

# 83rd Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count December 23, 2006

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

The Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count was held Saturday December 23, 2006. Over 70 volunteers searched the sound, rivers, ponds, lakes, woods and meadows throughout southern Westchester and the Bronx identifying and counting all the birds they encountered. 116 species were identified tallying 46,251 birds.

The forecast called for rain all day, but the rain ended just after daybreak and the sun came out in the afternoon. The warm weather leading up to the count resulted in low numbers of ducks and many other species. Lakes remained unfrozen to our north and many ducks stayed north. Local birds took advantage of the weather by staying spread out and did not concentrate themselves in prime habitat. The weather did result in many rare sightings.



The female **Rufous Hummingbird** remained at Lenoir Nature Preserve to make it to the count. A **Pacific Loon** was reported off Orchard Beach, but unfortunately could not be found and confirmed the next day. A **Lesser Yellowlegs** in the East Bronx was the count's 9th record.

Three species of warblers were found. Two **Orange-crowned Warblers** were in Pelham Bay Park. A **Nashville Warbler** was near the power line path in Greenburgh. And an **American Redstart** was found at Half-Moon Overlook, just above Spuyten Duyvil in the Bronx.

Wave Hill had an **Indigo Bunting** and a **Baltimore Oriole** was nearby in Riverdale. A possible "pink-sided" Junco was glimpsed on the Old Croton Aqueduct in Tibbetts Brook Park, Yonkers. The bird also could not be relocated.

Other highlights included **Surf** and **Black Scoters**, along with a **Northern Gannet** in the Sound. An immature **Bald Eagle** was seen from the marina in Yonkers.

Low numbers were recorded for Canada Goose, Wood Duck, American Black Duck, Mallard and Common Goldeneye while Monk Parakeets and American Robin set new high counts. Species missed (not seen) were Ring-necked Duck, American Coot, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Savannah Sparrow. - Michael Bochnik, Compiler

Thanks to all participants. The complete compilation results are attached.

The next count will be on **SUNAY, December 23, 2007**  
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Species	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Total	
Snow Goose (white form)					1	1	2	
Brant				709	30	736	1475	
Canada Goose	165	178	692	365	1662	619	3681	29-year Low
Mute Swan		5	2	21	60	80	168	
Wood Duck		2	1		1		4	24-year Low
Gadwall				25		50	75	
American Wigeon				19	132	122	273	
American Black Duck	2	12	4	295	143	183	639	75-year Low
Mallard	45	125	268	140	321	423	1322	23-year Low
<i>Mallard hybrid</i>	1		1		1	5	8	
Northern Shoveler		3	2		42		47	
Northern Pintail						1	1	
Green-winged Teal (Am.)			2		16	8	26	
Canvasback			2	2		8	12	
Redhead				1			1	
Greater Scaup				9650		402	10052	
Lesser Scaup						103	103	
<i>scaup, sp</i>					200		200	
<b>Surf Scoter</b>				1		5	6	
White-winged Scoter				CW		CW	CW	
<b>Black Scoter</b>						2	2	
Long-tailed Duck						59	59	
Bufflehead	1			363	117	184	665	
Common Goldeneye		3		22		20	45	All Time Low Count (52 in 1941)
Hooded Merganser	2	33	12	14	58	33	152	
Common Merganser	1	21			5	1	28	
Red-breasted Merganser				54	34	147	235	
Ruddy Duck		64	2	44	58	3	171	
Ring-necked Pheasant			1	5			6	

Wild Turkey						20	<b>20</b>	
Red-throated Loon				3	4	12	<b>19</b>	
Common Loon					1	7	<b>8</b>	
Pied-billed Grebe			1			1	<b>2</b>	
<i>loon, sp</i>				1			<b>1</b>	
Horned Grebe				8		2	<b>10</b>	
<b>Northern Gannet</b>						1	<b>1</b>	
Double-crested Cormorant			1	12	5	51	<b>69</b>	
Great Cormorant				12	1	23	<b>36</b>	
<i>Cormorant, sp</i>					4		<b>4</b>	
Great Blue Heron		2	2	1	5	18	<b>28</b>	
Black-crowned Night-Heron				1		1	<b>2</b>	
Turkey Vulture	1	2			1	2	<b>6</b>	
Bald Eagle		1					<b>1</b>	
Northern Harrier						1	<b>1</b>	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	3		4	3	2	<b>14</b>	
Cooper's Hawk		2	4	3	2	3	<b>14</b>	
Red-shouldered Hawk			1			1	<b>2</b>	
Red-tailed Hawk	15	14	17	18	14	14	<b>92</b>	
American Kestrel		1	1	1			<b>3</b>	
Merlin			1		1		<b>2</b>	
Peregrine Falcon		2	2	2		1	<b>7</b>	Ties High Count , 2005
Virginia Rail						4	<b>4</b>	
Killdeer		2	CW		10	4	<b>16</b>	
<b>Lesser Yellowlegs</b>				1			<b>1</b>	9th Count Record, last seen in 1987
Ruddy Turnstone						1	<b>1</b>	
Purple Sandpiper						15	<b>15</b>	
Dunlin						1	<b>1</b>	
Wilson's Snipe						3	<b>3</b>	
American Woodcock			1			1	<b>2</b>	

Bonaparte's Gull						37	<b>37</b>	
Ring-billed Gull	170	885	995	1647	728	462	<b>4887</b>	
Herring Gull	8	126	18	614	107	103	<b>976</b>	
Great Black-backed Gull	1	14	6	57	16	35	<b>129</b>	
Rock Pigeon	41	615	445	145	280	199	<b>1725</b>	
Mourning Dove	86	171	355	208	151	311	<b>1282</b>	32-year high, second highest count
Monk Parakeet				22	3		<b>25</b>	New High Count (19 in 2004)
Eastern Screech-Owl	2				1		<b>3</b>	
Great Horned Owl			2	3		4	<b>9</b>	
Barred Owl					CW		<b>CW</b>	
Northern Saw-whet Owl				2			<b>2</b>	
<b>Rufous Hummingbird</b>		1					<b>1</b>	2nd count record, seen in 2001
Belted Kingfisher		2	2	3	9	10	<b>26</b>	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	12	21	49	5	37	41	<b>165</b>	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			5	1	3	3	<b>12</b>	
Downy Woodpecker	17	25	32	32	28	48	<b>182</b>	
Hairy Woodpecker	6	8	15	5	9	20	<b>63</b>	
Northern (Yel.-sh.)Flicker	2	1	7		5	10	<b>25</b>	
Pileated Woodpecker	1				1	1	<b>3</b>	
Blue Jay	68	100	357	134	76	113	<b>848</b>	
American Crow	49	27	59	40	288	57	<b>520</b>	
Fish Crow			2		25	5	<b>32</b>	
Black-capped Chickadee	50	49	41	16	89	106	<b>351</b>	
Tufted Titmouse	65	52	125	65	75	104	<b>486</b>	
Red-breasted Nuthatch			1		1	1	<b>3</b>	
White-breasted Nuthatch	13	10	17	13	28	44	<b>125</b>	

Brown Creeper		2	2			1	5	
Carolina Wren	14	18	18	37	27	70	184	
House Wren				2			2	
Winter Wren	5	6	2		3	21	37	
Marsh Wren				1		1	2	
Golden-crowned Kinglet			1		3	8	12	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet			2	4	1	2	9	
Hermit Thrush	3		5	3	6	11	28	
American Robin	39	52	310	179	104	270	954	New High Count (830 in 2004)
Gray Catbird	1		3	3	1	4	12	
Northern Mockingbird	18	12	44	16	16	25	131	
Brown Thrasher			1	1			2	
European Starling	411	310	754	341	289	266	2371	
Cedar Waxwing	16	11		3			30	
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b>			CW	2			2	6th count record, last seen in 03
<b>Nashville Warbler</b>	1						1	6th count record, last seen in 01
<b>American Redstart</b>			1				1	2nd count record, seen in 1931
Eastern Towhee		1		2	1	2	6	
American Tree Sparrow	1		2	85	7	80	175	
Chipping Sparrow		1	2	1			4	
Field Sparrow	7						7	
Fox Sparrow	1		9	24	7	10	51	
Song Sparrow	48	28	81	43	113	155	468	
Swamp Sparrow		1	4	2	2	16	25	
White-throated Sparrow	138	232	908	384	241	415	2318	
White-crowned Sparrow			1				1	
Dark-eyed (Slate col.) Junco	65	265	404	52	246	192	1224	
Dark-eyed Junco		1					1	
Northern Cardinal	52	53	72	48	63	88	376	

<b>Indigo Bunting</b>			1				<b>1</b>	2nd count record, seen in 1975
Red-winged Blackbird			348	36	38	2	<b>424</b>	
Rusty Blackbird			24				<b>24</b>	
Common Grackle	4		742	1950		1	<b>2697</b>	
Brown-headed Cowbird			2	1			<b>3</b>	
<b>Baltimore Oriole</b>			1				<b>1</b>	11th count record
House Finch	40	47	92	14	64	49	<b>306</b>	
American Goldfinch	23	25	78	30	111	107	<b>374</b>	
House Sparrow	223	137	1152	116	243	351	<b>2222</b>	
	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye		
<b>Number of Saves</b>	2	2	6	5	1	13		
<b>Number of Species</b>	45	52	70	74	69	91	<b>116</b>	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1936</b>	<b>3784</b>	<b>8619</b>	<b>18189</b>	<b>6478</b>	<b>7245</b>	<b>46251</b>	

Missed Species: Ring-necked Duck, American Coot (last missed in 1988) , Yellow-rumped Warbler, Savannah Sparrow

52 % of the regular occurring species were down 20% or more from their 20 year averages, only 26 % were above and 22% were near their averages.