

90th Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count December 22, 2013



The Bronx-Westchester Count tallied 120 species on Sunday Dec 22, 2013. Ninety-five participants enjoyed an incredibly warm day with a high of 70 degrees! That set a new high temperature for the count, easily breaking the record of 66 degrees in 1990. Spring Peepers (tree frogs) were heard calling at a number of locations and 6-7 Red Bats were reported as well.

Highlights were a count week **Semipalmated Plover** in Pelham Bay Park and a female **King Eider** off Scotch Capp Island in Rye. It was the first King Eider on the count since 1956.

Seven **Red-headed Woodpeckers** set a new High Count (6 were in Pelham Bay Park, the other in Woodlawn). Other finds included two **Eurasian Wigeons**, one in Turtle Cove, Bronx and the other off Marshland Conservancy, Rye. Three **Red-neck Grebes** were found in the Sound off Rye and Pelham Bay Park had a **Rough-legged Hawk**. Soundview Park in the Bronx had 4 **Ring-necked Pheasant** and 40 **Snow Bunting**.

Four **Black Vultures** were over Hastings and Lenoir Nature Preserve. A single **Razorbill** and a **Lesser Black-backed Gull** were in Rye.

New high counts were set for Brant, Gadwall, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Northern Flicker, Monk Parakeet, Fish Crow, and Carolina Wren.

Other Count Week birds included **Snowy Owls** in the Bronx and Rye; **Lesser Yellowlegs** in Pelham; **American Pipit** and **White-crowned Sparrow**.

Missed Species included Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal (first miss in 57 years), Virginia Rail, Ruddy Turnstone, and Purple Finch.

Although probably not related, any time the count had a King Eider, the count missed Green-winged Teal.

Next year's count is scheduled for Sunday, December 28, 2014.

**Bronx-Westchester CBC
Future Count Dates**

Sunday, December 28, 2014
 Sunday, December 27, 2015
 Monday, December 26, 2016
 Saturday, December 23, 2017
 Sunday, December 23, 2018

Canvasbacks are harder and harder to find

