

Birds

George Washington Birthplace National Monument is one of over 390 sites administered by the National Park Service. The park is located within Westmoreland County, Virginia and encompasses 550 acres.

Although the primary objective of the park is to preserve and interpret the history and resources associated with George Washington, plenty of opportunities exist for bird watching and wildlife-oriented public use. Habitats include hardwood forests, pine plantations, open meadows, brackish marsh, estuaries, and freshwater ponds and swamps. Such diverse habitats within a small geographic area offer opportunities to observe a broad variety of bird species. Neotropical migrants abound during the spring and fall and thousands of waterfowl make Pope’s Creek their home each winter.

The following bird list contains 218 species, representing observations by the National Park Service’s inventory and monitoring program. Please report the sightings of unlisted species to park staff at the visitor center.

Key to symbols

Seasons		
Sp-	spring	March-May
S-	Summer	June-August
F-	Fall	September-November
W-	Winter	December-February

Status	
a	abundant Usually found in numbers
c	common Usually found in right habitat
u	uncommon Possible, but often missed
o	occasional Seen several times each season
r	rare Seen every few years
(i)	introduced Not native

*Nester
Has nested in park

	Sp	S	F	W
Loons				
Common Loon	c		c	c
Red-Throated Loon	r		r	r
Grebes				
Pie-Billed Grebe	c	r	c	c
Horned Grebe	u		u	u
Cormorants				
Double-Crested Cormorant	c	c	a	c
Bitterns, Herons and Egrets				
American Bittern	r		r	r
Least Bittern	r	r	r	
Great Blue Heron	c	c	c	c
Great Egret	c	c	c	r
Snowy Egret	c	c	c	r
Little Blue Heron	r	u	u	
Tricolored Heron	o	o	o	
Cattle Egret	u	u	u	
Green-Backed Heron	u	c	c	
Black-Crowned				
Night Heron		u	u	u
Yellow-Crowned				
Night Heron	r	r	r	
Ibis				
Glossy Ibis	r	r	r	
Geese, Swans, and Ducks				
Great White-Fronted				
Goose	o		o	o
Snow Goose	o		o	o
Canada Goose*	a	c	a	a
Mute Swan* (i)	c	u	c	c
Tundra Swan	c		c	a
Wood Duck*	u	u	u	
Gadwall	u		u	u
American Wigeon	u		u	u
American Black Duck	u	u	u	a
Mallard*	c	c	c	c
Blue-Winged Teal	o		o	
Northern Shoveler	c		o	c
Northern Pintail	o		o	o
Green-Winged Teal	u		u	o
Canvasback				o
Redhead	r		r	r
Ring-Neck Duck	c		o	c
Greater Scaup	u		u	u
Lesser Scaup	c		c	c
Common Goldeneye	u		u	c
Surf Scooter	c		c	c
White-Winged Scooter	u		u	u
Black Scooter	r		r	r
Bufflehead	c		c	c
Long-Tailed Duck	o		o	c
Hooded Merganser	c		c	c

	Sp	S	F	W
Common Merganser	u		u	r
Red-Breasted Merganser	c		c	c
Ruddy Duck	c		c	c
American Vultures				
Black Vulture*	c	c	c	c
Turkey Vulture*	a	a	a	a
Osprey, Eagles and Hawks				
Osprey*	c	c	c	
Bald Eagle*	c	c	c	c
Northern Harrier	u		u	c
Sharp-Shinned Hawk*	c	u	c	c
Cooper's Hawk	u	u	u	u
Red-Shouldered Hawk*	c	c	c	c
Broad-Winged Hawk	c	u	c	
Red-Tailed Hawk*	c	c	c	c
Falcons				
American Kestrel	c	r	c	c
Merlin	r		r	
Peregrine Falcon	r		r	
Turkey and Quail				
Wild Turkey*	u	u	u	u
Northern Bobwhite*	c	c	c	c
Rails, Gallinues and Coots				
Clapper Rail	c	c	c	u
King Rail	r		r	r
Virginia Rail	r		r	r
American Coot	r		o	r
Plovers				
Semipalmated Plover	r		r	
Killdeer	c	c	c	c
Stilts				
Black-Necked Stilt			o	
American Avocet			o	
Sandpipers and their Allies				
Solitary Sandpiper	u		u	
Spotted Sandpiper	u		r	
Greater Yellowlegs	u		u	
Lesser Yellowlegs	u		u	
Sanderling			u	r
Pectoral Sandpiper	u		u	
Dunlin	c		c	r
Wilson's Snipe	u		u	u
American Woodcock	u	u	u	r
Gulls and Terns				
Laughing Gull	c	c	c	
Bonaparte's Gull	r			
Ring-Billed Gull	c	c	c	c
Herring Gull	c	c	c	c
Great Black-Backed Gull	c	c	c	c
Least Tern	u	u	u	
Caspian Tern	u	r	u	

	Sp	S	F	W
Common Tern	r		r	
Forster's Tern	c	o	c	
Royal Tern	c	c	c	
Pigeons and Doves				
Rock Dove* (i)	c	c	c	c
Mourning Dove*	a	a	a	a
Cuckoos				
Black-Billed Cuckoo	r	r	r	
Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	u	u	u	
Barn Owls				
Barn Owl	r	r	r	r
Typical Owls				
Eastern Screech Owl*	u	u	u	u
Great Horned Owl	u	u	u	u
Barred Owl*	u	u	u	u
Short-Eared Owl	r	r	r	r
Goatsuckers				
Common Nighthawk	c	u		u
Chuck-Will's Widow	o	c	c	o
Whip-Poor-Will		r	r	r
Swifts				
Chimney Swift			c	c
Hummingbirds				
Ruby-Throated				
Hummingbird *	c	c	c	c
Kingfishers				
Belted Kingfisher*	c	c	c	c
Woodpeckers				
Red-Headed Woodpecker	o	o	o	o
Red-Bellied Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker	c	c	c	o
Downy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
Hairy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
Northern Flicker*	c	c	c	c
Pileated Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
Tyrant Flycatchers				
Eastern Wood-Pewee*	c	c	c	
Acadian Flycatcher	c	c	c	
Least Flycatcher	c	c	c	
Eastern Phoebee*	c	c	c	o
Great Crested Flycatcher*	c	c	c	
Eastern Kingbird*	c	c	c	
Vireos				
White-Eyed Vireo	u	u	u	
Yellow-Throated Vireo	u	u	r	
Red-Eyed Vireo*	c	c	c	
Jays and Crows				
Blue Jay*	c	c	c	c
American Crow*	a	a	a	a
Fish Crow*	c	c	u	u

	Sp	S	F	W
Larks				
___ Horned Lark*	u	u	u	u
Martins and Swallows				
___ Purple Martin	c	c	c	
___ Tree Swallow*	a	u	a	
___ Northern Rough-Winged Swallow	o	o	u	
___ Bank Swallow	r	u	r	
___ Barn Swallow*	c	c	c	
Chickadees and Titmice				
___ Carolina Chickadee*	a	a	a	a
___ Tufted Titmouse*	a	a	a	a
Nuthatches and Creepers				
___ Red-Breasted Nuthatch	o		o	o
___ White-Breasted Nuthatch*	u	u	u	u
___ Brown-Headed Nuthatch	o	o	o	o
___ Brown Creeper*	u	u	u	u
Wrens				
___ Carolina Wren*	c	c	c	c
___ House Wren*	o	o	o	
___ Winter Wren	o		o	o
___ Marsh Wren	r	r	r	
Kinglets and Gnatcatchers				
___ Golden-Crowned Kinglet	u		u	c
___ Ruby-Crowned Kinglet	u		u	u
___ Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher*	c	c	c	
Bluebirds and Thrushes				
___ Eastern Bluebird*	a	a	a	a
___ Hermit Thrush	u		u	u
___ Wood Thrush*	c	c	c	
___ Veery	u		u	
___ American Robin*	a	a	a	a
Mockingbirds and Thrashers				
___ Gray Catbird*	c	c	c	c
___ Northern Mockingbird*	c	c	c	c
___ Brown Thrasher*	c	c	c	u
Starlings				
___ European Starling* (i)	a	a	a	a
Pipits				
___ American Pipit	r		r	r
Waxwings				
___ Cedar Waxwing	c		c	c
Wood Warblers				
___ Blue-Winged Warbler	u		r	
___ Golden-Winged Warbler	r		r	
___ Tennessee Warbler	r		r	
___ Orange-Crowned Warbler	r		r	
___ Nashville Warbler	r		r	
___ Northern Parula Warbler	u	u	o	
___ Yellow Warbler	u	o	r	
___ Chesnut-Sided Warbler	r		r	

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Magnolia Warbler	u		u	
___ Cape May Warbler	u		u	
___ Black-Throated Blue Warbler	u		u	
___ Yellow-Rumped Warbler	c	c	c	c
___ Yellow-Throated Warbler	o	o	u	
___ Blackburnian Warbler	r		r	
___ Pine Warbler*	c	c	c	c
___ Prairie Warbler		u	u	
___ Palm Warbler	u		u	
___ Blackpoll Warbler	c		c	
___ Cerulean Warbler	r		r	
___ Black and White Warbler	u		u	
___ American Redstart	c	r	c	
___ Prothonotary Warbler	u	u	u	
___ Worm-Eating Warbler	r		r	
___ Swainson's Warbler	r	r	r	
___ Ovenbird	c	c	c	
___ Northern Waterthrush	r		r	
___ Louisiana Waterthrush	u	r	u	
___ Kentucky Warbler	u	r	u	
___ Common Yellowthroat	c	c	c	
___ Hooded Warbler	u	u	u	
___ Wilson's Warbler	r		r	
___ Canada Warbler	r		r	
___ Yellow-Breasted Chat	c	c	c	
Tanagers				
___ Summer Tanager	c	c	c	
___ Scarlet Tanager	o	o	o	
Sparrows				
___ Eastern Towhee	c	c	c	c
___ American Tree Sparrow	r		r	r
___ Chipping Sparrow	c	c	c	r
___ Field Sparrow	c	c	c	c
___ Vesper Sparrow	o	o	o	r
___ Savannah Sparrow	o		o	r
___ Grasshopper Sparrow*	o	o	o	
___ Fox Sparrow	u		u	u
___ Song Sparrow	c	c	c	c
___ Swamp Sparrow	u		u	u
___ White-Throated Sparrow	c	c	c	a
___ White-Crowned Sparrow	o	o	o	o
___ Dark-Eyed Junco*	c		c	a
Grosbeaks, Buntings and Finches				
___ Northern Cardinal*	c	c	c	c
___ Evening Grosbeak	r		r	r
___ Blue Grosbeak	u	u	u	
___ Purple Finch	u		u	u
___ House Finch	c	c	c	c
___ Pine Siskin	o		o	o
___ American Goldfinch	a	a	c	c
Blackbirds, Orioles, Etc.				
___ Bobolink	u		u	

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Red-Winged Blackbird*	a	a	a	c
___ Rusty Blackbird			r	r
___ Eastern Meadowlark*	c	c	c	c
___ Common Grackle*	a	a	a	u
___ Brown-Headed Cowbird*	c	c	c	u
___ Orchard Oriole*	u	u	o	
___ Northern Oriole	u	r	u	
Weaver Finches				
___ House Sparrow* (i)	c	c	c	c
Sighting Notes				
Date: _____	Time: _____			
Weather: _____	_____			
Number of Species: _____				
Park Location: _____	_____			
Observers: _____	_____			
Remarks: _____	_____			
_____	_____			
_____	_____			
_____	_____			

Birds of George Washington Birthplace National Monument



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

