DePauw Nature Park
Field Guide to Birds

The DePauw Nature Park is an ideal place to go bird watching. The Nature Park presents a diversity of habitats for birds to occupy. The composition of the bird community changes seasonally. Spring and summer are characterized by singing males and nesting pairs. During spring and fall, the trees are filled with a huge diversity of migrating warblers. During winter, birding tends to be a hit or miss activity because many birds occur in mixed-species foraging flocks— you may see large groups of birds foraging together in the woods, vocalizing softly to each other, then perhaps none for the rest of the day.

Birds are best recognized by their voices. We estimate that 95% of our observations during bird surveys are by hearing the birds, not by seeing the birds. The **song** is the vocalization given almost exclusively by the male to attract a female or to defend a territory. The **call** is given by the male or female to keep in contact with each other or to give an alarm in response to a disturbance. We have included descriptions of bird vocalizations, but the best way to learn is to go out with another birder who can point out the various calls and songs to you.


### List of Bird Species

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Great Blue Heron

*Ardea herodias*
Heron family (Ardeidae)

**Habitat:**
Rivers, lake edges.

**Description:**
Large – stands 38” tall with a 70” wingspan. Grayish-blue body, white head, black stripe over eye. Usually stands motionless in shallow water and waits until prey comes within striking distance. In flight – slow heavy and steady wing beats; no soaring; neck is curled, not fully extended.

**Nesting:**
Nests in colonies. Builds nests in tops of tallest trees. May travel as far as 10 miles from nest sites to foraging areas. Eggs are pale bluish-green. Clutch size – 2 to 6 eggs. Nestlings engage in siblicide, killing each other in competition for food and space.

**Voice:**
Harsh guttural “frahnk”

**Name Origin:**
*Ardea*, Latin for “heron”; *herodias*, Greek for “heron”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Great Blue Herons regularly forage at the Quarry Pond but they are shy and are readily flushed from their foraging areas. There are no known nest sites in the Nature Park.

Green Heron

*Butorides virescens*
Heron family (Ardeidae)

**Habitat:**
Shores and water edges with dense vegetation.

**Description:**
Much smaller than Great Blue Heron, 14” tall, 25” wingspan. Compact shape, greenish back, reddish-brown neck and chest, short yellow legs. Looks short-necked because it holds its head close to its body.

**Nesting:**
Nests in small colonies. Nest of sticks, placed in tree. Eggs are pale blue-green.

**Voice:**
“Skow” call is given when flushed and in flight.

**Name Origin:**
*Butorides*: *butio*, Latin for “bittern”; *eidos*, Greek for “resembling”; *virescens*, Latin for “growing or becoming green”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Less common than Great Blue Herons and equally shy, easily flushed from foraging areas along the edge of the Quarry Pond.
Canada Goose
*Branta canadensis*
Goose family (Anatidae)

**Habitat:**
Lakes, ponds, meadows

**Description:**
Our most common and familiar goose. Black head and neck, conspicuous white strap under chin, grayish-brown back and wings, black rump and tail, brownish-gray breast and belly, black feet. In flight, shows large, dark wings and long, thin neck. Flocks of Canada Geese fly in lines or in a vee formation.

**Nesting:**
Male and female mate for life. Usually nests on the ground near water, on a slightly elevated site. Canada Geese nest early, beginning around mid-March. Eggs are large, white. Clutch size – 2 to 8 eggs. Goslings are precocial, fully covered with down, leave nest within 24 hours, fly 6 to 7 weeks after hatching.

**Voice:**
Call is a two-syllable “ahonk ahonk”, given in flight.

**Name Origin:**
*Branta* from English *brant* for “burn”, in reference to the charred or burnt appearance of the bird’s plumage, especially around the neck; *canadensis* for the bird’s main summer range.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Common at the Quarry Pond.

**Other Notes:**
Canada Geese are a success story in wildlife management. Once reduced markedly in numbers and distribution, populations have increased dramatically since the 1940s. Canada Geese used to migrate south for the winter. They now stay in northern areas during winter because of increased food availability, reduced hunting pressure and possibly changes in weather.

Snow Goose (blue morph)
*Chen caerulescens*
Goose family (Anatidae)

**Habitat:**
Wetlands, lakes.

**Description:**
About the same size as a Canada Goose. Body largely dark gray-brown except for white head and upper neck; pink bill.

**Nesting:**
Nest of grasses and down is placed on dry ground near water. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs. Male and female form life-long pair bonds.

**Voice:**
A high-pitched honking.

**Name Origin:**
*Chen*, Greek for “goose”; *caerulescens*, Latin for "bluish".

**In the Nature Park:**
Migrant. A pair of Snow Geese is seen almost every year at the Quarry Pond during early spring, but they have never stayed to nest.
**Mallard**

*Anas platyrhynchos*

Duck family (Anatidae)

**Habitat:**
Lakes, rivers, ponds.

**Description:**
Medium-sized duck, 16” long, 36” wingspan. Male (right in image) – iridescent dark green head, yellow bill, chestnut breast. Female (left in image) – brown-streaked, orange bill, whitish tail feathers. In flight – dark blue speculum bordered by white.

**Nesting:**
Nest placed on the ground near water. Eggs are pale greenish white. Clutch size – 6 to 11 eggs. Chicks are precocial, downy, leave nest within 24 hours after hatching, fly 8 to 10 weeks after hatching.

**Voice:**
Male does not quack; gives rasping “rhaeb rhaeb” call during aggression. Female gives familiar quacking call.

**Name Origin:**
*Anas*, Latin for “duck”; *platyrhynchos*: *platus*, Greek for “broad”, *rhynchos*, Greek for “bill”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Mallards are regularly observed at the Quarry Pond.

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**Wood Duck**

*Aix sponsa*

Duck family (Anatidae)

**Habitat:**
Forested wetlands.

**Description:**
Small duck, 13 ½” long, 28” wingspan. Crested head, broad wings, square-shaped tail in flight. Male (top in image) – distinctive colorful head, white throat, large green crest, pink bill, red eye. Female (left in image) – brownish gray body, dark crown, white patch around eye.

**Nesting:**
Cavity nester. Uses natural cavities in large trees or artificial nest boxes. Clutch size – 10 eggs. Eggs are white, creamy white, or dark tan; glossy. Chicks are precocial, downy, fly 8 to 10 weeks after hatching.

**Voice:**
“Hauk” or “oo-eek” call given by female in flight. Male call is a drawn-out “ji-ihb” or low squeaky “jeeb”.

**Name Origin:**
*Aix*, Greek for “waterfowl”; *sponsa*, Latin for “betrothed”, i.e., dressed for a wedding, from the bird’s attractive appearance.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Pairs of Wood Ducks are often seen in a flooded area at the southeast end of the Rail Trail during late winter and early spring. There are several artificial nest boxes set up for Wood Ducks in the Nature Park but we don’t know if Wood Ducks have ever used them.

**Other Notes:**
Wood Ducks were hunted to near extinction at the beginning of the 20th century but have recovered, in part due to nest-box programs.
Turkey Vulture
*Cathartes aura*
Vulture family (Cathartidae)

**Habitat:**
Open country.

**Description:**
In flight – large dark bird; long wings, 72” wingspan; trailing half of wings silver. While soaring – wings held in a V; bird tilts back and forth in flight, rarely flaps. Perched – large dark bird, 25” tall, unfeathered red head, pale bill.

**Nesting:**
Male and female are socially monogamous, mate for life. No nest is constructed. Female lays eggs on the ground in a cave or on a rock ledge. Two large eggs are dull white, occasionally with dark marks. Nestlings are altricial, fly 9 weeks after hatching. Adults are very shy around their nest and will abandon the nest if disturbed by humans.

**Voice:**
Grunts and hisses at nest site.

**Name Origin:**
*Kathartes*, Greek for “a purifier”; *aura*, a South American name for this bird.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Turkey Vultures soar over the open quarry pit and perch and roost in trees on the cliffs along the Rim Trail. The quarry is ideal for Turkey Vultures because the sun heats up the Quarry Bottom, creating thermals of rising hot air for Turkey Vultures to soar on. Turkey Vultures can hop off the quarry rim and start soaring immediately with a minimum of energy required to begin flying.

**Other Notes:**
Turkey Vultures are not true vultures or hawks. Instead analysis of DNA sequences has shown that Turkey Vultures are most closely related to the Great Blue Heron!

Cooper’s Hawk
*Accipiter cooperii*
Hawk family (Accipitridae)

**Habitat:**
Mature forests.

**Description:**
About the size of a crow, 15 ½” long, 28” wingspan. Male is smaller than female. Short rounded wings and long narrow tail – these traits help the bird maneuver in thick forests. Bluish-gray back, light below with reddish-brown barring.

**Nesting:**
Nests in extensive forests. Nest is a platform of sticks, placed in a tree 10 to 70 feet above the ground. Eggs are pale blue-green with dark marks. Clutch size – 3 to 4 eggs. Young leave nest at 4 to 5 weeks.

**Voice:**
Vocal during breeding season. Loud repeated “kek kek kek kek” given during alarm or during pair interaction.

**Name Origin:**

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. We’re not sure is Cooper’s Hawks nest in the Nature Park – they are quiet and cryptic – but the Nature Park forests provide ideal habitat for this bird.

**Other Notes:**
Once known as the “chicken hawk”, this bird was heavily persecuted in the mid-1900s. Populations also declined due to DDT contamination causing decreased eggshell thickness and egg breakage. Populations are now recovering.
Wild Turkey
*Meleagris gallopavo*
Turkey family (Phasianidae)

**Habitat:**
Forest, forest edges

**Description:**
Large, 34” tall. Body is dark brown; head and neck are bare. Male (shown in image) – larger and more iridescent than female; tuft of hairlike feathers (“beard”) on breast.

**Nesting:**
Nest is placed in a slight depression on the ground, usually at the base of a tree or under a shrub. Eggs are large, whitish buff with brown marks. The eggs look similar to Turkey Vulture eggs but Wild Turkeys usually lay a dozen eggs whereas Turkey Vultures usually lay only two eggs. Wild Turkeys begin nesting early, usually in April. Young are precocial, leave nest soon after hatching, begin flying at 2 weeks of age.

**Voice:**
“Gobble gobble gobble” given by males during breeding season.

**Name Origin:**
*Meleagris*, Latin for “Guinea fowl” from their vague resemblance to African guinea fowl; *gallopavo*: *gallus* Latin for “cock”, *pavo*, Latin for “peafowl”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Wild Turkeys are common in the deep woods of the Nature Park. Their gobbling is readily heard early in the morning during their breeding season in March and April.

**Other Notes:**
The Wild Turkey was common throughout the forests of Indiana prior to European settlement, but disappeared by the 1920s due to overexploitation and habitat loss. Wild Turkeys have now been re-established throughout the state of Indiana via reintroductions.

Killdeer
*Charadrius vociferous*
Plover family (Charadriidae)

**Habitat:**
Open areas with gravel.

**Description:**
Medium-sized shorebird, 8” long. Long pointed wings, dark brown back, white breast and belly, two dark neck rings, light reddish-brown rump is easily seen when bird flies or displays.

**Nesting:**
Nests in a scrape on gravelly or bare ground. Eggs are pale brown with darker marks. Clutch size – 4 eggs. Chicks are precocial – they can run from the nest almost immediately after they hatch. The chicks look like the adults but in miniature form with tiny bodies and long toothpick-like legs. Chicks begin flying 20 to 30 days after hatching. Adults are famous for their predator-distracting “broken-wing display” where they appear to be injured and run along the ground dragging their wing, leading a potential predator away from their nest or chicks.

**Voice:**
Call is two syllable, “kill-deah”, or one syllable “deah deah deah”.

**Name Origin:**
*Charadrius*, Greek for “plover” *vociferous*, Latin for “vociferous”, for its loud call.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. We have found several Killdeer nests in the Quarry Bottom. They don’t build a nest; their eggs blend in perfectly with the gravel in the quarry pit.
Spotted Sandpiper
Actitis macularia
Plover family (Charadriidae)

Habitat:
Lakes, ponds, rivers.

Description:
Medium-sized shorebird, 6 ¼” long. Large dark spots on white underparts. Repeatedly bobs tail while walking. Bill pinkish orange with darker tip. Brownish to olive gray back.

Nesting:
Nest is a shallow depression lined with a few grasses near water. Eggs are buff with brown spots. Clutch size – 1 to 4 eggs. Young are precocial, covered with down, leave nest shortly after hatching, begin flying 2 to 3 weeks after hatching.

Voice:
In alarm or aggression, gives series of short whistles like “weet weet weet”.

Name Origin:
Actitis, aktites, Greek for “a dweller on the sea coast”
macula, Latin for “spot” for spots on underparts of the bird

In the Nature Park:
Short-distance migrant, arrives in April. Spotted Sandpipers occasionally occur along the edge of the Quarry Pond. We don’t know if they nest in the Nature Park.

Mourning Dove
Zenaida macroura
Dove family (Columbidae)

Habitat:
Open areas.

Description:
10 ½” long. Sleek body, small head, grayish brown back, buffy below. In flight: long pointed tail, shorter outer tail feathers broadly tipped with white.

Nesting:
Nest is a shallow loosely constructed cup on a horizontal branch in a shrub or tree, 10 to 25 feet above the ground. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 2 eggs.

Voice:
Call is a mournful, “oo-a-hoo oo oo oo”. Wings produce a fluttering whistle as the bird takes flight.

Name Origin:
Zenaida named by Bonaparte (naturalist, 1803-1857) for his wife, Zenaide, for close association of mated pairs like lovebirds;
macroura: macros, Greek for “long”, oura, Greek for “tail”.

In the Nature Park:
Year-round resident. Often visits bird feeders at the Welcome Center during winter, foraging on the ground underneath the feeders. Nests in shrubs or trees near the buildings.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
*Coccyzus americanus*
Cuckoo family (Cuculidae)

**Habitat:**
Open woods, thickets, riparian forest.

**Description:**
Long slender body, 11” long. Long tail with white ovals on underside. Reddish brown back. Moderately long curved bill, black above, yellow below.

**Nesting:**
Nest is a loose platform of dry twigs, placed in thick shrubs, usually 4 to 8 feet above the ground. Begins nesting in June. May be double-brooded with a second clutch beginning in August. Eggs are pale bluish green. Clutch size – 2 to 3 eggs. Susceptible to intraspecific brood parasitism (cuckoos lay eggs in each other’s nests), recognized by unusually large clutches.

**Voice:**
Variable pitch and speed of notes, but notes are low-pitched, always sound like “cu cu cu”. Some notes may sound hollow and wooden.

**Name Origin:**
*Coccyzus*, kokkux, Greek for “cuckoo”

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant, arrives later than other migrants. Remains well hidden in dense vegetation. More easily heard than seen.

Barred Owl
*Strix varia*
Owl family (Strigidae)

**Habitat:**
Deciduous forest.

**Description:**
Large, 17” long, 44” wingspan. Round head, brownish gray head and back, barred chest and belly, dark eyes, no ear tufts.

**Nesting:**
Nests in a large cavity in a dead tree. May use the same nest site for many years. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 2 to 3 eggs. Young leave nest 4 to 5 weeks after hatching.

**Voice:**
“Hoo hoo hoohoo”, sounds like “who cooks for you”.

**Name Origin:**
*Strix*, Latin for “screech owl” (an inappropriate name assigned by Linnaeus); *varia*, Latin for “variegated” for its plumage.

**In the Nature Park:**
We have seen a pair of Barred Owls several times during the day along the Rail Trail and in the deep woods. Other species of owls occur in the Nature Park, but the Barred Owl is the one that is most likely to be seen during the day in the park.

**Other Notes:**
The Barred Owl is adapted to the disturbed forest landscape of eastern North America and has recently expanded its range through western Canada and into the Pacific Northwest because logging of old-growth forests has created a more patchy mosaic of forest in that region. Populations of the closely related Spotted Owl in the Pacific Northwest are declining in part due to competitive displacement by the more aggressive Barred Owl.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Archilochus colubris
Hummingbird family (Trochilidae)

Habitat:
Forest edges, gardens.

Description:
3” long. Adult weighs the same as 2 ½ paper clips!
Upper parts iridescent green. Male – throat is iridescent red (may appear black). Female – breast and belly whitish.
Long bill looks like a toothpick.

Nesting:
Nest is about the size of a half dollar coin, 2” in diameter, covered with lichens, placed on a horizontal limb, 10 to 20 feet high. Clutch size – 2 eggs. Eggs are white, ½” long, look like tiny mint candies. Only the female builds the nest and raises the young. She leaves the nest at least once an hour to forage given her high metabolic rate.

Voice:
Rapid squeaky chipping.

Name Origin:
Archilochus: arch, Greek for “chief”; lochus, Greek for “a body of people”, here meaning “first among the birds”; colubris, Latin for “serpent”; probably a misspelling by Linnaeus, should have been colibre, French for “hummingbird”

In the Nature Park:
Neotropical migrant; flies across the Gulf of Mexico nonstop during migration. Arrives in mid to late April.

Belted Kingfisher
Ceryle alcyon
Kingfisher family (Alcedinidae)

Habitat:
Near water, rivers, lakes.

Description:
Body stocky; large head; ragged crest of feathers on head; large bill; bluish-gray head, back, and wings; white belly and collar. Female (left in image) – blue-gray band and rufous band across belly. Male (right in image) – single blue-gray band across belly.

Nesting:
Nests in a burrow in a stream bank. Both male and female excavate tunnel, 1 to 2 m deep in bank. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 5 to 8 eggs. Fledglings leave nest about 4 weeks after hatching.

Voice:
A distinct rattle, varying in pitch, given in flight.

Name Origin:
“Kingfisher” literally means “chief of the fishers”. Ceryle, Greek, kerylos, for “seabird”; alcyon, Greek, alkyon, for “the kingfisher” after Alcyon who so grieved after her husband drowned that the gods changed them both into kingfishers

In the Nature Park:
Year-round resident. Kingfishers are regularly seen or heard along Big Walnut Creek and at the Quarry Pond where they feed on fish, caught by diving headfirst into the water.
Northern Flicker
*Colaptes auratus*
Woodpecker family (Picidae)

**Habitat:**
Open woodlands, forest edges.

**Description:**
Medium-sized woodpecker, 10 ½” long. White rump and yellow shafts of feathers under wings conspicuous in flight. Undulating (wavelike) flight pattern. Brown-and black-barred back and wings, whitish breast with black spots, wide black “necklace”, red patch on nape, gray crown. Male (shown in image) – black “mustache”. Female (not shown) – no mustache.

**Nesting:**
Cavity nester. Excavates nest cavity in tree or post. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 6 to 7 eggs.

**Voice:**
Loud series of “kek” notes, “kek kek kek kek”. Call is similar to Pileated Woodpecker but Flicker’s notes are monotonic and all on one pitch whereas Pileated notes are richer and vary in pitch. Also a descending “kee-oo”.

**Name Origin:**

In the Nature Park:
Year-round resident. Occurs in open areas more than in the deep woods.

Downy Woodpecker
*Picoides pubescens*
Woodpecker family (Picidae)

**Habitat:**
Forest, forest edges, open areas.

**Description:**
Our smallest woodpecker, 5 ¼” long. Black-and-white checked back, white underparts, black-and-white streaked face. Male (shown in image) – small red patch on nape. Female (not shown) – no red on head. Bill is tiny, barely extending beyond the tufts of feathers at its base.

**Nesting:**
Cavity nester. Excavates its own nest, typically near the top of a dead tree or in a dead limb of a live tree. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 3 to 8 eggs.

**Voice:**
Two common calls, a “pick” and a “rattle”. The Downy Woodpecker says “pick” with a flat or chirping sound, sounds conversational, not urgent. The rattle is a short series of notes with about the same quality as the “pick” call, starting at the same pitch as that call and then descending. You could almost count the notes in the Downy’s rattle.

**Name Origin:**

In the Nature Park:
Year-round resident. Commonly observed in the woods and in open areas. Often visits bird feeders at the Welcome Center during winter. Downy Woodpeckers forage in mixed-species flocks with chickadees, nuthatches, and titmice during winter.
Hairy Woodpecker
*Picoides villosus*
Woodpecker family (Picidae)

**Habitat:**
Mature forest.

**Description:**
Looks similar to the Downy Woodpecker but overall larger body size, 7 ½” long, and larger bill size. Bill is chisel-like and is almost as long as its head. Upperparts black with white stripe down center of back, wings black and spotted with white, black-and-white streaked faces. Male (shown in image) – small red patch on nape. Female (not shown) – no red on head.

**Nesting:**
Cavity nester. Excavates its own nest, typically near the top of a dead tree or in a dead limb of a live tree. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 3 to 7 eggs.

**Voice:**
Two common calls: a “pick” and a “rattle”. The Hairy’s note is a sharp ringing “peek!” which sounds more urgent than the Downy’s note. The rattle packs in more notes than the Downy’s and stays on one pitch, not dropping down like the Downy’s rattle and often a lower pitch than the “peek” note. The notes in the rattle are too rapid to count.

**Name Origin:**
“Hairy”, for its shaggy and hairy appearance, especially around the head, more unkempt than the Downy Woodpecker. *Picoides*, Latin, *picus*, for “woodpecker”; *villosus*, Latin for “hairy”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Less common than the Downy Woodpecker and less likely to be observed in open areas or in mixed-species foraging flocks.

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Red-bellied Woodpecker
*Melanerpes carolinus*
Woodpecker family (Picidae)

**Habitat:**
Forests, forest edges, open areas.

**Description:**
Medium-sized woodpecker, 8 ½” long. Contrary to its name, the Red-bellied Woodpecker does not have a red belly, but has very slight pink on belly, which is difficult to observe except at close range. Tan head and belly, zebra-patterned back. Male (right in image) – red patch on nape, crown, and forehead. Female (left in image) – red only on nape.

**Nesting:**
Cavity nester. Excavates cavities in living trees or recently dead trees. Eggs are white.

**Voice:**
Call is a repeated “churr churr” or a more nasal “chiv chiv”.

**Name Origin:**
*Melanerpes*: *melas*, Greek for “black”; *herpes*, Greek for “creeper”; *carolinus* for “of Carolina”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. One of the most common woodpeckers in the park, occurring in open areas and in the deep woods. Visits bird feeders at the Welcome Center during winter.
Pileated Woodpecker  
*Dryocopus pileatus*  
Woodpecker family (Picidae)

**Habitat:**  
Mature forests.

**Description:**  
Our largest woodpecker, 15” long. Mostly black with a bright red crest. In flight – white on linings of underwings visible. Long and broad bill with a chisel-like tip.

**Nesting:**  
Cavity nester. Requires large dead trees for excavating nest and roost cavities. Excavates a new nest cavity each year; does not re-use old nest cavities. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 4 eggs. Nestlings fledge about 4 weeks after hatching.

**Voice:**  
Loud series of “cuk” notes, “cuk cuk cuk cuk”. Similar to Northern Flicker but Pileated’s notes are louder and vary in pitch, almost having a ringing or echoing nature through the woods.

**Name Origin:**  
*Dryocopus:*  
drys, Greek for “tree”;  
kopis, Greek for “dagger”;  
pileatus, Latin for “capped”.

**In the Nature Park:**  
Year-round resident. Regularly seen in the deep woods at the Nature Park. Several nests have been reported, including one along the Creekside Trail. As the nestlings age, you can see them sticking their heads out of the nest cavity as they beg and wait for the parents to return with food – the nestlings look like miniature versions of Pileated Woodpeckers.

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Eastern Wood-Pewee  
*Contopus virens*  
Flycatcher family (Tyrannidae)

**Habitat:**  
Deciduous forests

**Description:**  
Medium-sized flycatcher, 5 ¼” long. Grayish olive back, two white wing bars, whitish throat, grayish chest, whitish belly. Sits in upright position typical of flycatchers. Does not flick wings or wag tail.

**Nesting:**  
Nest usually located on a dead limb in a living tree, far from the trunk, 10 to 60 feet above the ground. Nest is covered with lichens, inconspicuous, looks like a knot on a branch. Eggs are creamy white with darker marks at one end. Clutch size – 2 to 4 eggs.

**Voice:**  
Song is like its name – a distinctive whistled “pee-ah-wee” or a shorter two-syllable “pee-oo”.

**Name Origin:**  
*Contopus:*  
kontos, Greek for “short”;  
pous, Greek for “foot”, for their small feet;  
virens, Latin for “greenish”

**In the Nature Park:**  
Neotropical migrant, arrives by early May. Common in the upland forests of the Nature Park. Distinct song is easily heard and recognized. About the same size as Acadian Flycatchers but the Eastern Wood-Pewee tends to forage quietly, usually perching on dead limbs of trees whereas the Acadian Flycatcher tends to vocalize (albeit softly) while foraging and usually perches on live limbs. The Eastern Wood-Pewee is more brownish whereas the Acadian Flycatcher is more greenish.
Acadian Flycatcher
*Empidonax virescens*
Flycatcher family (Tyrannidae)

**Habitat:**
Mature deciduous forests, often near ravines or narrow streams.

**Description:**
Medium-sized flycatcher, 5" long. Greenish back, white throat, pale yellow breast and belly, buffy wing bars contrast with dark wings.

**Nesting:**
Small saucer-like cup suspended between two forks of a branch, usually at the very end of a long branch, about 10 to 20 feet above the ground. Often near a ravine or narrow stream. Long plant fibers usually hang off nest like streamers. Eggs are whitish with brown markings. Clutch size – 3 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is an emphatic two-syllable “peet-suh”. Call is a soft “peef” or “pssst”. Female calls almost non-stop while foraging away from the nest.

**Name Origin:**
*Empidonax*: *empis*, Greek for “gnat”; *anax*, Greek for “king”; literally “king of the gnats”; *virescens*, Latin for “greenish” “Acadian” is old French name for Nova Scotia, implying a northern breeding range, which is inappropriate but may be due to the fact that early ornithologists were confused in trying to differentiate several species of flycatchers that look alike.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant, arrives by mid-May, starts to nest by early June. One of the most abundant birds in the deep woods of the Nature Park. Acadian Flycatcher nests in the Nature Park are sometimes parasitized by Brown-headed Cowbirds.

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Eastern Phoebe
*Sayornis phoebe*
Flycatcher family (Tyrannidae)

**Habitat:**
Open areas, near buildings.

**Description:**
Medium-sized flycatcher, 5 ¾" long. Gray brown back, darker crown and tail, whitish belly and breast, black bill. Repeatedly wags tail when perched.

**Nesting:**
Nest is a rounded cup of mud and moss, placed on a ledge of a building or on a vertical rock wall. Old nests are frequently renovated and reused, both from year to year and for multiple broods within years. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 4 to 6 eggs. Fledglings return to the nest to rest for several days after they have originally left the nest.

**Voice:**
Song is a hoarse rendition of its name “fee-bee” with more hoarseness and emphasis on the second syllable. Call is a hollow “chirp”.

**Name Origin:**
*Sayornis*: Say for Thomas Say, naturalist (1787-1843); *ornis*, Greek for “bird”; *phoebe*, in imitation of bird’s song.

**In the Nature Park:**
Short-distance migrant, arriving in late March, early April. Phoebes are often seen and heard near the open areas and buildings at the Nature Park. Phoebes have nested under the eaves of the back porch at the Manning Environmental Field Station. They are also likely to nest on the vertical cliff walls along the Quarry Trail.
Great Crested Flycatcher
*Myiarchus crinitus*
Flycatcher family (Tyrannidae)

**Habitat:**
Deciduous forest.

**Description:**
Large for a flycatcher, 7” long. Crest on head, bright yellow belly, reddish-brown wings and tail, olive-brown back, dark gray throat.

**Nesting:**
Cavity nester. Builds nest in a natural cavity or in an old woodpecker hole. Eggs are whitish with dark marks. Clutch size – 4 to 8 eggs.

**Voice:**
Call notes include a loud strongly ascending “wheeep” and a burry “prreeef”.

**Name Origin:**
*Myiarchus*: myia, Greek for “fly”; archos, Greek for “ruler”; literally “ruler of the flies”; *crinitis*, Latin for “hairy” or “crested”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant. Arrives in late April, early May. Fairly common in the forests of the Nature Park, but like the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, is more often heard than seen.

Tree Swallow
*Tachycineta bicolor*
Swallow family (Hirundinidae)

**Habitat:**
Open areas near woods and water.

**Description:**
Medium-sized swallow, 5” long. Upperparts iridescent greenish-blue, underparts white. Long narrow pointed wings.

**Nesting:**
Nests in natural cavities or in artificial nest boxes. Nest is lined with large downy feathers, often placed so curved tips of feathers curl over and cover eggs. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 4 to 7 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is three descending notes followed by a warble. “Cheedeep” call is given as an alarm call.

**Name Origin:**
*Tachycineta*: tachys, Greek for “swift”; kineo, Greek for “to move”, hence “swift mover”; *bicolor*, Latin for “two-colored”

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant, arrives in April. Tree Swallows nest in the artificial nest boxes near the Quarry Pond.
Carolina Chickadee
*Poecile carolinensis*
Chickadee family (Paridae)

**Habitat:**
Deciduous forest.

**Description:**
A small songbird, 4 ¼” long. Black cap and bib, white cheek, gray back, whitish-gray belly, whitish underparts may be tinged with gray or brown on flanks and under tail.

**Nesting:**
Cavity nester. Excavates a nest cavity in dead trees or in dead limbs of living trees. Also nests in artificial nest boxes. Eggs are white with reddish spots. Clutch size – 6 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a whistled “fee-bee fee-bay”. Call is the familiar “chick-a-dee-dee-dee”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Nests in the forest and also uses artificial nest boxes in the forest. During winter, Carolina Chickadees occur in mixed-species foraging flocks with Tufted Titmice, White-breasted Nuthatches, and Downy Woodpeckers.

Tufted Titmouse
*Baeolophus bicolor*
Titmouse family (Paridae)

**Habitat:**
Deciduous forest.

**Description:**
Larger than a chickadee, 5 ½” long. Overall grayish color, gray crest on head, gray back and head, white face, light gray breast, whitish belly, black forehead. Flanks have rusty wash.

**Nesting:**
Cavity nester. Does not excavate its own cavity. Nests in natural tree cavities, old woodpecker holes, or artificial nest boxes. Eggs are white with small brown speckles. Clutch size – 5 to 6 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a down-slurred series of two-syllable whistled notes, “peter peter” or one-syllable “pete pete pete”. Call is a scolding “jweejweejwee” or a series of high-pitched whistles. Family groups of titmice chat vigorously; sounds like they’re having a tea party.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. In July, families of Tufted Titmice form small flocks that persist until spring. During winter, Tufted Titmice occur in mixed-species foraging flocks with Carolina Chickadees, White-breasted Nuthatches, and Downy Woodpeckers. Tufted Titmice are competitively dominant over other flock members.
White-breasted Nuthatch

*Sitta carolinensis*
Nuthatch family (Sittidae)

**Habitat:**
Deciduous forest.

**Description:**
About the same size as the Tufted Titmouse, 5" long. Dark crown and nape, white face, gray back, short tail. Distinctive habit of feeding – creeps headfirst down tree trunks.

**Nesting:**
Nests in natural cavities in living trees. Also uses old woodpecker holes. Rarely excavates its own cavity. Eggs are white with dark marks. Clutch size – 6 eggs.

**Voice:**
Call is a series of low nasal “ank ank” notes.

**Name Origin:**
*Sitta, sitte*, Greek for “nuthatch”; *carolinensis*, for “of Carolina”, although it breeds throughout the United States. “Nuthatch”, from “hack”, for bird’s tendency to wedge a large nut into a crevice and hack it into small pieces.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. During winter, White-breasted Nuthatches occur in mixed-species foraging flocks with Tufted Titmice, Carolina Chickadees, and Downy Woodpeckers.

Brown Creeper

*Certhia americana*
Creeper family (Certhiidae)

**Habitat:**
Deciduous forest.

**Description:**
Small brown bird, 5" long. Brown-streaked above, whitish below. Well camouflaged against the bark of a tree. Relatively long downcurved bill. Long pointed tail feathers, used as a prop while climbing tree. Distinctive habit of feeding – creeps up a tree trunk then drops down to the base of the next tree and starts up again.

**Nesting:**
Does not nest in this region.

**Voice:**
Call is a high-pitched “tsee”.

**Name Origin:**
*Certhia*, Latin, *certius*, for “a creeper”; *americana*, American, to differentiate it from the Eurasian creeper.

**In the Nature Park:**
Winter resident. Migrates north to New England and southern Canada during the nesting season. Departs in April, arrives in October.
House Wren
*Troglodytes aedon*
Wren family (Troglodytidae)

**Habitat:**
Forest edges, shrubby thickets.

**Description:**
Small bird, 4 ¼” long, with a big voice. Short tail is often cocked. Fairly uniform brownish gray, throat and chest light gray, sometimes with a buffy tinge.

**Nesting:**
Nests in cavities. Uses natural cavities in trees, fence posts or stumps. Readily uses artificial nest boxes. Aggressively displaces Eastern Bluebirds or other inhabitants from artificial nest boxes. Fills nest box with twigs, then builds a small cup of fine grasses on top of the twigs. Clutch size – 4 to 8 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is exuberant, a cascade of bubbling whistled notes. Calls include a series of short scolding buzzes and a rattle-like “churr”.

**Name Origin:**
*Troglodytes*, Greek for “cave dweller”; *trogle*, Greek for “hole”; *dytes*, Greek for “diver”, for bird’s tendency to dive into cover; *aedon*, Greek for a songstress from Aedon.

**In the Nature Park:**
Short-distance migrant, arrives in April. Nests in artificial nest boxes in open meadows.

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Carolina Wren
*Thryothorus ludovicianus*
Wren family (Troglodytidae)

**Habitat:**
Understory of deciduous forests.

**Description:**
Larger than the House Wren, 5” long. Brown back, rusty brown below, cinnamon breast and belly, white throat, prominent white eyebrow. Short tail is usually cocked upwards.

**Nesting:**
Nests in natural tree cavities, woodpecker holes, building crevices, or artificial nest boxes. Eggs are creamy or pinkish-white with brown marks. Clutch size – 4 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a loud repeated 3-syllable series of clear notes, “tea-kettle, tea-kettle, tea-kettle.” Sometimes sings a 2-syllable series of notes, “kettle, kettle, kettle.” Song resembles 3-syllable notes of the Common Yellowthroat, but notes of the Carolina Wren are louder and richer. Call is a raspy buzz, like running fingers across a comb.

**Name Origin:**
*Thryothorus*: *thryon*, Greek for “a reed”; *thouros*, Greek for “rushing”; *ludovicianus*, Modern Latin for “of Louisiana”, the site where the original specimen was collected.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Occasionally uses artificial nest boxes, but less often than the House Wren.
Golden-crowned Kinglet
*Regulus satrapa*
Kinglet family (Regulidae)

**Habitat:**
Deciduous forest.

**Description:**
Very small bird, 3 ½” long. Black cap with yellow crown. Orange crown patch on male is rarely seen. White eyebrow, greenish-gray back, gray below, two white wing bars.

**Nesting:**
Does not nest in this region.

**Voice:**
Call is a very high-pitched series of notes, all on one pitch “tsee tsee tsee”. Notes are similar to the Brown Creeper, but the Golden-crowned Kinglet’s call has 3 notes whereas the Brown Creeper’s call has only one note.

**Name Origin:**
*Regulus*, Latin for “little king”; *satrapa*, Greek for “a ruler who wears a golden crown”

**In the Nature Park:**
Winter resident. Migrates north to New England and southern Canada during the nesting season. Departs in April, arrives in October. Kinglets are often found in mixed-species foraging flocks with Brown creepers, chickadees, nuthatches, and titmice.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
*Poliotila caerulea*
Gnatcatcher family (Sylviidae)

**Habitat:**
Deciduous forest.

**Description:**
Small slim bird, 4” long. Bluish-gray back and head, light gray below. Long tail is usually cocked upward or flicked from side to side. Tail is black above, white below. White eye ring.

**Nesting:**
Tiny cup is made of plant fibers and spider webs and covered with bits of lichen. Nest is placed on a horizontal limb, 10 to 20 feet above the ground. Eggs are pale blue with dark spots. Clutch size – 4 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a complex rambling jumble of high-pitched phrases. Song is only heard early in the breeding season, during mid-March and early April. Call, heard throughout the spring and summer, is a thin high-pitched series of “zeeeee” notes.

**Name Origin:**
*Poliotila*: *polios*, Greek for “gray”; *ptilon*, Greek for “feather”; *caerulea*, Latin for “blue” for its blue back

**In the Nature Park:**
Eastern Bluebird
_Sialia sialis_
Thrush family (Turdidae)

**Habitat:**
Fields, forest edges, and open woodlands.

**Description:**
Small for a thrush, 5 ½” long. Male (right in image) – rich blue back. Female (left in image) – grayer. Red orange throat, neck, breast, and flanks; contrasting white belly.

**Nesting:**
Cavity nester. Nests in cavities of dead trees or artificial nest boxes. Eggs are pale blue. Clutch size – 3 to 6 eggs.

**Song:**
Song is a soft but musical series of downslurred low-pitched whistles, “tury cherwee cheye-ley”. Call is a mellow “turwee”.

**Name Origin:**
_Sialis_, Greek for “a kind of bird”

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Eastern Bluebirds use the artificial nest boxes in the open meadows at the Nature Park, but are often displaced by the more aggressive House Wrens.

Wood Thrush
_Hylocichla mustelina_
Thrush family (Turdidae)

**Habitat:**
Mature deciduous forest.

**Description:**
Large thrush, 7” long. Bright reddish-brown head; brown back, wings and tail; large dark spots on breast and upper belly; thin white eye ring.

**Nesting:**
Builds a large bulky nest on a fork of a sapling or tree, usually 10 feet above the ground. Eggs are light blue. Clutch size – 3 to 4 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a series of whistled flutelike notes preceded by lower pitched repeated notes, “bub bub eee-oh-lay, bub bub ah-o-lee”. Varies pitch of notes with each round of singing. Males sing frequently, especially in the early morning and early evening. Call is a loud “pit pit pit”, like a soft machine gun, given if there is a disturbance near their nest.

**Name Origin:**
_Hylocichla_: _hyle_, Greek for “forest”; _cichla_, Greek for “thrush” _mustelina_, Latin for “weasel-like”, for its tawny color

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant, arriving in early to mid-May, begins nesting by early June. Wood Thrush nests in the Nature Park are frequently parasitized by Brown-headed Cowbirds. We found one nest with 4 cowbird eggs and another nest with 6 cowbird eggs.
American Robin
*Turdus migratorius*
Thrush family (Turdidae)

**Habitat:**
Open lawns near buildings, forest edges.

**Description:**
Our largest thrush, 8 ½" long. Dark gray above, brick red below, white tips of outer tail feathers, white eye crescents, white throat streaked with black, white undertail coverts.

**Nesting:**
Builds a large bulky nest of mud and grasses. Nest placed on a horizontal limb of a shrub or tree or on a building ledge, 10 to 20 feet above the ground. Eggs are light blue. Clutch size – 3 to 4 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a cheery whistle, "cheeryup cherrily". Call is a scolding "tuk tuk tuk", given if there is a disturbance near their nest or fledglings.

**Name Origin:**
*Turdus*, Latin for "thrush"; *migratorius*, Latin for "wanderer"

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. The American Robin is one of our most recognizable birds and is easy to see on the mowed lawns around the buildings at the Nature Park. We have found several American Robin nests in the forests of the Nature Park.

Gray Catbird
*Dumetella carolinensis*
Mockingbird family (Mimidae)

**Habitat:**
Dense thickets of shrubby vegetation.

**Description:**
Slender, 7 ¾" long. All gray with a black cap. Reddish-brown patch under the base of tail. Long tail is often cocked upwards.

**Nesting:**
Open bulky nest built in dense woody vegetation, 3 to 10 feet above the ground. Eggs are dark bluish-green. Clutch size – 3 to 4 eggs.

**Song:**
Song is a squeaky unmusical series of mimicking chirps and whistles. Its repertoire may include syllables of more than 100 different types, sung in random order at an uneven tempo. Call is a catlike "meow". Sometimes calls perfectly imitate a cat meowing.

**Name Origin:**
*Dumetella*: *dumus*, Latin for "thorn bush"; *-ella*, Latin for "little"; literally "little one of the thorn bush"; *carolinensis*, "of Carolina".

**In the Nature Park:**
Brown Thrasher
*Toxostoma rufum*
Mockingbird family (Mimidae)

**Habitat:**
Dense thickets of shrubby vegetation.

**Description:**
Long slender body, long tail, 10” long. Reddish-brown above, whitish underparts coarsely streaked with black, two whitish wing bars, yellow eyes, long downcurved bill.

**Nesting:**
Bulky nest built in shrubs or low trees, close to or on the ground. Eggs are light blue with fine dark markings. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a loud series of twice-repeated phrases. Mimics other birds.

**Name Origin:**
*Toxostoma*: *toxon*, Greek for “bow”; *stoma*, Greek for “a mouth”; literally “bow mouth” for its curved beak; *rufum*, Latin for “reddish.” “Thrasher” from English for “thrush”, not connected with “thrash”, “to beat”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Short-distance migrant, arrives in March. One year, we found a Brown Thrasher nest at the base of a tree right next to the parking lot at the main entrance of the Nature Park. Despite their large size, Brown Thrashers are cryptic and remain well concealed in dense shrubby vegetation.

Cedar Waxwing
*Bombycilla cedrorum*
Waxwing family (Bombycillidae)

**Habitat:**
Open forests.

**Description:**
Small, 5 ¼” long. Sleek crest on head. Overall gray brown plumage, black face mask edged with white, pale yellow belly feathers, variable numbers of red waxlike droplets on tips of secondary wing feathers.

**Nesting:**
Nests in dense juniper thickets or in other trees or shrubs. Feeds on a large variety of wild fruits and berries. Nests later in the summer than other birds, probably because of its reliance on summer-ripening fruits. Eggs are pale with dark marks. Clutch size – 4 eggs.

**Voice:**
Call is a series of buzzy or trilled high-pitched notes. Often heard calling in flocks.

**Name Origin:**
*Bombycilla*: *bombyx*, Greek or Latin for “silk”; *cilla*, Modern Latin for “tail”; *cedrorum*, Latin for “of the cedars”. “Waxwing” for the bright red coloring of the bare shafts of the tips of their wing feathers, looks like sealing wax.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Cedar Waxwings usually occur in large foraging flocks.
White-eyed Vireo

*Vireo griseus*
Vireo family (Vireonidae)

**Habitat:**
Dense shrub thickets.

**Description:**
Small vireo, 4 ½” long. Yellow flanks, greenish-gray back, white throat and breast, white eyes, two white wing bars.

**Nesting:**
Cup nest is built in a fork of a small tree or shrub, 1 to 8 feet above the ground. Eggs are white with brown spots. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is emphatic, with three distinct parts. Begins and ends with a sharp “chuck” or “chick” note. Middle notes are variable, like “chick adoooweeoo chick”.

**Name Origin:**
*Vireo*, Latin, viridos for “green”; *griseus*, Modern Latin for “gray”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant. The White-eyed Vireo stays well concealed in dense shrub thickets. Often heard in shrub thickets at the intersection of trails, like the intersection of the Rim Trail and the Quarry Trail next to the Welcome Center. Three-part song is very distinctive.

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Yellow-throated Vireo

*Vireo flavifrons*
Vireo family (Vireonidae)

**Habitat:**
Mature deciduous forest.

**Description:**
Large vireo, 5” long. Bright yellow throat and breast, olive-green upperparts, gray rump, white belly, yellow eye-ring, two white wing bars.

**Nesting:**
Nest cup suspended in fork of tree branch, 20 to 60 feet above the ground. Eggs are white or pink-white with brown spots. Clutch size – usually 4 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a series of distinct notes with a deliberate pause between each note. Pacing of notes is similar to the Red-eyed Vireo but notes are quite different. Yellow-throated Vireo notes are more burry or hoarse and sound like “ee-yay (pause) ee-year (pause)”, etc. etc. Red-eyed Vireo’s notes are more musical and less hoarse.

**Name Origin:**
*Vireo*, Latin, viridos, for “green”; *flavifrons*: flavus, Latin for “yellow”; *frons*, Latin for “front”, for its yellow throat.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant. Common in the deep woods along the Rail Trail and Creekside Trail, but easier to hear than see because it usually stays in the tops of the trees.
Warbling Vireo

*Vireo gilvus*

Vireo family (Vireonidae)

**Habitat:**
Deciduous forest.

**Description:**
Medium-sized vireo, 4 ¾” long. Greenish-gray back, whitish underneath, whitish eyebrow.

**Nesting:**
Cup-like nest is suspended from a branch of a deciduous tree, 20 to 90 feet above the ground. Eggs are white with brown spots. Clutch size – 3 to 4 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a series of long melodious warbling phrases separated by short pauses.

**Name Origin:**
*Vireo*, Latin, *viridos* for “green”; *gilvus*, Latin for “yellowish”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant. Warbling Vireos are common in the riparian forests along the Creekside Trail.

Red-eyed Vireo

*Vireo olivaceus*

Vireo family (Vireonidae)

**Habitat:**
Deciduous forest.

**Description:**
Large vireo, 5” long. Greenish-gray back, white underneath, two eyebrows – a white one and a black one above it, gray crown, red eye visible from close range.

**Nesting:**
Suspends cup-like nest from a slender branch, 10 to 60 feet above the ground. Eggs are white with dark marks. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a series of distinct phrases with a deliberate pause between each phrase. Pacing of notes is similar to the Yellow-throated Vireo but notes are quite different. Red-eyed Vireo notes are more musical and sound like “here-I-am (pause) over-here (pause) where-are-you (pause)”, etc. etc. Sings continuously and monotonously for many minutes without a break.

**Name Origin:**
*Vireo*, Latin, *viridos* for “green”; *olivaceus*, Latin for “olive-colored”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant. Common in the forests. The Red-eyed Vireo sings almost non-stop during the day throughout the spring and summer – we sometimes refer to its song as “background music”.
Northern Parula
Parula americana
Warbler family (Parulidae)

Habitat:
Riparian forest.

Description:
Very small warbler, 3 ¾” long. Short tail. Male (shown in image) – blue-gray upperparts, greenish-yellow patch on back, black and rufous bands across breast, yellow throat and breast. Female (not shown) – similar to male but chest bands are absent. Two conspicuous white wing bars.

Nesting:
Nests near the tip of a tree limb, 10 to 100 feet above ground. May nest in flood-deposited debris caught in branches of trees overhanging a river. Eggs are white with brown spots. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs.

Voice:
Song is a rapid buzzy trill that rises in pitch then drops suddenly with an explosive ending note, “zeeemmmmm-yup”.

Name Origin:
Parula: Parus, Latin for “titmouse”; -ula, Latin for “little”; literally “a little titmouse”.

In the Nature Park:
Neotropical migrant, arriving in late April or early May. Northern Parulas are hard to see because they usually occur in the tops of tall trees, but their song is easy to recognize. Common in riparian forests along the Creekside Trail.

Yellow Warbler
Dendroica petechia
Warbler family (Parulidae)

Habitat:
Dense shrub thickets in wet areas, especially areas dominated by willows.

Description:
Medium-sized warbler, 4” long. Male – all yellow with reddish streaks on breast. Female (not shown) – duller yellow with fainter or no breast streaks.

Nesting:
Deep nest cup built in an upright fork or crotch of a tree or bush, usually 3 to 8 feet above the ground. Eggs are white with blotches at end. Clutch size – 4 to 5 eggs.

Voice:
Song sounds like “sweet sweet sweet so sweet” with last note accented. Also has an unaccented song version.

Name Origin:
Dendroica: dendron, Greek for “tree”; oicos, Greek for “inhabit”; petechia, Modern Latin for “purplish spot” for russet-red streaks on its breast.

In the Nature Park:
Neotropical migrant, arriving in mid to late April. Common in old fields with lots of shrubs.
Yellow-rumped Warbler

*Dendroica coronata*
Warbler family (Parulidae)

**Habitat:**
Open forests.

**Description:**
Large warbler, 5” long. Gray above with black streaks on back, black wings and tail, white wing bars, black cheeks, yellow rump, yellow patch on side in front of each wing, yellow crown patch, white throat.

**Voice:**
Song is a musical trill, often in two-note phrases, “chee chee chee chee cheedle cheedle”. Call is a loud “tup” or “check”.

**Name Origin:**
*Dendroica*: dendron, Greek for “tree”; oicos, Greek for “inhabit”; coronata, Latin for “crowned” for its yellow crown.

**In the Nature Park:**
Migratory, present for about a two-week period during spring (late April, early May) and autumn (September, October). Many species of warblers occur in the Nature Park during migration, but the Yellow-rumped Warbler is the most common and recognizable. Other migratory bird species that have observed during migration at the Nature Park include:

- American Redstart
- Bay-breasted Warbler
- Black-and-white Warbler
- Blackburnian Warbler
- Blackpoll Warbler
- Black-throated Green Warbler
- Cape May Warbler
- Chestnut-sided Warbler
- Golden-winged Warbler
- Magnolia Warbler
- Nashville Warbler
- Northern Waterthrush
- Ovenbird
- Palm Warbler
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Tennessee Warbler
- Wilson’s Warbler

Yellow-throated Warbler

*Dendroica dominica*
Warbler family (Parulidae)

**Habitat:**
Riparian forest, areas with sycamore trees.

**Description:**
Medium-sized warbler, 4 ½” long. Bright yellow throat and upper breast, black face bordered by white eyebrow, gray back, white belly with black streaking on sides, large white patch on side of head, two white wing bars.

**Nesting:**
Cup-like nest is often placed on a horizontal limb in a sycamore tree, 30 to 60 feet above the ground. Eggs are greenish gray. Clutch size – 4 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a descending series of whistled notes that ends with a higher note, like “piu piu piu piu piu piu whee”.

**Name Origin:**
*Dendroica*: dendron, Greek for “tree”; oicos, Greek for “inhabit”; dominica, Modern Latin for “St. Domingo”, now Hispaniola, where the Yellow-throated Warbler was first collected.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant, arrives in late April or early May. Common in riparian forests along the Creekside Trail.
Prairie Warbler
*Dendroica discolor*
Warbler family (Parulidae)

**Habitat:**
Not found in prairies but in open shrubby areas.

**Description:**
Small warbler, 4” long. Wags or pumps tail. Yellow face with black line through eye, yellow patch below eye bordered by black, yellow underparts, black streaks on sides, olive green back with chestnut streaks, two white or yellowish wing bars.

**Nesting:**
Constructs well-concealed cup in trees or shrubs, usually 2 to 3 feet above the ground. Eggs are whitish with brown marks. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a series of buzzy notes that continually rise. Not as rapid as Northern Parula’s song.

**Name Origin:**
*Dendroica*: dendron, Greek for “tree”; *oicos*, Greek for “inhabit”; *discalor*, Latin for “of different colors”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant, arrives in late April or early May. Common in the juniper trees along the Quarry Trail and throughout the Quarry Bottom.

Cerulean Warbler
*Dendroica cerulea*
Warbler family (Parulidae)

**Habitat:**
Large tracts of mature deciduous forest

**Description:**
Small warbler, 4” long. Male (shown in image) – “cerulean” blue upperparts with black streaks, white wing bars, white below, blue-black “necklace” across throat, blue-black streaking on sides. Female (not shown) – greenish-blue upperparts; yellowish-white eyebrow, throat, and upper breast.

**Nesting:**
Nests in tall trees, usually 20 to 90 feet above the ground. Builds nest well away from the trunk on a horizontal branch. Eggs are green with variable brown marks. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a series of rapid buzzy notes on one pitch ending with a higher note, “zray zray zray zree”.

**Name Origin:**
*Dendroica*: dendron, Greek for “tree”; *oicos*, Greek for “inhabit”; *cerulea*, Latin for “sky blue”

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant, arrives in early May. Difficult to see because they usually stay high in the canopy. There is an established breeding population in the deep woods at the Nature Park.

**Other Notes:**
Cerulean Warblers are uncommon over most of their range, and their populations have declined significantly over the last few decades due to habitat loss on their breeding and wintering grounds. The Cerulean Warbler is listed as a species of special concern in Indiana.
Louisiana Waterthrush

*Seiurus motacilla*
Warbler family (Parulidae)

**Habitat:**
Bottomland forests with thick vegetation along rapidly moving streams

**Description:**
Large warbler, 5 ¼” long. Bobs tail and whole rear end while walking. Brownish back, wings, and tail; pale buffy eyebrow; heavily streaked underparts; white throat.

**Nesting:**
Nests on the ground under roots or in cavities in steep banks along streams. Breeding territory is long and narrow, located along a stream. Eggs are white with variable brown or purple marks. Clutch size – 3 to 6 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song begins with a series of three or four clear slurred whistles followed by a fading series of jumbled twittering notes. Call is a loud rich “chink”.

**Name Origin:**
*Seiurus*: seio, Greek for “wave”; *oura*, Greek for “tail”; *motacilla*, Latin for “wagtail” for its constant tail-wagging behavior.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant, arrives in early April. Nest along narrow streams in the deep woods of the Nature Park.

Kentucky Warbler

*Oporornis formosus*
Warbler family (Parulidae)

**Habitat:**
Mature deciduous forest with dense understory vegetation.

**Description:**
Medium-sized warbler, 4 ½” long. Bright yellow throat, breast, and belly; olive-green back; bold yellow “spectacles”. Male (shown in image) – black on crown, under eye area, and on sides of neck. Female (not shown) – no black on head.

**Nesting:**
Nest is an open cup built on the ground in dense understory vegetation at the base of a shrub or tree. Eggs are creamy white with brown marks. Clutch size – 3 to 6 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a rich and rolling series of two-syllable notes, like “chur-ree chur-ree chur-ree”. Song is like the Carolina Wren’s but the Kentucky Warbler puts emphasis on the second syllable – “chur-ree chur-ree” whereas the Carolina Wren puts emphasis on the first syllable – “tee-kettle tee-kettle” or “tee-kle tee-kle-kle”. Call is a low rich “chuck”.

**Name Origin:**
*Oporornis*: opera, Greek for “end of summer” or “autumn”; *ornis*, Greek for “bird”; *formosus*, Latin for “beautiful”; literally, “beautiful bird of the late summer”. “Kentucky” for the state where it was observed to be the most abundant by early ornithologists.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant, arrives in mid to late April. Pairs of nesting Kentucky Warblers have been observed in the deep woods of the Nature Park, far from the trails and buildings. The breeding pairs seem to return to the exact same territories each year.
**Common Yellowthroat**

*Geothlypis trichas*
Warbler family (Parulidae)

**Habitat:**
Wet or dry meadows.

**Description:**
Small warbler, 4" long. Bright yellow throat and breast, buff flanks, yellow undertail coverts, olive-brown back, whitish belly. Male (shown in image) – broad black mask with grayish-white border. Female (not shown) – olive-brown face.

**Nesting:**
Loose bulky nest is well hidden in grasses or shrubs, usually 3 feet above the ground. Eggs are creamy white with brown marks. Clutch size – usually 4 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a three-syllable “witchity witchity witchity” or a two-syllable “witchee witchee witchee”.

**Name Origin:**
Geothlypis: *ge*, Greek for “earth”; *thlypis*, Greek for “finch”; *trichas*, Greek for “thrush”. Considered to be misnamed by Linnaeus.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant. Abundant in open meadows.

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**Yellow-breasted Chat**

*Icteria virens*
Warbler family (Parulidae)

**Habitat:**
Dense shrub thickets

**Description:**
Our largest warbler, 6 ¼" long. Yellow chin, throat, and breast; white belly; long tail; thick bill; olive-green back; face grayish; white moustache stripe; white “spectacles”.

**Nesting:**
Nest is a bulky cup placed in a shrub or small tree. Eggs are white with brown marks. Clutch size 3 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is an amazing assortment of whistles, rattles, squeaks, scolds, and mews. Harsh “cheh cheh cheh cheh” and higher “tu tu tu tu” notes are frequently incorporated into the song. All notes are clear, rich, and loud. The phrases of notes are often widely spaced, even hesitant sounding. The song cannot be confused with any other warbler although it may resemble the ramblings of a Brown Thrasher or Gray Catbird. Call is a grating “chack”.

**Name Origin:**
Icteria: *ikteros*, Greek for “jaundice” or “yellow”; *virens*, Latin for “green”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant. Not abundant in the Nature Park but consistently occurs in dense shrub thickets along the Rim Trail or at the base of the quarry cliffs along the Quarry Trail. The Yellow-breasted Chat is more easily heard than seen.
Summer Tanager
*Piranga rubra*
Tanager family (Thraupidae)

**Habitat:**
Dry open forests

**Description:**
Medium-sized tanager, 6 ½” long.
Male (right in image) – uniformly bright rose-red head and body.
Female (left in image) – yellowish below, brownish-yellow above, not as green as Scarlet Tanager female.

**Nesting:**
Shallow saucer-shaped nest built on a horizontal limb, usually 20 to 30 feet above the ground. Eggs are pale blue to pale green, variously marked with brown spots. Clutch size – 3 to 4 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a series of whistled phrases, like the American Robin's, but phrases are on one pitch with the same phrase repeated over and over. Call is a distinct "chik-e-tuk chik-e-tuk", descending in pitch during the call. Their call is heard more often than their song.

**Name Origin:**
*Piranga*, a native name for a South American bird; *rubra*, Latin for "red". Tanager, from *tanagara*, for "a bird" in Tupi, a South American language. "Summer" to differentiate it from the Northern Cardinal, a year-round resident.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant. Occurs in more open forests than the Scarlet Tanager. More abundant in southern Indiana than central Indiana. We have consistently heard a Summer Tanager calling near the parking lot at the main entrance to the Nature Park.

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Scarlet Tanager
*Piranga olivacea*
Tanager family (Thraupidae)

**Habitat:**
Mature deciduous forest

**Description:**
Medium-sized tanager, 6 ½” long.
Male (right in image) – scarlet-red body with black wings and black tail. Female (left in image) – yellowish below, olive green above, grayish brown wings, more greenish than Summer Tanager female.

**Nesting:**
Shallow saucer-shaped nest built on a horizontal limb, 20 to 30 feet above the ground. Eggs are pale blue-green with irregular dots of brown. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is similar to the American Robin, but phrases and notes are more hoarse, like an American Robin with a sore throat. Call is a distinct "chip-burr chip-burr".

**Name Origin:**
*Piranga*, a native name for a South American bird; *olivacea*, Latin for "olive" for the color of the female. Tanager, from *tanagara*, for "a bird" in Tupi, a South American language.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant. Common in the deep woods; rarely seen along the trails. The best time of year to see the Scarlet Tanager is right after they return from migration, around mid-May, when the male occurs lower in the canopy of the forest. Otherwise, the male, despite his bright red plumage, disappears into the thick green foliage during the nesting season.
Northern Cardinal
*Cardinalis cardinalis*
Cardinal family (Cardinalidae)

**Habitat:**
Forest edges.
Open areas.

**Description:**
Medium-sized songbird, 8" long.
Crest on head. Male (right in image) – all bright red with black face mask surrounding bill. Female (left in image) – buffy below; grayish brown above; reddish bill, wings, and tail; pale gray to black face mask.

**Nesting:**
Loosely constructed nest placed in dense shrubs, usually less than 10 feet above the ground. Eggs are grayish white to buffy white to greenish white, speckled or spotted with gray to brown marks. Clutch size – 2 to 3 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a series of clear repeated whistles that vary, like “whoit whoit whoit, cheer cheer cheer”. All notes are very rich. Call is a metallic “chip”.

**Name Origin:**
*Cardinalis*, Latin for “important” from *cardo*, Latin for “the hinge of a door”; literally something upon which an object or an idea hinged or depended. A cardinal is an important church official with a red hat and robe, hence the name of the bird with red plumage.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. State bird of Indiana. Common in forests, along the trails, and in the vicinity of the buildings at the Nature Park. We have seen Northern Cardinal nests in small shrubs and trees in open areas along the trails and along forest edges.

Blue Grosbeak
*Passerina caerulea*
Cardinal family (Cardinalidae)

**Habitat:**
Open meadows, forest edges.

**Description:**
Large bunting, 6" long. Male (right in image) – dark blue overall with two reddish-brown wing bars; black feathers around base of bill. Female (left in image) – brown overall, dark wings and tail, occasional blue feathers on upper parts, two buffy-brown wing bars. Large gray conical bill.

**Nesting:**
Compact deep nest, placed 3 to 8 feet above the ground in a low tree or shrub, typically at the edge of an open area. Eggs are pale blue. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a warbled phrase of musical notes. Call is a loud “chink”.

**Name Origin:**

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant. Blue Grosbeaks have consistently been observed in the open meadows along the Quarry Trail on the northwest side of the Quarry Pond.
Indigo Bunting  
_Passerina cyanea_  
Cardinal family (Cardinalidae)

**Habitat:**  
Forest edges, forests with dense understory vegetation, shrub thickets.

**Description:**  
Small bunting, 4 ½” long. Male (right in image) – may look black or brown unless the sun is shining directly on it; otherwise deep indigo blue. Female (left in image) – brown with faint wing bars and faint streaking.

**Nesting:**  
Cup-like nest, placed 1 to 2 feet above the ground (usually about knee-height) in the fork of a shrub, low tree, or a stout herbaceous plant. Eggs are white. Clutch size – 3 to 4 eggs.

**Voice:**  
A rapid series of paired whistles, like “tsee tsee tew tew teer teer”. Call is a flat “spit”.

**Name Origin:**  
*Passerina*, Latin for “sparrow-like”; *cyanea*, Greek for “dark blue”.

**In the Nature Park:**  
Neotropical migrant. Abundant in dense understory vegetation in riparian forests along the Creekside Trail. Also occurs in open meadows and forests with dense understory vegetation. Nests in the Nature Park are frequently parasitized by Brown-headed Cowbirds.

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Eastern Towhee  
_Pipilo erythrophthalmus_  
Sparrow family (Emberizidae)

**Habitat:**  
Dense brushy fields, open woodlands

**Description:**  
A large but shy bird that is rarely seen, 7-8” long. Male (shown in image) – black head, back, wings, and tail; reddish-brown sides and flanks; white belly. Female (not shown) – brown where male is black.

**Nesting:**  
Bulky nest, usually placed on the ground. Eggs are creamy with brown spots. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**  
Song has three distinct notes – two whistles followed by a high trill, like “drink your teeeee”. Sometimes sings the last two notes “your teeeeee” or just “teeeeee”. Call is a burry low-pitched “chweeeeee”.

**Name Origin:**  
Pipilo, Latin, _pipo_ for “chirp” or “peep”; _erythrophthalmus_: _erythros_, Greek for “red”; _ophthalmus_ Greek for “eye”, for its red eyes.

**In the Nature Park:**  
Year-round resident. Common in forests and dense shrub thickets at the Nature Park. Their song is easy to recognize.

**Other Notes:**  
The Eastern Towhee was formerly named the Rufous-sided Towhee. The name was changed when the Rufous-sided Towhee was taxonomically split into two species, the Eastern Towhee, found in eastern North America, and the Spotted Towhee, found in western North America. The two species differ in plumage and vocalizations.
Chipping Sparrow
*Spizella passerina*
Sparrow family (Emberizidae)

**Habitat:**
Forest edges, open woodlands.

**Description:**
Small sparrow, 5" long. Bright rufous crown, whitish eyebrow, black eye stripe, black bill, unstreaked gray breast, gray rump, dully white belly.

**Nesting:**
Cup-like nest of grasses placed on branch of tree, usually 3 to 10 feet above the ground. Eggs are pale blue with dark spots. Clutch size – 3 to 4 eggs.

**Song:**
Song is a continuous rapid series of dry chip notes with all notes on one pitch.

**Name Origin:**
*Spizella*, Greek and Latin, *spiza* for “finch”; *passerina*: *passer*, Latin for “sparrow”; *-ina*, Latin suffix for “like”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Short-distance migrant, arriving at the Nature Park during mid-April. Common around the buildings at the Nature Park where there is a mix of trees and open areas.

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Field Sparrow
*Spizella pusilla*
Sparrow family (Emberizidae)

**Habitat:**
Open meadows, abandoned fields

**Description:**
Small sparrow, 5" long. Buffly to light gray breast, unstreaked; bright pink bill; rufous crown; white eye ring; grayish face with rufous eyeline and rufous ear patch; brown tail and back.

**Nesting:**
Cup-like nest of grasses placed on or near the ground in dense clumps of grass. Eggs are pale blue with dark markings. Clutch size – 4 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a series of downscurled whistles that gradually increase in speed, like a bouncing ball.

**Name Origin:**

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Common in open meadows of the Nature Park. Distinctive “bouncing ball” song of male is heard often during spring and summer.
Song Sparrow
_Melospiza melodia_
Sparrow family (Emberizidae)

_Habitat:_
Dense thickets with tall grasses and shrubs.

_Description:_
Medium-sized sparrow, 5 ½” long. White breast with brown streaks and a large dark central spot, reddish-brown crown with a gray central stripe, white throat.

_Nesting:_
Cup-like nest of grasses placed on the ground. Eggs are greenish white with dark marks. Clutch size – 3 to 5 eggs.

_Song:_
Song is a few repeated notes followed by a rich and varied warble. Calls include “tsip” and “tchump”.

_Name Origin:_
_Melospiza_: _melos_, Greek for “song”; _spiza_, Greek for “finch”; _melodia_, Greek and Latin for “pleasant song”

_In the Nature Park:_
Year-round resident. Common in meadows and shrub thickets. Males sing frequently during spring and summer from a mid-height perch.

Dark-eyed Junco
_Junco hyemalis_
Sparrow family (Emberizidae)

_Habitat:_
Forest edges.

_Description:_
Medium-sized sparrow, 6” long. Pale bill, white belly, gray to black head and breast, dark eye, dark tail with conspicuous white outer tail feathers.

_Nesting:_
Does not nest in this region.

_Voice:_
Song is a short trill or series of trills, usually on one pitch.

_Name Origin:_
_Junco_, Latin, _juncus_ for “a rush” – an inappropriate name for a bird that does not occur among rushes (in wetlands); _hyemalis_, Latin for “winter”, based on observations by early ornithologists of its presence only during the winter.

_In the Nature Park:_
Winter resident. Arrives in September and October, departs in March and April. Migrates north to New England and southern Canada during the nesting season. Juncos are easy to recognize – they usually occur in flocks on or near the ground in forests and open areas. During flight, their white outer tail feathers are conspicuous.
Red-winged Blackbird
*Agelaius phoeniceus*
Blackbird family (Icteridae)

**Habitat:**
Wet meadows, abandoned fields.

**Description:**
7 ½” long. Male (top image) – all black with a red shoulder patch bordered by yellow. Female (bottom image) – brown back, heavily streaked breast, prominent white eyebrow stripe. Female is well-camouflaged for nesting in grasses.

**Nesting:**
Nest is a deep narrow cup of grasses, attached to tall grasses up to 10 feet above the ground. Eggs are greenish blue with dark marks. Clutch size – 3 to 4 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is a loud “ok-a-lee” or “konk-a-ree”. Calls include “check” and a high-pitched whistle.

**Name Origin:**
*Agelaius*, Greek, *agelaios* for “flocking”; *phoeniceus*, Latin for “red” for the red color introduced into Greece by the Phoenicians.

**In the Nature Park:**
Short-distance migrant, arrives in February. Males arrive before females and establish territories. Males are easily observed in the wet meadows cattails of the Quarry Bottom and other parts of the Nature Park. Females are more cryptic, but with patience, can be observed in the same habitat.

Brown-headed Cowbird
*Molothrus ater*
Blackbird family (Icteridae)

**Habitat:**
Forests, forest edges, brushy thickets, grasslands.

**Description:**
Male (top image) – dark brown head, glossy black body. Female (bottom image) – grayish brown.

**Nesting:**
Brood parasite, lays eggs in other birds’ nests. A female cowbird may lay as many as 40 eggs during the nesting season. Eggs are white with brown spots and are usually larger than host eggs. Cowbird parasitism reduces the breeding success of many bird species because the female cowbirds remove host eggs or nesting cowbirds outcompete host nestlings. Cowbirds have been recorded as successfully parasitizing 200 bird species, including 49 bird species in Indiana.

**Voice:**
Song is a liquid “bublucomsee”. Call is a high whistled “pseesee”.

**Name Origin:**
*Molothrus*, Greek for “parasite” or “greedy person”; *ater*, Latin for “black” for the male’s dark plumage.

**In the Nature Park:**
Short-distance migrant, arrives in March or April. We take down the bird feeders at the Welcome Center in March so that we don’t encourage feeding the cowbirds. In the Nature Park, we have observed cowbird parasitism of Acadian Flycatcher nests (20% of nests are parasitized), Indigo Bunting nests (67% parasitized), and Wood Thrush nests (40% parasitized).
Baltimore Oriole
*Icterus galbula*
Blackbird family (*Icteridae*)

**Habitat:**
Streamside forests, forest edges.

**Description:**
7" long. Male – black head, back, wings, and tail; orange on remaining upperparts and underparts; single white wing bar. Female (not shown) – greenish-orange on rump; orange-yellow below; head, back, and throat mottled with black.

**Nesting:**
Hanging nest of plant fibers suspended by its rim to the tip of a long drooping branch, 25 to 30 feet above the ground. Eggs are pale bluish white with dark marks. Clutch size – 4 to 5 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is 4 to 8 medium-pitched whistled notes; often sounds like an unfinished song. Call is a rapid chatter “ch ch ch ch ch”.

**Name Origin:**
*Icterus*, *ikteros*, Greek for “jaundice” or “yellowish”; *galbula*, Latin for “a small yellow bird”; “oriole” from *aureolus*, Latin for “golden”.

**In the Nature Park:**
Neotropical migrant, arrives in May. Common in riparian forests along the Creekside Trail.

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American Goldfinch
*Carduelis tristis*
Finch family (*Fringillidae*)

**Habitat:**
Open meadows, forest edges.

**Description:**
Small, 4 ¼" long. Male – canary yellow body; black cap, wings, and tail. Female – yellowish green overall, black wings and tail. Undulating (wave-like) flight pattern.

**Nesting:**
Nests in a cluster of branches or on a horizontal limb of a tree or shrub, 5 to 15 feet above the ground. Eggs are light blue. Clutch size – 2 to 7 eggs.

**Voice:**
Song is long, canary-like warble. Call is “sweeyeet”. In flight, call is a continuous series of three notes: “chip chip chip”. We call it the “potato chip” call.

**Name Origin:**
*Carduelis*, Latin for “goldfinch”; *tristis*, Latin for “sad”, inappropriately based on its song.

**In the Nature Park:**
Year-round resident. Common in open meadows and open areas near the buildings at the Nature Park.
About the author

Vanessa Fox is an Associate Professor of Biology and Program Coordinator of the Nature Park at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. She has been an avid bird watcher for over 25 years. She and her students at DePauw have conducted bird surveys and nest searches throughout different parts of the Nature Park. If you would like a guided tour of birds of the Nature Park, contact Vanessa at vfox@depauw.edu or 765-658-4772.

Sources