A CHECKLIST & OBSERVATION GUIDE

Three Rivers Park District



Three Rivers

Date	_ Time	Total Species
Observer		
Location		
Weather		

PARK USE GUIDELINES FOR BIRDERS

- Parking permit is required Fri-Sun.
- Park hours are 5 a.m. to sunset.
- Stay on appropriately designated trails.
- Do not enter any posted area.
- Park only in designated parking areas.
- Observe, but do not disturb.



3000 Xenium Lane North Plymouth, MN 55441-1299

The mission of Three Rivers Park District is to promote environmental stewardship through recreation and education in a natural resources-based park system.

Three Rivers Park District maintains a system of seven park reserves and a number of regional parks within the seven county metro area. The combined area is more than 26,000 acres. Almost all native habitat types found within the metro area are represented in the park reserves.

This list of 288 bird species includes only those that have been observed within the Park District since 1968. The taxonomic order and common names used here conform with the American Ornithologists' Union (A.O.U.) *Check-list of North American Birds, Seventh Edition* (1998) and with the 42nd, 43rd and 44th Supplements to the Check-list, as published in *The Auk* 117: 847-858 (2000); 119: 897-906 (2002); 120: 923-932 (2003).

Status Codes

- Positive nesting records within the park system
- ✓ Previously nested, no evidence of nesting since 1990
- Nesting assumed based upon observations in the parks
- Assumed nesting in the past, no current evidence of nesting
- No evidence of nesting, most of these are migrants
- e Extirpated, not recorded in the parks since 1990

Park Codes

Letter codes after a species name indicate the parks where a species is **most likely** to be found (not given for "rare" and "accidental" species). When the designation "All" appears, it means all of the park reserves. See the map on the back cover.

- **B** Baker Park Reserve
- BL Bryant Lake Regional Park
- C Carver Park Reserve
- CH Crow-Hassan Park Reserve
- CL Cleary Lake Regional Park
- **CR** Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park
- E Elm Creek Park Reserve
- EL Eagle Lake Regional Park
- **F** French Regional Park
- FL Fish Lake Regional Park
- G Gale Woods
- HM Historic Murphy's Landing
- H Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve
- LM Lake Minnetonka Regional Park
- M Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve
- NM North Mississippi Regional Park
- N Noerenberg Memorial Gardens
- **R** Lake Rebecca Park Reserve
- SL Silver Lake Recreation Area
- **SP** Spring Lake Regional Park

Habitat Codes (not given for "accidental" species)

- A Aerial birds most often seen in flight or soaring
- O Open country grasslands, prairies, meadows (less than 10% shrubs or trees)
- S Shrub/Small trees fencerows, forest edges, old fields
- F Forests woodlots, conifer groves (trees greater than 30 ft tall, closed canopy)
- W Water/Wetland ponds, lakes, rivers, marshes, swamps, wet meadows
- D Developed buildings, bridges, bird feeders, trails, roads, landscape plantings

Seasons

Sp Spring: early March to late May

- **S** Summer: late May to mid August
- **F** Fall: mid August to late November
- W Winter: late November to early March

Seasonal Abundance Codes

- **a** Abundant, easily seen in all parks
- c Common, regularly visible in most parks
- u Uncommon, but predictably occurring in specific areas
- r Rare, seen infrequently, unpredictable
- * Accidental, one or two records for the parks since 1968

SPECIES	Status	Park	Habitat	Seas Sp	sons S	F	W
GEESE, SWANS, DUCKS				~ P	Ĩ		
Greater White-fronted Goose	_			*			
Snow Goose (Blue Goose)	_		W	r		r	
Canada Goose	•	(All)	W	a	a	a	с
Trumpeter Swan	•	(B,C,CH,E,R)	W	с	с	с	c
Tundra Swan	_	(All)	A,W	с	r	с	r
Wood Duck	•	(All)	W	с	c	с	r
Gadwall	_		W	r		r	
Eurasian Wigeon	_					*	
American Wigeon	_	(All)	W	с		c	
American Black Duck	_	(B , C , CR)	W	r	r	u	r
Mallard	•	(All)	W	a	a	a	c
Blue-winged Teal	•	(All)	W	с	u	c	
Cinnamon Teal	_			*			
Northern Shoveler	۲	(C,H,R)	W	u	r	u	
Northern Pintail	_		W	r		r	
Green-winged Teal			W	r		r	
Canvasback			W	r		r	
Redhead			W	r		r	
Ring-necked Duck	-	(All)	W	с		c	
Greater Scaup	-		W	r		r	
Lesser Scaup	-	(All)	W	с		с	
Long-tailed Duck	-					*	
Bufflehead	, e	(All)	W	с		с	
Common Goldeneye	_	(B,C,CR,R)	W	u		u	u
Hooded Merganser	•	(All)	W	u	r	u	
Common Merganser	_	(C,CR,F,H)	W	u		u	
Red-breasted Merganser	-	(CR)	W	u		r	
Ruddy Duck	•	(E,M)	W	u	u	u	
PHEASANTS, GROUSE, TURKEYS							
Gray Partridge (released)	_		0	r		r	r
Ring-necked Pheasant	•	(All)	O,S	с	с	с	u
Ruffed Grouse	e		F	r	r	r	r
Wild Turkey	•	(All)	\mathbf{F}	с	с	c	c
Northern Bobwhite (released)	_	(CH)	0	u	u	u	r
LOONS, GREBES							
Common Loon	•	(C,CH,E,M)	W	u	u	u	
Pied-billed Grebe	•	(All)	W	c	u	c	
Horned Grebe	_		W	r		r	
Red-necked Grebe	۲		W	r			
Eared Grebe	_					*	
Western Grebe	_			*			
Clark's Grebe	_			*			

SPECIES	Status	Park	Habitat	Seas Sp	sons S	F	W
PELICANS, CORMORANTS							
American White Pelican	_	(All)	W	u	u	с	
Double-crested Cormorant	-	(All)	W	c	u	u	
BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS							
American Bittern	۲		W	r	r	r	
Least Bittern	0	(B , E)	W	u	u	r	
Great Blue Heron	•	(All)	W	с	с	с	
Great Egret	_	(All)	W	c	c	c	
Snowy Egret	_				*		
Little Blue Heron	-				*		
Cattle Egret	-		W	r	r		
Green Heron	•	(All)	W	с	c	c	
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-		W	r	r	r	
<u>Yellow-crowned Night-Heron</u>	e		W	r	r		
AMERICAN VULTURES							
Turkey Vulture	-	(All)	Α	c	u	c	
OSPREYS							
Osprey	•	(B , C , CR)	A,W	c	c	u	
EAGLES, HARRIERS, HAWKS							
Bald Eagle	•	(B , C , CH , CR , E)	A,W	u	u	u	u
Northern Harrier	•	(CH,E)	0	u	r	u	r
Sharp-shinned Hawk	_	(All)	A,D	с		c	u
Cooper's Hawk	•	(All)	F	u	u	u	r
Northern Goshawk	-		F	r		r	r
Red-shouldered Hawk	•	(E,M)	F	u	u	u	r
Broad-winged Hawk	•	(B , H , M)	F	u	u	u	
Swainson's Hawk	_			*			
Red-tailed Hawk	•	(All)	O,S,F	с	c	c	u
Rough-legged Hawk	-		0	r			r
Golden Eagle	-					*	
FALCONS							
American Kestrel	•	(All)	0	с	с	с	u
Merlin	-		0	r		r	
Peregrine Falcon	-		A,W	r	r	r	r
RAILS, COOTS, CRANES							
Yellow Rail	_					*	
Virginia Rail	0	(All)	W	u	u		
Sora	•	(All)	W	u	u	r	
Common Moorhen	-				*		
American Coot	•	(All)	W	c	r	c	
Sandhill Crane	•	(B,C,CH,E)	O,W	u	u	r	

SPECIES	Status	Park	Habitat	Sea: Sp	sons S	F	W
PLOVERS				ър	5	,	
Black-bellied Plover	_		W	r		r	
American Golden-Plover	_		W	r		r	
Semipalmated Plover	_		W	r			
Killdeer	•	(All)	O,D	u	u	u	
SANDPIPERS, SNIPE, WOODCOCK							
Greater Yellowlegs	_	(C,CH)	W	u	u	u	
Lesser Yellowlegs	_	(C,CH,R)	W	u	u	u	
Solitary Sandpiper	_	(C,F)	W	u	u	r	
Willet	_		W	r			
Spotted Sandpiper	•		W	r	r	r	
Upland Sandpiper	۲		0	r	r		
Hudsonian Godwit	_			*			
Marbled Godwit	_			*			
Ruddy Turnstone	_		W	r		r	
Red Knot	_					*	
Sanderling	_		W	r	r	r	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	_	(C,E)	W	u	u		
Least Sandpiper	_	(C)	W	u	u	u	
White-rumped Sandpiper	_			*	*		
Baird's Sandpiper	_		W	r	r	r	
<u>Pectoral Sandpiper</u>	-	(C)	W	u	u	u	
Dunlin	-		W	r		r	
Stilt Sandpiper	-		W	r		r	
Short-billed Dowitcher	-		W	r	r		
Long-billed Dowitcher	-		W	r		r	
Common Snipe	•	(B,C,CH,E,M)	W	u	r	u	
American Woodcock	•	(All)	S,F	u	r	r	
PHALAROPES							
Wilson's Phalarope	-		W	r	r		
GULLS, TERNS							
Franklin's Gull	_	(All)	A,W	u	r	с	
Bonaparte's Gull	_		A,W	r	r	r	
Ring-billed Gull	-	(All)	A,W.D	a	с	a	r
Herring Gull	-	(CR)	A,W	u		u	r
Thayer's Gull	_		W				r
Iceland Gull	-						*
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-						*
Glaucous Gull	-		W				r
Caspian Tern	-	(C , F)	W	u	r	r	
Common Tern	ø		W	r		r	
Forster's Tern	Ø	(C,F,H)	W	u	r	u	
Black Tern	•	(CH,E,M,R)	W	u	u	u	

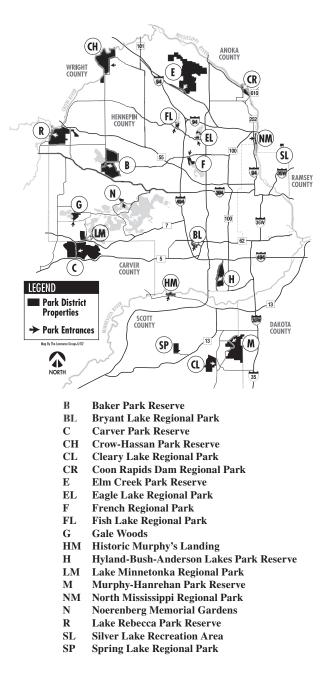
SPECIES	Status	Park	Habitat	Seas Sp	sons S	F	W
PIGEONS, DOVES							
Rock Pigeon	•	(CH,CR,E,G,SL)	A,D	u	u	u	u
Mourning Dove	•	(All)	D,S	с	c	c	u
CUCKCOOS							
Black-billed Cuckoo	•		S	r	r	r	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	•		S,F	r	r	r	
TYPICAL OWLS							
Eastern Screech-Owl	0		F	r	r	r	r
Great Horned Owl	•	(All)	O,S,F	u	u	u	u
Snowy Owl	_		0				r
Northern Hawk Owl	-						*
Barred Owl	•	(All)	F	u	u	u	u
Great Gray Owl	Ē		_				*
Long-eared Owl	,		F	r	r	r	r
Short-eared Owl	-		0	r		r	r
Boreal Owl	-		DCE				*
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-		D,S,F		_	r	r
GOATSUCKERS, SWIFTS	~						
Common Nighthawk	Ø	(All)	A,D	u	r	u	
Whip-poor-will	-		F	r			
Chimney Swift	•	(B , C , CH)	A,D	u	u	u	
HUMMINGBIRDS							
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	•	(All)	A,D	u	u	u	
Rufous Hummingbird	-					*	
KINGFISHERS							
Belted Kingfisher	•	(All)	W	u	u	u	r
WOODPECKERS							
Red-headed Woodpecker	•		O,D	r	r	r	r
Red-bellied Woodpecker	•	(All)	F,D	с	с	с	с
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	•	(All)	F	u	r	u	
Downy Woodpecker	•	(All)	D,O,F	с	c	с	c
Hairy Woodpecker	•	(All)	D,F	c	c	c	c
<u>Northern Flicker</u>	•	(All)	D,F	с	u	c	r
Pileated Woodpecker	•	(All)	F,D	u	u	u	u
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS							
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	С	S,F	u		u	
Eastern Wood-Pewee	•	(All)	F	c	c	c	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	_		S	r		r	
Acadian Flycatcher	•	(E,M)	F	r	u		
Alder Flycatcher	Ø	(B , M)	W	u	r	u	
Willow Flycatcher	•	(B , C , E , M , R)	W	u	u	u	
Least Flycatcher	•	(B , C , CH , M)	S,F	u	u	u	
Eastern Phoebe	•	(B , C , E)	D	u	u	u	

SPECIES	Status	Park	Habitat	Seas Sp	sons S	F	W
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS CONT.				~P	Ĩ		
Great Crested Flycatcher	•	(All)	F	c	c	u	
Western Kingbird	_			*			
Eastern Kingbird	•	(All)	0,S	c	c	u	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	_				*		
SHRIKES							
Loggerhead Shrike	e		O,S	r	r	r	
Northern Shrike	-		D,O,S	r		r	r
VIREOS							
White-eyed Vireo	_			*		*	
Bell's Vireo	_			*			
Yellow-throated Vireo	•	(B,C,E,M,R)	F	u	u	u	
Blue-headed Vireo	-	(B , C , E , H , M)	F	u		u	
Warbling Vireo	•	(C,CH,CL,E,F)	W,F	u	u	u	
Philadelphia Vireo Red-eyed Vireo	-	(All)	S F	r	0	r	
`	•	(AII)	Г	c	c	c	
JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS							
Gray Jay	-		D	_	_	_	r
Blue Jay Black-billed Magpie	•	(All)	D,S,F	a	a	a	a *
American Crow		(All)	All	а	а	a	a
LARKS, SWALLOWS	-	(/ ••••)	7 311	u	u	a	a
Horned Lark	Ø		0	r	r	r	r
Purple Martin	Ĩ		A,W	r	r	r	1
Tree Swallow	•	(All)	A,O,W	a	c	c	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	•		A,W	r	r	r	
Bank Swallow	•		A,W	r	r	r	
Cliff Swallow	•	(C R , H)	A,W	u	u	u	
Barn Swallow	•	(B,C,CH,G)	A,D	u	u	u	
CHICKADEES, TITMICE							
Black-capped Chickadee	•	(All)	D,O,F	a	a	a	a
Tufted Titmouse	-			*			
NUTHATCHES							
Red-breasted Nuthatch	_		D,F	r		r	r
White-breasted Nuthatch	•	(All)	D,F	c	c	c	c
CREEPERS							
Brown Creeper	•	(E,H)	D,F	u	r	u	u
WRENS							
House Wren	•	(All)	D,S	c	a	c	
Winter Wren	_		S,W	r		r	
Sedge Wren	•	(All)	O,W	u	u	u	
Marsh Wren	•	(B , C , E)	W	u	u	u	

SPECIES	Status	Park	Habitat	Seas Sp	sons S	F	W
KINGLETS, GNATCATCHERS				Ĺ			
Golden-crowned Kinglet	_	(All)	F	u		u	r
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	_	(All)	D,S,F	u		u	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	•	(All)	F	c	c	c	
BLUEBIRDS, SOLITAIRES, THRUSHES							
Eastern Bluebird	•	(All)	D,O,S	c	c	c	r
Mountain Bluebird	_			*	*		
Townsend's Solitaire	_		F				r
Veery	•	(E,M)	F	u	u	u	
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-		S,F	r		r	
Swainson's Thrush	-	(All)	S,F	u		u	
Hermit Thrush	_	(All)	F	u		u	
Wood Thrush	•		F	r	r	r	
American Robin	•	(All)	D,S,F	a	a	a	u
MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS							
Gray Catbird	•	(All)	D,S	c	c	c	
Northern Mockingbird	_		~	*	*		
Brown Thrasher	•		S	r	r	r	r
STARLINGS							
European Starling	•	(All)	D,F	c	c	c	c
PIPITS							
American Pipit	_		W	r		r	
Sprague's Pipit	-					*	
WAXWINGS							
Bohemian Waxwing	_		D,S	r			r
Cedar Waxwing	•	(All)	S,D	с	с	с	r
WOOD WARBLERS							
Blue-winged Warbler	•	(C,CL,H,M)	S,F	u	u	r	
Golden-winged Warbler	۲		S	r		r	
Tennessee Warbler	-	(All)	F,S	c		c	
Orange-crowned Warbler	-	(All)	S	u		u	
<u>Nashville Warbler</u>	-	(All)	S,F	c		c	
Northern Parula	-		S,F	r		r	
Yellow Warbler	•	(All)	S,W	a	a	c	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	•	(All)	S	u	r	u	
Magnolia Warbler	_	(C,M)	S,F	u		u	
Cape May Warbler	-		F	r		r	
Black-throated Blue Warbler	_		S	r		r	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	_	(All)	S,F	a		a	r
Black-throated Green Warbler	_	(C,M)	F	u		u	
Blackburnian Warbler	_	(B,C,M,N)	F	u		u	
Yellow-throated Warbler	_			*			

SPECIES	Status	Park	Habitat	Seas Sp	sons S	F	W
WOOD WARBLERS CONT.				Ť			
Pine Warbler	_		F	r		r	
Prairie Warbler	-			*			
Palm Warbler	_	(All)	S,D	c		c	
Bay-breasted Warbler	-		F	r		r	
Blackpoll Warbler	-	(All)	F	u		u	
Cerulean Warbler	•	(C,M)	F	u	u		
Black-and-white Warbler	-	(All)	F	c	r	c	
American Redstart		(B , C , E , M)	S,F	c	c	c	
Prothonotary Warbler Ovenbird			W,F	r	r		
Northern Waterthrush	•	(M)	F	u	u	u	
Louisiana Waterthrush	—		F,W	r *		r	
Kentucky Warbler	—		F	r	r		
Connecticut Warbler	—		S,F	r	1	r	
Mourning Warbler		(M)	S,W	u	r	u	
Common Yellowthroat		(All)	S,W	a	a	c	
Hooded Warbler		(C,M)	F	u	u	C	
Wilson's Warbler	_	(C,M)	S,W	u	u	u	
Canada Warbler	_	(C,M)	S,F	u		u	
Yellow-breasted Chat	_		/	*			
TANAGERS							
Summer Tanager	_				*		
Scarlet Tanager	•	(B , C , CH , M , R)	F	u	u	u	
TOWHEES, SPARROWS, LONGSPURS		(2,0,01,1,1,1)	-				
Green-tailed Towhee				*			
Spotted Towhee	_			*		*	
Eastern Towhee		(H , M)	S,D	u	u	u	
American Tree Sparrow	-	(All)	D,S,O	c	u	u	с
Chipping Sparrow	•	(E,F,H,N)	D,0,0	c	с	c	C
Clay-colored Sparrow	•	(C,CH,E,H)	O,S	u	u	u	
Field Sparrow	•	(CH,F,H,R)	S	u	u	u	
Vesper Sparrow	•	(CH,M)	0	u	u	u	
Lark Sparrow	_			*			
Savannah Sparrow	0	(CH,M)	0	u	u	u	
Grasshopper Sparrow	•	(CH,M)	0	u	u	u	
Henslow's Sparrow	•		0	r	r		
Le Conte's Sparrow	_		O,W	r		r	
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	_			*			
Fox Sparrow	-	(All)	D,F	u		u	
Song Sparrow	•	(All)	S	a	a	a	r
Lincoln's Sparrow	_		D,S	r		r	
C C				-			
Swamp Sparrow White-throated Sparrow	•	(B,C,E,M) (All)	W D,S	u c	u	u c	

SPECIES	Status	Park	Habitat	Sea: Sp	sons S	F	W
TOWHEES, SPARROWS, LONGS	PURS CONT.			~r			
Harris's Sparrow	-	(B,C,CH,CR)	D,O,S	u		u	
White-crowned Sparrow	-		D	r		r	
Dark-eyed Junco	-	(All)	D,O,S	a		a	c
Lapland Longspur	-		0	r		r	
Snow Bunting	-		0			r	r
GROSBEAKS, BUNTINGS							
Northern Cardinal	•	(All)	D,S,F	с	с	с	c
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	•	(All)	D,S,F	с	с	c	
Indigo Bunting	•	(B , C , E , M)	S,D	с	с	с	
Dickcissel	0		0		r		
MEADOWLARKS, BLACKBIRDS,	ORIOLES						
Bobolink	•	(C,CH,H,M)	0	u	u		
Red-winged Blackbird	•	(All)	W,D	a	a	a	r
Eastern Meadowlark	•	(All)	0	u	u	u	r
Western Meadowlark	•		0	r	r	r	r
Yellow-headed Blackbird	•	(M , R)	W	u	u	u	
Rusty Blackbird	-		W	r		r	r
Brewer's Blackbird	-		0	r	r	r	
Common Grackle	•	(All)	D,S,F	с	с	с	r
Brown-headed Cowbird	•	(All)	D,S,F	a	a	a	r
Orchard Oriole	•	(CH)	S	u	u	u	
Baltimore Oriole	•	(All)	D,S	u	u	u	
FINCHES							
Pine Grosbeak	-		D,F				r
Purple Finch	-	(C)	D,F	u	r	u	u
House Finch	•	(E , F , H)	D	с	с	c	c
Red Crossbill	-		D,F				r
White-winged Crossbill	-		D,F				r
Common Redpoll	-		D,0	r		r	r
Hoary Redpoll	-		D,O				r
Pine Siskin	-		D	r		r	r
American Goldfinch	•	(All)	D,O,S	c	a	a	c
Evening Grosbeak	-		D,F	r		r	r
WEAVER FINCHES							
House Sparrow	•	(G,H)	D	u	u	u	u
FIELD NOTES:							



For information about birding classes and programs, or suggestions for birding at specific locations, call one of the Nature Centers or the Natural Resources Management Section listed below.

Eastman Nature Center, Elm Creek Park Reserve: 763/694-7700 Lowry Nature Center, Carver Park Reserve: 763/694-7650 Richardson Nature Center, Hyland Lake Park Reserve: 763/694-7676 Natural Resources Management, Baker Park Reserve: 763/694-1065