



# If you like birds, you'll love Winnebago County's year-round bird-watching opportunities!

The Winnebago County Forest Preserve District is happy to provide this checklist for the birds of our county. Small enough to stick in your pocket, or as a bookmark in your field guide, the checklist includes all 322 species known here, whether common or unusual. The codes next to each name will help you know the species' abundance. Grab your checklist and head out to Winnebago County's numerous parks and forest preserves to see how many birds you can find!

## KEY TO BIRDING CHECKLIST

S S F W : SPRING, SUMMER, FALL, WINTER

A : ABUNDANT

C : COMMON

U : UNCOMMON

O : OCCASIONAL

R : RARE

X : EXTREMELY RARE

**Bold** : NESTING

\* : IRREGULAR: 4-7 years of 10-year period

\*\* : CASUAL: 1-3 years of 10-year period

† : ACCIDENTAL/HISTORICAL

Please provide documentation, with photos if possible, for sightings of any species found outside of expected season or marked with an asterisk or dagger.

(i) : Introduced to North America

(r) : Reintroduced

SPECIES	S	S	F	W
<b>SWANS, GEESE &amp; DUCKS</b>				
__ Greater White-fronted Goose		U	U	R
__ Snow Goose		U	U	U
__ Ross's Goose		R	R	R
__ Cackling Goose		U	C	C
<b>Canada Goose</b>	A	A	A	A
__ Brant**			X	
__ Mute Swan (i)*		R		R
__ Trumpeter Swan (r)		R	R	
__ Tundra Swan		O	O	
<b>Wood Duck</b>		C	C	R
__ Gadwall		C	C	U
__ American Wigeon		C	C	U
__ American Black Duck		C	C	U
<b>Mallard</b>	A	A	A	A
<b>Blue-winged Teal</b>	A	C	A	U
__ Northern Shoveler		C	C	U
__ Northern Pintail		U	U	R
__ Green-winged Teal		C	C	U
__ Canvasback		U	U	O
__ Redhead		C	C	U
__ Ring-necked Duck		C	C	U
__ Greater Scaup		U	U	U
__ Lesser Scaup		C	C	U
__ Surf Scoter		R	R	
__ White-winged Scoter			R	
__ Black Scoter			R	
__ Long-tailed Duck		R		O
__ Bufflehead		C	C	U
__ Common Goldeneye		C	X	C
__ Barrow's Goldeneye† (1951)		X		
<b>Hooded Merganser</b>		C	C	U
__ Common Merganser		U	U	U
__ Red-breasted Merganser		U	U	U
__ Ruddy Duck		C	C	U
<b>PARTRIDGES, GROUSE, TURKEY &amp; QUAIL</b>				
<b>Gray Partridge (i)</b>		R	R	R
<b>Ring-necked Pheasant (i)</b>		C	C	C
<b>Wild Turkey</b>		C	C	C
<b>Northern Bobwhite</b>		O	O	O

SPECIES	S	S	F	W
<b>LOON &amp; GREBES</b>				
__ Common Loon		C	C	U
<b>Pied-billed Grebe</b>		C	C	U
__ Horned Grebe		U	U	U
__ Red-necked Grebe*			R	
__ Eared Grebe*		R		R
__ Western Grebe† (1978)			X	
<b>PELICAN</b>				
__ American White Pelican		R	X	R
<b>CORMORANT</b>				
<b>Double-crested Cormorant</b>		C	U	C
<b>BITTERN &amp; HERONS</b>				
__ American Bittern		U	U	
__ Least Bittern		U	U	
<b>Great Blue Heron</b>	A	A	A	C
<b>Great Egret</b>		C	C	C
__ Snowy Egret*		R		R
__ Little Blue Heron*			R	
__ Cattle Egret		R	O	
<b>Green Heron</b>		C	C	C
__ Black-crowned Night-Heron		U	U	U
__ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron*		O	R	O
<b>IBISES</b>				
__ Glossy Ibis† (1975)			X	
__ White-faced Ibis† (2000)			X	
<b>VULTURE, KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES &amp; ALLIES</b>				
<b>Turkey Vulture</b>		A	A	A
__ Osprey		C		C
__ Swallow-tailed Kite† (1982, 1991)			X	
<b>Mississippi Kite*</b>		R	R	R
<b>Bald Eagle</b>		U	U	U
__ Northern Harrier		C	C	C
__ Sharp-shinned Hawk		C	C	U
<b>Cooper's Hawk</b>		C	C	C
__ Northern Goshawk*				O
<b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b>		U	U	U
<b>Broad-winged Hawk</b>		C	U	C

SPECIES	S	S	F	W
__ Swainson's Hawk**	R	X	R	
<b>Red-tailed Hawk</b>	A	A	A	A
__ Harlan's**			R	
__ Krider's*			R	
__ Rough-legged Hawk	U	U	C	
__ Golden Eagle*		R	R	
<b>FALCONS</b>				
<b>American Kestrel</b>	C	C	C	C
__ Merlin		U	U	U
__ Gyrfalcon† (1983)			X	
__ Peregrine Falcon	U	U	R	
__ Prairie Falcon**			X	
<b>RAILS, MOORHEN &amp; COOT</b>				
__ Yellow Rail†		X	X	
__ Black Rail† (1949,57)		X		
<b>King Rail</b>	R	R	R	
<b>Virginia Rail</b>	C	C	C	
<b>Sora</b>	C	C	C	
__ Purple Gallinule† (1999)		X		
__ Common Moorhen*	R		R	
<b>American Coot</b>	A	C	C	
<b>CRANES</b>				
<b>Sandhill Crane</b>	C	C	C	U
__ Whooping Crane (r)	R		R	
<b>PLOVERS</b>				
__ Black-bellied Plover	C		C	
__ American Golden-Plover	U	U		
__ Semipalmated Plover	U	U		
__ Piping Plover**		X		
<b>Killdeer</b>	A	A	A	U
<b>AVOGET</b>				
__ American Avocet	R		R	
<b>SANDPIPERS, PHALAROPES &amp; ALLIES</b>				
__ Spotted Sandpiper	C	U	C	
__ Solitary Sandpiper	C		C	
__ Greater Yellowlegs	C		C	
__ Willet*	O			
__ Lesser Yellowlegs	C		C	
__ Upland Sandpiper*	O	R	R	
__ Hudsonian Godwit*	R			

SPECIES	S	S	F	W
__ Marbled Godwit**	R			
__ Ruddy Turnstone*	R			
__ Red Knot**	X			
__ Sanderling*	R		R	
__ Semipalmated Sandpiper	C		C	
__ Western Sandpiper*	R		R	
__ Least Sandpiper	C		C	
__ White-rumped Sandpiper	R		R	
__ Baird's Sandpiper	R		U	
__ Pectoral Sandpiper	C		C	
__ Purple Sandpiper† (1997)		X		
__ Dunlin	U		U	
__ Stilt Sandpiper	U		U	
__ Buff-breasted Sandpiper*	R			
__ Short-billed Dowitcher	C		C	
__ Long-billed Dowitcher*	R		O	
__ Wilson's Snipe	C	R	U	
<b>American Woodcock</b>	C	C	R	
__ Wilson's Phalarope	O		R	
__ Red-necked Phalarope*	R		R	
<b>GULLS &amp; TERNS</b>				
__ Black-legged Kittiwake† (2007)				X
__ Franklin's Gull*	R		R	
__ Bonaparte's Gull	U		U	
__ Ring-billed Gull	C	C	A	A
__ Herring Gull	U		C	C
__ Thayer's Gull	R		R	R
__ Laughing Gull**			X	
__ Lesser Black-backed Gull	R		R	
__ Glaucous Gull*			R	
__ Caspian Tern	U		U	
__ Common Tern	U		U	
__ Forster's Tern	C		C	
__ Least Tern**		X		
__ Black Tern	O		O	
<b>PIGEON &amp; DOVE</b>				
<b>Rock Pigeon (i)</b>	A	A	A	A
<b>Mourning Dove</b>	A	A	A	A
__ Eurasian Collared Dove (i)R	R			
<b>CUCKOOS</b>				
<b>Yellow-billed Cuckoo</b>	C	C	C	
<b>Black-billed Cuckoo</b>	U	U	U	

SPECIES	S	S	F	W
<b>BARN OWL</b>				
<b>Barn Owl**</b>		R	R	X
<b>TYPICAL OWLS</b>				
<b>Eastern Screech-Owl</b>	C	C	C	C
<b>Great Horned Owl</b>	C	C	C	C
__ Snowy Owl**			R	
__ Northern Hawk Owl† (1950)			X	
<b>Barred Owl</b>	C	C	C	C
__ Long-eared Owl			U	
__ Short-eared Owl	O		U	U
__ Boreal Owl† (1997)			X	
__ Northern Saw-whet Owl		U	U	
<b>GOATSUCKERS</b>				
<b>Common Nighthawk</b>	U	U	C	
__ Chuck-will's-widow**	X		X	
<b>Whip-poor-will</b>	U	U		
<b>SWIFT</b>				
<b>Chimney Swift</b>	A	A	A	
<b>HUMMINGBIRD</b>				
<b>Ruby-throated Hummingbird</b>	C	C	C	
<b>KINGFISHER</b>				
<b>Belted Kingfisher</b>	C	C	C	U
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>				
<b>Red-headed Woodpecker</b>	U	U	U	U
<b>Red-bellied Woodpecker</b>	A	A	A	A
__ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	C	R	C	
<b>Downy Woodpecker</b>	A	A	A	A
<b>Hairy Woodpecker</b>	C	C	C	C
__ Black-backed Woodpecker† (1970)				X
<b>Northern Flicker</b>	A	C	A	U
<b>Pileated Woodpecker</b>	U	U	U	U
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>				
__ Olive-sided Flycatcher	U		U	
<b>Eastern Wood-Pewee</b>	C	C	C	
__ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	U		U	
<b>Acadian Flycatcher</b>	C	C	C	
<b>Alder Flycatcher</b>	C	U	C	

SPECIES	S	S	F	W
<b>Willow Flycatcher</b>	C	C	C	
__ Least Flycatcher	C	R	C	
<b>Eastern Phoebe</b>	C	C	C	
<b>Great Crested Flycatcher</b>	C	C	C	
__ Western Kingbird**	X		X	
<b>Eastern Kingbird</b>	C	C	C	
__ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**			X	
<b>SHRIKES</b>				
<b>Loggerhead Shrike</b>	R	R	R	
__ Northern Shrike			U	U
<b>VIREOS</b>				
<b>White-eyed Vireo</b>	U	U	U	
<b>Bell's Vireo</b>	O	O	O	
<b>Yellow-throated Vireo</b>	C	C	C	
__ Blue-headed Vireo	U		U	
<b>Warbling Vireo</b>	C	C	C	
__ Philadelphia Vireo	U		U	
<b>Red-eyed Vireo</b>	A	A	A	
<b>JAY &amp; CROW</b>				
<b>Blue Jay</b>	A	A	A	A
__ Black-billed Magpie† (1992)			X	
<b>American Crow</b>	A	A	A	A
<b>LARK</b>				
<b>Horned Lark</b>	C	C	C	A
<b>SWALLOWS</b>				
<b>Purple Martin</b>	U	U	U	
<b>Tree Swallow</b>	A	A	A	
__ Violet-green Swallow† (1994)			X	X
<b>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</b>	C	C	C	
<b>Bank Swallow</b>	C	C	C	
<b>Cliff Swallow</b>	C	C	C	
<b>Barn Swallow</b>	A	A	A	



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**Our Mission:** Winnebago County Forest Preserve District is dedicated to protecting, conserving, enhancing and promoting Winnebago County's natural heritage for the environmental, educational, and recreational benefit of present and future generations.

Bird list generously provided by North Central Illinois Ornithological Society and BirdFreak.com



WINNEBAGO COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

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SPECIES	S	S	F	W
<b>TITMICE, NUTHATCHES &amp; CREEPER</b>				
__Black-capped Chickadee	A	A	A	A
__Tufted Titmouse	C	C	C	C
__Red-breasted Nuthatch	U	U	U	C
__White-breasted Nuthatch	A	A	A	A
__Brown Creeper	C	R	C	U
<b>WRENS</b>				
__Carolina Wren	O	O	O	O
__Bewick's Wren**	R			
__House Wren	A	A	A	R
__Winter Wren	C	R	C	U
__Sedge Wren	U	C	C	
__Marsh Wren	C	U	C	X
<b>KINGLETS/THRUSHES</b>				
__Golden-crowned Kinglet	C	C	U	
__Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	C	R	
__Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	C	C	C	
__Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	U
__Townsend's Solitaire**				X
__Veery	C	U	C	
__Gray-cheeked Thrush	U	U		
__Swainson's Thrush	C	C		
__Hermit Thrush	C	C	U	
__Wood Thrush	C	C	C	
__American Robin	A	A	A	U
__Varied Thrush*				R
<b>MOCKINGBIRD, CATBIRD &amp; THRASHER</b>				
__Gray Catbird	C	C	C	
__Northern Mockingbird*	O	O	R	R
__Brown Thrasher	C	C	C	
<b>STARLING</b>				
__European Starling (i)	A	A	AA	
<b>PIPIT</b>				
__American Pipit	U	U		
<b>WAXWINGS</b>				
__Bohemian Waxwing**				R
__Cedar Waxwing	U	U	C	A

SPECIES	S	S	F	W
<b>WOOD WARBLERS</b>				
__Blue-winged Warbler	C	U	C	
__Golden-winged Warbler	C	U	C	
__Tennessee Warbler	C	C	C	
__Orange-crowned Warbler	C	C	R	
__Nashville Warbler	C	C	C	
__Northern Parula	C	R	C	
__Yellow Warbler	A	C	C	
__Chestnut-sided Warbler	C	U	C	
__Magnolia Warbler	C	C	C	
__Cape May Warbler	C	C	C	
__Black-throated Blue Warbler	O	O		
__Yellow-rumped Warbler	C	C	U	
__Black-throated Green Warbler	C	C		
__Townsend's Warbler†	X			
__Blackburnian Warbler	C	C		
__Yellow-throated Warbler	U	U	U	
__Pine Warbler	C	C	R	
__Kirtland's Warbler†	X			
__Prairie Warbler**	X	X		
__Palm Warbler	C	C		
__Bay-breasted Warbler	C	C		
__Blackpoll Warbler	C	C		
__Cerulean Warbler	U	U	U	
__Black-and-white Warbler	C	C	C	
__American Redstart	A	C	C	
__Prothonotary Warbler	U	U	U	
__Worm-eating Warbler*	R	R		
__Swainson's Warbler**	X			
__Ovenbird	C	U	C	
__Northern Waterthrush	C	C	C	
__Louisiana Waterthrush	C	U		
__Kentucky Warbler	C	U	U	
__Connecticut Warbler	O	O		
__Mourning Warbler	U	U		
__Common Yellowthroat	A	C	C	
__Hooded Warbler	C	U	O	
__Wilson's Warbler	C	C	C	
__Canada Warbler	C	C		
__Yellow-breasted Chat	U	U	U	

SPECIES	S	S	F	W
<b>TANAGERS</b>				
__Summer Tanager	U			
__Scarlet Tanager	C	C	C	
__Western Tanager† (1996)	X			
<b>TOWHEES</b>				
__Green-tailed Towhee† (1960)			X	
__Spotted Towhee**		X	X	
__Eastern Towhee	C	C	C	R
<b>SPARROWS</b>				
__American Tree Sparrow	C	C	A	
__Chipping Sparrow	A	A	A	R
__Clay-colored Sparrow	U	U	U	
__Field Sparrow	C	C	R	
__Vesper Sparrow	C	C	C	
__Lark Sparrow	U	U	U	
__Black-throated Sparrow† (1980)			X	
__Lark Bunting† (1949)	X			
__Savannah Sparrow	C	C	O	
__Grasshopper Sparrow	C	C	C	
__Henslow's Sparrow	U	U	U	
__Le Conte's Sparrow*	O	O		
__Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	O	O		
__Fox Sparrow	A	A		
__Song Sparrow	A	A	A	C
__Lincoln's Sparrow	C	C		
__Swamp Sparrow	C	U	C	U
__White-throated Sparrow	A	R	A	U
__Harris's Sparrow	R	R	R	
__White-crowned Sparrow	C	C	U	
__Dark-eyed Junco	C	R	C	A
__Lapland Longspur	R	U	U	
__Snow Bunting	R	U	U	
<b>CARDINAL &amp; GROSBEAKS</b>				
__Northern Cardinal	A	A	A	A
__Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	U	C	R
__Black-headed Grosbeak**	X			
__Blue Grosbeak*	O			
__Lazuli Bunting† (2007)	X			
__Indigo Bunting	C	C	C	
__Painted Bunting† (2008)	X			
__Dickcissel	C	C	C	

SPECIES	S	S	F	W
<b>BLACKBIRDS</b>				
__Bobolink	U	U	U	X
__Red-winged Blackbird	A	A	A	U
__Eastern Meadowlark	C	C	R	
__Western Meadowlark	U	U	U	R
__Yellow-headed Blackbird	R			X
__Rusty Blackbird	U	O	R	
__Brewer's Blackbird	R	R	R	
__Common Grackle	A	A	A	U
__Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	C	U
__Orchard Oriole	U	U		
__Baltimore Oriole	C	C	C	
<b>FINCHES</b>				
__Pine Grosbeak**				R
__Purple Finch	U	U	U	
__House Finch	C	C	C	C
__Red Crossbill	R	O	O	
__White-winged Crossbill**				R
__Common Redpoll	O	O	O	
__Hoary Redpoll† (1978)				X
__Pine Siskin	R	U	U	
__American Goldfinch	A	A	A	A
__Evening Grosbeak*				R
<b>OLD WORLD SPARROWS</b>				
__House Sparrow (i)	A	A	A	A
__Eurasian Tree Sparrow (i)† (2007-08)				X
<b>HYPOTHETICAL/QUESTIONABLE ORIGIN</b>				
__Barnacle Goose (1983)				
__Pacific Loon (1917-18)				
__Magnificent Frigatebird (1961)				
__Black-necked Stilt (1940)				
__Ivory Gull (1989)				



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# Field Checklist of Birds in Winnebago County

