

Birding at Garden Island S.R.A.

The prime birding area is at the eastern tip of the island. This sand spit is home to a cacophony of ring-billed gulls, herring gulls, common terns, American white pelicans and spotted sandpipers. A host of other shorebirds may also be seen.

There are no trails in the forested area of the island. However, a walk from the day use area docks towards the forested edge may yield sightings of killdeer, song sparrows, dark-eyed juncos, cedar waxwings, red-eyed vireos and bald eagles. Large populations of Baltimore orioles may be seen in this location.

Key

Occurrence

Sp - Spring (Mar—May)

S - Summer (Jun—Jul)

F - Fall (Aug—Nov)

W - Winter (Dec—Feb)

Abundance

C - Common (Present, relatively easy to find)

U - Uncommon (Present, not certain to be seen)

O - Occasional (Infrequent, may not return each year)

R - Rare (Observed at least once, may not return)

Date: Enter the date you saw the bird.

Bird Identification Tips

When you observe a bird, make note of at least three characteristics.

Location: Where did you see the bird? (water, forest, feeder, lower branch, tree trunk, etc.)

Body size and shape: Compare to a known bird. (smaller than a...bigger than a...plump like a...slender like a...) Look at tail, legs and bill. (long, short, thick, thin, curved, straight)

Colors and markings: Look on wings, tail, back, belly, rump and head. (stripe above eye, white spot on tail, etc.)

Sounds and movements: How do they act and sound? (travel alone or in groups, in-flight wing position - soaring, flapping, flap and glide, etc.)

STATE RECREATION AREA BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
GEESE, SWANS, DUCKS					
Canada Goose	U	U	U		
Gadwall	O				
Mallard	C	C	C		
Common Goldeneye	C	C	C		
PIGEONS, DOVES					
Mourning Dove	O	O	O		
PLOVERS					
Black-bellied Plover	U		U		
Killdeer	C	C	C		
Piping Plover		O			
SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES					
Sanderling	U		U		
White-rumped Sandpiper	U	U	U		
Semipalmated Sandpiper	U		U		
Spotted Sandpiper	C	C	C		
GULLS, TERNS					
Bonaparte's Gull	U		U		
Franklin's Gull		U	C		
Ring-billed Gull	C		C		
Herring Gull	C		C		
Caspian Tern	U	U	U		
Common Tern	U	U	U		
Arctic Tern		R			
LOONS					
Common Loon	U	U	U		
CORMORANTS					
Double-crested Cormorant	C	C	C		
PELICANS					
American White Pelican	C	C	C		
KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES					
Bald Eagle	C	C	C		
Red-shouldered Hawk		O			
Broad-winged Hawk	U	U	U		
Rough-legged Hawk	U		U	U	

STATE RECREATION AREA BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
WOODPECKERS					
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	C	C	C		
Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Hairy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Northern Flicker	C	C	C		
Pileated Woodpecker	U	U	U	U	
FALCONS					
Peregrine Falcon	O	O	O		
FLYCATCHERS					
Great Crested Flycatcher	U	U	U		
Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		O			
Alder Flycatcher	U	U	U		
Least Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C		
VIREOS					
Warbling Vireo	U	U	U		
Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C		
JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS, RAVENS					
Gray Jay		R			
Blue Jay	C	C	C	C	
American Crow	C	C	C	C	
Common Raven	C	C	C	C	
LARKS					
Horned Lark	C		C		
MARTINS, SWALLOWS					
Tree Swallow	O	O	O		
Purple Martin	O	O	O		
Barn Swallow	O	O	O		
CHICKADEES, TITMICE					
Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C	
NUTHATCHES					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	U	
WRENS					
House Wren	O	O	O		

STATE RECREATION AREA BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
KINGLETS					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	C		C		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C		
THRUSHES					
Veery	U	U	U		
Hermit Thrush	U	U	U		
American Robin	C	C	C		
THRASHERS, MOCKINGBIRDS					
Gray Catbird	O	O	O		
WAXWINGS					
Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	U	
PIPITS					
American Pipit			C		
FINCHES					
Evening Grosbeak	O	O	O	O	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C		
LONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGS					
Lapland Longspur	U		U		
TOWHEES, SPARROWS					
Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C		
Dark-eyed Junco	C	O	C		
White-crowned Sparrow	C		C		
Harris's Sparrow	C		C		
White-throated Sparrow	C	C	C		
Savannah Sparrow	U		U		
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		
Lincoln's Sparrow	U	O	U		
Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C		
BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES					
Baltimore Oriole	O	O	O		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C		
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	C		
Common Grackle	C	C	C		

STATE RECREATION AREA BIRDS Sp S F W DATE

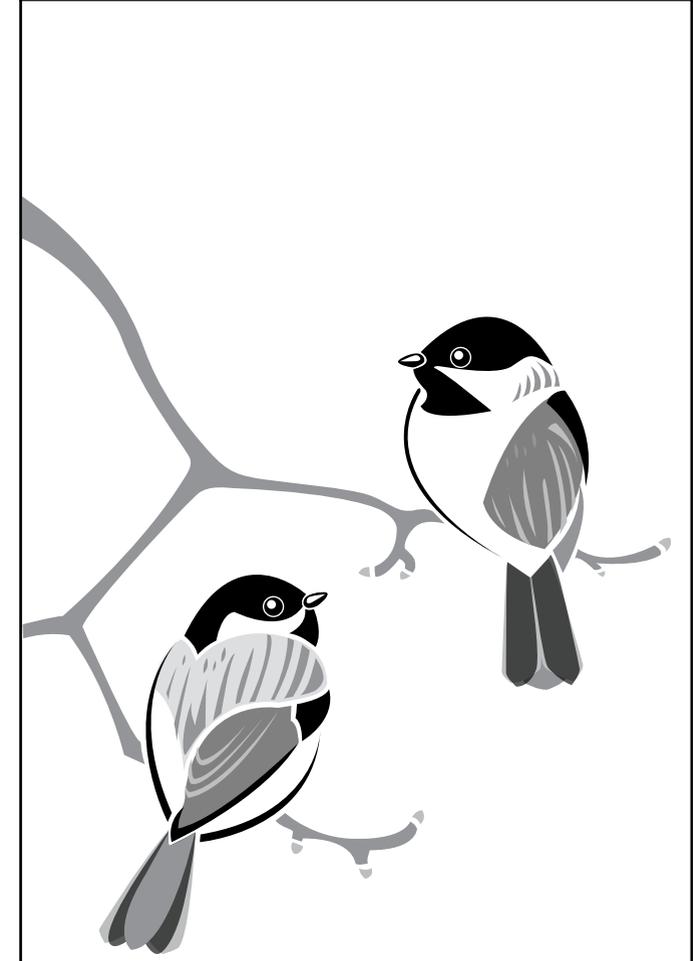
WARBLERS

Ovenbird	C	C	C		
Black-and-white Warbler	C	C	C		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U		
Nashville Warbler	C		C		
Mourning Warbler	U	U	U		
Common Yellowthroat	U	U	U		
American Redstart	C	C	C		
Magnolia Warbler	U		U		
Yellow Warbler	C	C	C		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	U	U	U		
Palm Warbler	U		U		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C		
Black-throated Green Warbler	U		U		

TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS

Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C		
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BIRD CHECKLIST
GARDEN ISLAND
STATE RECREATION AREA



Checklist created by Robert B. Janssen, Jerry Bonkoski and MNDNR. Data was gathered from MNDNR staff observations, public observations and Minnesota Ornithologist's Union records. Nomenclature and organization of checklist based off of the *Check-list of North American Birds* (7th edition) as currently supplemented.

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