

## Birding at Forestville-Mystery Cave State Park

Explore the varied landscape of this beautiful park. Upland forests and forested stream valleys offer excellent habitat for diverse bird species.

Visit in spring to see warblers migrating through the area. In the summer, take a hike to Big Spring. The cool, spring-fed valley is home to numerous bird species. You might even catch a glimpse of an elusive Acadian flycatcher or Louisiana waterthrush along the way.

### 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 PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>GEESE, SWANS, DUCKS</b>					
Greater White-fronted Goose	U		U		
Canada Goose	C	C	C	R	
Wood Duck	U	U	U	R	
Blue-winged Teal	C	C	C		
Mallard	C	C	C	O	
<b>PARTRIDGE, PHEASANTS, GROUSE, TURKEYS</b>					
Gray Partridge	R	R	R	R	
Ring-necked Pheasant	U	U	U	U	
Ruffed Grouse	U	U	U	U	
Wild Turkey	C	C	C	C	
<b>GREBES</b>					
Pied-billed Grebe	O	O			
<b>PIGEONS, DOVES</b>					
Rock Pigeon	C	C	C	C	
Mourning Dove	C	C	C	O	
<b>CUCKOOS</b>					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U		
Black-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U		
<b>NIGHTJARS</b>					
Common Nighthawk	U	U	U		
Eastern Whip-poor-will	O	O			
<b>SWIFTS</b>					
Chimney Swift	C	C	C		
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	U	C		
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS</b>					
American Coot	O				
<b>CRANES</b>					
Sandhill Crane	U		U		
<b>PLOVERS</b>					
Killdeer	C	U	C		
<b>SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES</b>					
American Woodcock	C	U	U		
Wilson's Snipe	R				
Spotted Sandpiper	U	U	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONS</b>					
Great Blue Heron	C	C	C	R	
Green Heron	U	U	U		
<b>NEW WORLD VULTURES</b>					
Turkey Vulture	C	C	C		
<b>OSPREY</b>					
Osprey	O		O		
<b>KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES</b>					
Northern Harrier	U	O	U	O	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U	O	
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U	O	
Bald Eagle	U	U	U	U	
Red-shouldered Hawk	U	U	U	O	
Broad-winged Hawk	C	U	C		
Swainson's Hawk	R		R		
Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	C	
Rough-legged Hawk	U		U	U	
<b>TYPICAL OWLS</b>					
Eastern Screech Owl	U	U	U	U	
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U	
Barred Owl	O	O	O	O	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	R			R	
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>					
Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C		
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>					
Red-headed Woodpecker	U	U	U	O	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	C	U	C		
Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Hairy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Northern Flicker	C	C	C	O	
Pileated Woodpecker	U	U	U	U	
<b>FALCONS</b>					
American Kestrel	C	C	C	U	
Merlin	O		O		
Peregrine Falcon	R				

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>					
Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U		U		
Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	C	C		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	U		U		
Acadian Flycatcher	U	U			
Alder Flycatcher	U		U		
Willow Flycatcher	U	U	U		
Least Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C		
<b>SHRIKES</b>					
Northern Shrike	O		O	O	
<b>VIdeos</b>					
Bell's Vireo	R				
Yellow-throated Vireo	C	U	U		
Blue-headed Vireo	U		U		
Philadelphia Vireo	U		U		
Warbling Vireo	C	C	C		
Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C		
<b>JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS, RAVENS</b>					
Blue Jay	C	C	C	C	
American Crow	C	C	C	C	
<b>LARKS</b>					
Horned Lark	C	U	C	U	
<b>MARTINS, SWALLOWS</b>					
Bank Swallow	C	C	C		
Tree Swallow	C	C	C		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	C	C		
Purple Martin	U	U	U		
Barn Swallow	C	C	C		
Cliff Swallow	C	C	C		
<b>CHICKADEES, TITMICE</b>					
Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C	
Tufted Titmouse	O		O	O	
<b>NUTHATCHES</b>					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	U		U	U	
White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>CREEPERS</b>					
Brown Creeper	U		U	U	
<b>WRENS</b>					
House Wren	C	C	C		
Winter Wren	U	O	U		
<b>GNATCATCHERS</b>					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	C	C	C		
<b>KINGLETS</b>					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	C		C	U	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C		
<b>THRUSHES</b>					
Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	R	
Veery	U	U	U		
Gray-cheeked Thrush	U		U		
Swainson's Thrush	U		U		
Hermit Thrush	U		U		
Wood Thrush	U	U	O		
American Robin	C	C	C	U	
<b>THRASHERS, MOCKINGBIRDS</b>					
Gray Catbird	C	C	C		
Brown Thrasher	U	U	U		
<b>STARLINGS</b>					
European Starling	C	C	C	C	
<b>WAXWINGS</b>					
Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	U	
<b>OLD WORLD SPARROWS</b>					
House Sparrow	C	C	C	C	
<b>FINCHES</b>					
House Finch	C	C	C	C	
Purple Finch	U		U	U	
Common Redpoll	O		O	O	
Pine Siskin	U		U	U	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C	C	
<b>LONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGS</b>					
Snow Bunting	U		O	U	
<b>TOWHEES, SPARROWS</b>					
Grasshopper Sparrow	U	U	O		
Lark Sparrow	R				

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C		
Clay-colored Sparrow	U		U		
Field Sparrow	C	C	U		
Fox Sparrow	C		C		
American Tree Sparrow	C		C	C	
Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	C	
White-crowned Sparrow	U		U		
Harris's Sparrow	U		U		
White-throated Sparrow	C		C		
Vesper Sparrow	C	C	C		
Savannah Sparrow	C	C	C		
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		
Lincoln's Sparrow	C		C		
Swamp Sparrow	C	U	C		
Eastern Towhee	U	U	U		
<b>BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES</b>					
Bobolink	C	C	C		
Eastern Meadowlark	C	C	C		
Western Meadowlark	C	C	C		
Orchard Oriole	U	U	O		
Baltimore Oriole	C	C	C		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C		
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	C		
Common Grackle	C	C	C	O	
<b>WARBLERS</b>					
Ovenbird	C	C	C		
Louisiana Waterthrush	U	U			
Northern Waterthrush	C		U		
Golden-winged Warbler	U		U		
Blue-winged Warbler	U	U	O		
Black-and-white Warbler	C		C		
Prothonotary Warbler	R				
Tennessee Warbler	C		C		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U		
Nashville Warbler	C		C		
Connecticut Warbler	U		U		
Mourning Warbler	U		U		
Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Hooded Warbler	U	U	U		
American Redstart	C	C	C		
Cape May Warbler	O		O		
Cerulean Warbler	U	U	O		
Northern Parula	U		U		
Magnolia Warbler	U		U		
Bay-breasted Warbler	U		U		
Blackburnian Warbler	U		U		
Yellow Warbler	C	C	C		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	C		C		
Blackpoll Warbler	U		U		
Palm Warbler	C		C		
Pine Warbler	U		U		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C		
Black-throated Green Warbler	U		U		
Canada Warbler	U		U		
Wilson's Warbler	U		U		
<b>TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS</b>					
Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U		
Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C		
Indigo Bunting	C	C	C		
Dickcissel	O	O	O		

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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**mn** DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# BIRD CHECKLIST

## FORESTVILLE - MYSTERY CAVE STATE PARK

