

100th Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count Results

Saturday, December 23, 2023

The Bronx-Westchester CBC celebrated its 100th count. The count's lineage goes back to the 1924 count started by the famed Bronx County Bird Club. The count found 121 species plus 4 count week and tallied 35,354 birds.



MacGillivray's Warbler



One of two Ash-throated Flycatchers
(photo – Stella Miller)

Highlights included two new species for the count. A MacGillivray's Warbler was found in the Riverdale section of the Bronx, and two Ash-throated Flycatchers, one in the southern section of Pelham Bay Park, one in Mount Vernon. The cumulative species for the count now stands at 236.



Greater White-fronted Goose
(photo Gail Benson)




Baltimore Oriole
(photo – Linda Brunner)

Other highlights were Cackling Goose, Surf and White-winged Scoters, 3 Red-necked Grebe, 2 Semipalmated Plover (4th count record), Iceland Gull, Clapper and Virginia Rails, 5 Great Egret in 4-5 locations, including Tibbetts Brook Park in Yonkers and a flyover in Hastings-on-Hudson, Red-headed Woodpecker in Marshlands Conservancy, 4 Chipping Sparrows, Baltimore Oriole at a Yonkers feeder, 7 Orange-crowned Warbler (also a new high count), Nashville Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, and Palm Warbler.

New high counts were 81 Wild Turkey (75 in 2007) and 76 Common Loon (65 in 2020)

We had 20-year highs for; Clapper Rail, Killdeer, Eastern Screech-Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Golden-crowned Kinglet, American Pipit, House Finch, and Yellow-rumped Warbler. We had a 20-year low for Black-capped Chickadee.

		
One of Five Great Egrets (photo Julien Amsellem)	One of Seven Orange-crowned Warblers (photo Julien Amsellem)	Only one Canvasback was found

Only one Canvasback, a male in the Hudson off the Beczak Environmental Education Center and one Northern Pintail were found.

Count week birds included Greater White-fronted Goose, Black Vulture, Clay-colored Sparrow, and Cape May Warbler (never seen on the count)

Misses include Snow Goose. Ruddy Turnstone, and Dunlin.

Below is a full breakdown of the numbers. Thanks all who helped on the count.

NEXT YEAR's COUNT will be SUNDAY, December 22, 2024 (note: the next National Audubon CBC will have four available weekends)

Michael Bochnik

Bronx-Westchester CBC Compiler

	Species	party	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Kings Point	Total
	Greater White-fronted Goose							CW		CW
1	Brant					591	64	52	41	748
2	Cackling Goose							1		1
3	Canada Goose		362	358	1,597	1,145	1,661	503	81	5,707
4	Mute Swan			1		17	16	8	2	44
5	Wood Duck		2	5	4		5	12		28
6	Northern Shoveler				4					4
7	Gadwall					40	33	36		109
8	American Wigeon					4		6		10
9	Mallard		24	82	231	242	539	172	9	1,299
10	American Black Duck		2	9	7	247	366	180	32	843
11	Northern Pintail							1		1
12	Green-winged Teal (Am.)			4	2		14			20
13	Canvasback			1						1
14	Ring-necked Duck						25			25
15	Greater Scaup					352	335	66	368	1,121
16	Lesser Scaup					50	4	123		177
	<i>scaup, sp.</i>					72				72
17	Surf Scoter					55				55
18	White-winged Scoter					1				1

75-year Low

	Species	party	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Kings Point	Total		
	<i>scoter, sp.</i>						38	10		48		
19	Long-tailed Duck					10	59	127	1	197		
20	Bufflehead			2	3	644	195	248	65	1,157	22-year High	
21	Common Goldeneye					22		6	15	43		
22	Hooded Merganser			12	2	7	88	66	1	176		
23	Common Merganser		7	46			5	Cw		58		
24	Red-breasted Merganser					131	143	132	6	412		
25	Ruddy Duck			7	38	11	1	16	12	85		
26	Wild Turkey			38				26		81	New High Count (75 in 2007)	
27	Pied-billed Grebe				3	1				4		
28	Horned Grebe					3		3	10	16		
29	Red-necked Grebe					2			1	3	33rd time on count	
30	Rock Pigeon		203	74	246	801	165	119		1,608		
31	Mourning Dove		43	129	279	202	212	230	91	1,186		
32	Clapper Rail					3		3		6	43-year High	
33	Virginia Rail					4				4		
34	Semipalmated Plover						3			3	4th time on count & New high Count	
35	Killdeer			3		7	8	10		28	25-year High	
36	Purple Sandpiper							8		8		
37	American Woodcock					1				1		
38	Ring-billed Gull		67	130	15	1,087	410	244	42	1,995		
39	Herring Gull		16	11	16	561	89	184	9	886		
40	Iceland Gull						1			1	34th time on count	
41	Great Black-backed Gull		5	5	3	51	15	39	9	127		
42	Red-throated Loon					22	2	10	5	39		
43	Common Loon					34	6	24	13	77	New High Count (65 in 2020)	
44	Great Cormorant					10	9	6		25		
45	Double-crested Cormorant					51	9	10	1	71		
46	Great Blue Heron		1	4	4	16	23	29		77		
47	Great Egret		1	1		2	2			6	13th count record, 2nd highest count	
48	Black-crowned Night-Heron							1		1		
	Black Vulture			CW						CW		
49	Turkey Vulture		12			1	3	3		19		
50	Northern Harrier					1				1		
51	Sharp-shinned Hawk		1		1	2	2	2	1	9		
52	Cooper's Hawk		3	1	3	9	5	6	1	28		
	<i>accipiter, sp.</i>				1			1		2		
53	Bald Eagle		6			CW		1	7	14		
54	Red-shouldered Hawk		3	1	1			2	1	8		
55	Red-tailed Hawk		8	2	17	18	9	19		73		
	<i>buteo, sp.</i>							1		1		
56	Eastern Screech-Owl		7	2				1	2	2	14	Ties 22-year High
57	Great Horned Owl			1		2		6	2	1	12	
58	Barred Owl		4								4	
59	Long-eared Owl					1					1	
60	Northern Saw-whet Owl								1		1	
61	Belted Kingfisher		1	3	2	6	8	10		30	21-year High	
62	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		2	3	17	6	4	9	2	43		
63	Red-headed Woodpecker							1		1	21st time on count	

	Species	party	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Kings Point	Total	
64	Red-bellied Woodpecker		22	19	61	75	45	50	12	284	
65	Downy Woodpecker		31	17	38	56	33	26	8	209	
66	Hairy Woodpecker		1	6	11	13	7	12	3	53	
67	Pileated Woodpecker		2		1	1	2	1		7	
68	Northern Flicker		3	4	7	7	4	10	1	36	
69	American Kestrel				3	5				8	
70	Merlin				1	2	1	2		6	
71	Peregrine Falcon					7	1	1		9	
72	Monk Parakeet						58			58	
73	ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER					1	1			2	New to the Count
74	Blue Jay		46	80	212	160	128	133	14	773	
75	American Crow		13	21	16	41	55	15	4	165	
76	Fish Crow		44	77	5	52	68	37	1	284	
	<i>crow, sp</i>				1		80			81	
77	Common Raven		9	4	3	9	4	7		36	
78	Black-capped Chickadee		50	18	21	23	23	21	1	157	65-year low Low numbers after a record high last year
79	Tufted Titmouse		44	14	38	22	24	42		184	
80	Ruby-crowned Kinglet		1	2	7	4	5	2		21	29-year High
81	Golden-crowned Kinglet			1	36	6	2	7		52	39-year High
82	Red-breasted Nuthatch				3					3	
83	White-breasted Nuthatch		11	10	20	15	13	22	3	94	
84	Brown Creeper		1	1	6	2		2	1	13	
85	Winter Wren		3	3	6	9	13	17	10	61	
86	Marsh Wren					1		1		2	
87	Carolina Wren		31	22	21	42	46	40	15	217	
88	European Starling		223	324	839	948	664	231	57	3,286	
89	Gray Catbird		3	1	1	7	2	3		17	
90	Brown Thrasher					3				3	
91	Northern Mockingbird		13	14	34	52	18	24	4	159	
92	Hermit Thrush				6	2	3	3	1	15	
93	American Robin		59	18	608	182	137	201	2	1,207	
94	Cedar Waxwing		1		2	16	5	14		38	
95	House Sparrow		112	182	447	540	203	142	28	1,654	
96	American Pipit					14				14	47-year High
97	House Finch		49	81	190	42	51	96	24	533	22-year High
98	Purple Finch				1			1	1	3	
99	American Goldfinch		36	14	65	39	33	41	28	256	
100	Chipping Sparrow				1			3		4	13th straight year
	Clay-colored Sparrow							CW		CW	
101	Field Sparrow			2			2	6		10	
102	American Tree Sparrow			1		7		13		21	
103	Fox Sparrow		1		17	37	1	12	4	72	
	Dark-eyed (Slate col.) Junco		52	157	524	46	114	240	90	1,223	
104	White-throated Sparrow		212	143	808	432	283	327	110	2,315	
106	Savannah Sparrow					2				2	
107	Song Sparrow		99	53	46	120	123	105	14	560	
108	Swamp Sparrow		3	1	2	19	3	13		41	
109	Eastern Towhee		1	1	4	28	1	7	1	43	
110	Baltimore Oriole			1						1	
111	Red-winged Blackbird		9		34	1	4	46	1	95	
112	Brown-headed Cowbird				2	3		1		6	

	Species	party	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Kings Point	Total	
113	Rusty Blackbird				4			2		6	
114	Common Grackle		2	340	1,003	15	20	205		1,585	
115	Orange-crowned Warbler		1	1	3	2				7	New High Count (3 in 1984 and 2015)
116	Nashville Warbler				1					1	10th time on count, 4th in 10 years
117	MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER				1					1	New to the Count
118	Common Yellowthroat							1		1	28th time on count
	Cape May Warbler					CW				CW	Never seen on Count
119	Palm Warbler					1				1	25th time on count
120	Yellow-rumped Warbler				1	12				13	32-year High
121	Northern Cardinal		67	61	83	72	46	44	17	390	
	TOTALS		2,035	2,629	7,740	9,757	6,916	5,000	1,277	35,354	5,000 below 20-year average

	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Kings Point	Total
Number of Saves	1	1	4	9	6	4	1	
Number of Species	56	61	68	93	82	89	54	121
Totals	2035	2629	7740	9757	6916	5000	1277	35,354

	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Kings Point	Totals
Participants in Field	9	12	30	35	22	15	3	126
Participants at feeders	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
Feeder hours	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
Parties min	3	5	8	10	6	6	1	39
Parties max	3	5	8	11	7	6	2	42
Owling hours	10.5	1	0.25	0	2.5	5	0.5	19.75
Owling Miles	10.5	2	2	0	15	5	0.5	35.00
Foot Hour	19.5	26	50.75	56	50	52.5	8.6	263.35
Foot Miles	14.3	116	28.75	52.75	20	19	4.6	255.40
Car Hours	2	3	2	2	7	3.5	0.2	19.70
Car Miles	19	25	23	6	75	52	4	204.00