

# MINNESOTA VALLEY STATE RECREATION AREA

## ✓ BIRD Checklist



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather: \_\_\_\_\_

Observers: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Parks & Recreation

DNR Web Site: [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)

Birds of MN Valley Rec Area	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Tufted Titmouse	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Nuthatch	U		U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Creeper		O		
<input type="checkbox"/> House Wren	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Winter Wren	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sedge Wren	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Marsh Wren	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-crowned Kinglet	C		C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray-cheeked Thrush	U			
<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Thrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermit Thrush	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Thrush	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Thrasher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Warbler	U	U	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-winged Warbler	U		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Parula	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-sided Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cape May Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Green Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackburnian Warbler	U		U	

Birds of MN Valley Rec Area	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay-breasted Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cerulean Warbler		O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Prothonotary Warbler	O	O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Warbler	U	O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Towhee	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Tree Sparrow	C		C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay-colored Sparrow	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Sparrow	C	C	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vesper Sparrow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lark Sparrow	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Sparrow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Henslow's Sparrow		O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Sparrow	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln's Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Harris's Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-crowned Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dickcissel		O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Bobolink	U	U	U	

Birds of MN Valley Rec Area	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Meadowlark	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Meadowlark	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rusty Blackbird	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Orchard Oriole		O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore Oriole	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Finch	O		O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> House Finch	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Siskin	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow	C	C	C	C

# Birding Opportunities at MN Valley State Recreation Area

The Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area is a long, linear park comprised of multiple units. It contains a magnificent combination of habitats including river lowlands, floodplain forests, lakes, marsh and prairie all located along the Minnesota River. Significant portions of this recreation area stretch through the south-western suburbs and communities of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. A wide variety of species can be found here including wading birds, waterfowl, flycatchers, thrushes, warblers, vireos, swallows and sparrows. The fall migration of sparrows is excellent in the grass and brush habitat.

## Season and Abundance Key

The **seasons** in the checklist are defined as follows:

**Sp** (Spring) = March, April, May

**Su** (Summer) = June, July

**Fa** (Fall) = August, September, October, November

**Wi** (Winter) = December, January, February

**Abundance codes** are defined as follows:

**C** = Common — present, relatively easy to find

**U** = Uncommon — observed, may be difficult to find

**O** = Occasional — may or may not be present in any year

**R** = Rare — has occurred at least once, may or may not be expected to recur

The names and taxonomic arrangement of species follows that of the Checklist of the Birds of Minnesota (January, 2001), prepared by the Minnesota Ornithological Records Committee.

This checklist contains the names of all birds that have been documented in the park by reliable observers. It was constructed by Robert B. Janssen and the MN DNR-Division of Parks & Recreation using observations of Mr. Janssen, park staff and other observers, as well as Minnesota Ornithologist's Union records and data contained in research reports. If you are interested in the specific sources used for a particular park, contact the Parks Division Resource Management Program Coordinator by telephone at 651-297-1158 or by mail at MNDNR-Parks, 500 Lafayette Road, Box 39 St. Paul, MN 55155-4039.

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Birds of MN Valley Rec Area	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Snow Goose	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tundra Swan			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gadwall	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Wigeon	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Black Duck	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Teal	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shoveler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Pintail	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Green-winged Teal	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Redhead	O			O
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Duck	U			
<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Scaup	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Scaup	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bufflehead	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Goldeneye	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Merganser	U	U		
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Merganser	U			
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruddy Duck				O
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Pheasant	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruffed Grouse		R		
<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Turkey	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Pied-billed Grebe	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American White Pelican			U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Double-crested Cormorant	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Egret	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Heron	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-crowned Night-Heron	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Osprey	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Harrier	U	U	U	

Birds of MN Valley Rec Area	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-shouldered Hawk	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> American Kestrel	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Peregrine Falcon			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sora	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Coot	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sandhill Crane	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Yellowlegs	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Yellowlegs	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Spotted Sandpiper	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Semipalmated Sandpiper	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pectoral Sandpiper	U	O	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Snipe	U		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Woodcock	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Franklin's Gull			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bonaparte's Gull	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Herring Gull	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Thayer's Gull	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Caspian Tern			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Forster's Tern	U	O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Pigeon	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Barred Owl	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Long-eared Owl			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Nighthawk		O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Whip-poor-will		O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Chimney Swift	U	U	U	

Birds of MN Valley Rec Area	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-headed Woodpecker	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Olive-sided Flycatcher	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Acadian Flycatcher		O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Alder Flycatcher	U	O	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Willow Flycatcher	U	O	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Flycatcher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Loggerhead Shrike	O	O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shrike				O
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-headed Vireo	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Warbling Vireo	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Philadelphia Vireo	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Jay	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> American Crow	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Horned Lark	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Martin	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Swallow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Rough-winged Swallow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bank Swallow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cliff Swallow	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow	C	C	C	