

BIRDS of the Windy City

DISCOVER OVER 300 SPECIES RIGHT IN CHICAGO

Richard M. Daley, Mayor





Cover photograph of snowy owl at Montrose Point by Chicago birder Rob Curtis. Snowy owls regularly winter along Chicago's lakefront.

BIRDS OF THE WINDY CITY



RICHARD M. DALEY, MAYOR

William F. Abolt, Commissioner
City of Chicago Department of Environment

David J. Doig, General Superintendent
Chicago Park District

John Rogner, Field Supervisor
USDI Fish and Wildlife Service

Christine Lee, President
Chicago Audubon Society



 Audubon

CHICAGO
PARK
DISTRICT
come out
and play



STEPHEN PACKARD

Mayor Richard M. Daley signed the Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Jamie Rappaport Clark on March 25, 2000. The peregrine falcon (Chicago's Official City Bird) and her handler look on.

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DEAR FRIENDS,

Bird life is one of Chicago's great natural wonders. Working with community groups and conservation organizations, the City has made critical improvements to bird habitats in Lincoln Park's North Pond, the Addison Bird Sanctuary, Jackson Park, Gompers Park, North Park Village, South Shore Cultural Center and Montrose Point. The Calumet region, home to many rare birds, is the next frontier of preservation and rehabilitation by the City and State of Illinois. In these places and many others, Chicagoans can find the excitement and inspiration of the natural world.

Chicago is a city that protects nature. From the Lake Michigan shoreline and the Chicago River to our parks and open spaces, Chicago's natural areas add significantly to the quality of life. I hope you will use this booklet as a passport to the world of local bird life.

By working together as stewards for all our green spaces, we can make sure that birds continue to migrate through Chicago or make their homes here — providing enjoyment and an improved environment for ourselves and future generations to enjoy.

Sincerely,

Mayor



short-eared owl
LIITA FORSYTH

Birds? Wild in the city?

Would you believe tanagers from the Amazon – and snowy owls from the Arctic?

Really. Rare, beautiful birds can be found in Chicago throughout the year. Some pass through during migration. Others nest here, or spend the winter here. Orioles, hummingbirds, falcons, tanagers, herons, cranes, woodpeckers, sandpipers, cuckoos, owls and more ... over 300 different species of birds. Some of these birds are endangered, threatened or rare, and many are facing population declines due to loss of habitat in the forests, wetlands and grasslands where they nest and in the tropical landscapes where they winter. This booklet contains a sampling of Chicago's bird life and resources for learning more. Chicago is a great place to learn about birds and become stewards for their survival.

Where? Just on the very outskirts of town?

Everywhere. Everywhere there are trees. In every neighborhood with flower gardens. In your local park. Wherever you live and work, there are a few fine birds right outside your window. About seven million birds pass through every year.

During some months, particularly May and September, birds blanket the city as they stop to rest on their migratory journeys. They search for food and shelter wherever they can find it.

Why are they in Chicago?

The green spaces in Chicago are very important to them. As they fly north along the Mississippi flyway, birds are squeezed between Lake Michigan to our east and open farmland to our west and south. Some birds need trees; others need shrubs and flowers. The city has a lot more variety than cornfields. To re-fuel on migration, birds find what they need right here in the parks, gardens, wetlands, prairies and wooded neighborhoods of Chicago. Nesting birds use the greenery of every neighborhood and a few learn to use man-made structures, like the peregrine falcons that nest on skyscrapers in the Loop.

Why is this important?

Making our city a healthy place for birds improves our quality of life.

These birds need us—to provide sustenance and shelter on their journey and to protect their nesting grounds. And we need them. Birds are a part of the natural web of life. They provide clues to scientists about the health of the environment for all of us. Pondering birds' behavior connects us with the mystery and power of the natural world, right here in the city. Their habitats make our city more beautiful.



“IF I COULDN'T WATCH BIRDS TO RELAX, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO ME.”

Luis Munoz, Chicago police detective, beats the stress by going to Montrose Point and enjoying nature. His buddies at the station house used to joke about it — but now, more often, they're asking him to identify some unusual birds they've seen.

“Now that the Park District has allowed taller vegetation to grow up at Montrose Point, I see a lot more rabbits — and a lot more hawks chasing them.” Among his favorite birds is the short-eared owl, a bird of wide-open prairie, which stops here to hunt for a day or two on migration.

Chicago...habitat for wildlife and people

Less than 200 years ago, Chicago was mostly prairie and wetland, with some woodland, river and beach. Prairie birds like the bobolink, upland sandpiper, Wilson's phalarope and short-eared owl were common then. Today there are no sizeable prairies in Chicago, so these birds only pass through.

Chicago has a different landscape now, and different bird species are common. Many of them once lived in the brushy edges between prairie and woods. The cardinal, robin and mourning dove, for example. But the birds of the forest, prairie and marsh still live in protected areas on the outskirts of our city.

Wetlands

The Calumet area contains some of the **marshes** that once covered much of Chicago. In the spring and summer, you may hear the deep "ungk-a-chunk" call of the American bittern or the gurgling of the marsh wren. Perhaps you'll see the endangered black-crowned night-heron. Ducks, shorebirds, rails, grebes and egrets are some other wetland birds. Right in the city's wetlands, they nest and raise young.

Lake Michigan provides food for many species of diving ducks and gulls in winter.

In spring and fall, migration in lakefront parks can be spectacular, and over 100 different kinds of birds can sometimes be found in a day. At the **Chicago River**, kingfishers, gulls, herons and ducks can be found.

Ponds and lagoons, such as those in a local park, have some of the same birds as other wetlands but in smaller numbers.



oak woodland
LITA FORSYTH

Woodlands and savannas

In the city's forest preserves, and at North Park Village Nature Center, some of our original oak woodlands remain. These woods fill with migrants in the spring and fall. During the summer, you may find a very noisy hole in a tree—the nest of one of our five local woodpecker species. Bright blue indigo buntings, mournful sounding peewees and sky-dancing woodcocks are some other birds that nest in Chicago's open woodlands. The Cooper's hawk, just removed from the endangered list due to its successful comeback, nests here as well.

City neighborhoods

Parks, yards, city streets: all have plantings that may be used by birds. During spring and fall, migrants blanket the city and make the most of every bit of green. A kinglet or warbler may be found in any bush, a white-throated sparrow scratching in any weedy spot. Common birds nest in parks and yards — cardinals in dense shrubbery, house wrens in bird houses and mourning doves in trees.

Even Chicago's skyscrapers have birds: two species that traditionally nest on cliffs — the peregrine falcon (our Official City Bird) and one of its favorite foods, the pigeon. House sparrows and starlings also like to nest in man-made nooks and crannies.

American redstart
DAVID ATHANS



“I LOVE NORTH PARK VILLAGE NATURE CENTER BECAUSE IT HAS A VARIETY OF

HABITATS.” Birding is a satisfying pastime for Caitlin Lill of Norwood Park. When she is observing nature, she works hard at being patient. Her reward is interesting sightings — such as a migrating redstart, which Caitlin called “the butterfly warbler” when she



was younger. She was one of the first to spot a coyote at the nature center. Her father, avid birder Joe Lill, has taken her and brother Jacob to the nature center since they were in baby backpacks. Says Joe: “People are so surprised by the birds you can see in our city. You don't have to go to Canada. I love to show this to my family and others. I'm amazed at how much I didn't see the first 30 years of my life, before I began watching birds.”

How can I welcome birds into my neighborhood?

Plan a wildlife garden – follow these simple steps:

1 - Use layers of plants with different heights to create a varied structure.

Each layer supports different bird species.

- tall canopy trees
- shorter understory trees
- shrubs
- groundcover of flowers and grasses

2 - Plant local native species. Birds evolved with our native plants, and know how to use them for shelter and food. Planting a good variety of natives is an excellent way to recreate the conditions these birds need. Some horticultural species also make good habitat.

3 - Plant a good variety. Choose a mix of plants that will offer food sources throughout the seasons.

4 - Limit pesticide use. Insecticides kill beneficial insects that birds eat and may affect birds' health. Don't use "broad spectrum" insecticides or fertilizer/pesticide combinations.

5 - Get natural. Don't be too neat. Leave dead stalks with seeds on them standing through the winter. Let the leaves stay under your shrubs and trees. Make a little brush pile of fallen limbs. Birds find food in all these places.

6 - Keep predators in balance. Don't feed raccoons, opossums, crows and squirrels. They eat birds' eggs and nestlings (baby birds). Keep them away by being careful about where you put dog food, compost heaps or even birdseed. And remember to keep a lid on your garbage.



downy woodpecker
DENIS KANIA



Birds need your help, especially during migration, when they are tired and hungry and simply need to rest, refuel and head out again.

Protect birds from hazards

1. Keep your cat indoors. Across the U.S., cats kill hundreds of millions of birds a year. Cats with bells and well-fed cats DO kill birds.

2. Modify dangerous windows. Large, reflective windows often trick and kill or injure birds. They may see reflected trees or the windows may be so clear that they think they can fly through. If you have a window like this, try one of these solutions during the migration season:

- Cover windows with netting or hang ribbons or other material in strips on the outside.
- Draw drapes and close blinds during migration.
- Hang hawk silhouettes of aluminum or wood. Moving images deter birds more effectively.
- When installing new windows, angle them downward or use tinted windows or exterior blinds.
- Place bird feeders less than one yard or more than three yards away from the window.
- Cover window with spray starch to reduce reflections.



song sparrow
WALTER MARCISZ



cardinal
LESLIE DECOURCEY

Which plants attract birds?

To see a lot of different birds, plant a lot of different plants! Choose plants that will produce flowers, seeds and fruit across the seasons, and that leaf out at different times.

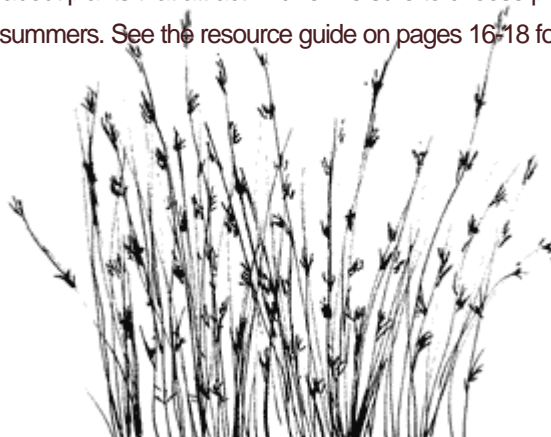
Flowers provide nectar. Some trees that flower in May, like cherries, fill with warblers and orioles. Hummingbirds like orange or red tubular flowers, such as columbine or jewelweed.

Grasses and wildflowers provide seeds. The composite family — those with daisy-like flowers such as sunflowers— are well used by birds. Those with large seeds will often have chickadees and goldfinches hanging from the seed heads. Short prairie grasses like little bluestem are other favorites.

Shrubs and trees host caterpillars and other insects, favorite foods of migrants and baby birds. Oaks and elms in particular are important to insect-eating warblers in spring. Some woody plants such as hawthorn, spicebush and virginia creeper provide berries in the fall. Dense shrubs and small trees are favorite places for hidden nests.

There are many good books about plants that attract wildlife. Be sure to choose plants that will survive our cold winters and hot summers. See the resource guide on pages 16-18 for more ideas and assistance.

little bluestem





"I WANT THESE BIRDS TO BE HEALTHY – AND TO PROTECT THEM FOR THE FUTURE." Wildlife and nature have fascinated 15-year-old Blake Lenoir since grade school. Three years ago, he began to transform his South Chicago backyard into a wildlife sanctuary. He read everything he could get his hands on about landscaping for wildlife, and then spent his allowance on over a dozen shrubs, native wildflowers, and a bird feeder. He likes to sit and watch the birds that come to his feeder, like red-winged blackbirds, song sparrows and house finches. His favorite is the cardinal.



Some plants from Blake's garden: false sunflower, purple coneflower, black-eyed susan, blazing star, viburnum, inkberry, crabapple, and sand cherry.



yellow rail
DENIS KANIA



attorney Ken Wysocki and you're seeing birds everywhere. His most amazing sighting was a yellow rail (a secretive, rare marsh bird) under a parked car in the Loop near Wells and Monroe Streets.

Birds often become confused by skyscraper lights and crash into buildings. "These birds might have come a thousand miles or have a thousand miles to go — they hit a building here and it's all over for them." Ken provided information for the Mayor's Wildlife and Nature Committee's "Lights Out!" program. Concerned building owners and managers responded to the call to dim their lights during migration season — saving thousands of birds. Now we have a subdued, safer skyline in spring and fall. "We may need to help save the rainforest too. But this is something that makes a difference right here."

"A FLOCK OF WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS SPENDS A FEW FALL DAYS IN THIS PARKING LOT ... the peregrine falcon hangs out on this corner." Walk through the Loop with

Lights Out!

Chicago is the first U.S. city to dim bright lights on skyscrapers during migration season to protect birds.



LITA FORSYTH

Venture Out into the Wilds of Chicago

Over 300 different kinds of birds can be found in Chicago, at different times of the year:

- YEAR ROUND RESIDENTS
- SUMMER NESTERS
- SPRING AND FALL MIGRANTS
- WINTER VISITORS

Here are three challenges to encourage you to experience the amazing variety of Chicago's birds. You may want to note the date and place you find each bird. You'll need a field guide — from a library or bookstore. Binoculars will help you identify and enjoy birds. To order a checklist of all Chicago's birds, see page 16.

Challenge #1: See how many of these year-round resident birds you can find on a walk through neighborhood streets and parks.

- Mallard
- Canada goose
- Ring-billed gull
- Pigeon (also called rock dove)
- Mourning dove
- Downy woodpecker
- American crow
- Blue jay
- European starling
- Black-capped chickadee
- Northern cardinal
- House finch
- House sparrow

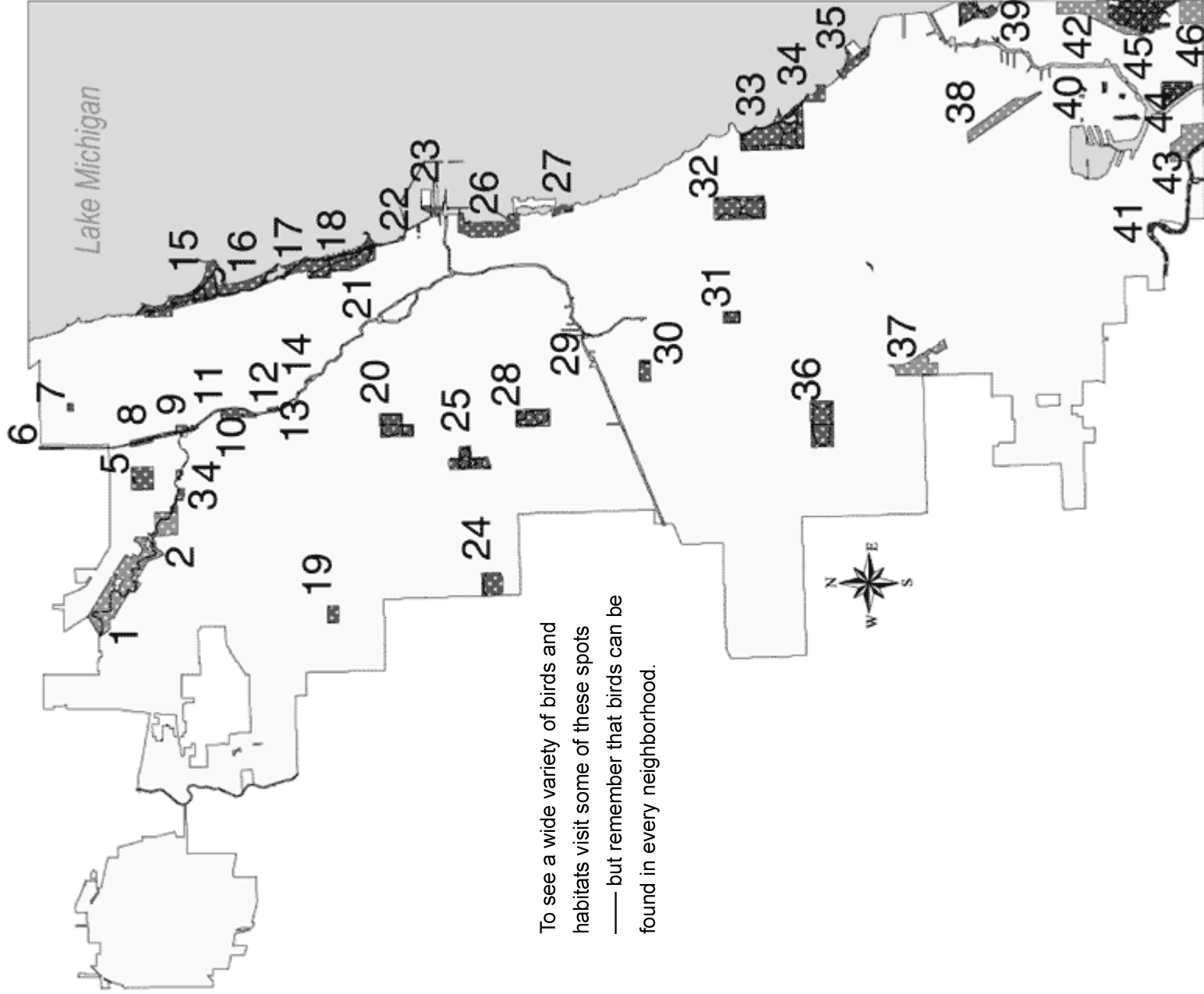
Challenge #2: See how many of these local nesting birds you can find in one summer.

- Black-crowned night-heron – marsh
- Great blue heron – marsh
- Killdeer – patch of gravel
- Belted kingfisher – river bank
- Common nighthawk – flat roof
- Chimney swift – chimney!!
- Northern flicker – hole in tree
- Barn swallow – under a bridge
- Eastern kingbird – evergreen tree
- House wren – backyard birdhouse
- Red-winged blackbird – wet spot in a park
- Indigo bunting – woods
- Song sparrow – shrubs near water

Challenge #3: Visit some of the spots on the map (pg. 12) to find examples of these types of spring and fall migrants.

- Diving ducks (for example, mergansers)
- Sandpipers
- Hawks
- Kinglets
- Thrushes
- Warblers
- Flycatchers
- Sparrows

Good Birdwatching Spots in Chicago



To see a wide variety of birds and habitats visit some of these spots — but remember that birds can be found in every neighborhood.

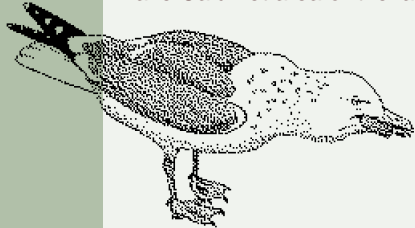
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (312) 742-PLAY

- 3 Gompers Park
- 4 Eugene Field Park
- 7 Indian Boundary Park
- 8 Legion Park
- 9 River Park
- 10 Ronan Park
- 11 Horner Park
- 12 California Park
- 13 Richard Clark Park
- Lincoln Park
- 15 Montrose Point
- 16 Lincoln Park Bird Sanctuary at Addison Street
- 17 North Pond
- 18 Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool
(rehabilitation complete 2002)
- 19 Riis Park
- 20 Humboldt Park
- 23 Seneca & Lake Shore Parks
- 24 Columbus Park
- 25 Garfield Park
- 26 Grant Park
- 27 McCormick Place Bird Sanctuary and Prairie
(completed fall 2002)
- 28 Douglas Park
- 30 McKinley Park
- 31 Sherman Park
- 32 Washington Park
- 33 Paul Douglas Nature Sanctuary
at Wooded Island/Jackson Park
- 34 South Shore Cultural Center Bird Sanctuary
(completed fall 2001)
- 35 Rainbow Beach Park
- 36 Marquette Park
- 39 Calumet Park
- 1 Caldwell Woods/Bunker Hill Prairie
- 2 LaBagh Woods
- 37 Dan Ryan Woods
- 42 Eggers Woods
- 43 Beaubien Woods
- 46 Powderhorn Marsh and Prairie
- 5 North Park Village Nature Center
- 6 North Shore Channel
- 14 Chicago River at Lathrop Homes
- 21 Turning Basin
- 22 Milton Lee Olive Park and Navy Pier
- 29 Bubbly Creek
- 38 Van Vlissingen Prairie
- 40 Lake Calumet & Area Marshes
- 41 Little Calumet River
- 44 Hegewisch Marsh
- 45 Wolf Lake



Chicago's year in birds

JANUARY Winter ducks like the goldeneye and merganser and unusual gulls from the north can be found in open water. Check the Chicago River at Bubbly Creek along South Ashland or the turning basin near Diverser, the Lake Calumet area or the lakefront.



JULY The deep looping flight and “per-chick-or-ree” call of the goldfinch over a field signal that our season’s latest-nesting bird is starting to breed. As other adult birds are teaching their young to fly, some of the first fall migrants come through; shorebirds heading south can be found in local wetlands from July first onward.



FEBRUARY Birds that winter here, like the tiny screech owl, battle the cold for survival. Listen for local resident birds like the cardinal, mourning dove and house finch to begin singing. The “dawn chorus” will grow in volume and variety as the spring — and the migrants — begin to arrive.



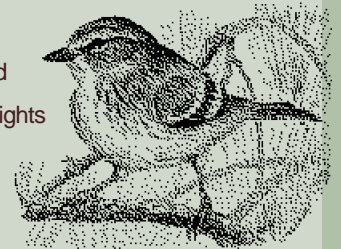
AUGUST Fall comes early for birds. They are fattening up for the difficult migration ahead. Swallows mass at Montrose Point, blackbirds fill the wetlands, herons fan out into ponds and rivers. Late in the month, flocks of nighthawks soar south along the lakefront. Watch at dusk for scores of chimney swifts vanishing into a tall chimney to roost. Ducks molt into a special drab “eclipse” plumage this month and hide, temporarily earthbound as they grow new flight feathers.



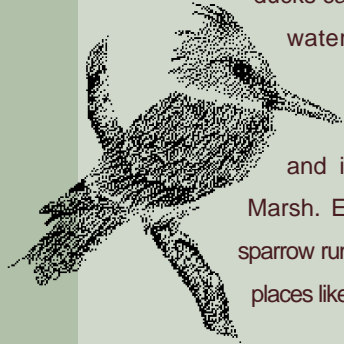
MARCH Migration begins in earnest. Red-winged blackbirds return to parks. Watch for large flocks overhead at the lakefront in the mornings — you might see a meadowlark with them. The fluttering courtship flight of the woodcocks can be seen in natural areas such as Bunker Hill Forest Preserve. Towhees scratch in dead leaves. Great flocks of sandhill cranes bugle overhead.



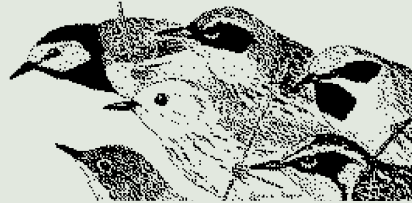
SEPTEMBER Migration happens in reverse, with warblers, vireos and thrushes leading the other landbirds. This is a great time to visit one of the Chicago Park District’s bird sanctuaries like the Paul H. Douglas Nature Sanctuary at Wooded Island (see map). On cold early September nights the bell-like notes of thrushes fill the



APRIL More migrants arrive: kinglets, flickers, creepers, phoebes and others show up in every available green space. Loons, hawks, swans, owls and kingfishers fly north along the lakefront. Twenty-six species of ducks can be found in bodies of water. Herons build their rookeries along 122nd St west of Torrence and in Lake Calumet's Big Marsh. Eighteen species of native sparrow rummage under plantings in places like Grant Park.



MAY Migrants from the tropics pour through the city — warblers, orioles, tanagers, thrushes, cuckoos, hummingbirds and many more. Listen for their tiny “chip” calls overhead at night and observe their bright colors and varied songs in parks and gardens everywhere. May is the peak of mating displays, chasing and nest building by our resident birds. Watch a barn swallow build its mud nest under a bridge.



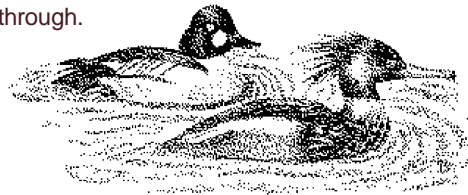
JUNE The last few migrants dribble through, and summer residents are busy making nests, laying eggs and gathering food for their young. This is a great time to quietly observe a nest by watching where a bird brings the food it collects for its young.



OCTOBER Sparrows, kinglets, creepers, sapsuckers and others are accompanied south by a stream of hawks and falcons who prey on them. Marshes fill with dabbling ducks.



NOVEMBER Winter diving ducks return to the lake, and juncos and tree sparrows show up in yards and parks. Rarities show up often in this month but most migrants have passed through.



DECEMBER Seeds of grasses and wildflowers, and dried fruit on shrubs and trees are the main food of most small birds in winter.



Join the Flock!

The organizations that protect birds and educate people about them are as diverse as the types of birds that pass through our City.

BIRD CLUBS

Bird clubs present informative programs, publish newsletters and conduct birding field trips throughout the year. Non-members and beginners are always welcome.

CHICAGO AUDUBON SOCIETY

(773) 539-6793;

www.audubon.org/chapter/il/chicago

CAS sells a checklist of the birds of Chicago. It holds regular bird walks: **North Park Village** - Saturdays in April, May, September, October from 8-10 am;

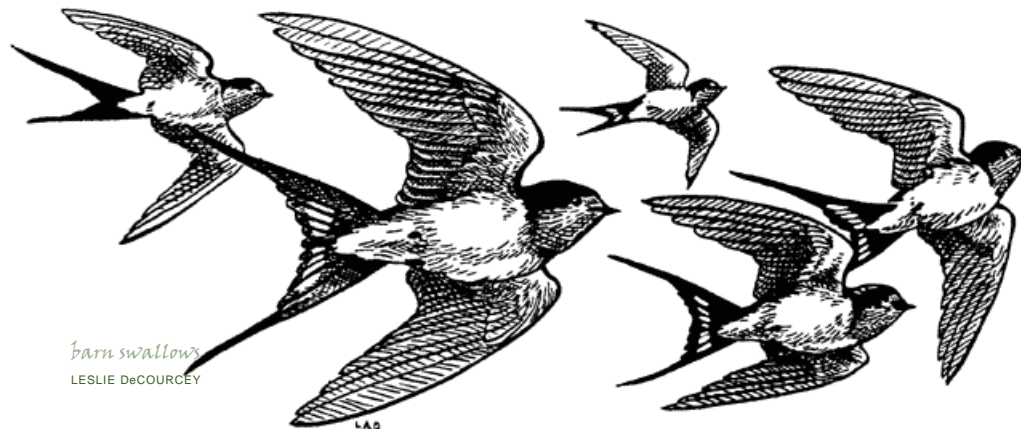
Wooded Island (meet at the bridge on the other side of the lagoon behind the Museum of Science and Industry) - Saturdays, April - December, 8 am and Wednesdays, April-December, 7 am.

CHICAGO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (COS)

(312) 409-9678;

www.chicagobirder.org

COS leads regular bird walks at **North Pond** (west of Cannon Drive, north of Fullerton) on Wednesday mornings at 7 am. Weekly from mid-March to mid-June and from mid-August to mid-November.



barn swallows
LESLIE DeCOURCEY

FORT DEARBORN CHAPTER OF THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

(847) 675-3622

Fort Dearborn has led regular bird walks for 24 years at **Lincoln Park Zoo**. Every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday in April, May, September and October. Meet at 8:30 am in front of the birdhouse.



LOCAL CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

(312) 744-7606;

Nature Chicago Hotline: (312) 744-1821;

www.cityofchicago.org/environment

The Department of Environment (DOE) is responsible for the rehabilitation of Chicago's natural areas – wetlands and prairies – and Lake Michigan shoreline protection.

DOE'S NORTH PARK VILLAGE NATURE CENTER

5801 N. Pulaski Road, Chicago; (312) 744-5472

The City's North Park Village Nature Center provides urban citizens with an opportunity to interact with wildlife, plants, and other natural resources through environmental education and access to natural landscapes. The Chicago chapter of the Wild Ones natural gardeners meets here.

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

(312) 742-PLAY; www.chicagoparkdistrict.com
Our parks are home to a surprising variety of birds, butterflies and insects, small mammals and aquatic animals. From wildlife gardens in neighborhood parks to nature sanctuaries around the larger lagoons, they provide a window to the natural world. Come explore.

BIRD CONSERVATION NETWORK

(847) 965-1150; www.iit.edu/~cos/BCN
A coalition of 17 Chicago area birding organizations which promotes the conservation of bird habitat in our region. Volunteers are needed to monitor bird populations and to advocate for improved habitat. Landscaping guidelines and plant lists available.

AUDUBON OF THE CHICAGO REGION

(847) 965-1150; www.habitatproject.org
Projects include bird (and frog and plant and butterfly) monitoring, and community stewardship of bird habitat throughout the Chicago region.

FIELD MUSEUM

(312) 665-7909; www.fmnh.org
The Field Museum is an international center for public learning and scientific study of the world's diverse environments and cultures, with an outstanding collection of birds.

THE PEGGY NOTEBAERT NATURE MUSEUM

(773) 871-2668; www.chias.org
The Chicago Academy of Science's Museum specializes in the ecology and natural history of the Midwest.

PRINT AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Bookstores, libraries and museum gift shops contain field guides and books about local nature and landscaping for birds and wildlife.

If you are purchasing your first field guide, you have many good choices. One great resource for beginners is *Birds of Chicago* by Chris C. Fisher and David B. Johnson (Lone Pine Publishers, Canada, 1998). You may want to check out field guides that specialize in the birds of the eastern states, such as *Peterson*, *National Audubon Society* or *Stokes*.

There are many excellent tapes and CDs which can help you to learn birds' songs and calls.

To receive *Big City Birds*, a free flyer about Chicago's 20 most common birds, contact Openlands Project at (312) 427-4256.

If you want to travel a bit beyond city boundaries, try *A Birder's Guide to the Chicago Region* by Lynne Carpenter and Joel Greenberg (Northern Illinois University Press, DeKalb, Illinois, 1999).

Illinois Ornithological Society publishes *Meadowmark*, a journal of Illinois bird distribution, identification, ecology and conservation. PO. Box 931; Lake Forest, IL 60045; www.chias.org/ios

great blue heron
DAVID ATHANS



"IT'S SO BIG!" Stephen Gordon, Fredricka Jones, Melvin Pearson and Derryan Ryce are observing a great blue heron flying along the Little Calumet River, which runs behind their school, Carver Primary in Altgeld Gardens. Their teacher, Sue Friscia, combines her love of birds with encouraging activities for her students. She convinced the owner of these 20 garbage-filled and neglected acres to donate the land to the school and has introduced hundreds of kids to the rich bird life found here in a remnant of the once-great wetlands of the Calumet area.



Last year, the kids found a rare yellow-crowned night heron in a big puddle full of old tires. Sue dreams of some day putting in a wetland trail and a woodland trail for the school community to enjoy.



bobolink
LIITA FORSYTH

Chicago WILDERNESS is a quarterly magazine full of handy tips on places to go, things to see and do, information and inspiration about Chicago area nature. (847) 965-9253;

www.chicagowildernessmag.org

You can certify your backyard habitat by contacting the **Backyard Wildlife Habitat Program:** National Wildlife Federation; 1400 16th Ave N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036; (202) 797-6800; www.nwf.org.

Good **brochures** about which plants to use in our area when landscaping for wildlife are published by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Barrington and the Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation in Dundee.

Another good resource is *The Audubon Backyard Birdwatcher: Birdfeeders and Bird Gardens* by Robert Burton and Stephen W. Kress.

WEB SITES AND LISTSERVES: LANDSCAPING FOR WILDLIFE:

www.epa.gov/greenacres is the local EPA site on native landscaping and a great place to start. It's complete and has good links.

BIRDING:

Urs Geiser's **Illinois and Chicago Net-Birding** at <http://home.xnet.com/~ugeiser/Birds/Birding.html> has information about birds, events and birding organizations in the area.

www.birdsource.org, a collaboration of Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology and Audubon, has research projects that citizens can get involved in, such as the Great Backyard Bird Count and Project FeederWatch.

www.fws.gov, the USDI Fish and Wildlife Service site, has practical information about birds and bird habitat.

KEEPING CATS INDOORS:

www.abcbirds.org/cats/catsindoors.htm



E-MAIL LISTSERVES:


There are two listserves for Chicago area birders.

IBET has lively discussions about bird sightings, behavior and identification; see the COS website (pg. 16) to join. **BCNnet** is a great information source about local conservation issues and bird ecology; see the BCN web page (pg. 17).

THE URBAN CONSERVATION TREATY FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS was signed on March 25, 2000 by the City of Chicago's Mayor Richard M. Daley and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Director Jamie Rappaport Clark. The treaty provides for new policies, programs and habitats for Chicago's migratory birds. The treaty provisions were planned and implemented by the following partners:

American Bird Conservancy	Illinois Natural History Survey
Audubon of the Chicago Region	Jackson Park Advisory Council
Bird Conservation Network	Lakeview Citizens' Council
Brookfield Zoo	Lincoln Park Advisory Council
Chicago Academy of Sciences	Lincoln Park Zoo
Chicago Audubon Society	Mayor's Landscape Executive Task Force
Chicago Ornithological Society	Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority
Chicago Park District	Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission
Chicago Public Library	Openlands Project
City of Chicago Department of Environment	The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
Field Museum of Natural History	South Shore Advisory Council
Fort Dearborn Chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society	The Nature Conservancy
Friends of the Chicago River	USDI Fish and Wildlife Service
Friends of the Parks	





WRITTEN by Judy Pollock, Audubon of the Chicago Region
DESIGNED by Liita Forsyth, Wintertree Design & Illustration
EDITED by members of the Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds
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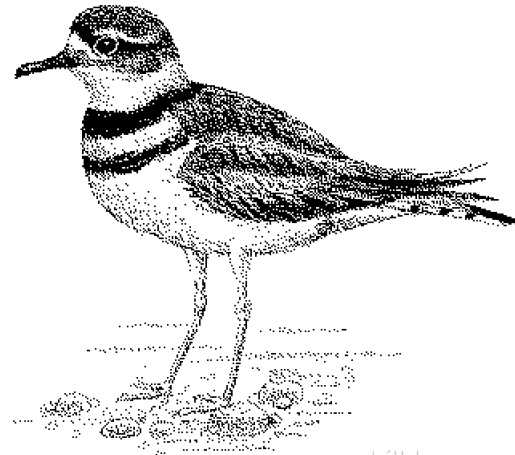
American kestrel
DENIS KANIA

Birds are nature's voice to humans.

— JOHN FITZPATRICK



downy woodpecker
DENIS KANIA



killdeer
BRIAN WILLIS