

# THE BIRDS OF GREENE COUNTY, TENNESSEE: A CHECKLIST

COMPILED BY DONALD H. MILLER

This list is a revision of the one by John B. White and others in v. 27, no. 1 of *The Migrant* (March 1956). Taxonomic order corresponds to that found in A.O.U.'s Check-list of North American Birds, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Terminology on seasonal status and abundance corresponds to that found in Richard L. Knight's *The Birds of Northeast Tennessee: An Annotated Checklist* (1994), covering Carter, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington Counties. Species, seasonal status, and abundance reflect observations by members and associates of the Greeneville Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society through September 20, 2005.

## SEASONAL STATUS

**PR:** permanent resident--present year-round; abundance may vary seasonally

**SR:** summer resident--present throughout summer; usually arrives in spring and departs in fall

**WR:** winter resident--present throughout winter; usually arrives in fall and departs in spring

**WV:** winter visitor--infrequent and irregular in winter

**T:** transient--regularly found during spring migration and/or fall migration

**V:** visitor--infrequent and irregular; may be observed in different seasons; does not conform to any of the above patterns

## SEASONS

**Sp:** spring (March 1-May 31)

**Su:** summer (June 1-July 31)

**F:** fall (August 1-November 30)

**W:** winter (December 1-February 28/29)

## ABUNDANCE

**c:** common--25+ individuals per day

**fc:** fairly common--5-25 individuals per day

**u:** uncommon--fewer than 5 individuals per day

**o:** occasional--not to be expected every day; 1 or more individuals per season or year

**r:** rare--not to be expected every year; observed sporadically over a period of years

**a:** accidental--not expected; refers to individuals found well outside normal range

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## GEESE, SWANS, DUCKS

**Greater White-fronted Goose** T/WV (r)

**Snow Goose** WR/WV (r-o)

**Ross's Goose** T/WV (r)

**Cackling Goose** WV (r)

**Canada Goose** PR (fc-c)

**Tundra Swan** WV (r)

**Wood Duck** PR (u-fc Sp, Su, F; o W)

**Gadwall** WR (u-c)

**American Wigeon** WR (u)

**American Black Duck** WR (u-fc)

**Mallard** PR (fc-c F, W, Sp; u Su)

**Blue-winged Teal** T (u-c Sp, F; o W)

**Northern Shoveler** WR (o-u)

**Northern Pintail** WR (o-fc)

**Green-winged Teal** WR (u-fc)

**Canvasback** WR/WV (o)

**Redhead** WR/WV (o)

**Ring-necked Duck** WR (u-fc)

**Greater Scaup** WV (r)

**Lesser Scaup** WR/WV (o)

**Bufflehead** WR/WV (o)

**Common Goldeneye** WV (r)

**Hooded Merganser** WR (u-fc)

**Common Merganser** WV (r)

**Red-breasted Merganser** WV (r)

**Ruddy Duck** WR/WV (o)

## GROUSE, TURKEYS, QUAIL

**Ruffed Grouse** PR (u)

**Wild Turkey** PR (u-c)

**Northern Bobwhite** PR (u-fc)

## LOONS, GREBES

**Common Loon** WV (r)

**Pied-billed Grebe** WR (u)

**Horned Grebe** WV (r)

## CORMORANTS, ETC.

**Double-crested Cormorant** T/WR (o)

## HERONS, IBISES, VULTURES

**American Bittern** T (r)

**Great Blue Heron** PR (u Su; u-fc F, W, Sp)

**Great Egret** T (u-fc)

**Snowy Egret** T (r)

**Little Blue Heron** T (o)

**Cattle Egret** V/T (r)

**Green Heron** SR (u-fc)

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** SR (u-fc)

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** V/SR (r)  
**White Ibis** V (r)  
**Glossy Ibis** V (a)  
**Roseate Spoonbill** V (a)  
**Wood Stork** V (a)  
**Black Vulture** PR (u-fc)  
**Turkey Vulture** PR (fc-c)

### HAWKS, EAGLES, FALCONS

**Osprey** SR (o-u)  
**Mississippi Kite** V (a)  
**Bald Eagle** V (r)  
**Northern Harrier** WR (u-fc)  
**Sharp-shinned Hawk** PR (u)  
**Cooper's Hawk** PR (u)  
**Red-shouldered Hawk** T/V (o)  
**Broad-winged Hawk** SR (u)  
**Red-tailed Hawk** PR (u-fc)  
**Rough-legged Hawk** WV (r)  
**Golden Eagle** V (a)  
**American Kestrel** PR (u-fc)  
**Merlin** T (o)  
**Peregrine Falcon** T or PR (o)

### RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS, CRANES

**Black Rail** V (a)  
**King Rail** T (a)  
**Virginia Rail** T (r)  
**Sora** T (o-u)  
**Common Moorhen** T (a)  
**American Coot** WR (fc)  
**Sandhill Crane** T (r)  
**Whooping Crane** V (a)

### PLOVERS

**Black-bellied Plover** T (r)  
**American Golden-Plover** T (r)  
**Semipalmated Plover** T (o-u)  
**Killdeer** PR (fc-c)

### STILTS, AVOCETS

**American Avocet** T (r)

### SANDPIPERS, PHALAROPES

**Greater Yellowlegs** T (u)  
**Lesser Yellowlegs** T (u-fc)  
**Solitary Sandpiper** T (u)  
**Willet** T (r)  
**Spotted Sandpiper** T (u)  
**Upland Sandpiper** T (a)  
**Ruddy Turnstone** T (a)  
**Sanderling** T (a)  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper** T (o)  
**Western Sandpiper** T (r)  
**Least Sandpiper** T (u-fc)  
**White-rumped Sandpiper** T (r-o)  
**Baird's Sandpiper** T (r)  
**Pectoral Sandpiper** T (u)  
**Dunlin** T (o)  
**Stilt Sandpiper** T (r)

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** T (a)  
**Short-billed Dowitcher** T (r-o)  
**Long-billed Dowitcher** T (r)  
**Wilson's Snipe** WR (u-fc)  
**American Woodcock** PR (o-u)  
**Wilson's Phalarope** T (r)

### GULLS, TERNS

**Laughing Gull** V (a)  
**Bonaparte's Gull** WV (r-o)  
**Ring-billed Gull** WR (u-c)  
**Herring Gull** V (a)  
**Common Tern** T (a)  
**Forster's Tern** T (r)  
**Black Tern** T (r)

### DOVES

**Rock Pigeon** PR (c)  
**Eurasian Collared-Dove** PR (u-fc)  
**Mourning Dove** PR (c)

### CUCKOOS

**Black-billed Cuckoo** T/possible SR (r)  
**Yellow-billed Cuckoo** SR (u)

### OWLS

**Barn Owl** PR (o)  
**Eastern Screech-Owl** PR (u)  
**Great Horned Owl** PR (u)  
**Barred Owl** PR (o)  
**Long-eared Owl** V (a)  
**Short-eared Owl** WV (a)  
**Northern Saw-whet Owl** T/WV, lowlands (a)

### GOATSUCKERS

**Common Nighthawk** SR (u Sp, Su; fc-c F)  
**Chuck-will's-widow** SR (u)  
**Whip-poor-will** SR (u-fc)

### SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS

**Chimney Swift** SR (c)  
**Ruby-throated Hummingbird** SR (u-fc)  
**Rufous Hummingbird** V (a)

### KINGFISHERS

**Belted Kingfisher** PR (fc)

### WOODPECKERS

**Red-headed Woodpecker** PR (u)  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker** PR (fc)  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** WR (u)  
**Downy Woodpecker** PR (fc)  
**Hairy Woodpecker** PR (u)  
**Northern Flicker** PR (fc)  
**Pileated Woodpecker** PR (u)

### FLYCATCHERS

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** T (r)  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee** SR (u-fc)  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** T (r)

**Acadian Flycatcher** SR (fc)  
**Willow Flycatcher** T/possible SR (r-o)  
**Least Flycatcher** T (r)  
**Eastern Phoebe** PR (fc Sp, Su, F; u W)  
**Great Crested Flycatcher** SR (fc)  
**Eastern Kingbird** SR (fc)  
**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** V (a)

### SHRIKES

**Loggerhead Shrike** PR (o Su; u F, W, Sp)

### VIREOS

**White-eyed Vireo** SR (u-fc)  
**Yellow-throated Vireo** SR (o-u)  
**Blue-headed Vireo** SR, mountains (u-fc); T, lowlands (u)  
**Warbling Vireo** SR (o)  
**Philadelphia Vireo** T (r-o)  
**Red-eyed Vireo** SR (fc-c)

### JAYS, CROWS, RAVENS

**Blue Jay** PR (c)  
**American Crow** PR (c)  
**Common Raven** PR, mountains (u); V, lowlands (o F, W)

### LARKS, SWALLOWS

**Horned Lark** PR (o Sp, Su, F; o-fc W)  
**Purple Martin** SR (fc-c)  
**Tree Swallow** SR (fc-c Sp, Su, F; u late W)  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** SR (fc)  
**Bank Swallow** T/possible SR (o-u)  
**Cliff Swallow** SR (fc-c)  
**Barn Swallow** SR (c)

### CHICKADEES, TITMICE

**Carolina Chickadee** PR (fc-c)  
**Black-capped Chickadee** WV (a)  
**Tufted Titmouse** PR (fc-c)

### NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** PR, mountains (u); WR, lowlands (o-u); Irruptive  
**White-breasted Nuthatch** PR (u-fc)  
**Brown Creeper** PR, mountains (u); WR, lowlands (u)

### WRENS

**Carolina Wren** PR (fc-c)  
**Bewick's Wren** Former PR; presumed extirpated  
**House Wren** SR (fc)  
**Winter Wren** SR, mountains (u); WR, lowlands (u)  
**Sedge Wren** T (r)  
**Marsh Wren** T (o)

### KINGLETS, GNATCATCHERS

**Golden-crowned Kinglet** PR, mountains (fc); WR, lowlands (fc)  
**Rudy-crowned Kinglet** WR (u-fc)  
**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** SR (fc)

### THRUSHES

**Eastern Bluebird** PR (fc-c)

**Veery** SR, mountains (fc); T, lowlands (o)  
**Gray-cheeked Thrush** T (r)  
**Swainson's Thrush** T (u)  
**Hermit Thrush** WR (u)  
**Wood Thrush** SR (u)  
**American Robin** PR (fc-c)

### MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS

**Gray Catbird** SR (u-fc)  
**Northern Mockingbird** PR (fc-c)  
**Brown Thrasher** SR (u-fc Sp, Su, F; o W)

### STARLINGS, PIPITS, WAXWINGS

**European Starling** PR (c)  
**American Pipit** WR (u-c)  
**Cedar Waxwing** PR (u-c)

### WARBLERS

**Blue-winged Warbler** T (o)  
**Golden-winged Warbler** T (r)  
**Tennessee Warbler** T (r-o Sp; u-fc F)  
**Orange-crowned Warbler** T (r-o)  
**Nashville Warbler** T (o)  
**Northern Parula** SR (u-fc)  
**Yellow Warbler** T/possible SR (u-fc)  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler** SR, mountains (u); T, lowlands (u)  
**Magnolia Warbler** T (u)  
**Cape May Warbler** T (u)  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler** SR, mountains (fc-c); T, lowlands (o)  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler** WR (fc-c)  
**Black-throated Green Warbler** SR (fc)  
**Blackburnian Warbler** T (u)  
**Yellow-throated Warbler** SR (o)  
**Pine Warbler** SR (u-fc Sp, Su, F; o W)  
**Kirtland's Warbler** T (a)  
**Prairie Warbler** SR (u)  
**Palm Warbler** T (u Sp; fc F; o W)  
**Bay-breasted Warbler** T (u)  
**Blackpoll Warbler** T (u Sp; r F)  
**Cerulean Warbler** T (r)  
**Black-and-white Warbler** SR (fc)  
**American Redstart** T (u)  
**Prothonotary Warbler** SR (u-fc)  
**Worm-eating Warbler** SR (u-fc)  
**Swainson's Warbler** T/probable SR (o)  
**Ovenbird** SR (fc-c)  
**Northern Waterthrush** T (o-u)  
**Louisiana Waterthrush** SR (fc)  
**Kentucky Warbler** T/probable SR (o-u)  
**Connecticut Warbler** T (r)  
**Mourning Warbler** T (r)  
**Common Yellowthroat** SR (fc-c)  
**Hooded Warbler** SR (fc)  
**Wilson's Warbler** T (r)  
**Canada Warbler** SR, mountains (u-fc); T, lowlands (r)  
**Yellow-breasted Chat** SR (fc)

**TANAGERS**

- Summer Tanager SR (o-u)
- Scarlet Tanager SR (u-fc)

**SPARROWS**

- Eastern Towhee PR (fc)
- Bachman's Sparrow Former SR; presumed extirpated
- American Tree Sparrow WV (a)
- Chipping Sparrow PR (u-fc Sp, Su, F; o-fc W)
- Field Sparrow PR (fc-c)
- Vesper Sparrow T (o)
- Savannah Sparrow PR (u-fc F, W, Sp; o Su)
- Grasshopper Sparrow SR (fc)
- Henslow's Sparrow T (a)
- Le Conte's Sparrow T (a)
- Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow T (r)
- Fox Sparrow WR (o)
- Song Sparrow PR (c)
- Lincoln's Sparrow T (r Sp; o F)
- Swamp Sparrow WR (u-fc)
- White-throated Sparrow WR (c)
- Harris's Sparrow V (a)
- White-crowned Sparrow WR (fc)
- Dark-eyed Junco PR, mountains (fc-c); WR, lowlands (u-fc)
- Lapland Longspur T/WV (r)
- Snow Bunting WV (a)

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Copies of this checklist on card stock may be obtained by contacting Donald H. Miller at [pandion@earthlink.net](mailto:pandion@earthlink.net). Please send Don any additions or corrections.

September 20, 2005

**CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS, BUNTINGS**

- Northern Cardinal PR (c)
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak SR, mountains (u); T, lowlands (u-fc)
- Blue Grosbeak SR (fc)
- Indigo Bunting SR (c)
- Dickcissel SR (u)

**BLACKBIRDS**

- Bobolink T (r-o)
- Red-winged Blackbird PR (c Sp, Su; u-c F, W)
- Eastern Meadowlark PR (fc-c)
- Rusty Blackbird WR (u-c)
- Brewer's Blackbird WV (r-o)
- Common Grackle PR (c Sp, Su; u-c F, W)
- Brown-headed Cowbird PR (fc Sp, Su; u-fc F, W)
- Orchard Oriole SR (fc)
- Baltimore Oriole T/SR (o-u)

**FINCHES**

- Purple Finch WR (o-fc)
- House Finch PR (fc-c)
- Red Crossbill V (r)
- Pine Siskin WR/WV (o-fc); Irruptive
- American Goldfinch PR (fc-c)
- Evening Grosbeak WV/WR (r-o); Irruptive
- House Sparrow PR (fc-c)