

BIRD CHECK LIST

HABITAT EDUCATION CENTER
AND WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



FIELD NOTES

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weather: _____

Trails taken: _____

Observations: _____

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HOW HABITAT WILDLIFE SANCTUARY HELPS BIRDS

Habitat is the former home of Ruth Churchill, who left the estate with the express wish that the land be used to promote conservation and environmental education. Today, the sanctuary's 90 acres of mixed hardwood and conifer forests, ponds, wetlands, and old farm fields are valuable as wildlife habitats in a densely developed region.

✎ We maintain meadow habitat through rotational mowing. Fields are important habitat for nesting and foraging by a wide variety of bird and mammal species. Bluebirds and tree swallows nest in the boxes during the summer; hawks and owls feed on mice and voles in the winter.

✎ This important work cannot be done alone. We depend on the support of our members and volunteers to protect and manage bird habitat. The sanctuary's most interesting bird habitats would quickly be overrun with invasive plants if it were not for the hard work of staff and many volunteers who remove invasive plants and cut shrubs to maintain diverse and healthy bird habitat.

✎ We offer educational programs on birds and lead birding programs year-round.

CHECK IT OUT

Now available online - sanctuary bird checklists. Go to our website, find the sanctuary you plan to visit, and print out a checklist.

2010

MASS AUDUBON'S STATEWIDE BIRD CONSERVATION PROJECTS

✎ Important Bird Areas (IBAs) are sites providing essential habitat to one or more species of breeding, wintering, and/or migrating birds. The statewide portfolio of 79 IBAs represents critical habitat for every bird species regularly occurring in Massachusetts.

✎ Birds, like many Massachusetts residents, flock to the coastal areas of our state. We help protect Piping Plovers, tern species, and coastal habitat at 90 sites in southeastern Massachusetts.

✎ This important work cannot be done alone. We depend on the support of our members and work closely with many other organizations, agencies, and landowners.

HOW YOU CAN HELP.

Turn your checklists into data and contribute to Mass Audubon's knowledge and understanding of Massachusetts' birdlife and the birds of our wildlife sanctuaries. Keep a list of birds on your walk and log on to www.massaudubon.org/ebird to submit your observations. Your sightings will be stored in a database that Mass Audubon scientists can use to track birds on our sanctuaries.

Help us collect important data by participating in Mass Audubon bird monitoring programs including the Oriole Project, the Whip-poor-will Survey, the second statewide Breeding Bird Atlas, or our sanctuary breeding bird surveys. You can also get involved in the annual Christmas Bird Count or our annual Bird-a-thon. For more information, visit our website:

www.massaudubon.org

