

Greater Akron Audubon Society
Christmas Bird Count Summary Report
December 18, 2016

The 2016 Christmas Bird Count was conducted under challenging weather conditions. There was some snow on the ground with frozen still water and open moving water. Rain started Saturday night and turned to freezing rain as the temperature dropped in the early morning hours of Sunday. At daybreak the temperature was 28 degrees F with a layer of ice covering everything. The temperature kept dropping throughout the day to 13 degrees F with a 16 mph NW wind with gusts up to 23 mph.

This year we had a drop in the total number of participants. We had 100 participants in the field and 46 at the feeders making for a grand total of 146 compared to last year's breaking record of 221 and to the second highest record of 208 in 2014. There is no question that this year's weather conditions stopped people from participating in the Count. Some of the participants who ventured out began the Count at their normal start time while others started later in the morning and others did not participate at all. Safety was important so we were pleased that participants were cautious. To our knowledge there were no injuries. 54 parties spent a total of 148 hours on foot, 84 hours by car, traveling a total of 134 miles on foot and 544 miles by car counting birds in the field. 5 parties spent 6 hours listening/looking for owls which included traveling 16 miles. 46 individuals spent 60 hours counting birds at the feeders.

We did not know how the weather would affect the Count but we were pleasantly surprised. We had unusual sightings of a Green Heron, Sandhill Cranes, Ospreys, a House Wren, and American Pipits as well as 2 Brant Geese, 15 species of Ducks, late migrants such as Hermit Thrush, Eastern Towhee, Eastern Meadowlark, Turkey Vultures and the usual winter birds. Several flocks of Tundra Swans were seen by many field participants and a small flock of Sandhill Cranes was sighted in the northern part of the Circle. Our total species count ended up being 89 compared to 85 species in 2015. However, the 89 total is pending until approved by the Regional Editor who has requested documentation on the Green Heron, the Ospreys and the House Wren. If approved this year's total will tie the 2012 CBC total of 89 which is our second highest count. Our all time high count is 94 which was in 1983. The total number of individual birds was 32,108 compared to 68,471 in 2015.

The 2016 Christmas Bird Count is now a part of our Chapter's long history of Christmas Bird Counts which began in 1939. According to the National Audubon Society CBC's Director, Jeff LeBaron, ours is one of the longest standing counts in the country. We thank all veteran and dedicated birders in the field and at the feeders for their loyalty and for their participation over many, many years and we thank all the new birders who joined us for the first time.

Compilers
Marie Morgan
Bill Osborne
Bert Szabo

2016 Christmas Bird Count - Species List

1. Brant Goose 2
2. Canada Goose 6414
3. Mute Swan 1
4. Tundra Swan 504
5. Wood Duck 3
6. Gadwall 27
7. American Black Duck 22
8. Mallard 1065
9. Blue-winged Teal 2
10. Northern Shoveler 18
11. Northern Pintail 3
12. Canvasback 5
13. Redhead 55
14. Ring-necked Duck 19
15. Lesser Scaup 2
16. Bufflehead 48
17. Hooded Merganser 17
18. Common Merganser 3
19. Ruddy Duck 25
20. Wild Turkey 27
21. Pied-billed Grebe 1
22. Great Blue Heron 13
23. Green Heron 1
24. Turkey Vulture 3
25. Osprey 2
26. Sharp-shinned Hawk 6
27. Cooper's Hawk 26
28. Bald Eagle 13
29. Red-shouldered Hawk 25
30. Red-tailed Hawk 67
31. American Coot 125
32. Sandhill Crane 12
33. Ring-billed Gull 1292
34. Herring Gull 199
35. Rock Pigeon 401
36. Mourning Dove 501
37. Eastern Screech-Owl 3
38. Great Horned Owl 4
39. Barred Owl 3
40. Belted Kingfisher 9
41. Red-Headed Woodpecker 2
42. Red-bellied Woodpecker 263
43. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1
44. Downy Woodpecker 313
45. Hairy Woodpecker 79
46. Northern Flicker 39
47. Pileated Woodpecker 31
48. American Kestrel 4
49. Merlin 1
50. Peregrine Falcon 1
51. Blue Jay 948
52. American Crow 1357
53. Black-capped Chickadee 651
54. Tufted Titmouse 391
55. Red-breasted Nuthatch 4
56. White-breasted Nuthatch 248
57. Brown Creeper 7
58. House Wren 1
59. Winter Wren 3
60. Caroline Wren 53
61. Golden-crowned Kinglet 10
62. Eastern Bluebird 188
63. Hermit Thrush 3
64. American Robin 1640
65. Gray Catbird 4
66. Northern Mockingbird 1
67. European Starling 8670
68. American Pipit 7
69. Cedar Waxwing 350
70. Yellow-rumped Warbler 10
71. American Tree Sparrow 665
72. Fox Sparrow 1
73. Dark-eyed Junco 615
74. White-crowned Sparrow 11
75. White-throated Sparrow 189
76. Song Sparrow 164
77. Swamp Sparrow 10
78. Eastern Towhee 4
79. Northern Cardinal 716
80. Red-winged Blackbird 565
81. Eastern Meadowlark 1
82. Rusty Blackbird 9
83. Common Grackle 34
84. Brown-headed Cowbird 45
85. House Finch 338
86. Purple Finch 2
87. Pine Siskin 2
88. American Goldfinch 617
89. House Sparrow 1872

Total Individuals: 32,108

A Killdeer was seen 2 days before Count Day and is considered a Count Week bird but is not included in the Total Species Number.

Our 2017 Christmas Bird Count will be on December 17. Have a good year!

2016 Christmas Bird Count - Participants List

Jay Abercrombie (39)

Deedra Allen Zwisler
Jennifer Allison
Ken Andrews
Heather Berenson
Susan Bielinis
Katya Bissell

Mike Bowler (33)

Pete Bowler
Andy Brown
Deniele Brown
Ellen Brown-Armstrong
Ann Burris
Alan Casanova
Debbie Casanova
David Cesaratto
Ann Chasar

Dwight Chasar (49)

Frank Comodeca

Patricia Cook

Jeff Cordi

Matt Courtman

Patrick Coy
Vicky Croisant
Greg Cudworth
Barbara Cummings
Gary Davis
Ned Delamatre
Lindsey Denelsky
Helen Dessent
Kay Devlin
Keith Devlin
Cheryl Dinkelbach
Fred Dinkelbach
Cecil Dobbins
Joanne Dobbins
June Dobbins
Hannah Driscoll
Troy Dunn
Rose Eggleston

Fred Fricker (30)

Bob Furst
Jennifer Gaydos

Shane Good (24 & 29)

Alice Gouges
Craig Griffin
Nancy Groves
Bill Gruber
Ann Gulbransen
Marty Gulbransen
Cassie Hall
Annemarie Hansen
Joe Henninger
Sue Henninger
Nancy Howell

Mark Hudak
Vera Hurst
Diane Johnson
Barbara Kaplan
Barbara Klewe
Lyman Klewe
Gene Kovach
Linda Kovach
Beth Kowalski
Jeff Kraus
Marian Kraus
Pat Lanese
Kelly Licara
Fred Losi
Dale McCain
Rosemary McCain
Jim McCarty
Bill Meyers
Jerry Miller
Bill Miloscia
Elizabeth Miloscia
Kathy Mock
Becky Monegan
Lew Monegan
Fred Montague

Marie Morgan (45)

Larry Morton
Sophia Morton
Deb Neidert
Sue Nelson
George Novosel

Bill Osborne (40)

Tina Osborne
Cathy Parker
Joyce Pelz

Wolfgang Pelz (26)

Pat Pickard (24)

Ed Pierce
David Reinhart

James Reyda (56)

Kathy Richards
Margaret Robinson
Mary Ann Romito

Larry Rosche (55)

Pat Rydquist
Grace Rymer
Mary Rywalski
Ron Salisbury
Rita Sappenfield
Terry Sappenfield
Bennie Saylor
Michelle Schisler
Paul Schweigert
Judy Semroc

Steven Sheppard
Marty Sickinger
Claire Staph
Holly Stoneberg
Woody Stover
Sandy Striff
Karl Stutz
Joe Sudomir
Fran Sylvis

Bert Szabo (24)

Anita Szegvari
Karin Tanquist
Karen Thomas

Jim Tomko (37)

Dan Toth

Doug VanAuken (18)

Jared VanAuken
Linda Vanfossen
Tim Verdoun

Doug Vogus (45)

Michelle Vogus
Jeff Wert

Janet Wertz (22)

Gail Wild

John Wilkinson (26)

Larry Williams
Joe Wojnarowski
Eileen Zimlich

Territory Leaders and their Territory Totals are in Bold Type