

TOM RENICK COUNTY PARK _ BIRD COUNTS APRIL, 2023

There were 151 species this month the record is that of 152 in 2021 so close. These two counts are way ahead of all the other monthly totals. There were 30 surveys over 181 hours. For the year 205 species located with 317 for the whole survey. The best days were 2,217 birds on the 19th and 73 species on the 30th. This is the highest daily count there were 72 on April 21, 2021. To round this off there was a new species this month.

There were two Common Loons on the 2nd and 9th with singles on the 10th and 17th. There were four Cory's Shearwaters on the 10th with one on the 11th. One of them on the 10th was a Scopoli's Shearwater. There were six Audubon's Shearwaters on the 10th this is a new high count. There were 13 Wilson's Storm-Petrels on the 10th with one on the 11th and four on the 12th. There were two Leach's Storm-Petrels on the 10th with seven on the 11th and 41 on the 12th. There was also a Band-rumped Storm-Petrel on the 12th. Northern Gannets are very scarce with 17 on the 10th, eight on the 11th, eight on the 12th and singles later on the 19th and 23rd. Brown Pelicans peaked at 181 on the 15th. Now to the new species an immature Neotropic Cormorant flew to the north with Double-crested Cormorants over the river on the 27th. Double-crested Cormorants peaked at 70 on the 10th, 150 on the 23rd and 147 on the 27th. Anhingas normally just one to two seen a day but there were 88 on the 2nd and 20 on the 4th.

There was a Reddish Egret on the 28th. There were single Green Herons on the 2nd, 4th, 13th, 22nd and 29th with three on the 15th. There were singles Black-crowned Night-Herons on the 5th, 14th, 15th, 26th and 28th. There was a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron on the 5th with two from the 14th. There were ten Glossy Ibis on the 2nd with singles on the 14th, 15th and 24th. There were also seven on the 28th. Roseate Spoonbills were seen on 15 dates with 39 on the 24th and 34 on the 28th. There were four Wood Storks on the 2nd with singles on the 20th, 25th and 29th. There were also four on the 30th.

For the vultures the high counts were 21 Black on the 12th and the 27th and for the Turkey there were 77 on the 2nd. Blue-winged Teal were seen on seven dates with 17 on the 23rd. There were two Northern Shoveler on the 6th. There were two Black Scoter on the 9th. There were single Red-breasted Mergansers on the 2nd and 18th.

Ospreys were moving on the 2nd as 16 seen. Normally one to three Swallow-tailed Kites seen all month but there were seven on the 2nd. There was a Mississippi Kite on the 20th. There were single Northern Harriers on the 2nd, 14th and 30th. There was a Sharp-shinned Hawk on the 6th. There were four Red-shouldered Hawks on the 1st a joint high count. There were single light morph Short-tailed Hawks on the 20th and 29th. There were two American Kestrels on the 2nd with singles on the 19th and 23rd. Merlins were seen on 21 dates a total of 64 flew to the north.

There were six on the 15th, nine on the 18th and 12 on the 23rd. There was a Peregrine Falcon on the 3rd.

There were three American Golden-Plovers on the 1st a joint high count. There was a Wilson's Plover on the 26th. Semipalmated Plovers were seen on six dates from the 15th to the 30th with a high count of 19 on the 30th. There were single Black-necked Stilts on the 25th and 28th with five on the 29th. There was an American Avocet on the 19th. There was a Greater Yellowlegs on the 19th. There were single Lesser Yellowlegs on the 19th and 27th with 31 on the 30th. There were single Solitary Sandpipers on the 17th and 30th. Willets of the Western race were heard to the end of the month. There were single Spotted Sandpipers on the 19th and the 30th. There were two Whimbrel on the 9th, 21st and 24th with singles on the 10th and 22nd. There was a Red Knot on the 30th. There were four Semipalmated Sandpipers on the 26th with three on the 29th and 74 on the 30th. There were single Least Sandpipers on the 26th and 29th with 45 on the 30th.

Ring-billed Gulls and Herring Gulls were both seen to the end of the month. There were single Lesser Black-backed Gulls on the 8th and 16th with two on the 10th and 11th. There was a Great Black-backed Gull on the 10th. There was a Gull-billed Tern on the 12th with three on the 30th. There were two Caspian Terns on the 9th. Royal Terns peaked at 83 on the 4th. There was a Roseate Tern on the 10th. Common Terns were seen on six dates from the 3rd to the 24th with three on the 21st. Forster's Terns were seen to the 14th. Least Terns were seen from the 6th with 12 on the 11th. There were two Black Terns on the 23rd with one on the 30th. Black Skimmers were seen on 13 dates with 11 on the 23rd and 13 on the 28th.

There was a Nanday Parakeet on the 11th. There was a Yellow-billed Cuckoo on the 18th. There were two Eastern Screech-Owls on the 25th (a high count) with one on the 27th. There were two Great Horned Owls on the 4th a joint high count. There was a Barred Owl on the 3rd. There was a Common Nighthawk on the 14th this is always a rarity. There were three Chuck-will's-widow on the 2nd with two to the 16th and one to at least the 29th. There were two Eastern Whip-poor-wills on the 3rd a high count. Chimney Swifts were seen from the 15th with nine on the 22nd and ten on the 24th. There were single Ruby-throated Hummingbirds on the 1st, 4th and 30th. There was a Belted Kingfisher on the 19th.

There were nine Red-bellied Woodpeckers on the 8th a joint high count. Single Downy Woodpeckers were noted on five dates. Single Pileated Woodpeckers were noted on 15 dates with two on the 19th. There was a Great Crested Flycatcher in the area from the 13th to the 21st. There were two Eastern Kingbirds on the 16th with one on the 17th, two on the 18th, one on the 19th and three on the 25th. The wintering Loggerhead Shrike was last seen on the 22nd. There was a White-eyed Vireo on the 1st with a Yellow-throated Vireo on the 2nd. Fish Crows continued

to migrate to the north there were 240 on the 1st, 216 on the 5th, 48 on the 16th and 16 on the 20th.

Purple Martins were seen on eight days with seven on the 19th. Tree Swallows were seen all month with 22 on the 15th and 20 on the 30th. There were single Northern Rough-winged Swallows on the 2nd, 15th and 23rd. There were four Bank Swallows on the 15th with one on the 18th. There was a Cliff Swallow on the 17th. The higher Barn Swallow counts were: 1,095 on the 18th, 1,730 on the 19th, 1,462 on the 23rd, 1,795 on the 24th and 1,146 on the 26th. There was a Carolina Chickadee on the 6th with a Tufted Titmouse on the 20th. The wintering House Wren was last heard on the 13th.

There was a Veery on the 15th. There was a Swainson's Thrush on the 16th with two on the 28th. There was a Wood Thrush on the 28th a rarity. There was a late American Robin on the 1st. There were two Gray Catbirds to the 13th with one remaining to the 17th. Single Brown Thrashers were seen on eight dates with two on the 22nd. Cedar Waxwings seen to the 28th with 40 on the 1st, 45 on the 3rd, 40 on the 19th and 25 on the 28th.

One to two Northern Parula seen to the 17th with singles on the 21st, 26th and 30th. There were three Cape May Warblers on the 30th. There were three Yellow-rumped Warblers on the 2nd with one on the 18th. There was a male Blackburnian Warbler on the 30th (second record for the park). There were single Yellow-throated Warblers on the 9th and 16th. There were four Prairie Warblers on the 13th a new high count. There were single Palm Warblers on the 2nd, 15th and 22nd. There was a Blackpoll Warbler on the 26th with two on the 30th. There was a Black-and-white Warbler on the 8th. There were single American Redstarts on the 24th and the 30th. There was a Prothonotary Warbler on the 7th. There were single Common Yellowthroats on the 5th and 28th with two on the 30th.

There were two Summer Tanagers on the 8th with one on the 13th and two again on the 19th. There was a Blue Grosbeak on the 26th. There were single Indigo Buntings on the 15th and 23rd. There was a Painted Bunting on the 21st a rarity. There were two Dickcissels on the 21st. There were three Bobolinks on the 17th with one on the 28th, then 110 seen on the 30th. One to two Brown-headed Cowbirds were seen to the 19th. There were two Orchard Orioles on the 14th a new high count. There were single Baltimore Orioles on the 1st, 8th and 30th. House Finches peaked at eight on the 15th.

Can we have another new species in May?

Harry Robinson