



IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION - Checklist of the Birds of Howard County - 252 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
- ___ Trumpeter Swan
- ___ Tundra Swan
- ___ Wood Duck
- ___ Blue-winged Teal
- ___ Cinnamon Teal
- ___ Northern Shoveler
- ___ Gadwall
- ___ American Wigeon
- ___ Mallard
- ___ American Black Duck
- ___ Northern Pintail
- ___ Green-winged Teal
- ___ Canvasback
- ___ Redhead
- ___ Ring-necked Duck
- ___ Greater Scaup
- ___ Lesser Scaup
- ___ 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

- ___ Rock Pigeon
- ___ Eurasian Collared-Dove
- ___ Mourning Dove

Cuckoos, Roadrunners, Anis

- ___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- ___ Black-billed Cuckoo

Goatsuckers

- ___ Common Nighthawk

Swifts

___ Chimney Swift

Hummingbirds

- ___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Rails, Gallinules, and Coots

- ___ Sora
- ___ American Coot

Cranes

- ___ Sandhill Crane

Stilts and Avocets

- ___ American Avocet

Lapwings and Plovers

- ___ Black-bellied Plover
- ___ American Golden-Plover
- ___ Killdeer
- ___ Semipalmated Plover

Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and

Allies

- ___ Upland Sandpiper
- ___ Hudsonian Godwit
- ___ Marbled Godwit
- ___ Greater Scaup
- ___ Stilt Sandpiper
- ___ Dunlin
- ___ Baird's Sandpiper
- ___ Least Sandpiper
- ___ White-rumped Sandpiper
- ___ Pectoral Sandpiper
- ___ Semipalmated Sandpiper
- ___ Short-billed Dowitcher
- ___ Long-billed Dowitcher
- ___ American Woodcock
- ___ Wilson's Snipe
- ___ Spotted Sandpiper
- ___ Solitary Sandpiper
- ___ Lesser Yellowlegs
- ___ Willet
- ___ Greater Yellowlegs
- ___ Wilson's Phalarope

Gulls, Terns, Skimmers

- ___ Sabine's Gull
- ___ Bonaparte's Gull
- ___ Ring-billed Gull
- ___ Herring Gull
- ___ Caspian Tern
- ___ Black Tern
- ___ Common Tern
- ___ Forster's Tern
- ___ Common Loon

Loons

- ___ Common Loon

Cormorants

- ___ Double-crested Cormorant

Pelicans

- ___ American White Pelican

Bitterns, Herons, and Allies

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

New World Vultures

- ___ Turkey Vulture

Ospreys

- ___ Osprey

Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies

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

Typical Owls

- ___ Eastern Screech-Owl
- ___ Great Horned Owl
- ___ Snowy Owl
- ___ Barred Owl
- ___ Short-eared 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
- ___ Gyrfalcon
- ___ Prairie Falcon

Flycatchers

- ___ Great Crested Flycatcher

___ Eastern Kingbird

- ___ Olive-sided Flycatcher
- ___ Eastern Wood-Pewee
- ___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
- ___ Alder Flycatcher
- ___ Willow Flycatcher
- ___ Least Flycatcher
- ___ Eastern Phoebe

Vireos

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

Shrikes

- ___ Loggerhead Shrike
- ___ 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

- ___ Cedar Waxwing

Nuthatches

- ___ Red-breasted Nuthatch
- ___ White-breasted Nuthatch

Creepers

- ___ Brown Creeper

Gnatcatchers

- ___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Wrens

- ___ Carolina Wren
- ___ Northern House Wren
- ___ Winter Wren
- ___ Sedge Wren

___ Marsh Wren

Mimids

- ___ Gray Catbird
- ___ Brown Thrasher

Starlings

- ___ European Starling

Thrushes

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

Old World Sparrows

- ___ House Sparrow
- ___ Eurasian Tree Sparrow

Pipits

- ___ American Pipit

Finches

- ___ House Finch
- ___ Purple Finch
- ___ Redpoll
- ___ Pine Siskin
- ___ American Goldfinch

Longspurs, Snow Bunting

- ___ Lapland Longspur
- ___ Smith's 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
- ___ LeConte's Sparrow
- ___ Henslow's Sparrow
- ___ Savannah Sparrow
- ___ Song Sparrow
- ___ Lincoln's Sparrow
- ___ Swamp Sparrow
- ___ Eastern Towhee

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

Wood-warblers

- ___ Ovenbird
- ___ Louisiana Waterthrush
- ___ Northern Waterthrush
- ___ Golden-winged Warbler
- ___ Blue-winged Warbler
- ___ Black-and-white Warbler
- ___ Tennessee Warbler
- ___ Orange-crowned Warbler
- ___ Nashville Warbler
- ___ Mourning Warbler
- ___ Common Yellowthroat
- ___ 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
- ___ Black-throated Green Warbler
- ___ Canada Warbler
- ___ Wilson's Warbler

Tanagers, Cardinals,

- ___ Summer Tanager
- ___ Scarlet Tanager
- ___ Northern Cardinal
- ___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- ___ Indigo Bunting
- ___ Painted Bunting
- ___ Dickcissel

Grosbeaks, Buntings

- ___ Summer Tanager
- ___ Scarlet Tanager
- ___ Northern Cardinal
- ___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- ___ Indigo Bunting
- ___ Painted 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 57th Supplement, 2016 (Auk 133(3):544-560, 2016).

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, publishing IOU News, the quarterly newsletter, 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 and Twitter. 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. 2025. All Rights Reserved.
