

Birding Reports (August 2014)

August 24, 2014 — The end of summer bird migration continues to develop in the region. Here are the most recent bird sightings for the area including: Bald Eagle, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Coopers Hawk, Kestrel, Osprey, Woodduck, Ring-neck Duck, Goose, Mallard, Hooded Merganser, Great-blue Heron, Green Heron, Killdeer, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Oriole, Bluebird, Hummingbird, Brown Thrasher, Catbird, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Nighthawk, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Raven, Phoebe, Cedar Waxwing, Pewee, Eastern Kingbird, Belted Kingfisher, House Finch, Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Turkey, Double-crested Cormorant, Bluebird, Pileated Woodpecker and Pied-billed Grebe.

I am seeing lots of Blue Jays at my home as well as others who have commented on the recent increase. I was notified of an odd bird that showed up along Lake Shamineau the bird was an Avocet, a very colorful shorebird. I went out to look for the bird but it was gone. I found a large group of blackbirds feeding in shallow bay on Pelican Lake feeding on Wild Rice, I estimated about 100 birds or so. A few good places to look for fall migrants include the many hiking trails along the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway . Happy Birding!

August 15, 2014 — The fall bird migration is under way with lots of activity in the Brainerd area. Here are the bird sightings from this past week: Common Loon, Great-blue Heron, Killdeer, Ring-billed Gull, Mallard, Canada Goose, Bald Eagle, Osprey, Red-tailed Hawk, Turkey Vulture, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Pileated Woodpecker, Phoebe, Eastern Kingbird, Bluebird, Raven, Oriole, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Grackle, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Marsh Wren, Turkey, Sandhill Crane, Hummingbird, Brown Thrasher, Catbird, Red-eyed Vireo, Flicker and Broad-winged Hawk.

New birds found from guided trips to USACE campground in Crosslake and the Veterans Trail along the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway include: Chestnut-sided Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Least Flycatcher, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat and Pine Warbler. Happy Birding!

August 8, 2014 — Birds this week include the following. Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Kestrel, Broad-winged Hawk, Great-blue Heron, Green Heron, Common Merganser, Woodduck, Cormorant, Killdeer, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Nashville Warbler, Redstart, Brown Thrasher, Catbird, Cedar Waxwing, Tree Swallow, Eastern Kingbird, Oriole, Hummingbird, Chipping Sparrow, Raven, Whip-poor Will, Bluebird and Red-eyed Vireo. Happy Birding!

August 1, 2014 — For the first time in a while, the bird activity was very active with migration and bird families. Here are sightings from the past week: Oriole, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Vesper Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Song Sparrow, Bald Eagle, Osprey, Turkey Vulture, Red-tail Hawk, Kestrel, Broad-winged Hawk, Coopers Hawk, Hummingbird, Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Woodduck, Ring-neck Duck, Great-blue Heron, Pileated Woodpecker, Bluebird, Eastern Kingbird, Grackle, Whip-poor Will. Nighthawk, killdeer, Phoebe and Trumpeter Swan.

New birds that haven't been reported this summer until now includes: Golden-winged Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Pewee, Great-crested Flycatcher, Nashville Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Red-headed Woodpecker, Purple Martin and Scarlet Tanager. Happy Birding!

— Judd Brink, bird guide/owner, [MN Backyard Birds](http://MNBackyardBirds.com) & BirdsoftheByway.com