

Welcome to Cecil County Birding

Cecil County is located in the northeast corner of Maryland, with Pennsylvania to the north and Delaware to the east. Five rivers - the Susquehanna, Elk, North East, Bohemia, and Sassafras - ensure ample wetland habitats.

Birding hotspots in Cecil County include Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area, Elk Neck State Park, Elk Neck State Forest, Conowingo Dam, Bethel Wildlife Management Area, and Courthouse Point Wildlife Management Area, as well as community parks in Elkton, Perryville, NorthEast, and Port Deposit. Birding sites are described on the Cecil Bird Club's web site at <http://www.udel.edu/cecilbirds>.

This checklist includes a total of 315 bird species, including accidentals (not regularly occurring) and 1 extinct species (Passenger Pigeon). The list is based on the Third Edition (1996) of the *Field List of the Birds of Maryland*, published by the Maryland Ornithological Society and on reports to the Cecil Bird Club and the Md/DC Records Committee. Nomenclature and taxonomy conforms to the *AOU Checklist of North American Birds, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition and 43<sup>rd</sup> Supplement*.

Please report sightings of accidentals (marked as abundance x) and rare birds (5) as well as birds not on this list to the Records Committee of the Cecil Bird Club (e-mail to [mww@udel.edu](mailto:mww@udel.edu)). Birds that breed or have bred in Cecil County are marked with an asterisk \*. The following codes for sighting probability are used:

- 1 - hard to miss (abundant)
- 2 - should see in suitable habitat (common)
- 3 - may see in suitable habitat (not-so-common)
- 4 - lucky to find (occasional)
- 5 - how lucky can you get (rare)
- x - accidental - one or two sightings on record
- h - historical records (pre-1950)
- absent at that time of year

Species	s	S	F	W	Notes
<b>DUCKS, GEESE, SWANS</b>					
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	5	
Snow Goose	4	-	4	3	
Ross s Goose	-	-	-	x	
Brant	-	-	-	x	
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	x	
Canada Goose*	1	2	1	1	
Mute Swan*	4	4	4	4	
Trumpeter Swan	-	-	-	x	
Tundra Swan	3	-	3	3	
Wood Duck*	2	2	2	5	
Gadwall	3	-	3	3	
Eurasian Wigeon	-	-	-	x	
American Wigeon	3	-	3	3	
American Black Duck*	3	4	3	2	
Mallard*	1	1	1	1	
Blue-winged Teal*	3	5	3	5	
Cinnamon Teal	-	h	-	-	
Northern Shoveler	3	-	3	4	
Northern Pintail	3	-	3	5	
Green-winged Teal*	3	5	3	5	
Canvasback	3	x	3	3	
Redhead	5	-	5	5	
Ring-necked Duck	3	-	3	4	
Greater Scaup	4	-	4	4	
Lesser Scaup	2	-	2	3	
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	x	
Surf Scoter	x	-	-	-	
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	5	
Black Scoter	-	-	-	x	
Long-tailed Duck	5	-	5	5	
Bufflehead	3	-	3	2	
Common Goldeneye	3	-	3	2	
Hooded Merganser	3	-	3	3	
Common Merganser	2	-	3	1	
Red-breasted Merganser	4	-	4	4	
Masked Duck	-	-	h	-	
Ruddy Duck	3	-	3	3	
<b>PHEASANT, GROUSE, TURKEY, QUAIL</b>					
Ring-necked Pheasant*	4	4	4	4	
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	x	-	
Wild Turkey*	3	3	3	3	
Northern Bobwhite*	3	3	3	3	
<b>LOONS, GREBES</b>					
Red-throated Loon	5	-	5	5	
Pacific Loon	-	-	-	x	
Common Loon	3	-	3	3	
Pied-billed Grebe	3	4	3	4	
Horned Grebe	4	-	4	4	
Red-necked Grebe	5	-	5	5	
Eared Grebe	-	-	-	x	
<b>PELICANS, CORMORANTS</b>					
American White Pelican	h	-	-	-	
Brown Pelican	-	x	x	x	
Double-crested Cormorant	2	2	2	3	
Great Cormorant	-	-	5	5	
Anhinga	x	-	-	-	
<b>HERONS, EGRETS, BITTERN, IBIS</b>					
American Bittern	4	5	4	-	
Least Bittern*	5	5	5	-	
Great Blue Heron*	1	1	1	1	

Species	s	S	F	W	Notes
Great Egret	3	3	3	-	
Snowy Egret	3	3	3	-	
Little Blue Heron	3	3	3	-	
Tricolored Heron	-	x	x	-	
Cattle Egret	2	2	22	-	
Green Heron*	2	2	2	-	
Black-crowned Night-Heron*	3	4	3	4	
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	-	x	x	-	
White Ibis	-	x	x	-	
Glossy Ibis	4	4	4	-	
<b>NEW WORLD VULTURES</b>					
Black Vulture*	3	3	3	3	
Turkey Vulture*	1	1	1	1	
<b>OSPREY, KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES, FALCONS</b>					
Osprey*	2	2	2	-	
Swallow-tailed Kite	x	-	x	-	
Mississippi Kite	x	-	-	-	
Bald Eagle*	2	3	3	2	
Northern Harrier	3	5	3	3	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	-	2	3	
Cooper's Hawk*	3	4	3	3	
Northern Goshawk	-	-	5	-	
Red-shouldered Hawk*	3	3	2	3	
Broad-winged Hawk*	3	5	3	-	
Red-tailed Hawk*	2	2	2	2	
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	-	5	
Golden Eagle	-	-	4	5	
American Kestrel*	3	3	3	2	
Merlin	5	-	5	-	
Peregrine Falcon	5	5	5	5	
<b>RAILS, COOT, CRANE</b>					
Black Rail	5	-	-	-	
King Rail*	4	4	4	-	
Virginia Rail*	4	4	4	5	
Sora	4	-	4	-	
Purple Gallinule	-	x	-	-	
Common Moorhen*	5	5	5	-	
American Coot	3	-	3	4	
Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	x	
<b>PLOVERS, AVOCET, SANDPIPERS</b>					
Black-bellied Plover	5	-	5	-	
American Golden-Plover	5	-	5	-	
Semipalmated Plover	4	-	4	-	
Killdeer*	2	2	2	3	
American Avocet	-	x	-	-	
Spotted Sandpiper	2	3	2	-	
Solitary Sandpiper	2	4	2	-	
Greater Yellowlegs	3	4	3	5	
Willet	-	5	-	-	
Lesser Yellowlegs	3	4	3	-	
Upland Sandpiper	4	5	4	-	
Whimbrel	x	-	x	-	
European Whimbrel ssp	x	-	-	-	
Long-Billed Curlew	-	-	x	-	
Ruddy Turnstone	5	-	5	-	
Red Knot	-	x	-	-	
Sanderling	5	-	5	-	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	3	4	3	-	
Western Sandpiper	5	-	4	-	
Least Sandpiper	3	4	3	-	
White-rumped Sandpiper	5	-	5	-	

Species	s	S	F	W	Notes
Baird's Sandpiper	-	-	5	-	
Pectoral Sandpiper	4	-	4	-	
Dunlin	5	-	5	-	
Stilt Sandpiper	-	-	5	-	
Ruff	-	x	-	-	
Short-billed Dowitcher	4	4	4	-	
Long-billed Dowitcher	-	-	5	-	
Wilson's Snipe	3	-	3	4	
American Woodcock*	3	3	3	5	
Wilson's Phalarope	-	x	-	-	
Red-necked Phalarope	x	-	-	-	
<b>GULLS, TERNS, JAEGER</b>					
Laughing Gull	3	4	3	5	
Franklin's Gull	x	x	x	x	
Little Gull	x	-	-	x	
Black-headed Gull	-	-	-	x	
Bonaparte's Gull	2	-	2	3	
Mew Gull	-	-	-	x	
Ring-billed Gull	1	2	1	1	
California Gull	-	-	-	x	
Herring Gull	2	3	2	1	
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	x	
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	5	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	4	-	4	4	
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	5	
Great Black-backed Gull	2	4	2	2	
Sabine's Gull	-	-	x	-	
Black-legged Kittiwake	-	-	-	x	
Least Tern	3	4	5	-	
Caspian Tern	3	4	3	-	
Black Tern	5	-	5	-	
Common Tern	4	-	4	-	
Forster's Tern	3	4	3	5	
Royal Tern	5	-	5	-	
Parasitic Jaeger	-	-	-	x	
<b>PIGEONS, DOVES, CUCKOOS</b>					
Rock Pigeon*	1	1	1	1	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	x	-	-	-	
White-winged Dove	x	-	-	-	
Mourning Dove*	1	1	1	1	
(Passenger Pigeon)				extinct	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	2	2	2	-	
Black-billed Cuckoo*	3	4	3	-	
<b>BARN-OWL, OWLS</b>					
Barn Owl*	5	5	5	5	
Eastern Screech-Owl*	2	2	2	2	
Great Horned Owl*	2	2	2	2	
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	x	
Barred Owl*	3	3	3	3	
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	5	
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	5	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	4	-	4	4	
<b>GOATSUCKERS</b>					
Common Nighthawk*	4	5	4	-	
Chuck-will's-widow*	-	5	-	-	
Whip-poor-will*	4	5	-	-	
<b>SWIFT, HUMMINGBIRDS, KINGFISHER</b>					
Chimney Swift*	2	1	2	-	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	2	2	2	-	
Rufous Hummingbird	-	-	x	-	
Belted Kingfisher*	2	2	2	2	

Species	s	S	F	W	Notes
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>					
Red-headed Woodpecker*	5	5	5	5	
Red-bellied Woodpecker*	1	1	1	1	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3	-	3	3	
Downy Woodpecker*	1	1	1	1	
Hairy Woodpecker*	3	3	3	3	
Northern Flicker*	1	1	1	2	
Pileated Woodpecker*	3	3	3	3	
<b>TYRANT FLYCATCHERS</b>					
Olive-sided Flycatcher	5	-	5	-	
Eastern Wood-Pewee*	2	2	2	-	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	4	-	4	-	
Acadian Flycatcher*	2	2	2	-	
Alder Flycatcher	-	-	x	-	
Willow Flycatcher*	3	3	3	-	
Least Flycatcher	4	-	4	-	
Eastern Phoebe*	2	2	2	5	
Great Crested Flycatcher*	2	2	2	-	
Eastern Kingbird*	2	2	2	-	
<b>SHRIKES, VIREOS</b>					
Loggerhead Shrike	5	-	-	5	
Northern Shrike	-	-	-	x	
White-eyed Vireo*	1	1	2	-	
Yellow-throated Vireo*	2	2	2	-	
Blue-headed Vireo	3	-	3	-	
Warbling Vireo*	3	3	3	-	
Philadelphia Vireo	5	-	4	-	
Red-eyed Vireo*	1	1	2	-	
<b>JAY, CROWS, LARK</b>					
Blue Jay*	1	1	1	1	
American Crow*	1	1	1	1	
Fish Crow*	2	2	2	2	
Common Raven	-	-	-	x	
Horned Lark*	4	4	4	3	
<b>SWALLOWS</b>					
Purple Martin*	3	3	3	-	
Tree Swallow*	1	3	1	-	
Northern Rough-winged Sw.*	2	3	3	-	
Bank Swallow*	2	3	2	-	
Cliff Swallow*	4	5	4	-	
Barn Swallow*	1	1	1	-	
<b>CHICKADEES, TITS</b>					
Carolina Chickadee*	1	1	1	1	
Black-capped Chickadee	-	-	-	5	
Tufted Titmouse*	1	1	1	1	
<b>NUTHATCHES, CREEPER</b>					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	-	4	4	
White-breasted Nuthatch*	2	2	2	2	
Brown Creeper*	3	4	3	3	
<b>WRENS</b>					
Carolina Wren*	1	1	1	1	
House Wren*	2	2	2	5	
Winter Wren	3	-	3	3	
Marsh Wren*	4	4	4	5	
<b>KINGLETS, GNATCATCHER</b>					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	2	-	2	3	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	2	-	2	3	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	2	2	3	-	
<b>THRUSHES</b>					
Eastern Bluebird*	2	2	2	2	
Veery*	3	4	3	-	

Species	s	S	F	W	Notes
Gray-cheeked Thrush	4	-	4	-	
Bicknell's Thrush	x	-	x	-	
Swainson's Thrush	3	-	3	-	
Hermit Thrush	3	-	3	3	
Wood Thrush*	2	2	2	-	
American Robin*	1	1	1	2	
<b>MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS</b>					
Gray Catbird*	1	1	2	5	
Northern Mockingbird*	2	2	2	2	
Brown Thrasher*	2	2	2	5	
<b>STARLING, PPIT, WAXWING</b>					
European Starling*	1	1	1	1	
American Pipit	3	-	3	4	
Cedar Waxwing*	2	3	2	2	
<b>NEW WORLD WARBLERS</b>					
Blue-winged Warbler*	3	3	3	-	
Golden-winged Warbler	5	-	5	-	
Tennessee Warbler	3	-	3	-	
Orange-crowned Warbler	x	-	5	-	
Nashville Warbler	4	-	4	-	
Northern Parula*	2	2	3	-	
Yellow Warbler*	2	2	3	-	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	3	-	3	-	
Magnolia Warbler	3	-	3	-	
Cape May Warbler	4	-	3	-	
Black-throated Blue Warbler	2	-	2	-	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	2	-	2	3	
Black-throated Green Warbler	3	-	3	-	
Blackburnian Warbler	3	-	3	-	
Yellow-throated Warbler*	3	4	4	-	
Pine Warbler*	2	2	2	-	
Prairie Warbler*	3	3	4	-	
Palm Warbler	3	-	3	-	
Bay-breasted Warbler	3	-	3	-	
Blackpoll Warbler	3	-	3	-	
Cerulean Warbler*	3	3	4	-	
Black-and-white Warbler*	2	3	2	-	
American Redstart*	2	2	2	-	
Prothonotary Warbler*	3	4	4	-	
Worm-eating Warbler*	3	3	4	-	
Ovenbird*	2	2	3	-	
Northern Waterthrush	3	-	3	-	
Louisiana Waterthrush*	2	2	3	-	
Kentucky Warbler*	2	2	4	-	
Connecticut Warbler	-	-	5	-	
Mourning Warbler	5	-	4	-	
Common Yellowthroat*	1	1	2	5	
Hooded Warbler*	3	4	3	-	
Wilson's Warbler	4	-	4	-	
Canada Warbler	3	-	3	-	
Yellow-breasted Chat*	3	3	4	-	
<b>TANAGERS, BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, CARDINALS, GROSBELLS</b>					
Summer Tanager*	5	5	-	-	
Scarlet Tanager*	2	2	2	-	
Western Tanager	-	-	x	-	
Eastern Towhee*	2	2	2	3	
American Tree Sparrow	3	-	3	3	
Chipping Sparrow*	2	2	2	5	
Field Sparrow*	2	2	2	2	
Vesper Sparrow*	4	4	4	5	
Savannah Sparrow	3	-	3	4	

Species	s	S	F	W	Notes
Grasshopper Sparrow*	3	3	3	-	
Henslow's Sparrow	5	5	-	-	
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	-	-	x	-	
Seaside Sparrow	5	5	-	-	
Fox Sparrow	3	-	3	4	
Song Sparrow*	1	1	1	2	
Lincoln's Sparrow	5	-	5	-	
Swamp Sparrow*	3	4	3	3	
White-throated Sparrow	1	-	2	1	
White-crowned Sparrow	3	-	3	3	
Dark-eyed Junco	1	-	2	1	
Lapland Longspur	-	-	5	5	
Snow Bunting	-	-	5	5	
Northern Cardinal*	1	1	1	1	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3	-	3	-	
Blue Grosbeak*	3	3	3	-	
Indigo Bunting*	2	1	2	-	
Painted Bunting	x	-	-	x	
Dickcissel	-	x	-	-	
<b>BLACKBIRDS, GRACKLES, ORIOLES</b>					
Bobolink*	3	5	3	-	
Red-winged Blackbird*	1	1	1	1	
Eastern Meadowlark*	3	3	3	4	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	-	-	-	x	
Rusty Blackbird	5	-	5	5	
Brewer's Blackbird	x	-	-	x	
Common Grackle*	1	1	1	1	
Brown-headed Cowbird*	2	2	2	3	
Orchard Oriole*	3	3	3	-	
Baltimore Oriole*	2	2	3	-	
<b>SISKINS, CROSSBILLS, NEW WORLD SPARROW</b>					
Purple Finch	4	-	3	4	
House Finch*	1	1	1	1	
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	x	
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	x	
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	x	
Pine Siskin	4	-	4	4	
American Goldfinch*	2	2	2	2	
Evening Grosbeak	5	-	5	5	
House Sparrow*	2	2	2	2	
<b>Add-ons</b>					

# Checklist of the Birds of Cecil County



Published by the Cecil Bird Club

A Chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society

Visit us on the web at <http://www.udel.edu/cecilbirds/>

Revised November 2007