

80th Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count December 28, 2003

The Bronx-Westchester CBC has seen well over 220 different species.

The 80th Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count found 113 species on December 28, 2003. Only 33,294 individuals were counted, lowest since 1983..

Despite open water and warm temperatures leading up to and including count day, both waterfowl and common passerines were low in numbers. The exceptions being Long-tailed Duck with a new high count of 396, and Wild Turkey, new high count of 41. Two large snow storms one and two weeks before the count dropped passerine numbers and open water to the north prevented an influx of waterfowl.

The highlights of the count included a new species and one not seen since 1941. Three Black Vultures over Lenoir Nature Preserve in Yonkers were new to the count and a Common Raven was observed at Woodland High School in Hartsdale. This is only the second record for the count.



Other highlights included:

Red-necked Grebe off Rye, 6th year in a row.

Two Eurasian Wigeon one in Premium Mill Pond in New Rochelle and the other at Mill Pond in Mamaroneck.

Six White-winged Scoter and one Black Scoter on the Sound off Rye.

Long-eared and Northern Saw-whet Owls in Pelham Bay Park.

House Wren in southern White Plains.

American Pipit on Hen Island.

Orange-crowned Warbler at the College of Mt. Saint Vincent.

Four Common Redpolls, all in the Bronx, one in Riverdale, one in Woodlawn Cemetery and two at Castle Hill Park.

And five Evening Grosbeaks at Butler Woods, Scarsdale.

American Crow numbers continue to drop. A 33 year low was reached with less than 500 reported.

Other species with notably low numbers included:

3 Killdeer, a 59 year low;

six Ring-necked Pheasant, tied the all time low;

Great Blue Heron, 18 year low;

Black-capped Chickadees, lowest since 1976, and

House Finch, lowest since 1981.

The 113 species is the lowest since 1997. The 20-year count average is 47,000 birds and 117 species.

There were an additional 8 count week species; Northern Gannet, Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle, Merlin, Iceland Gull, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Bluebird, Field Sparrow.

Other notable misses included Brown Thrasher, and Yellow-rumped Warbler.

The complete compilation results are attached.

Next year's count date is Sunday, December 26, 2004. Hope to see you there.

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	Species	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	TOTALS	
1	Snow Goose						1	1	
2	Canada Goose	95	309	1288	989	2092	362	5135	
	Canada Goose (small form)	2						2	
3	Brant			1	399	8	29	437	
4	Mute Swan		6	3	11	64	20	104	
5	Wood Duck		4			12	3	19	
6	Gadwall				24	18	57	99	
7	Eurasian Wigeon					1	1	2	
8	American Wigeon				26	128	143	297	
9	American Black Duck	19	10	12	299	373	390	1103	
10	Mallard	70	215	116	189	650	343	1583	
	<i>mallard hybrid</i>	1			1	3		5	
11	Northern Shoveler			12		24		36	
12	Northern Pintail						2	2	
13	American Green-winged Teal			4		9		13	
14	Canvasback			5	38	3	16	62	
15	Ring-necked Duck					5		5	
16	Greater Scaup				1635	59	239	1933	
17	Lesser Scaup				343	50	26	419	
18	White-winged Scoter						6	6	
19	Black Scoter						1	1	
20	Long-tailed Duck					22	374	396	New High Count (297 in 2002)
21	Bufflehead	3			419	203	128	753	
22	Common Goldeneye				32	13	41	86	
23	Hooded Merganser		18	36	8	109	15	186	

24	Common Merganser		10	1				11	
25	Red-breasted Merganser				96	428	208	732	
26	Ruddy Duck		9	33	158	55		255	
27	Ring-necked Pheasant			1	4	1		6	Tied all time low
28	Wild Turkey		21	1		2	17	41	New High Count (25 in 2002)
29	Red-throated Loon						1	1	
30	Common Loon						12	12	
31	Pied billed Grebe				2			2	
32	Horned Grebe				10		3	13	
33	Red-necked Grebe						1	1	6th year in a row
	Northern Gannet						CW	CW	
34	Double-crested Cormorant				16	5		21	
35	Great Cormorant				16	6	24	46	
36	Great Blue Heron		2	3	2	5	14	26	18 year low
37	Black-crowned Night Heron			1				1	
38	BLACK VULTURE		3					3	NEW TO COUNT
39	Turkey Vulture		7					7	
	Bald Eagle		CW					CW	
40	Northern Harrier				2		1	3	
41	Sharp-shinned Hawk	2		4	4	3	2	15	
42	Cooper's Hawk			4	1	4	3	12	
43	Red-shouldered Hawk				1			1	
44	Red-tailed Hawk	6	17	18	18	30	9	98	
	Golden Eagle		CW					CW	
45	American Kestrel			1	1			2	
	Merlin		CW					CW	
46	Peregrine Falcon			1		CW	CW	1	
47	Virginia Rail						3	3	
48	American Coot		2			1		3	
49	Killdeer						3	3	Lowest since 1944, 59 year low
50	Ruddy Turnstone						1	1	
51	Purple Sandpiper					9	73	82	
52	Dunlin					4	5	9	
53	American Woodcock			1			1	2	
54	Bonaparte's Gull						10	10	
55	Ring-billed Gull	138	804	133	835	1044	415	3369	

56	Herring Gull	7	80	65	372	292	838	1654	
	Iceland Gull						CW	CW	
57	Great Black-backed Gull	7	20	3	27	23	66	146	
58	Rock Pigeon	69	216	219	195	375	203	1277	
59	Mourning Dove	49	62	39	64	397	235	846	
60	Monk Parakeet				5			5	
61	Eastern Screech-Owl	2	4			2	1	9	
62	Great Horned Owl		1	1	3	5	1	11	
63	Long-eared Owl				2			2	
64	Northern Saw-whet Owl				3			3	
65	Belted Kingfisher		2	4	5	7	3	21	
66	Red-bellied Woodpecker	9	6	43	24	53	32	167	
67	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			6		4	1	11	
68	Downy Woodpecker	20	23	27	27	55	37	189	
69	Hairy Woodpecker	2	5	5	3	15	11	41	
70	Northern Flicker	1	1	1	6	4	1	14	
71	Pileated Woodpecker	1				1		2	
	Eastern Phoebe						CW	CW	
72	Blue Jay	17	39	154	68	99	43	420	
73	American Crow	54	15	17	95	295	22	498	Lowest since 1970, 33 year low
74	Fish Crow		2			10	7	19	
75	COMMON RAVEN					1		1	2nd time on Count, last seen 1941
76	Black-capped Chickadee	43	27	63	6	80	79	298	Lowest since 1976, 27 year low
77	Tufted Titmouse	38	30	96	58	112	48	382	
78	Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	2	5	1	9	6	24	
79	White-breasted Nuthatch	18	16	37	20	66	21	178	
80	Brown Creeper	1	2	2	1	4	1	11	
81	Carolina Wren	21	10	14	16	48	62	171	
82	House Wren					1		1	3rd year in a row
83	Winter Wren	3		5	2	9	15	34	
84	Marsh Wren				2		2	4	
85	Golden-crowned Kinglet			1		7	1	9	
86	Ruby-crowned Kinglet		1			6	1	8	
	Eastern Bluebird						CW	CW	
87	Hermit Thrush	5	2	5	4	16	3	35	

88	American Robin	46	29	194	26	25	55	375	
89	Gray Catbird	3	3	3	2	5	11	27	
90	Northern Mockingbird	19	16	47	14	57	25	178	
91	European Starling	150	284	620	284	579	175	2092	
92	American Pipit						1	1	
93	Cedar Waxwing	8	5	11	8	10	8	50	
94	Orange-crowned Warbler			1				1	
95	Eastern Towhee	5		3	10	2	1	21	
96	American Tree Sparrow		19	23	53	6	118	219	
	Field Sparrow						CW	CW	
97	Savannah Sparrow				6			6	
98	Fox Sparrow	4	1	7	18	13	26	69	
99	Song Sparrow	20	15	57	59	132	116	399	
100	Swamp Sparrow				4	2	5	11	
101	White-throated Sparrow	196	114	499	208	478	225	1720	
102	Dark-eyed (Slate-col.) Junco	51	135	265	14	472	158	1095	
103	Northern Cardinal	37	27	36	20	127	80	327	
104	Red-winged Blackbird	1	3	30	43	2	7	86	
105	Rusty Blackbird		1	8			1	10	
106	Common Grackle		100		2	2		104	
107	Brown-headed Cowbird		5	11	15			31	
108	Purple Finch				3	1	CW	4	
109	House Finch	59	13	12	9	174	61	328	Lowest since 1981, 22 year low
110	Common Redpoll			2	2			4	
111	American Goldfinch	94	72	141	83	212	101	703	
112	Evening Grosbeak					5		5	First since 1995
113	House Sparrow	179	111	426	149	378	217	1460	
		Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	TOTALS	
	TOTALS	1576	2956	4887	7620	10121	6134	33294	Lowest since 1983
	# of Species	42	55	64	74	81	85	113	
	# of Saves		2	3	6	4	12		