

PAMC- Pennsylvania Spring Migration Count Narrative Report

Saturday May 8, 2021

Our count day dawned with rain in many areas of the county. We had **60** hardy souls go out and count in **24** parties for **106.45** hours on foot and **15.65** hours by car. They covered **60.2** miles on foot and **121** miles by car. In total we found **148** species which is pretty average for recent counts and **8909** individual birds which was a bit lower than usual but one large flock of just about anything can alter the individual count so it is hard to put much into that number. We added **3** new species to our count which is amazing considering how long we have been doing this count. The new species were **White-winged Scoter, Stilt Sandpiper** and **Vesper Sparrow**. A couple of misses for the count of birds we have with some regularity but didn't find this year would include, Bay-breasted Warbler, Hooded Warbler, and Common Nighthawk which no longer seems common. We had high counts for **Bald Eagle (23)** beating the old high of **(21)** in 2019, **White-throated Sparrow (163)**, beating the 2014 count of **(161)**, **Osprey** tied the previous high of **(30)** in 2014, and **Red-breasted Nuthatch (4)**, taking out the previous high of **(2)** and only being the 6th time we have found them on the count. Some that were very nice to have but are sporadic to our count included **Barred Owl, Northern Harrier, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-breasted Merganser, Iceland Gull, Lincoln's Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, American Coot, Hermit Thrush, and also nice was the Blue Grosbeak count of (5) and the Eastern Meadowlark count of (5)**. Now, some other interesting numbers from the count: The **Carolina Chickadee (74)** and **Tufted Titmouse (82)** numbers seemed somewhat improved over the last couple of years. **American Kestrels (7)** remain in single digits, however if we covered the box territories that Devich oversees, there are definitely more than seven kestrels around!!! This was only the 3rd time in the count that we had **Gadwall**, last seen in 2008, and **Bufflehead**, last seen in 2003. **Wild Turkey (4)** remain low as they have been for the last few years. **Cedar Waxwings (2)** had the lowest count since the first year when only one was found. The **(6) Eastern Wood Pewee** count was low for recent years but in the history of the count it is not out of the ordinary. **Great-crested Flycatchers (49)** and **Eastern Kingbirds(39)** were also low, perhaps the flycatchers were delayed in their arrival since that group seemed low this count. Cuckoos were very scarce this year with only **(2) Black-billed** and **(1) Yellow-billed**. **Pine Siskins (7)** were found for only the 6th time and were in two different areas, giving the second highest count to **(19)** found in 2009. The **(3) Purple Finches** were the first since 2009. **Yellow-rumped Warblers (392)** had their 3rd highest year, the other two being **(597)** in 1997 and **(911)** in 1999. We had **(24)** warbler species. All in all it was a great count and I thank you all for participating yet again. Enjoy the coming year of birding as things loosen up and we can all begin to range wider. If you have any questions or would like to see more of the historic data, as always feel free to shoot me an email or give a call. Take Good care.

Diane Allison- Bucks County Compiler PAMC

dalliso@mail.ptd.net

267-733-3868