

Birding Reports (May 2017)



May 30, 2017 — Bird sightings for the area include: Bald Eagle, Broad-winged Hawk, Osprey, Red-tailed Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Turkey Vulture (9), American Kestrel, Sandhill Crane, Trumpeter Swan, Mallard, Woodduck, Ring-neck Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Belted Kingfisher, Killdeer, double-crested Cormorant, Great-blue Heron, Tree Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Eastern Bluebird, Yellow-rumped Warbler, American Redstart, Golden-winged Warbler, Black and White Warbler, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Northern Flicker, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Green Heron, Common Egret, Northern Shoveler, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Loon, Common Grackle, Fox Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Common Raven, Brown Thrasher, Eastern Towhee, and Song Sparrow.

This year both Common Loons and Trumpeter Swans are nesting on Rice Lake along Co Rd 11 — one of the designated birding spots featured within the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway's Birds of the Byway brochure.

Also note: This week offers the last bird walks for the season at the Northland Arboretum. These events, sponsored by the Audubon Society, will be Thursday June 1 at 7 AM and Saturday June 3 at 8 AM.

Happy Birding!

May 19, 2017 — Bird sightings for the week include: Bald Eagle, Broad-winged Hawk, Osprey, Red-tailed Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Turkey Vulture, American Kestrel, Sandhill Crane, Trumpeter Swan, Mallard, Woodduck, Ring-neck Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Belted Kingfisher, Killdeer, double-crested Cormorant, Great-blue Heron, Tree Swallow, Purple Martin, Eastern Bluebird, Yellow-rumped Warbler, American Redstart, Golden-winged Warbler, Black and White Warbler, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Northern Flicker, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Loon, Common Grackle, Fox Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Common Raven, Brown Thrasher, Eastern Towhee, and Song Sparrow.

New birds arriving this past week include: Lark Sparrow, Indigo Bunting, Common Yellowthroat, Great-crested Flycatcher, Cliff Swallow, Common Nighthawk, Red-headed Woodpecker, Black Tern, Yellow-throated Vireo, Ruddy Turnstone, Common Tern and Black-bellied Plover.

Thursday's weekly bird walk at the Arboretum found 31 species — even with the cool weather. The most exciting find was a Golden-winged Warbler! Minnesota has 40% of the global population of Golden-wings! The next Audubon bird walk will be on Saturday starting at 8 am Northland Arboretum in Brainerd.

On Sunday (May 21) visit the Northland Arboretum to look for birds during the "Big Bird Day" to celebrate International Migratory Bird Day. Meet at 8 am to be divided into teams to go bird watching. A potluck lunch will follow at noon. This is a fun event to learn about birds with friends or family while also enjoying great food.

Happy Birding!

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May 12, 2017 — Bird sightings for the area include: Bald Eagle, Broad-winged Hawk, Osprey, Red-tailed Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Barred Owl (calling), Coopers Hawk, Turkey Vulture, American Kestrel, Sandhill Crane, Trumpeter Swan, Mallard, Woodduck, Ring-neck Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Belted Kingfisher, Killdeer, double-crested Cormorant, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Great-blue Heron, Tree Swallow, Eastern Bluebird, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Northern Flicker, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Loon, Common Grackle, Fox Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Common Raven, Brown Thrasher, Eastern Towhee, and Song Sparrow.

New birds arriving this past week include: Oriole. Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Harris sparrow, Green Heron, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Whip-poor-Will, Scarlet Tanager, Great-crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Red-headed Woodpecker and Lincoln Sparrow. Many of the small warblers are now here and still moving through the area including: Black and White Warbler, Orange Crown, Canada, Nashville, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Palm, Black-throated Green and Black Poll warblers!

The nesting platform along Hwy 371 on North Long Lake is now occupied by Loons! The many Osprey platforms in and around the Crosslake area are also being used again this year.

New birds arriving this past week include: Purple Martin, Clay-colored Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, White Pelican, Willets, Horned Grebe, Pine Warbler, Swamp Sparrow, Goose with goslings (Kiwanis Park). Thanks for following the reports watch for next week's bird report and my guiding adventures. Happy Birding!

May 6, 2017 — Bird sightings for the area include: Bald Eagle, Osprey, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Barred Owl, Coopers Hawk, Turkey Vulture, American Kestrel, Sandhill Crane, Trumpeter Swan, Mallard, Woodduck, Ring-neck Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Belted Kingfisher, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Great-blue Heron, Tree Swallow, Eastern Bluebird, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Northern Flicker, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Loon, Common Grackle, Fox Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Common Raven, Brown Thrasher and Song Sparrow.

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Thanks for following the reports watch for next week's bird report and my guiding adventures. Happy Birding!

— Judd Brink, bird guide/owner, MN Backyard Birds & BirdMinnesota.com