

Birds of Minnetonka Checklist



Minnetonka's many natural areas attract a wonderful variety of birds in all seasons. This list includes species that are most likely to occur here, based on observations by Natural Resources staff and members of the Minnetonka Bird Club.

Each species has a two-letter status code, described in the key at right. The capital letter indicates which time of year a species is most likely to be here, and the lower-case letter reflects how commonly it is seen.

KEY

SEASONAL PRESENCE

- Y = year-round resident
- B = breeding/summer resident
- M = migrates through
- W = winter resident or visitor

ABUNDANCE

- f = frequently seen
- s = sometimes seen
- u = less common
- * = introduced species

WATERFOWL Status

- Snow Goose M-u
- Greater White-fronted Goose M-u
- Canada Goose B-f
- Trumpeter Swan B-s
- Tundra Swan M-u
- Wood Duck B-f
- Blue-winged Teal B-f
- Northern Shoveler M-s
- American Wigeon M-s
- Mallard Y-f
- Canvasback M-u
- Redhead M-s
- Ring-necked Duck M-f
- Lesser Scaup M-u
- Bufflehead M-s
- Common Goldeneye M-s
- Hooded Merganser M-s
- Common Merganser M-s
- Red-breasted Merganser M-s
- Ruddy Duck M-s

TURKEY/PHEASANT Status

- Wild Turkey Y-f
- Ring-necked Pheasant Y-u*

GREBES Status

- Pied-billed Grebe B-f
- Red-necked Grebe M-u

PIGEONS/DOVES Status

- Rock Pigeon Y-f
- Mourning Dove Y-f

NIGHTJARS Status

- Common Nighthawk B-s

SWIFTS Status

- Chimney Swift B-f

HUMMINGBIRDS Status

- Ruby-throated Hummingbird B-f

RAILS/COOTS Status

- Virginia Rail M-u
- Sora B-s
- American Coot B-f

CRANES Status

- Sandhill Crane M-s

PLOVERS Status

- Killdeer B-f
- Semipalmated Plover M-u

SANDPIPERS

Status

- Pectoral Sandpiper M-u
- Semipalmated Sandpiper M-u
- American Woodcock B-u
- Wilson's Snipe B-u
- Spotted Sandpiper B-u
- Solitary Sandpiper M-u
- Lesser Yellowlegs M-u
- Greater Yellowlegs M-u

GULLS/TERNS

Status

- Bonaparte's Gull M-u
- Franklin's Gull M-u
- Ring-billed Gull Y-f
- Herring Gull M-f
- Caspian Tern M-u
- Black Tern M-u
- Common Tern M-u
- Forster's Tern M-u

LOONS

Status

- Common Loon B-s

CORMORANTS

Status

- Double-crested Cormorant B-f

PELICANS

Status

- American White Pelican M-s

HERONS/EGRETS

Status

- Great Blue Heron B-f
- Great Egret B-s
- Green Heron B-s
- Black-crowned Night Heron B-u

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Status

- Turkey Vulture B-f

OSPREY

Status

- Osprey B-s

HAWKS/EAGLES

Status

- Northern Harrier B-u
- Sharp-shinned Hawk M-s
- Cooper's Hawk B-f
- American Goshawk M-u
- Bald Eagle Y-f
- Red-shouldered Hawk B-u
- Broad-winged Hawk B-s
- Red-tailed Hawk Y-f
- Rough-legged Hawk M-u

OWLS

Status

- Eastern Screech-owl Y-u
- Great-horned Owl Y-s
- Snowy Owl W-u
- Barred Owl Y-s
- Northern Saw-whet Owl M-u

KINGFISHERS

Status

- Belted Kingfisher B-s

WOODPECKERS

Status

- Red-bellied Woodpecker Y-f
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker M-s
- Downy Woodpecker Y-f
- Hairy Woodpecker Y-f
- Northern Flicker Y-s
- Pileated Woodpecker Y-s

FALCONS

Status

- American Kestrel B-s
- Merlin M-u
- Peregrine Falcon B-u

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS Status

- Great Crested Flycatcher B-f
- Eastern Kingbird B-s
- Eastern Wood-pewee B-s
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher M-u
- Least Flycatcher B-u
- Eastern Phoebe B-f

SHRIKES Status

- Northern Shrike W-u

VIREOS Status

- Yellow-throated Vireo B-f
- Blue-headed Vireo M-s
- Philadelphia Vireo M-u
- Warbling Vireo B-s
- Red-eyed Vireo B-s

JAYS/CROWS Status

- Blue Jay Y-f
- American Crow Y-f

SWALLOWS Status

- Bank Swallow B-f
- Tree Swallow B-f
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow B-s
- Purple Martin B-u
- Barn Swallow B-f
- Cliff Swallow B-u

CHICKADEES Status

- Black-capped Chickadee Y-f

NUTHATCHES Status

- Red-breasted Nuthatch M-s
- White-breasted Nuthatch Y-f

TREECREEPERS Status

- Brown Creeper M-s

WRENS Status

- House Wren B-f
- Winter Wren M-u
- Marsh Wren B-u
- Carolina Wren M-u

GNATCATCHERS Status

- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher B-s

KINGLETS Status

- Ruby-crowned Kinglet M-f
- Golden-crowned Kinglet M-s

THRUSHES Status

- Eastern Bluebird B-s
- Veery M-s
- Swainson's Thrush M-s
- Hermit Thrush M-s
- Wood Thrush M-s
- American Robin Y-f

MOCKINGBIRDS/THRASHERS Status

- Gray Catbird B-f
- Brown Thrasher B-s

STARLINGS Status

- European Starling Y-f*

WAXWINGS Status

- Cedar Waxwing Y-f

OLD WORLD SPARROWS Status

- House Sparrow B-s*

FINCHES

Status

- House Finch Y-f
- Purple Finch M-s
- Common Redpoll W-s
- Pine Siskin W-s
- American Goldfinch Y-f

NEW WORLD SPARROWS

Status

- Chipping Sparrow B-f
- Clay-colored Sparrow B-u
- Fox Sparrow M-s
- American Tree Sparrow W-f
- Dark-eyed Junco W-f
- White-crowned Sparrow M-s
- Harris's Sparrow M-u
- White-throated Sparrow M-f
- Savannah Sparrow M-u
- Song Sparrow B-f
- Lincoln's Sparrow M-u
- Swamp Sparrow B-f
- Eastern Towhee B-u

BLACKBIRDS

Status

- Yellow-headed Blackbird M-u
- Orchard Oriole B-s
- Baltimore Oriole B-f
- Red-winged Blackbird B-f
- Brown-headed Cowbird B-f
- Rusty Blackbird M-u
- Brewer's Blackbird M-u
- Common Grackle B-f

WOOD-WARBLERS

Status

- Ovenbird M-s
- Northern Waterthrush M-s
- Golden-winged Warbler M-s
- Black-and-white Warbler M-s
- Tennessee Warbler M-s
- Orange-crowned Warbler M-s
- Nashville Warbler M-s
- Connecticut Warbler M-u
- Common Yellowthroat B-f
- American Redstart B-s
- Cape May Warbler M-s
- Northern Parula M-s
- Magnolia Warbler M-s
- Blackburnian Warbler M-s
- Yellow Warbler B-s
- Chestnut-sided Warbler M-s
- Blackpoll Warbler M-s
- Palm Warbler M-s
- Pine Warbler M-s
- Yellow-rumped Warbler M-f
- Black-throated Green Warbler M-s
- Canada Warbler M-s
- Wilson's Warbler M-s

CARDINALS/TANAGERS

Status

- Scarlet Tanager B-u
- Northern Cardinal Y-f
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak B-s
- Indigo Bunting B-s

