

BIRDS ABOUT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE GRAND & SPEED RIVERS, CAMBRIDGE, ONTARIO



This checklist includes 227 species of birds observed within a 3-km radius of the Confluence of the Grand & Speed Rivers. Located in northwest Cambridge, the birding area includes reaches of the Grand between Doon Valley G.C., Kitchener, and Cambridge Memorial Hospital; reaches of the Speed upriver to Speedsville Road; Cambridge Riverbank Trail System including Grand Trunk Trail, Linear Trail, Mill Run Trail; west half Dumfries C.A.; Parklawn Cemetery; *rare* Charitable Research Reserve, and adjacent wetlands; and neighbourhoods of Preston & Blair.

Revised August 2009

Credits:

This checklist was compiled by Bill & Heather Wilson based upon observations since 1971. Contributions have also been made by members of KW Field Naturalists and Friends of *rare*, including volunteers at the *rare* Bird Banding Station (2008-2009), Kevin Grundy, licensed bander. Recent breeding evidence is based upon the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlassing (2001-2005) conducted about The Confluence by Marilyn Armstrong, Jerry Guenther, Ruth Kroft & Bill Wilson. Bob McMullen & Erwin Meissner offered helpful suggestions for the format of the checklist when initially developed in 1995.

Classification and nomenclature follows the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds (7th Ed., 1998) and Supplements (July 2007).

LEGEND

Spring, early March to the end of May	Sp
Summer, early June to mid-August	Su
Autumn, mid-August to the end of November	A
Winter, December to February	W
Species observed all year.	Bold
This species has nested.	*
Species regularly observed.	●
Species not always observed.	○
Species occasionally observed.	□
Sighting is unusual or unlikely.	❖
This species is accidental.	<i>Italics</i>

SPECIES	SP	SU	A	W
DUCKS, GEESE & SWANS				
<i>Snow Goose</i>	❖	□	❖	❖
<i>Brant</i>				❖
<i>Cackling Goose</i>			❖	
Canada Goose*	●	●	●	●
Mute Swan	□	□	□	□
Trumpeter Swan*	○	□	□	□
Tundra Swan	□	□	❖	□
Wood Duck*	●	○	●	□
Gadwall	○	□	○	❖
American Wigeon	●	□	●	❖
American Black Duck	●	□	●	●
Mallard*	●	●	●	●
Blue-winged Teal*	●	□	●	□
Northern Shoveler	□	□	❖	❖
Northern Pintail	□	□	□	□
Green-winged Teal	●	○	●	□
Canvasback	□	□	□	❖
Redhead	❖	□	□	❖
Ring-necked Duck	●	□	●	❖
Greater Scaup	□	□	□	□
Lesser Scaup	□	□	□	□
Long-tailed Duck	❖			
Bufflehead	●	□	●	●
Common Goldeneye	●	□	●	●
Hooded Merganser	●	❖	□	○
Common Merganser	●	□	●	●
Red-breasted Merganser	❖	❖	□	□
Ruddy Duck	□	□	□	□
PARTRIDGES, GROUSE & TURKEYS				
Ring-necked Pheasant	□	□	□	❖
Ruffed Grouse*	□	□	□	□
Wild Turkey*	●	●	●	●
LOONS				
Common Loon	□	□	□	□
GREBES				
Pied-billed Grebe	●	□	○	❖
Horned Grebe	□	□	□	❖
Red-necked Grebe	□	□	□	❖
CORMORANTS				
Double-crested Cormorant	●	●	●	□
HERONS & BITTERNS				
American Bittern	□			
Great Blue Heron*	●	●	●	○
Great Egret	❖	○	○	□
<i>Little Blue Heron</i>	□	❖	□	□

Green Heron*	●	●	●	□
Black-crowned Night-Heron	□	●	●	❖
VULTURES				
Turkey Vulture	●	●	●	❖
HAWKS, KITES & EAGLES				
Osprey*	●	●	●	.
Bald Eagle	●	□	●	●
Northern Harrier	□	.	□	❖
Sharp-shinned Hawk*	●	●	●	●
Cooper's Hawk*	●	●	●	●
Northern Goshawk	.	.	□	.
Red-shouldered Hawk	□	.	.	❖
Broad-winged Hawk	●	.	●	.
Red-tailed Hawk*	●	●	●	●
Rough-legged Hawk	□	.	.	□
Golden Eagle	□	.	.	.
CARACARAS & FALCONS				
American Kestrel*	●	□	●	●
Merlin	□	□	□	●
Peregrine Falcon	.	.	□	.
RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS				
Virginia Rail	●	●	□	.
Sora	●	●	□	❖
Common Moorhen	●	□	.	.
American Coot	□	□	.	❖
CRANES				
Sandhill Crane*	□	□	□	.
PLOVERS				
Semipalmated Plover	□	.	.	.
Killdeer*	●	●	●	❖
SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES				
Spotted Sandpiper*	●	●	●	.
Solitary Sandpiper	●	●	●	.
Greater Yellowlegs	●	●	●	.
Lesser Yellowlegs	●	●	●	.
Semipalmated Sandpiper	.	□	□	.
Least Sandpiper	.	●	●	.
Baird's Sandpiper	.	□	.	.
Pectoral Sandpiper	.	.	●	.
Dunlin	□	.	□	.
Stilt Sandpiper	.	.	□	.
Wilson's Snipe	●	●	●	❖
American Woodcock*	●	□	.	.
GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS				
Bonaparte's Gull	□	.	□	❖
Ring-billed Gull	●	●	●	●
Herring Gull	●	●	●	●

Thayer's Gull	.	.	.	❖
Iceland Gull	○	.	.	○
Lesser Black-backed Gull	.	.	.	❖
Glaucous Gull	○	.	.	○
Great Black-backed Gull	○	.	○	○
Caspian Tern	□	●	□	.
Black Tern	❖	.	.	.
Common Tern	.	□	.	.
PIGEONS & DOVES				
Rock Pigeon*	●	●	●	●
Mourning Dove*	●	●	●	●
Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	○	○	□	.
Black-billed Cuckoo*	○	○	.	.
OWLS				
Eastern Screech-Owl*	○	□	□	○
Great Horned Owl*	○	□	□	○
Snowy Owl	.	.	.	□
Long-eared Owl	.	.	.	□
Northern Saw-whet Owl	□	.	□	.
GOATSUCKERS				
Common Nighthawk	●	□	●	.
Whip-poor-will	□	.	.	.
SWIFTS				
Chimney Swift*	●	●	●	.
HUMMINGBIRDS				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	●	●	●	.
KINGFISHERS				
Belted Kingfisher*	●	●	●	○
WOODPECKERS				
Red-headed Woodpecker	□	□	.	.
Red-bellied Woodpecker*	●	●	●	●
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	●	.	●	.
Downy Woodpecker*	●	●	●	●
Hairy Woodpecker*	●	●	●	●
Northern Flicker*	●	●	●	□
Pileated Woodpecker*	○	○	○	○
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	.	□	.	.
Eastern Wood-Pewee	.	●	●	.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	.	○	.	.
Alder Flycatcher	●	.	.	.
Willow Flycatcher*	●	●	.	.
Least Flycatcher	●	○	.	.
Eastern Phoebe*	●	●	●	.
Great Crested Flycatcher	●	●	□	.
Eastern Kingbird*	●	●	●	.
SHRIKES				

Northern Shrike	☐	.	☐	○
VIREOS				
Yellow-throated Vireo	☐	☐	.	.
Blue-headed Vireo	●	.	☐	.
Warbling Vireo*	●	●	●	.
Philadelphia Vireo	●	.	☐	.
Red-eyed Vireo*	●	●	●	.
CROWS & JAYS				
Blue Jay*	●	●	●	●
American Crow*	●	●	●	●
LARKS				
Horned Lark*	●	●	●	○
SWALLOWS				
Tree Swallow*	●	●	●	.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	●	●	●	.
Bank Swallow*	●	●	○	.
Cliff Swallow*	●	●	○	.
Barn Swallow*	●	●	●	.
CHICKADEES & TITMICE				
Black-capped Chickadee*	●	●	●	●
Tufted Titmouse	.	.	.	☐
NUTHATCHES				
Red-breasted Nuthatch	○	.	○	○
White-breasted Nuthatch*	●	●	●	●
CREEPERS				
Brown Creeper*	○	○	○	○
WRENS				
Carolina Wren*	☐	☐	.	☐
House Wren*	●	●	●	.
Winter Wren	○	☐	.	☐
Marsh Wren	☐	☐	☐	.
KINGLETS				
Golden-crowned Kinglet	●	.	●	○
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	●	.	●	.
GNATCATCHERS				
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	○	○	☐	.
THRUSHES				
Eastern Bluebird*	○	○	☐	.
Veery	●	.	.	.
Grey-cheeked Thrush	☐	.	☐	.
Swainson's Thrush	●	.	○	.
Hermit Thrush	●	.	●	.
Wood Thrush	○	○	.	.
American Robin*	●	●	●	●
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS				
Gray Catbird*	●	●	●	.
Northern Mockingbird	☐	.	.	☐

Brown Thrasher	○	○	□	.
STARLINGS				
European Starling*	●	●	●	●
PIPITS				
American Pipit	.	.	□	.
WAXWINGS				
Cedar Waxwing*	●	●	●	□
WOOD-WARBLERS				
Blue-winged Warbler*	○	○	.	.
Golden-winged Warbler	□	.	.	.
Tennessee Warbler	○	.	○	.
Orange-crowned Warbler	○	.	○	.
Nashville Warbler	●	.	●	.
Northern Parula	○	.	□	.
Yellow Warbler*	●	●	●	.
Chestnut-sided Warbler	●	.	○	.
Magnolia Warbler	●	○	●	.
Cape May Warbler	○	.	○	.
Black-throated Blue Warbler	○	.	○	.
Yellow-rumped Warbler	●	◇	●	◇
Black-throated Green Warbler	●	□	●	.
Blackburnian Warbler	○	.	○	.
Pine Warbler*	●	●	○	◇
Prairie Warbler	.	◇	.	.
Palm Warbler	●	.	●	.
Bay-breasted Warbler	○	.	○	.
Blackpoll Warbler	●	.	○	.
Black-and-white Warbler	●	.	○	.
American Redstart*	●	●	●	.
Swainson's Warbler	◇	.	.	.
Ovenbird	○	□	.	.
Northern Waterthrush	□	.	□	.
Connecticut Warbler	.	.	□	.
Mourning Warbler	○	□	.	.
Common Yellowthroat*	●	●	●	◇
Hooded Warbler	.	□	.	.
Wilson's Warbler	●	.	○	.
Canada Warbler	○	.	□	.
TANAGER				
Scarlet Tanager	○	○	.	.
EMBERIZIDS				
Spotted Towhee	.	.	.	◇
Eastern Towhee	○	□	□	.
American Tree Sparrow	●	.	●	●
Chipping Sparrow*	●	●	○	◇
Clay-coloured Sparrow	.	□	.	.
Field Sparrow*	●	●	□	.

Vesper Sparrow*	●	●	·	·
Savannah Sparrow*	●	●	□	·
Grasshopper Sparrow	·	□	·	·
Fox Sparrow	●	·	□	·
Song Sparrow*	●	●	●	●
Lincoln's Sparrow	○	·	□	·
Swamp Sparrow*	●	●	○	○
White-throated Sparrow	●	·	●	□
White-crowned Sparrow	●	·	●	·
Dark-eyed Junco	●	·	●	●
Lapland Longspur	·	·	□	·
Snow Bunting	·	·	·	□
CARDINALS & ALLIES				
Northern Cardinal*	●	●	●	●
Rose-breasted Grosbeak*	●	●	●	·
Indigo Bunting*	●	●	□	·
BLACKBIRDS				
Bobolink	□	·	·	·
Red-winged Blackbird*	●	●	●	□
Eastern Meadowlark	○	□	□	·
Rusty Blackbird	□	·	□	·
Common Grackle*	●	●	●	❖
Brown-headed Cowbird*	●	●	●	□
Orchard Oriole*	○	○	·	·
Baltimore Oriole*	●	●	·	·
Pine Grosbeak	□	·	·	□
FINCHES				
Purple Finch	○	·	○	·
House Finch*	●	●	●	●
Red Crossbill	□	·	·	·
White-winged Crossbill	·	·	·	□
Common Redpoll	□	·	·	□
Hoary Redpoll	·	·	·	□
Pine Siskin	□	□	·	□
American Goldfinch*	●	●	●	●
Evening Grosbeak	·	·	·	❖
OLD WORLD SPARROWS				
House Sparrow*	●	●	●	●