



87th Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count

December 26, 2010

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

The 87th Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count found 106 species on Sunday December 26, 2010, despite an impending blizzard that eventually dumped 17-20 inches of snow on the area. Snow started falling mid to late morning. Seventy-three participants braved the deteriorating conditions and everyone seem to have made it safely home. The count dinner had to be cancelled. A BIG thank you to everyone who covered as much as they could. We had 131 party hours. Our count normally averages 200.

Bronx-Westchester CBC Future Count Dates

Sunday December 26, 2021
 Monday December 26, 2022
 Saturday December 23, 2023
 Sunday December 22, 2024
 Sunday, December 28, 2025

A very cold December made half-hardies hard to find. Not surprisingly - no warblers were found, this is only the 5th time this has happened; the other years were 1924, 1925, 1995, and 2008. Despite this a number of highlights were found.

Highlights include:

- A Nelson's Sparrow at Marshlands Conservancy. It's the first time on the count since it became a full species. Last seen in 1935 and 1953 as a sub-species.
- All three scoter species were found on the Long Island Sound off Rye.
- Red-necked Grebe and a Northern Gannet off Rye
- Great Egret in Mamaroneck
- Northern Saw-whet Owl in the Botanical Gardens
- Two Common Ravens in Scarsdale's territory
- Two White-crowned Sparrows
- Pine Siskin at a Mount Vernon feeder
- Common Redpolls in the West Bronx and Rye
- A Laughing Gull was reported from the sound.

High Counts were found for Surf Scoter, White-winged Scoter, and Long-tailed Duck.

All time low counts were noted for: Common Goldeneye and Herring Gull. As expected there were numerous other low counts.

Missed Species included Northern Pintail, Ring-necked Duck, Pied-billed Grebe, Black-crowned Night Heron, American Coot, Ruddy Turnstone, Dunlin, Brown Thrasher, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Field Sparrow, and Savannah Sparrow.

	Species	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Total	
1	Snow Goose				6	24		30	
2	Brant				1048	25	49	1122	
3	Canada Goose	404	680	1074	2019	2006	832	7015	
4	Mute Swan		2	1	58	6	78	145	

5	Wood Duck		2	2		1	6	11	
6	Gadwall				31	31	60	122	
7	American Wigeon				18	108	133	259	
8	American Black Duck	14	22	28	133	98	80	375	79 year low
9	Mallard	47	263	288	110	238	229	1175	
	Mallard hybrid	1				1	2	4	
10	Northern Shoveler			1	10			11	
11	Green-winged Teal (Am.)		7					7	
12	Canvasback		3				13	16	
13	Greater Scaup				145	1530	27	1702	
14	Lesser Scaup					10	140	150	
15	Surf Scoter						70	70	New High Count (60 in 1945)
16	White-winged Scoter						615	615	59 year High
17	Black Scoter						2	2	
18	Long-tailed Duck					8	424	432	New High Count (396 in 2003)
19	Bufflehead				104	55	164	323	43 year low
20	Common Goldeneye				10	6	29	45	Ties all time low (45 also in 2006)
21	Hooded Merganser		3	14	13	9	45	84	
22	Common Merganser	CW	4				3	7	
23	Red-breasted Merganser				25	26	77	128	
24	Ruddy Duck		90		155	111	16	372	
25	Ring-necked Pheasant					1		1	
26	Wild Turkey		4	6			10	20	
27	Red-throated Loon						3	3	
28	Common Loon		1				4	5	
29	Horned Grebe				4		3	7	
30	Red-necked Grebe						1	1	
31	Northern Gannet						1	1	
32	Double-crested Cormorant		1	2	1	4	4	12	
33	Great Cormorant			1		6	14	21	
34	Great Blue Heron		1	1	1	3	24	30	
35	Great Egret					1		1	8th time on count (5th in 10 years)
36	Turkey Vulture	CW	2				CW	2	
37	Bald Eagle			1	CW		CW	1	
38	Northern Harrier				1	CW	2	3	
39	Sharp-shinned Hawk			5	1	2	1	9	

40	Cooper's Hawk	CW	1	2	2	1	1	7	
41	Red-shouldered Hawk	1						1	
42	Red-tailed Hawk	3	4	13	16	14	15	65	20 year low
43	American Kestrel		2	1				3	
44	Merlin						1	1	
45	Peregrine Falcon			2	1	1	1	5	
46	Killdeer				1		4	5	
47	Purple Sandpiper						16	16	
48	American Woodcock				2			2	
49	Laughing Gull					1		1	
50	Ring-billed Gull	51	455	150	354	258	148	1416	40 year low
51	Herring Gull		7	35	60	33	274	409	All time low
52	Great Black-backed Gull	1	11	3	19	5	51	90	
53	Rock Pigeon	28	615	411	114	185	70	1423	
54	Mourning Dove	29	14	101	82	160	144	530	
55	Monk Parakeet				11			11	
56	Eastern Screech-Owl	2				5	4	11	
57	Great Horned Owl			2	1	3	3	9	
58	Northern Saw-whet Owl			1				1	
59	Belted Kingfisher		1	1	1	1	4	8	
60	Red-bellied Woodpecker	11	9	31	30	35	41	157	
61	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		2	8	3	2	3	18	
62	Downy Woodpecker	14	12	25	29	24	24	128	34 year low
63	Hairy Woodpecker	1	2	9		9	7	28	
64	Northern (Yel.-sh.)Flicker		1	2		1	4	8	22 year low
65	Pileated Woodpecker	1				1		2	
66	Blue Jay	45	20	173	41	73	67	419	
67	American Crow	18	17	111	36	69	62	313	42 year low
68	Fish Crow			1	3	81	2	87	
69	Common Raven					2		2	
70	Black-capped Chickadee	61	22	125	85	86	209	588	
71	Tufted Titmouse	18	4	57	47	35	55	216	26 year low
72	Red-breasted Nuthatch	CW		3				3	
73	White-breasted Nuthatch	5	4	38	13	34	25	119	
74	Brown Creeper			2			2	4	
75	Carolina Wren	15	3	10	10	19	36	93	

76	Winter Wren	3		5	2	4	3	17	
77	Marsh Wren					1	1	2	
	<i>wren, sp</i>					4		4	
78	Golden-crowned Kinglet		1	2				3	
79	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1						1	
	<i>kinglet sp</i>						1	1	
80	Eastern Bluebird					12		12	
81	Hermit Thrush	1		6	1		3	11	
82	American Robin	4	1	128	110	27	94	364	
83	Gray Catbird		2		1	1	1	5	32 year low
84	Northern Mockingbird	8	2	18	13	14	21	76	36 year low
85	European Starling	187	391	638	87	611	433	2347	
	American Pipit						CW	CW	
86	Cedar Waxwing					7		7	23 year low
87	Eastern Towhee	1		1	2		1	5	
88	American Tree Sparrow	16		2	8	1	44	71	
	Savannah Sparrow						CW	CW	
89	Nelson's Sparrow						1	1	
90	Fox Sparrow			6	47	1	9	63	
91	Song Sparrow	16	12	39	61	27	81	236	
92	Swamp Sparrow			1	14	1	5	21	
93	White-throated Sparrow	120	65	747	363	370	257	1922	
94	White-crowned Sparrow			1		1		2	
95	Dark-eyed (Slate col.) Junco	70	157	498	191	233	344	1493	
96	Northern Cardinal	38	31	56	35	67	66	293	
97	Red-winged Blackbird		4	30	430	1	1	466	
98	Rusty Blackbird			2	36			38	
99	Common Grackle	21	21	1	132	12		187	
100	Brown-headed Cowbird		3			1		4	
101	Purple Finch						9	9	
102	House Finch	32		47		31	36	146	
103	Common Redpoll			4			2	6	
104	Pine Siskin					1		1	
105	American Goldfinch	61	22	47	47	100	99	376	
106	House Sparrow	109	120	672	100	314	116	1431	

		Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye		
	Number of Saves	2	2	3	2	8	10		
	Number of Species	36	49	61	63	73	82		107
	Totals	1458	3123	5692	6528	7266	6062		30159

Next year's count will be Monday, December 26, 2011.

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Other links

[NY Times Article](#) "New Yorkers in Feathers, Counted in the Cold "

[CityBirder](#)