



IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION - Checklist of the Birds of Clayton County - 261 Species

This checklist is provided as a service of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union and is not officially sanctioned by any reviewing body.

Date _____ Time _____ Locality _____ Sky _____ Wind _____ Temp _____

Observers _____ Total Species _____ Total Individuals _____

Ducks, Geese, Swans

___ Snow Goose
___ Ross's Goose
___ Greater White-fronted Goose
___ Cackling Goose
___ Canada Goose
___ Mute Swan
___ Trumpeter Swan
___ Tundra Swan
___ Wood Duck
___ Blue-winged Teal
___ Northern Shoveler
___ Gadwall
___ American Wigeon
___ Mallard
___ American Black Duck
___ Northern Pintail
___ Green-winged Teal
___ Canvasback
___ Redhead
___ Ring-necked Duck
___ Greater Scaup
___ Lesser Scaup
___ Surf Scoter
___ Bufflehead
___ Common Goldeneye
___ Hooded Merganser
___ Common Merganser
___ Red-breasted Merganser
___ Ruddy Duck

New World Quail

___ Northern Bobwhite

Partridges, Grouse, Turkeys, and Old World Quail

___ Wild Turkey
___ Ruffed Grouse
___ Gray Partridge
___ Ring-necked Pheasant

Grebes

___ Pied-billed Grebe
___ Horned Grebe
___ Red-necked Grebe
___ Western Grebe

Pigeons, Doves

___ Mourning Dove
___ Eurasian Collared-Dove
___ Rock Pigeon

Cuckoos, Roadrunners, Anis

___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo
___ Black-billed Cuckoo

Goatsuckers

___ Common Nighthawk

___ Eastern Whip-poor-will

Swifts

___ Chimney Swift

Hummingbirds

___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird
___ Rufous Hummingbird

Rails, Gallinules, and Coots

___ King Rail
___ Virginia Rail
___ Sora
___ Common Gallinule
___ American Coot

Cranes

___ Sandhill Crane

Lapwings and Plovers

___ Killdeer
___ Semipalmated Plover

Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and

Allies

___ Hudsonian Godwit
___ Sanderling
___ Dunlin
___ Baird's Sandpiper
___ Least Sandpiper
___ Common Goldeneye
___ Pectoral Sandpiper
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper
___ American Woodcock
___ Wilson's Snipe
___ Spotted Sandpiper
___ Solitary Sandpiper
___ Lesser Yellowlegs
___ Willet
___ Greater Yellowlegs
___ Wilson's Phalarope

Gulls, Terns, Skimmers

___ Bonaparte's Gull
___ Franklin's Gull
___ Ring-billed Gull
___ American Herring Gull
___ Caspian Tern
___ Black Tern
___ Common Tern
___ Forster's Tern

Loons

___ Common Loon

Cormorants

___ Double-crested Cormorant

Pelicans

___ American White Pelican

Bitterns, Herons, and Allies

___ Least Bittern

___ American Bittern
___ Yellow-crowned Night Heron
___ Black-crowned Night Heron
___ Green Heron
___ Great Egret
___ Western Cattle Egret
___ Great Blue Heron

New World Vultures

___ Turkey Vulture

Ospreys

___ Osprey

Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies

___ Golden Eagle
___ Northern Harrier
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk
___ Cooper's Hawk
___ American Goshawk
___ Bald Eagle
___ Red-shouldered Hawk
___ Broad-winged Hawk
___ Red-tailed Hawk
___ Rough-legged Hawk

Typical Owls

___ Eastern Screech-Owl
___ Great Horned Owl
___ Snowy Owl
___ Barred Owl
___ Long-eared Owl
___ Short-eared Owl
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl

Kingfishers

___ Belted Kingfisher

Woodpeckers

___ Red-headed Woodpecker
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
___ Downy Woodpecker
___ Hairy Woodpecker
___ Northern Flicker
___ Pileated Woodpecker

Caracaras and Falcons

___ American Kestrel
___ Merlin
___ Peregrine Falcon

Flycatchers

___ Great Crested Flycatcher
___ Eastern Kingbird
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee
___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
___ Acadian Flycatcher

___ Alder Flycatcher

___ Willow Flycatcher
___ Least Flycatcher
___ Eastern Phoebe

Vireos

___ White-eyed Vireo
___ Bell's Vireo
___ Yellow-throated Vireo
___ Blue-headed Vireo
___ Philadelphia Vireo
___ Eastern Warbling Vireo
___ Red-eyed Vireo

Shrikes

___ Northern Shrike

Jays, Magpies, Crows

___ Blue Jay
___ American Crow

Chickadees, Titmice

___ Black-capped Chickadee
___ Tufted Titmouse

Larks

___ Horned Lark

Swallows

___ Bank Swallow
___ Tree Swallow
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow
___ Purple Martin
___ Barn Swallow
___ Cliff Swallow

Kinglets

___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet

Waxwings

___ Bohemian Waxwing
___ Cedar Waxwing

Nuthatches

___ Red-breasted Nuthatch
___ White-breasted Nuthatch

Creepers

___ Brown Creeper

Gnatcatchers

___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Wrens

___ Rock Wren
___ Carolina Wren
___ Northern House Wren
___ Winter Wren
___ Sedge Wren
___ Marsh Wren

Mimids

___ Gray Catbird

___ Brown Thrasher

___ Northern Mockingbird

Starlings

___ European Starling

Thrushes

___ Eastern Bluebird
___ Townsend's Solitaire
___ Veery
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush
___ Swainson's Thrush
___ Hermit Thrush
___ Wood Thrush
___ American Robin

Old World Sparrows

___ House Sparrow
___ Eurasian Tree Sparrow

Pipits

___ American Pipit

Finches

___ House Finch
___ Purple Finch
___ Redpoll
___ Red Crossbill
___ White-winged Crossbill
___ Pine Siskin
___ American Goldfinch

Longspurs, Snow Bunting

___ Lapland Longspur
___ Snow Bunting

Towhees, Sparrows

___ Grasshopper Sparrow
___ Lark Sparrow
___ Chipping Sparrow

___ Clay-colored Sparrow

___ Field Sparrow

___ Fox Sparrow

___ American Tree Sparrow

___ Dark-eyed Junco

___ White-crowned Sparrow

___ Harris's Sparrow

___ White-throated Sparrow

___ Vesper Sparrow

___ Nelson's Sparrow

___ Henslow's Sparrow

___ Savannah Sparrow

___ Song Sparrow

___ Lincoln's Sparrow

___ Swamp Sparrow

___ Spotted Towhee

___ Eastern Towhee

Chats

___ Yellow-breasted Chat

Blackbirds, Orioles

___ Yellow-headed Blackbird
___ Bobolink
___ Eastern Meadowlark
___ Western Meadowlark
___ Orchard Oriole
___ Baltimore Oriole
___ Red-winged Blackbird
___ Brown-headed Cowbird
___ Rusty Blackbird
___ Brewer's Blackbird
___ Common Grackle
___ Great-tailed Grackle

Wood-warblers

___ Ovenbird
___ Worm-eating Warbler
___ Louisiana Waterthrush
___ Northern Waterthrush
___ Golden-winged Warbler
___ Blue-winged Warbler
___ Black-and-white Warbler
___ Prothonotary Warbler
___ Tennessee Warbler
___ Orange-crowned Warbler
___ Nashville Warbler
___ Mourning Warbler
___ Kentucky Warbler
___ Common Yellowthroat
___ Hooded Warbler
___ American Redstart
___ Cape May Warbler
___ Cerulean Warbler
___ Northern Parula
___ Magnolia Warbler
___ Bay-breasted Warbler
___ Blackburnian Warbler
___ Yellow Warbler
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler
___ Blackpoll Warbler
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler
___ Palm Warbler
___ Pine Warbler
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler
___ Yellow-throated Warbler
___ Black-throated Green Warbler
___ Canada Warbler
___ Wilson's Warbler

Tanagers, Cardinals,

Grosbeaks, Buntings

___ Summer Tanager
___ Scarlet Tanager
___ Northern Cardinal

___Rose-breasted Grosbeak
___Black-headed Grosbeak
___Indigo Bunting
___Dickcissel

The taxonomic sequence and nomenclature used in this list follow the Checklist of North American Birds, 7th Edition, American Ornithologists' Union, 1998, updated through the 64th Supplement (Chesser et al. 2023).

Iowa Ornithologists' Union (IOU) is a non-profit statewide organization devoted to the study, conservation, and enjoyment of Iowa's birds. IOU's activities include reviewing and archiving sightings of rare birds through the Iowa Records Committee, publishing Iowa Bird Life: The Iowa Ornithologists' Union quarterly journal, organizing field trips, and holding semi-annual weekends in various locations throughout the state. IOU also owns and manages IA-BIRD, the Iowa birding community's online mailing list as well as maintains a social media presence through Facebook. To join the IOU, or for more information, visit us online at <http://iowabirds.org/>. IOU members maintain the list of species recorded in each county of the state from which this checklist is generated.

Copyright Iowa Ornithologists' Union. 2026. All Rights Reserved.
