



Birds

Resource Brief



Brown-headed Cowbird
.64



Northern Cardinal
.73



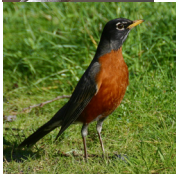
Acadian Flycatcher
.83



Red-eyed Vireo
.87



Eastern Tufted Titmouse
1.09



American Robin
1.25



Eastern Towhee
1.35



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
1.37



American Goldfinch
1.46



Unidentified Chickadee¹
2.39

Regional Bird Monitoring

Since 2007, the National Capital Region Network (NCRN) Inventory & Monitoring program has monitored birds at approximately 385 forest plots throughout the region. Birds are monitored at each plot twice every summer for a total of 770 visits a year. Because this long-term monitoring program occurs within forest habitats, it only accounts for bird species found in forests.

Top 10 Most Common Birds at Greenbelt

The pictures of birds stacked on the left side of the page represent the most commonly found birds in Greenbelt's forest. The largest picture in the stack, the unidentified chickadee¹, represents the species with the highest density of birds per hectare (ha) of forest—there are 2.39 chickadees per hectare (although we don't actually have fractions of birds).

The smaller the image, the lower its density rates and the less likely you are to find the bird. So you're much more likely to find a chickadee as you are the second most common bird, the American Goldfinch (1.46 birds/ha).

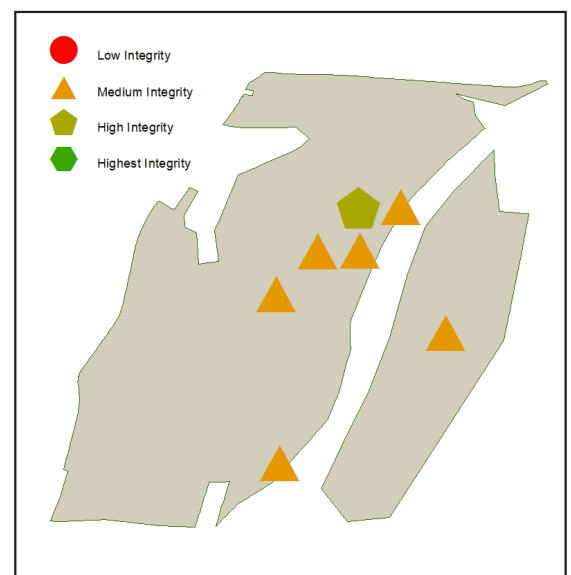
What's impressive about this list is that it includes two species of conservation concern. The Eastern Towhee and Acadian Flycatcher (framed in red) are both Partners in Flight program "stewardship species." This means birds that are declining or vulnerable as species, are finding valuable habitat at Greenbelt. For a full list of bird species found in Greenbelt's forest, see reverse.

Bird Monitoring Plots & Habitat Quality

Birds are monitored at 7 forest plots in Greenbelt. Based on the types of birds detected, each plot is rated for habitat quality.

Points with large numbers of generalist and habitat-insensitive species score poorly and those with large numbers of specialist or habitat-sensitive species get higher scores.

In this map, orange triangles mark Medium integrity habitat, and light green pentagons mark High integrity habitat.



Bird monitoring plots in Greenbelt Park, rated for habitat quality.

¹Detections of Carolina Chickadees and Black-capped Chickadees are combined.



Birds of Greenbelt's Forest

Between 2007 and 2010, Greenbelt was home to 7 species of conservation concern, marked below with asterisks.

Acadian Flycatcher**	Eastern Wood-Pewee	White-breasted Nuthatch
American Goldfinch	Gray Catbird	Wood Thrush*
American Redstart	Gray-cheeked Thrush	Worm-eating Warbler*
American Robin	Great Crested Flycatcher	Yellow Warbler
Black-and-white Warbler	Hairy Woodpecker	Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Blackpoll Warbler	Mourning Dove	
Blue Jay	Northern Cardinal	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Northern Flicker	*Partners in Flight Watchlist species are vulnerable at a continental scale
Brown-headed Cowbird	Ovenbird	**Stewardship Species have most of their global population within the region.
Carolina Wren**	Pileated Woodpecker	
Cedar Waxwing	Pine Warbler**	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Red-bellied Woodpecker**	
Chipping Sparrow	Red-eyed Vireo	+Detections of Carolina and Black-capped Chickadees are combined.
Common Grackle	Scarlet Tanager	
Downy Woodpecker	Summer Tanager	
Eastern Towhee**	Swainson's Thrush	
Eastern Tufted Titmouse	Unidentified Chickadee ⁺	

For further information

Ladin, Z., S. E. Goodwin, and W. G. Shriver. In Press. Avian Monitoring in the National Capital Region Network: 2007 – 2011. Natural Resource Data Series Report NPS/NCRN/NRDS—2011/TBD. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado. Will be available online at: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/monitoring_birds.cfm

Sinclair, J., M. Koenen, S. Hood, M. Milton, and C. Wright. 2004. Avian Inventory at Six National Capital Region Parks Final Report (Revised). TIC#: NCRO D-48 Available online at: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/inventories_avian.cfm

NCRN Bird Monitoring webpage: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/monitoring_birds.cfm

Photographs: Carolina Chickadee and American Robin- Cameron Rognan; Black-capped Chickadee- Bruce Echols; American Goldfinch and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher- Laura Erickson; Eastern Towhee-Tim Gallagher; Eastern Tufted Titmouse- Judy Howle; Red-eyed Vireo- Accu Soft Co.; Acadian Flycatcher- Greg W. Lasley; Northern Cardinal- Neil D Scott; Brown-headed Cowbird- Richard Lee