brookfields 5 (Lynch & Carroll), Dec. 14 SCC 28, and Dec. 31 UCC 28.
- BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila caerulea*):** Apr. 14 Westborough WMA 1 (Spahr) to Sept. 7 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. May 5 Westborough WMA 12 (Spahr).
- GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET (*Regulus satrapa*):** Present year round with breeding restricted to stands of spruce and/or hemlock in northern half of Worcester County. Max. Oct. Mt. Watatic 16 (Schain) and Dec. 14 SCC 46.
- RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET (*R. calendula*):** One winter report: Jan. 30 Uxbridge 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Spring: Apr. 2 West Boylston 1 (Robo) to May 18 Leominster 1 (Young). Fall: Sept. 22 Worcester 1 (Robo) to Nov. 13 Westborough WMA 1 (McDaniel). Max. Apr. 17 Quabbin Res. 17 (Miller) and Apr. 18 WRW 28 (Lynch & Carroll).
- EASTERN BLUEBIRD (*Sialia sialis*):** Permanent resident, Max. Feb. 27 Brookfields 25 (Lynch & Carroll) and Dec. 14 SCC 149.
- VEERY (*Catharus fuscescens*):** May 5 Worcester 1 (Kittredge) to Sept. 4 Holden 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. May 15 East Quabbin 42 (FBC).
- SWAINSON'S THRUSH (*C. ustulatus*):** Spring: May 9 WRW 2 (Lynch & Carroll) to May 29 Spencer 2, also max., (Ebird). Fall: Sept. 20 Westborough 1 (Spahr) to Oct. 18 Westborough 1 (Miller). Max. Sept. 25 WRW 2 (Lynch & Carroll).
- HERMIT THRUSH (*C. guttatus*):** Local in winter: Jan. 1 Westborough WMA 1 (Paulson) to Jan. 19 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Then, Mar. 3 Worcester 1 (Liller) to Nov. 26 Westborough 1 (Bourget), with scattered reports in Dec. Max. Aug. 27 Otter River SF 28 (Lynch & Carroll).
- WOOD THRUSH (*Hylocichla mustelina*):** Apr. 27 Athol 2 (Watkevich) to Oct. 2 Hardwick 1 (Lafley). Max. May 15 Brookfields 25 (Lynch & Carroll).
- VARIED THRUSH (*Ixoreus naevius*):** Jan. 1 to Jan. 3 Rutland 1 (Robblee, v.o.). A Rutland resident called "The Bird Store & More" to report a Varied Thrush visiting her feeder. The homeowner allowed birders onto her property where many were able to achieve great views. The permission was short-lived however, after a neighbor accused birders of trespassing onto his adjacent property.
- AMERICAN ROBIN (*Turdus migratorius*):** Present year-round, Max. Feb. 8 Athol 350 (Small) and Dec. 31 QCC 2624.
- GRAY CATBIRD (*Dumetella carolinensis*):** Sporadic winter reports: Jan. 1 Westborough 1 (Paulson), Mar. 19 Northborough 1 (Faughnan), Apr. 9 Westborough 1 (Paulson, Kittredge), and Apr. 12 Northborough 1 (Robo). Arrival: Apr. 27 Worcester 1 (Liller) to Nov. 4 Westborough 1 (Marchant). Several late reports: Nov. 30 Westborough 1 (Spahr), Dec. 11 Quaboag IBA 1 (Lynch & Carroll) and Dec. 14 Charlton 1 (Meleski). Max. May 15 Quaboag IBA 131 (Lynch & Carroll).
- BROWN THRASHER (*Toxostoma rufum*):** Apr. 21 Westborough 4, also max., (Paulson) to Sept. 26 Westborough 1 (Spahr). A late report on Nov. 15 Westborough 1 (McDaniel). Max. June 4 Bolton 4 (Nielsen).
- NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD (*Mimus polyglottos*):** Permanent resident. Max. Oct. 22 Northborough 15 (Jacob).
- EUROPEAN STARLING (*Sturnus vulgaris*):** Permanent resident. Max. Oct. 22 Rutland 8000 (Pirro).
- CEDAR WAXWING (*Bombycilla cedrorum*):** Reported throughout the year. Max. Dec. 8 Gardner 272 (Pirro).
- HOUSE SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*):** Permanent resident. Max. Dec. 18 WoCC 1276.



- AMERICAN PIPIT (*Anthus rubescens*):** Northbound: Mar. 10 Templeton 1 (Pirro) to May 3 Wachusett Res. 1 (Robo). Max. Apr. 27 Southborough 7 (Dowling). Then, in the fall: Sept. 12 Holden 2 (Lynch & Carroll) to Nov. 28 Templeton 1 (Pirro). Fall max. Oct. 23 Quabbin Res. 100 (Johnas).
- EVENING GROSBEAK (*Coccothraustes verpertinus*):** Five reports: Mar. 17 Athol 10 (Watkevich), May 1 WRW 1 heard (Lynch & Carroll), June 29 Westminster 2 (Caron), Nov. 18 West Boylston 1 (Bourinot), and Dec. 24 Hardwick 1 (Howes).
- PINE GROSBEAK (*Pinicola enucleator*):** Three reports: Nov. 19 Petersham 1 (Lynch & Carroll), Nov. 21 Wachusett Res. 1 (Lynch & Carroll) and Dec. 31 Dana 1 (Lynch & Carroll).
- HOUSE FINCH (*Haemorhous mexicanus*):** Permanent resident. Max. Nov. 5, Nov. 6 Westborough 200 (Nassiopoulos) and Dec. 17 GOCC 185.
- PURPLE FINCH (*H. purpureus*):** Permanent resident, but uncommon in the winter. The majority of breeding reports are in the north county. Max. Jan. 21 Royalston 17 (Lynch & Carroll), Apr. 11 WRW 64 (Lynch & Carroll), and Sept. 26 Otter River SF 26 (Lynch & Carroll).
- COMMON REDPOLL (*Acanthis flammea*):** Three sightings reported: Jan. 4 Royalston 7 (Winstanley) Feb. 14 Holden 20 (Corazzini) and Mar. 5 Private Location 3 (Whelan).
- RED CROSSBILL (*Loxia curvirostra*):** One report: Dec. 6 Mass Central Rail Trail, West Boylston 1 (Schain).
- PINE SISKIN (*Spinus pinus*):** Winter: Jan. 2 Petersham 2 (Lynch & Carroll), Jan. 17 Bolton Flats 2 (Muisse), Mar. 7 Uxbridge 1 (Lodi). Then, Apr. 9 Oxbow NWR 1 (Hopkins) to end spring migration. Summer July 18 Athol 1 (Small). Fall Oct. 4 Athol 1 (Small) to Nov. 24 Westborough 2 (Nims). Max. June 20 Hardwick 5 (Buelow).
- AMERICAN GOLDFINCH (*S. tristis*):** Permanent resident. Max. Apr. 11 Athol 175 (Small), Dec. 14 Southbridge 56 (Bourinot), Dec. 31 Douglas 56 (Meleski), and Dec. 19 ACC 516.
- LAPLAND LONGSPUR (*Calcarius lapponicus*):** All reports: A single bird reported Oct. 29 Wachusett Res. 1 (Shaw, v.o.) to Nov. 9 (Robo), Dec. 3 Wachusett Res. 1 (B. Kamp), and Dec. 18 Worcester Airport 1 (Paulson#).
- SNOW BUNTING (*Plectrophenax nivalis*):** First half reports Jan. 22 Wachusett Res. 60, also max., (Spahr) to Mar. 30 Wachusett Res. 3 (Bourinot). Then, Nov. 1 Wachusett Res. 20 (Kittredge) to Dec. 31 Quabbin Res. 1 (Carter). Max. Nov. 13 Quabbin Res. 54 (Lafley).
- EASTERN TOWHEE (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*):** One winter report: Jan. 12 Wachusett Res. 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Then, Apr. 7 Quaboag Pond 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to Oct. 24 Holden 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Two Dec. reports: Dec. 14 West Brookfield 1 (Lynch & Carroll) and Dec. 18 West Boylston 1 (Meleski). Max. May 19 WRW 57 (Lynch & Carroll).
- AMERICAN TREE SPARROW (*Spizelloides arborea*):** Winter to Apr. 27 Athol 1 (Small), Westborough 1 (Dengler & Miller) with max. Jan. 1 Westborough 53 (Paulson). Then, Oct. 27 Westborough 2 (Bourinot#) through year end. Max. Dec. 31 Uxbridge 13 (Conor & Cameron), and Dec. 14 SCC 190.
- CHIPPING SPARROW (*Spizella passerina*):** Winter reports: Jan. 5 Bolton Flats 1 (Ammerman), Feb. 8 to Mar. 28 Athol 1 (Small). Widely reported Mar. 29 Worcester 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to Nov. 16 Wachusett Res. 1 (Spahr). Max. Oct. 1 Westborough 350 (Spahr).
- VESPER SPARROW (*Pooecetes gramineus*):** Most reports during breeding season from Lancaster or nearby Bolton Flats: Apr. 11 (Robo) to July 19 (Cook). Max July 7 Lancaster 5

- (Weber/BBC trip). Also, May 5 to May 6 Gardner Airport 2 (Pirro). Fall reports: Sept. 25 Lancaster 1 (Bourinot), Oct. 2 Westborough 1 (Dowling), Oct. 15 Heirloom Harvest CSA 1 (Dowling), and Oct. 27 to Nov. 2 Westborough WMA 1 (Spahr#).
- SAVANNAH SPARROW (*Passerculus sandwichensis*):** Winter: Jan. 17 Uxbridge Community Gardens 1 (Berard) to Dec. 18 Northborough 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. Oct. 2 Westminster 85 (Pirro).
- CLAY-COLORED SPARROW (*S. pallida*):** All reports were from Westborough WMA of single birds: Sept. 14 (Rodriguez), Sept. 25 (Bourget), Oct. 26 (Bourget, Robo, Paulson) and Oct. 31 (Garvey).
- FIELD SPARROW (*S. pusilla*):** Several winter reports: Jan. 1 Broad Meadow Brook WS 1 (Robo) to Jan. 27 Westborough 1 (Miller). Then, Mar. 3 Broad Meadow Brook WS 1 (Robo) through Oct. 30 Westborough 1 (Grinley). Max. July 7 Lancaster 12 (Weber/BBC trip).
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (*Ammodramus savannarum*):** All reports from known breeding location in Lancaster and nearby Bolton Flats. May 13 Bolton Flats 2 (Paulson) to July 7 Lancaster 1 (Weber#/BBC). Max. June 25 Lancaster 5 (Thompson#). Then, scattered Dec. reports from Dec. 3 Uxbridge 1 (Gauthier) to Dec. 27 Oxbow NWR 1 (Miller & Dengler).
- FOX SPARROW (*Passerella iliaca*):** Spring reports: Mar. 3 Broad Meadow Brook WS 1 (Liller) to Apr. 10 Athol 1 (Small). Max. Mar. 20 Westminster 9 (Pirro) and Northborough 9 (Spahr). Fall reports: Oct. 18 Westborough 1 (Lawson) to Nov. 30 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. Oct. 29 Paxton 4 (Jenkins). Lingerers: Dec. 3 Quaboag Pond 1 (Lynch & Carroll), Dec. 14 to Dec. 15 Uxbridge 1 (Gauthier), Dec. 11 Quaboag Pond 1 (Lynch & Carroll), Dec. 14 Brookfield 1 (Robo) and Dec. 18 WoCC 1 (Paulson).
- SONG SPARROW (*Melospiza melodia*):** Permanent resident. Retraction during winter. Spring max. May 15 Quaboag Pond 62 (Lynch & Carroll). Fall max. Oct. 29 Northborough 90 (Spahr), and Dec. 31 UCC 106.
- LINCOLN'S SPARROW (*M. lincolnii*):** Five spring reports: May 7 Hardwick (Buelow) to May 14 Westminster (Pirro). In the fall, Sept. 2 Westborough 1 (Spahr) to Nov. 4 Westborough 1 (Lawson). Max. Sept. 25 Bolton Flats 9 (Bourinot) and Sept. 26 Westborough 9 (Spahr).
- SWAMP SPARROW (*M. georgiana*):** Scattered winter reports from Jan. 2 Westborough 3 (Paulson) through Mar. 1 Oxford (Meleski). Then, Apr. 1 Bolton Flats 1 (Miller, Sowizral) to Dec. 27 Westborough 3 (Spahr). Max. Oct. 29 Northborough 100 (Spahr).
- WHITE-THROATED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia albicollis*):** First half through May 29 WRW 1 (Dowling). Max. Jan. 1 Westborough WMA 41 (Paulson). Summer breeding season reports from northwest Worcester County. Fall through year's end: Sep. 15 Westborough 1 (Spahr) to Dec. 31 Hardwick 3 (Carter) with max Oct. 26 Quaboag Pond 177 (Lynch & Carroll).
- HARRIS'S SPARROW (*Z. querula*):** Third Worcester County Record. Many birders got great looks at this bird. Oct. 26 Westborough WMA (Robo, v.o) almost daily to Nov. 7.
- WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW (*Z. leucophrys*):** Spring migrants from Apr. 29 Private Location 1, also max., (Pack) to May 19 Westborough 1 (Robo). Fall reports: Sept. 26 Westborough 1 (Spahr) to Nov. 7 Westborough 1 (Miller).
- DARK-EYED JUNCO (*Junco hyemalis*):** Widely reported in first half through mid-May with max. Jan. 1 Westborough WMA 280 (Paulson). Breeding season reports from Mt. Watatic, Ashburnham, Wachusett Mtn., Princeton and Royalston with a breeding max. June 26

- Wachusett Mtn. 4 (Dengler & Miller). Fall reports: Sept. 12 Princeton 1 (Kovner) through year's end. Max. Oct. 27 Leicester 300+ (Jenkins).
- YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (*Icteria virens*):** Two reports: Sept. 30 Northborough 1 (Spahr) to Oct. 2 (Spahr, Miller) and Oct. 8 Westborough 1 (Spahr).
- BOBOLINK (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*):** May 1 Bolton Flats 1 (Johnson) to Oct. 10 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. June 16 New Braintree 52 (Lynch & Carroll).
- EASTERN MEADOWLARK (*Sturnella magna*):** Mar. 2 Templeton 1 (Pirro) to Oct. 6 Quabbin Res. 1 (Robo) and Nov. 16 Dexter Drumlin, Lancaster 1 (Robo). Two possible breeding locations noted June 4 Fruitlands Museum, Harvard (BBC) and June 11 Dexter Drumlin, Lancaster (Robo).
- ORCHARD ORIOLE (*Icterus spurius*):** Apr. 28 Clinton 1 (Lafley) to July 26 Warren 2 (Cook) with max. June 26 Westborough WMA 7 (Spahr).
- BALTIMORE ORIOLE (*I. galbula*):** Apr. 30 Auburn 1 (VandenBoom) and Westborough 1 (Slovin) to Sept. 30 Worcester 1 (Robo) with late report Oct. 20 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. May 15 Quaboag Pond 43 (Lynch & Carroll).
- RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (*Agelaius phoeniceus*):** Local in winter. Spring max. Mar. 20 Lancaster 4,036 (Lynch & Carroll). Fall max. Oct. 27 Westborough 250 (Spahr).
- BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD (*Molothrus ater*):** Scarce in spring. Jan. 21 Rutland 30 (Lynch & Carroll) to Dec. 14 West Brookfield 2 (Lynch & Carroll/Sturbridge CBC). Max. Oct. 22 Rutland 500 (Pirro).
- RUSTY BLACKBIRD (*Euphagus carolinus*):** First half winter sightings: Jan. 1 Westborough 1 (Paulson), Jan. 2 Northbridge 2 (Jenkins & Ricker), Jan. 20 Westborough 50 (Spahr), and Feb. 22 Milford 8 (McDaniel). Then, Mar. 11 Bolton Flats 2 (Miller) to Nov. 30 Westborough 4 (Spahr). Max. Oct. 10 Westborough 70 (Spahr). Three second half winter reports: Dec. 23 Westborough 1 (Kittredge), Dec. 23 Westborough 4 (Rosenblatt), and Dec. 31 Northbridge (Ricker & Jenkins).
- COMMON GRACKLE (*Quiscalus quisqualis*):** Scarce in winter. Jan. 3 Worcester 1 (Robo) to Dec. 29 Worcester 4 (Robo). Spring max. Mar. 12 Bolton Flats 9,000 (Murray) and Mar. 24 Westborough 8,000 (Spahr). Fall max, Sept. 3 Oxbow NWR 300 (Skillin & DellaRoman).
- OVENBIRD (*Seiurus aurocapilla*):** Apr. 23 Templeton 1 (d'Entremont) to Sept. 24 Petersham 1 (Reynolds). Max. May 19 WRW 150 (Lynch & Carroll).
- WORM-EATING WARBLER (*Helmitheros vermivorum*):** May 8 Wachusett Res. 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to June 20 Shrewsbury 1 (Heisen). All reports of single birds.
- LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH (*Parkesia motacilla*):** Apr. 7 Spencer 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to July 13 Rutland 1 (Wipf). Max. June 11 Leominster 4 (Lockwood).
- NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH (*P. novaboracensis*):** Apr. 24 Holden 1 (Mahoney) to Oct. 1 Worcester 1 (Robo), with max. Aug. 10 Northborough 7 (Spahr).
- BLUE-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora cyanoptera*):** Apr. 21 Harvard 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to Sept. 1 Grafton 1 (Factor). Max. June 16 New Braintree 7 (Lynch & Carroll).
- LAWRENCE'S WARBLER (*V. cyanoptera x chrysoptera*):** June 14 Northborough 1 (Spahr).
- BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER (*Mniotilta varia*):** Apr. 22 Quabbin Res. 1 (Guion) to Oct. 7 Private Location 1 (Gauthier). Max. May 19 WRW 24 (Lynch & Carroll).
- TENNESSEE WARBLER (*Oreothlypis peregrina*):** Many reports in the spring: May 11 Westborough, Worcester 1, 1 (Williams, Lynch & Carroll) to May 27 Mt. Watatic 1 (Bates). In the fall: Sept. 10 Rutland 1 (Bourinot) to Oct. 3 Paxton 1 (Jenkins). All reports this year of single birds.

- ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (*O. celata*):** All fall reports likely consist of four individuals: Sept. 30 Quaboag IBA 1 (Lynch & Carroll), Oct. 29 Westborough 1 (Scott) (flip), Sept. 30 to Oct. 15 Westborough 1 (Dowling), and Oct. 14 Paxton 1 (Jenkins).
- NASHVILLE WARBLER (*O. ruficapilla*):** Arrival date May 8 with several reports at various locations by v.o. to Oct. 13 Westborough 1 (Kittredge). Max. May 2 Otter River SF 7 (Lynch & Carroll).
- CONNECTICUT WARBLER (*Oporornis agilis*):** Amazing year for this species in Worcester County and southern New England. The majority of reports were in the Westborough WMA vicinity: Sept. 13 Westborough 1 (Robo) to Oct. 8 Northborough 1 (Spahr). Reports outside of this area: Sept. 14 WRW 1, Sept. 17 Rutland 1, Sept. 30 Quaboag IBA 1 all by (Lynch & Carroll). Max. Sept. 16 Westborough WMA 5 (Spahr).
- MOURNING WARBLER (*Geothlypis philadelphia*):** Two spring reports: May 3 Leominster 1 (Lockwood) and one banded at Auburn Banding Station (Blazis#). Two fall reports: Sept. 14 Westborough 1 (Spahr) and Sept. 18 Northborough 1 (Spahr).
- COMMON YELLOWTHROAT (*G. trichas*):** Winter report: Jan. 2 Uxbridge 1 (Jenkins & Ricker). Then, Apr. 29 Templeton 1 (Dengler & Miller) to Oct. 15 Westborough 1 (Dowling). Max. May 18 Otter River SF 84 (Lynch & Carroll).
- AMERICAN REDSTART (*S. ruticilla*):** May 1 WRW 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to Oct. 14 Westborough 1 (Young). Max. May 11 Quaboag IBA 32 (Lynch & Carroll).
- CAPE MAY WARBLER (*S. tigrina*):** Several spring reports: May 8 Worcester, Upton 1, 1 (Robo, Paulson) to May 19 WRW 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Multiple reports of 2 birds. Fall reports: Sept. 6 Northborough 1 (Spahr) to Sept. 24 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. Sept. 6 Westborough 3 (Spahr).
- NORTHERN PARULA (*S. americana*):** Spring: Apr. 21 Harvard 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to Oct. 24 Holden 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. May 14 Westborough 16 (Dufault).
- MAGNOLIA WARBLER (*S. magnolia*):** Apr. 27 Northborough 1 (Miller & Dengler) to Sept. 26 Otter River SF 1 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. May 18 Otter River SF 11 (Lynch & Carroll).
- BAY-BREASTED WARBLER (*S. castanea*):** Three reports: May 10 and May 19 WRW 1, 1 (Lynch & Carroll), and Sept. 24 Paxton 1 (Jenkins).
- BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER (*S. fusca*):** Arrival date May 1 with several reports from various locations by v.o. to Sept. 10 WRW 2 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. May 23 Rutland 16 (Waters). Three reports of 6 birds is the max.
- YELLOW WARBLER (*S. petechia*):** Apr. 28 Harvard 1 (Miller, Faughnan) to Sept. 26 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. May 15 Quaboag Pond 66 (Lynch & Carroll).
- CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER (*S. pensylvanica*):** Apr. 24 Winchendon 1 (Galat) to Sept. 15 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. May 19 WRW 62 (Lynch & Carroll).
- BLACKPOLL WARBLER (*S. striata*):** May 11 Worcester 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to Oct. 28 Westborough 1 (Robo). Max May 26 Westborough 15 (Paulson).
- BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER (*S. caerulescens*):** Apr. 24 Holden 1 (Mahoney) to Sept. 30 Northborough 1 (Spahr). Max. May 15 Quabbin Res. 20 (Pirro).
- PALM WARBLER (*S. palmarum*):** In the spring: Apr. 1 Leominster 1 (Rosenblatt) to May 12 Petersham 1 (Menck), with max Apr. 16 Warren 42 (Lynch & Carroll). Southbound, Sept. 3 Northborough 1 (Miller, Spahr) to Nov. 6 Westborough 1 (Bourinot). Fall max. Sept. 24 Westborough 60 (Brogan, Black).
- PINE WARBLER (*S. pinus*):** An over-winterer, Jan. 9 Webster 1 (Beaumont). Then, Mar. 29 Harvard, Westborough 1, 1 (Ammerman, Glagowski) to Nov. 21 Princeton 1 (Dekker). Also,

a winter report on Dec. 31 Gilbertville (Locher, Carter). Max. Sept. 5 Otter River SF 95 (Lynch & Carroll).

**YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER (*S. coronata*):** Consistent reports started early this year, Mar. 31 WRW 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to Nov. 16 Westborough 1 (Spahr) and Dec. 31 UCC 5. Max. May 5 Westborough 122 (Paulson).

**PRAIRIE WARBLER (*S. discolor*):** Apr. 28 Sterling 3 (Williams) to Sept. 26 Westborough 1 (Dysart). Max. June 25 Bolton 10 (K. & P. Thompson).

**BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER (*S. virens*):** Arrival date Apr. 24 with multiple reports from various locations and v.o. to Oct. 16 Westborough 1 (Gonzembach). Max. May 18 Otter River SF 46 (Lynch & Carroll).

**CANADA WARBLER (*Cardellina canadensis*):** May 11 Princeton 2 (J. and A. Lawson) to Sept. 16 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. May 19 WRW 3 (Lynch & Carroll).

**WILSON'S WARBLER (*C. pusilla*):** Spring: May 9 Sterling 1 (Williams) to May 25 Harvard 1 (Bourinot). Max. May 14 Princeton 3 (Castriotta) and May 18 Westborough 3 (Spahr). Fall: Sept. 6 Westborough 1 (Spahr) to Sept. 28 Westborough 1 (Spahr). All reports of single birds.

**SCARLET TANAGER (*Piranga olivacea*):** Apr. 28 Holden 1 (Robo) to Sept. 25 WRW 3 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. May 19 WRW 57 (Lynch & Carroll).

**NORTHERN CARDINAL (*Cardinalis cardinalis*):** Permanent resident. Max. May 15 Quaboag Pond 37 (Lynch & Carroll) and Dec. 14 SCC 252.

**ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*):** Apr. 23 Harvard 1 (eBird) to Oct. 3 Quaboag Pond 2 (Lynch & Carroll). Max. May 15 Quaboag Pond 23 (Lynch & Carroll) and May 19 WRW 23 (Lynch & Carroll).

**BLUE GROSBEAK (*Passerina caerulea*):** Oct. 22 to Oct. 23 Westborough 1 (Paulson, v.o.).

**INDIGO BUNTING (*P. cyanea*):** May 3 Worcester 1 (Lynch & Carroll) to Oct. 11 Westborough 1 (Spahr). Max. June 16 New Braintree 16 (Lynch & Carroll).

**DICKCISSEL (*Spiza americana*):** Mar. 16 Worcester 1 (B. Kamp), and at Westborough WMA: Sept. 20 1 (Spahr#) to Oct. 30 1 (Spahr).

The Editorial Committee would like to thank all those who reported sightings in Worcester County for 2016.

## WACHUSETT MEADOWS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY BREEDING SEASON CENSUS

The Fifty-first Annual Forbush Bird Club Breeding Season Census of Wachusett Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton, Mass; June, 2016.

Canada Goose 19, Hooded Merganser 1, Wild Turkey 10, Virginia Rail 1, Great Blue Heron 4, Green Heron 1, Turkey Vulture 4, Osprey 1, Cooper's Hawk 1, Red-tailed Hawk 1, Red-shouldered Hawk 5, Broad-winged Hawk 1, Mourning Dove 8, Yellow-billed Cuckoo 1, Black-billed Cuckoo 2, Barred Owl 1, Chimney Swift 9, Ruby-throated Hummingbird 5, Red-bellied Woodpecker 3, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 13, Downy Woodpecker 8, Hairy Woodpecker 7, Northern Flicker 4, Pileated Woodpecker 4, Eastern Wood-Pewee 25, Willow Flycatcher 2, Least Flycatcher 5, Eastern Phoebe 5, Great Crested Flycatcher 1, Eastern Kingbird 7, Yellow-throated Vireo 1, Blue-headed Vireo 3, Warbling Vireo 2, Red-eyed Vireo 67, Blue Jay 37, American Crow 10, Common Raven 1, Tree Swallow 67, Barn Swallow 54, Black-capped Chickadee 39, Tufted Titmouse 25, Red-breasted Nuthatch 3, White-breasted Nuthatch 13, Brown Creeper 11, House Wren 12, Winter Wren 3, Marsh Wren 1, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 1, Eastern Bluebird 6, Veery 16, Hermit Thrush 7, Wood Thrush 2, American Robin 14, Gray Catbird 19, Cedar Waxwing 38, Yellow Warbler 18, Chestnut-sided Warbler 13, Black-throated Blue Warbler 12, Yellow-rumped Warbler 4, Black-throated Green Warbler 10, Blackburnian Warbler 2, Pine Warbler 14, Prairie Warbler 2, Black-and-white Warbler 16, American Redstart 2, Ovenbird 113, Common Yellowthroat 39, Eastern Towhee 9, Chipping Sparrow 20, Song Sparrow 17, Swamp Sparrow 8, Scarlet Tanager 19, Northern Cardinal 9, Rose-breasted Grosbeak 6, Bobolink 8, Red-winged Blackbird 45, Common Grackle 16, Brown-headed Cowbird 10, Baltimore Oriole 4, Purple Finch 6, American Goldfinch 16, House Sparrow 14.

Report submitted by: Dick Knowlton

**WORCESTER COUNTY CHRISTMAS COUNTS  
2016**

Count Name:	Sturbridge	Athol*	Groton-Oxbow**	Worcester	Quabbin*	Uxbridge*	Westminster
Date:	14-Dec	17-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec	5-Jan
	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2017
SPECIES							
Cackling Goose				cw			
Canada Goose	713	8	302	1014		526	
Mute Swan			30	22		24	
Wood Duck				cw		4	
Mallard	921	107	147	560	60	408	341
A. Black Duck	85	8	12	48	13	54	19
Northern Pintail				cw	1		
Gr-wing. Teal				cw			
Ring-neck. Duck	3			43	cw	11	
Greater Scaup	1			46	cw		
L.-tailed Duck				cw			
Bufflehead	3			5			
Com. Goldeneye	3			94	1		
B. Goldeneye				1			
H. Merganser	87		4	155	23	33	6
Com. Merganser	26	1	4	37	293	17	
Ruddy Duck				1			
R.-nck. Pheasant	1	cw	1				
Ruffed Grouse	2	1		1	6		
Wild Turkey	19	168	121	38	70	105	104
Cormorant sp.					1		
Common Loon				3	5		
Pied-b. Grebe				1			
Horned Grebe				cw	1		
R-N Grebe				cw			
Gr. Blue Heron			4	5		1	
Black Vulture						4	
Turkey Vulture						3	
N. Harrier	2					1	
Shrp-shn. Hawk	8	2	6	2	6	7	1
Cooper's Hawk	6	7	6	7	7	4	2
N. Goshawk	1	1					

Count Name:	Sturbridge	Athol*	Groton-Oxbow**	Worcester	Quabbin*	Uxbridge*	Westminster
Accipiter sp.	1						
Bald Eagle	8	cw		5	18	7	1
Red. Shld. Hawk	5	1	1			2	
RSxRT Hawk Hybrid				1			
Red-tailed Hawk	67	8	30	36	31	35	16
Rgh-leg. Hawk	1				1		
Golden Eagle					1		
Sandhill Crane				4			
Wilson's Snipe	1						
Ring-billed Gull	434	2	36	1293	52	41	68
Iceland Gull			1	1			
Herring Gull	12		734	21		2	329
Gr. Blk.-bck. Gull			78	3			33
gull sp.					259		
Rock Pigeon	444	464	310	312	61	352	102
Mourning Dove	414	392	221	195	266	291	113
E. Screech-Owl	8			7	1	12	
Gr. Horned Owl	9	2	5	5	15	4	
Barred Owl	7	6	2	1	4	1	1
N. Saw-whet Owl	14	2			6		
Belted Kingfisher	6	4	2	7	5	7	
R-h. Woodpecker	1						
R-b. Woodpecker	80	36	52	26	51	75	41
Do. Woodpecker	178	116	71	64	88	199	91
H. Woodpecker	55	41	29	19	31	31	25
Northern Flicker	18	2	8	9	2	17	
Pil. Woodpecker	9	4	16	1	15	9	1
American Kestrel					2		1
Merlin		1	2	cw			
Peregrine Falcon				1			
Eastern Phoebe			1				
Northern Shrike	cw	cw				1	
Blue Jay	687	530	484	480	427	602	436
American Crow	451	131	301	2780	156	644	456
Fish Crow				1		cw	
Common Raven	11	33	7	4	28	6	7
Horned Lark	90			38	95	34	3
Bl-c. Chickadee	1491	1234	472	449	501	758	890



Count Name:	Sturbridge	Athol*	Groton-Oxbow**	Worcester	Quabbin*	Uxbridge*	Westminster
Tufted Titmouse	626	354	273	294	224	511	335
Red-br. Nuthatch	5	22	2	6	12	2	11
Wh.-br. Nuthatch	317	150	96	110	157	285	155
Brown Creeper	21	2	6	1	6	9	4
Winter Wren	1	1	2		2	1	
Carolina Wren	28	10	7	10	5	28	3
Gold-cr. Kinglet	46		11	18	23	39	1
Ruby-cr. Kinglet							2
Eastern Bluebird	149	27	114	39	42	93	31
Hermit Thrush	2	2		1		2	
Balt. Oriole						1	
American Robin	593	310	769	347	2624	403	457
Gray Catbird	1					3	
N. Mockingbird	21	2	32	14	13	22	5
Euro. Starling	1097	438	295	1867	848	1042	165
Cedar Waxwing	18	239	115	21	44	63	117
Lap. Longspur				1			
Snow Bunting	3			36	29	2	1
Pine Warbler					1	1	
Yel-rump Warb.						5	
A. Tree Sparrow	190	105	82	40	173	89	51
Field Sparrow	4		1	2		10	
Dark-eyed Junco	1431	980	781	604	920	1820	633
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	53	32	36	45	32	38	5
Sav. Sparrow				1			
Fox Sparrow	1	2		1			
Song Sparrow	86	14	71	54	14	106	8
Swamp Sparrow	7	1		3	1	1	
E. Towhee	1			1			1
N. Cardinal	252	204	143	123	98	188	77
Red-w. Blackbird	15		7	5	38	139	
Br-h. Cowbird	4					13	
Rusty Blackbird	2					1	
Com. Grackle	2	cw	1			7	
Pine Grosbeak					1		
House Finch	131	130	185	52	12	123	94
Purple Finch	16	3			3		4
C. Redpoll		1					
Pine Siskin	3	6					

<b>Count Name:</b>	<b>Sturbridge</b>	<b>Athol*</b>	<b>Groton-Oxbow**</b>	<b>Worcester</b>	<b>Quabbin*</b>	<b>Uxbridge*</b>	<b>Westminster</b>
A. Goldfinch	488	516	328	174	205	244	231
E. Grosbeak	cw	cw			5		
House Sparrow	1311	394	468	1276	920	779	457
<b>Count Day Species</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Count Day Individuals</b>	<b>13308</b>	<b>7257</b>	<b>7325</b>	<b>12992</b>	<b>9055</b>	<b>10402</b>	<b>5935</b>

\* = Count circle extends outside of Worcester County.

\*\* = Center outside of Worcester County but portions of the circle are within the county.

CW = Birds seen during count week (the three days before and after the count) but not on count day.

**AUBURN BIRDBANDING RESEARCH STATION  
AUBURN SPORTSMAN'S CLUB  
2016 CAPTURES**

Species	Spring	Fall	Total
Northern Saw-whet Owl		20	20
Downy Woodpecker	1	17	18
Hairy Woodpecker	2	2	4
Northern Flicker		1	1
Pileated Woodpecker	1		1
Eastern Wood-Pewee		1	1
Trail's Flycatcher	4	5	9
Least Flycatcher	1		1
Eastern Phoebe	2	10	12
Great Crested Flycatcher	1		1
Eastern Kingbird	2		2
Tree Swallow	69	1	70
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	13	1	14
Cedar Waxwing	2		2
Carolina Wren	1	1	2
House Wren	2	6	8
Gray Catbird	41	158	199
Eastern Bluebird	60	9	69
Veery	7	7	14
Gray-cheeked Thrush			
Swainson's Thrush	3	1	4
Hermit Thrush			
Wood Thrush		7	7
American Robin	8	5	13
Black-capped Chickadee	9	51	60
Tufted Titmouse	5	29	34
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	12	14
Brown Creeper	1	2	3
Blue Jay	2	1	3
Blue-headed Vireo		1	1
Warbling Vireo	5	2	7
Red-eyed Vireo	6	5	11
House Finch		7	7

Species	Spring	Fall	Total
Purple Finch	2	1	3
American Goldfinch	4	23	27
Blue-winged Warbler	1		1
Nashville Warbler		1	1
Yellow Warbler	4		4
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	1	2
Magnolia Warbler	10	1	11
Black-throated Green Warbler		1	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	11		11
Pine Warbler	2	1	3
Prairie Warbler		1	1
Palm Warbler	4		4
Black-and-white Warbler	3	3	6
American Redstart	14	4	18
Ovenbird	3	5	8
Northern Waterthrush	6	4	10
Mourning Warbler	1		1
Common Yellowthroat	54	20	74
Wilson's Warbler	1		1
Canada Warbler	6	1	7
Scarlet Tanager	1		1
Eastern Towhee		1	1
Song Sparrow	6	7	13
Lincoln's Sparrow	1		1
Swamp Sparrow	12	2	14
White-throated Sparrow	22		22
Dark-eyed Junco	1	4	5
Northern Cardinal	7	7	14
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2		2
Red-winged Blackbird	8		8
Common Grackle	1		1
Baltimore Oriole	11		11

<b>TOTALS – 65 Species</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>773</b>
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Report Submitted by: Mark Blazis

## SAW-WHET OWL BANDING 2016 LOOKOUT ROCK, NORTHBRIDGE

Fall 2016 was the 14th season of Saw-whet Owl banding at Lookout Rock. Saw-whets were banded on each of 20 nights between Oct. 4 and end-of-season on Nov. 12. Season total: 151 owls banded. In addition, 3 Saw-whet owls were recaptured that had been banded at other stations (foreign recaptures).

Of this total, 79% were female; 6% were male; and sex could not be determined for 15%. Plumage patterns indicated that 56% of the owls were hatch year; 44% were Second-year or older.

Foreign Recaptures: banded at Hopkins Forest, Williamstown, in 2015; banded at Drumlin Farm, Lincoln, in 2013; another banded at Drumlin Farm six days prior to recapture at Lookout Rock.

Two saw-whets banded at Lookout Rock in 2014 were recaptured elsewhere: in Montreal (banding station operated by McGill University) and in W. Virginia.

On October 3, a good flight night with perfect conditions--cold, clear, windless--32 owls were netted. Other good flight nights were Oct. 19 (18 owls), Oct. 26 (18 owls), and Nov. 1 (15 owls).

About 135 visitors attended these banding sessions, including a number of local birders and college students, the Hampshire Bird Club from the Amherst area, and Stonybrook Audubon in Norfolk.

October Date	# Northern Saw-whet Owls Banded
10/4/16	3
10/5/16	1
10/7/16	3
10/10/16	7
10/11/16	2
10/14/16	8
10/19/16	18
10/24/16	5
10/25/16	6
10/26/16	18
10/29/16	3
10/31/16	32
<b>OCT Total</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>2016 Season Total</b>	<b>154</b>

November Date	# Northern Saw-whet Owls Banded
11/1/16	15
11/2/16	11
11/4/16	8
11/5/16	5
11/6/16	2
11/7/16	3
11/10/16	2
11/12/16	2
<b>NOV Total</b>	<b>48</b>

Report submitted by: Strickland Wheelock and Beth Milke

## PASSERINE BANDING AT WEST HILL PARK, NORTHBRIDGE

West Hill Park-West Hill Dam is a 567-acre complex operated by the Army Corps of Engineers along the West River in Northbridge and Uxbridge. The habitat includes woodland, field and marsh, which supports a diversity of bird species. Since 2001, the banding program has documented 98 species of passerines at West Hill Park during spring and fall migration.

### SPRING 2016

Mist nets were opened on only three days: May 21, May 28, and May 29, 2016. Total netted: 42 birds of 22 species, including recaptures. Peak day was May 21, when 30 birds of 17 species were netted.

Banded birds of note included: Willow Flycatcher and female Orchard Oriole. Recaptures of birds banded in prior seasons included a Great Crested Flycatcher banded at the park in May 2015 and a Yellow Warbler banded as an adult in May 2013 (now at least 6 years old).

The regular spring and fall migration banding project at West Hill Park has been completed. We appreciate the support of the Army Corps of Engineers and the staff at West Hill Dam in permitting the use of their facility for this bird banding project.

Species	Spring
GREAT-CRESTED FLYCATCHER	1 recap
WILLOW FLYCATCHER	1
WARBLING VIREO	2
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	4
HOUSE WREN	1
VEERY	1
AMERICAN ROBIN	3
GRAY CATBIRD	10
CEDAR WAXWING	1
YELLOW WARBLER	1 recap
PINE WARBLER	3
PRAIRIE WARBLER	1
AMERICAN REDSTART	1
NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH	1

Species	Spring
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT	2
SONG SPARROW	1
NORTHERN CARDINAL	1
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD	1
ORCHARD ORIOLE	1
BALTIMORE ORIOLE	2
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	2

TOTAL BIRDS BANDED	39
TOTAL BIRDS NETTED	42
TOTAL SPECIES NETTED	22

Report submitted by: Strickland Wheelock and Beth Milke

## 2016 Hawk Watch Results

(All data from HawkCount)

### Barre Falls Hawk Watch Spring 2016

Dates of observation: 18 dates from March 30 to April 29, 2016

Hours of observation: 76.0

Species	Season Total	Maximum: Date (#)
Black Vulture	0	---
Turkey Vulture	11	3/30 (4)
Osprey	22	4/13 (6)
Bald Eagle	8	4/25 (2)
Northern Harrier	4	4/15 (2)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	23	4/19 (6)
Cooper's Hawk	4	3/30 (2)
Northern Goshawk	0	---
Red-shouldered Hawk	3	4/15; 4/22; 4/23 (1)
Broad-winged Hawk	197	4/25 (84)
Red-tailed Hawk	19	4/19 (5)
Rough-Legged Hawk	0	---
Golden Eagle	0	---
American Kestrel	15	4/16 (3)
Merlin	1	3/30 (1)
Peregrine Falcon	1	4/16 (1)

### Barre Falls Hawk Watch Fall 2016

Dates of observation: 57 dates September 10 to November 19, 2016

Hours of observation: 243.0

Species	Season Total	Maximum: Date (#)
Black Vulture	0	---
Turkey Vulture	290	10/15 (76)
Osprey	45	9/17 (7)
Bald Eagle	43	10/31 (4)
Northern Harrier	27	10/29 (4)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	267	9/21 (28)
Cooper's Hawk	60	9/13 (6)
Northern Goshawk	1	10/12 (1)
Red-shouldered Hawk	10	10/26 (5)
Broad-winged Hawk	1123	9/27 (307)
Red-tailed Hawk	145	10/20 (11)
Rough-legged Hawk	0	---
Golden Eagle	0	---
American Kestrel	36	9/16 (5)
Merlin	22	9/17 (5)
Peregrine Falcon	8	10/8 (2)

**Mt. Wachusett Hawk Watch Fall 2016**

Dates of observation: 42 dates from August 22 to November 18, 2016

Hours of observation: 260.75

Species	Season Total	Maximum: Date (#)
Black Vulture	3	10/11 (3)
Turkey Vulture	215	10/11 (134)
Osprey	166	9/24 (20)
Bald Eagle	163	9/12; 9/16 (16)
Northern Harrier	17	9/15 (6)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	451	9/24 (51)
Cooper's Hawk	106	9/24 (15)
Northern Goshawk	0	---
Red-shouldered Hawk	18	10/31 (4)
Broad-winged Hawk	6962	9/24 (2281)
Red-tailed Hawk	64	10/31 (11)
Rough-legged Hawk	0	---
Golden Eagle	0	---
American Kestrel	107	9/24 (28)
Merlin	32	9/24 (6)
Peregrine Falcon	35	9/12 (5)
Swainson's Hawk	1	9/20 (1)

**Mt. Watatic Hawk Watch Fall 2016**

Dates of observation: 14 dates from September 3 to October 15, 2016

Hours of observation: 91.75

Species	Season Total	Maximum: Date (#)
Black Vulture	0	---
Turkey Vulture	168	10/15 (151)
Osprey	75	9/24 (15)
Bald Eagle	51	9/4 (10)
Northern Harrier	7	9/12; 9/16 (2)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	157	9/24 (29)
Cooper's Hawk	24	9/15; 10/15 (5)
Northern Goshawk	0	---
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	10/15 (1)
Broad-winged Hawk	3040	9/15 (1699)
Red-tailed Hawk	2	10/15 (2)
Rough-legged Hawk	0	---
Golden Eagle	0	---
American Kestrel	30	9/24 (16)
Merlin	6	9/17 (2)
Peregrine Falcon	2	9/4; 9/14 (1)

## RECORD OF FORBUSH BIRD CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR 2016

- |                |           |  |
|----------------|-----------|--|
| <b>January</b> | <b>1</b>  | <p><b>Worcester</b><br/> Leader: John Shea. Observers: 10. Some highlights were: 3 Green-winged Teal, 1 Peregrine Falcon, 1 Belted Kingfisher and the Red-headed Woodpecker at Broad Meadow Brook. Species: 28.</p>  |
| <b>March</b>   | <b>6</b>  | <p><b>Sachuest Point, RI</b><br/> Leader: Paul Meleski. Observers: 2. Weather: A beautiful sunny day with light winds and temps in the 40s. Species 36.</p>  |
| <b>March</b>   | <b>26</b> | <p><b>Quaboag Pond and Vicinity</b><br/> Leaders: Rodney Jenkins. Observers: 10. Weather: Cloudy and calm. 34 to 41°F. Highlights: 1 Lesser Scaup, 1 Ruddy Duck, 3-4 Bald Eagles, a flock of 94 Cedar Waxwings, 3 Eastern Phoebe, 24 Tree Swallows, 7 Purple Finches, and 1 Swamp Sparrow. Species: 52.</p>  |
| <b>April</b>   | <b>3</b>  | <p><b>Bolton Flats WMA</b><br/> Leader: Kevin Bourinot. Observers: 2. Weather: Poor conditions with heavy snow and wind. We walked in the 117 entrance to scan the flood plains and observed these Highlights: Blue-winged Teal, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Bald Eagle, Pectoral Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe. Species: 20.</p>   |
| <b>April</b>   | <b>28</b> | <p><b>85<sup>th</sup> Forbush Bird Club Annual Dinner and Business Meeting</b></p> <p>The 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner and Business Meeting of the Forbush Bird Club was held on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at the Manor Restaurant in West Boylston. The club President, Dick Knowlton opened the business meeting after the social hour at 7: 40 pm.</p> <p>Dick noted that the club has been active for 85 years in providing field trips, lecture programs, and participating in surveys such as Christmas Bird Counts and breeding bird surveys. During the previous year the club sponsored 28 field trips and 4 public lectures. The field trips averaged 11 participants with high number of 27 at Mount Auburn and on the pelagic trip. Last year was the second year with a social hour preceding the business meetings which have been well attended and seem to be enjoyed by all.</p> <p>Dick recognized the club officers and thanked them for their support. Dick also thanked Strickland Wheelock, Paul and Beth Milke, and Mark and Helen Blazis for their banding programs. He expressed his gratitude to Deb Cary and Sheryl Farnum for their support with the club's use of the</p> |



sanctuary for our meetings; Rich Scarlett for management of our website; Kevin Bourinot and Alan Marble for supporting our Facebook page; and Rick Quimby for his maintenance of Central Mass bird sightings. He thanked Mike Bellows for the great work with the club's tee shirt sales. Dick also thanked all trip leaders individually for providing interesting and diverse field trips.

### **Officer's Reports**

Secretary's Report was read by Peg Knowlton for Deb Berard and accepted by the membership.

Treasurer's Report was read by Bart Kamp and accepted by the membership. It stated an ending balance of \$17,079.56.

### **Old Business**

Chickadee -There have been several issues with the obtaining of data, editing and production of the Chickadee. Chuck Caron and Tom Pirro along with the committee continue to work towards the completion on 2014 and 2015.

### **New Business**

The website Massbird will be ending soon. They have been supporting our web page so we will need to look for an alternative. Rick Scarlett will be looking into our options.

### **25 Year Membership Recognition Award**

Dick announced this year's recipients Barbara Vokle and Steve Moore and presented them with their certificate.

Dick informed the group of the development of the Association of Massachusetts Bird Clubs that will have 16 participants which is still in formation.

### **Announcements**

Dick announced the upcoming events and encouraged all to participate if able.

The business meeting ended and was followed by Kevin Bourinot introducing Diane Benson Davis who presented the program; Eagle One: Raising Bald Eagles, A Wildlife Memoir.

Respectfully submitted, Deb Berard, Secretary

<b>April</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Mulberry St. and Muir Meadow</b> Leader: Susan LaBree. Participants: 8. Weather: Sunny, 44. Species: 51.
<b>May</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Mt. Auburn Cemetery</b> Leader: Dan Berard. Observers: 28+. Species: 55.

- May 15 Quabbin Reservoir Auto Tour Gates 35-43**  
Leader: Tom Pirro. Weather: Overcast to partly sunny with the temperature from 44 to 53F and very windy at 10-15 mph with higher gusts. Species 71.
- May 21 Millbury**  
Leader: Alan Marble. Observers: 6. Weather: Warm and mostly sunny. Areas covered were the Millbury Bike Path and a portion of the Brierly Pond Conservation Area. Highlights included a male and female Orchard Oriole, Blue-winged Warbler and a Black-billed Cuckoo. Species: 46.
- May 28 Upton State Forest**  
Leader: Nickilas Paulson. Observers: 6. Weather: A little hot, I think a warm front came in that weekend and it was sort of hot and muggy. Migration was low, mostly just residents that were quieter in the heat. Species: 53.
- May 29 DCR Kristof Farm**  
Leaders: Dick and Peg Knowlton. Observers: 14. Weather: Cool (low 60's) and overcast with little or no wind. Highlights- Black-billed Cuckoo (heard), great views of Scarlet Tanager and Blue-winged Warbler. Species: 42.
- June 4 Barre Falls Dam and Rutland State Park**  
Leaders: Donna Schilling and Dave Grant. Observers: 17. Weather: Partly sunny, 63 to 78 degrees; light and variable wind. Beautiful spring morning. Locations 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 an Osprey, two Broad-winged Hawks, the Barre Falls Common Ravens, and stunning views of a Black-throated Green Warbler. Ten species of breeding warblers were observed. Species: 58.
- June 26 Wachusett Reservoir IBA**  
Four members of the Forbush Bird Club had a great trip around Wachusett Reservoir this morning. Highlights: Common Loon (14; 11 adults, 1 juv, 2 recently fledged). Lots of breeding and post-breeding activity all around. After hours of searching and hiking we were able to locate a pair of Common Loons with 2 recently fledged young. Species: 71.
- August 17 Notre Dame Cemetery, Worcester**  
Leader: Dave Grant. Observers: 5. Species: 14.

- August 25 Worcester Airport, Route 56 Overlook**  
Leader: John Shea. Observers: 12. Best trip there yet - we saw 146 Nighthawks. Species: 12.
- September 3 Wachusett Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton**  
Leader: Joan Gallagher. Observers: 11. Weather: Sunny, 55 degrees to start ending with a high of 77 degrees. Highlights: A close look at various migrating fall Warblers feeding in one tree just above eye level, two American Kestrels, a very colorful Merlin and a large porcupine in the same tree as seen on last year's trip. Species: 41.
- September 25 Bolton Flats and Lancaster WMAs**  
Leader: Kevin Bourinot. Observers: 9. Weather: Windy. Temps ranged from 36 to 60°F with clear skies. Highlights: Red-headed Woodpecker, Northern Harriers, Nashville Warbler, Lincoln's Sparrows, Vesper Sparrow.
- October 9 New Braintree**  
Leaders: Rodney Jenkins. Observers: 3. Weather: Rainy, 50 to 55°F. Wind 10 mph. Highlights: Just a poor day for birdwatching. 40 Yellow-rumped Warblers, 75 Chipping Sparrows, 50 Savannah Sparrows, and 1 Field Sparrow. Species: 31.
- October 10 Wachusett Reservoir IBA**  
Leader: Bette Robo. Observers: 11. Stops: River Road, Muddy Pond, The Quag and West Waushacum at Gates Road, Central MA Rail Trail in Sterling at Cider Mill, East Waushacum at Sholan Beach, Coachlace Pond. Wachusett Reservoir: Gates 36, 37, 39, Clinton Dam, Mile Hill, Gate 8, Scar Hill Road, Gate 17, Gate 25. Highlights: Ruddy Duck 18, Pied-billed Grebe 2, Common Loon 14, Common Raven 1, Sharp-shinned Hawk 1, Surf Scoter 1 (South Bay, probably 3). Species: 47.
- November 13 Salisbury Beach/Parker River NWR**  
Leader: Dick Knowlton. Observers: 9. Weather: Mostly sunny. Temp: 40's to start to near 60 in afternoon. Sites included Salisbury Beach State Park, Joppa Flats, Parker River NWR, Cherry Hill and Artichoke Reservoirs in West Newbury. Highlights: good raptors. 2 Rough-legged Hawks, Merlin, Northern Harriers and Red-tails. Notable miss: Pink-footed Goose. Species: 45.