

## **TOM RENICK COUNTY PARK BIRD COUNTS- APRIL, 2022**

This should have been warbler month but not so this year the wind was too often from the east that did however produce pelagic seabirds at the end of the month. In all 30 surveys were conducted over 178 hours a total of 141 species located (the second-best April count). For the year 185 species counted (also the second-best count) with a grand total of 304. Again, there were no additions to the list. The best days were the 3<sup>rd</sup> with 68 species and the 4<sup>th</sup> with 1,653 birds.

There was a Common Loon on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Now to the pelagic seabirds there were two Cory's Shearwaters on the 29<sup>th</sup> with a Great Shearwater on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There were single Audubon's Shearwaters on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. There were two Wilson's Storm-Petrels on the 29<sup>th</sup>. There was a Leach's Storm-Petrel on the 23<sup>rd</sup> with 32 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest count. There was an immature Brown Booby on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Northern Gannets were seen all month with a high count of 123 on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There were two American White Pelicans on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Brown Pelicans also peaked on the 9<sup>th</sup> there were 412 on that date. Double-crested Cormorants migrated to the north all month with 255 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 130 on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> there were 81 Great Egrets and 125 Snowy Egrets migrating to the north. There were single Reddish Egrets on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. There were single Green Herons on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. There was a Black-crowned Night-Heron on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Yellow-crowned Night-Herons seen all month with three on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There were two Glossy Ibis on the 1<sup>st</sup> with five on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 12 on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Roseate Spoonbills were seen on 13 dates with 17 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Wood Storks were seen to the 25<sup>th</sup> with 14 on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Only low numbers of vultures now there were 74 Black on the 11<sup>th</sup> with 62 Turkey on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

There were two Gadwall on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Blue-winged Teal were seen on seven dates with nine on the 10<sup>th</sup>. There were three Northern Shoveler on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. There was a Green-winged Teal on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with eight on the 6<sup>th</sup> and three on the 8<sup>th</sup>. There was a Ring-necked Duck on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with five Lesser Scaup on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. There were 12 Red-breasted Mergansers on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with one on the 5<sup>th</sup>, two on the 9<sup>th</sup> and one on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

There was another passage of Ospreys this month as 19 flew to the north on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Swallow-tailed Kites were seen nearly every day with higher counts of six on the 4<sup>th</sup>, nine on the 11<sup>th</sup>, seven on the 16<sup>th</sup> and six on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There were single very early Mississippi Kites on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> almost certainly the same bird on both dates. Up to three a day Bald Eagles were seen all month. There was a Northern Harrier on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with two on the 7<sup>th</sup>. There was a Sharpshinned Hawk on the 5<sup>th</sup> with two on the 9<sup>th</sup> and one on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The wintering male American Kestrel was seen to the 6<sup>th</sup>. There were four migrants on the 7<sup>th</sup> with singles on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>,

15<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Merlins were seen on 24 dates with high counts of six on the 10<sup>th</sup> and four on the 20<sup>th</sup>. There were single Peregrine Falcons on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

There were single American Golden-Plovers on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. There was a Semipalmated Plover on the 9<sup>th</sup> with three on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There were two Black-necked Stilts on the 28<sup>th</sup> (over the river). There were two Greater Yellowlegs on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There were two Lesser Yellowlegs on the 16<sup>th</sup> with one on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There was a Solitary Sandpiper on the 18<sup>th</sup>. The spring northerly passage of Willets included 118 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Whimbrel were seen on nine dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> 23 birds in all with a high count of five on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There was a Marbled Godwit on the 18<sup>th</sup> (they are rare in the spring). There was a Red Knot on the 19<sup>th</sup>. There were 20 Semipalmated Sandpipers on the 25<sup>th</sup> with 30 Western Sandpipers on the 18<sup>th</sup>. There were five Least Sandpipers on the 19<sup>th</sup> with one on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. There were single Dunlin on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. There were four Long-billed Dowitchers on the 30<sup>th</sup> with a late Wilson's Snipe on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

Ring-billed Gulls were seen to the 23<sup>rd</sup> and Herring Gulls were still being seen at the end of the month. There were two Lesser Black-backed Gulls on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with two on the 5<sup>th</sup> and one on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There were two Gull-billed Terns on the 18<sup>th</sup> with three on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There were three Common Terns on the 19<sup>th</sup> with two on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Forster's Terns were only seen to the 9<sup>th</sup>. Least Terns were seen from the 7<sup>th</sup> with 15 on the 20<sup>th</sup> and ten on the 29<sup>th</sup>. There was a Black Tern on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Black Skimmers were seen on 13 dates with nine on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

A female Chuck-will's-widow was present from the 5<sup>th</sup> with a second one on the 27<sup>th</sup>. There was an Eastern Whip-poor-will on the 4<sup>th</sup>. There was a Ruby-throated Hummingbird on the 19<sup>th</sup> with a Belted Kingfisher on the 17<sup>th</sup>. There were single Red-headed Woodpeckers on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. There were also single Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup>. There was a Great Crested Flycatcher on the 10<sup>th</sup>. There were 34 Eastern Kingbirds on the 1<sup>st</sup> with one on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, one on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, two on the 6<sup>th</sup> and one on the 7<sup>th</sup>. There was a White-eyed Vireo on the 16<sup>th</sup> with a Blue-headed Vireo on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was a real rarity a Florida Scrub-Jay on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Purple Martins were seen on nine dates no more than two a day. Only low numbers of Tree Swallows this year the high counts were 840 on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 280 on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Northern Rough-winged Swallows were seen on ten dates with five on the 6<sup>th</sup> and nine on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Bank Swallows were seen on six dates with four on the 4<sup>th</sup> as a high count. There was a Cliff Swallow on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Barn Swallows were also seen in low numbers the high count was that of 600 on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

There was a Tufted Titmouse on the 12<sup>th</sup>. There was a migrant House Wren present from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup>. There was a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher on the 16<sup>th</sup>. There was an Eastern Bluebird on the 27<sup>th</sup>. A Veery was heard on the 26<sup>th</sup>. There was a Gray Catbird present from the

1<sup>st</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup>. Brown Thrashers were present all month with four on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. At the end of the month a pair had made a nest but they may have deserted it. Cedar Waxwings were seen daily to the 27<sup>th</sup> with high counts of 155 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 135 on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 120 on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

There was a Northern Parula on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. There was a Yellow-rumped Warbler on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was a Prairie Warbler on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Palm Warblers were only seen to the 17<sup>th</sup>. There was a Black-and-white Warbler on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Single Common Yellowthroats were seen on three dates with two on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Exceptionally there was a Clay-colored Sparrow on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Also, on the 13<sup>th</sup> there was a Rose-breasted Grosbeak. There was a Blue Grosbeak on the 27<sup>th</sup> with an Indigo Bunting on the 16<sup>th</sup>. There were six Bobolinks on the 19<sup>th</sup> with three on the 20<sup>th</sup>. There was a Baltimore Oriole on the 20<sup>th</sup>. There were three pairs of House Finches in the area all month.

What will May bring?

Harry Robinson