

Birds of Carl Schurz Park

FACTS

The birdlife in Carl Schurz Park is rich and diverse. To date, at least 145 bird species have been identified, including 25 different types of Warblers. Birds are attracted to the park because they can find what they need: shelter, healthy food and water.

- Baby birds can eat only insects. Caterpillars (the larval stage of insects) are the most important source of protein for them.
- Some birds live here year-round, while others pass through on their migratory journey south for the winter or north for the summer.
- Pigeons, House Sparrows and Starlings are some of the most common birds, but none are native to the U.S.
- In most species, the males are more vibrantly colored than the females.

Did you know?

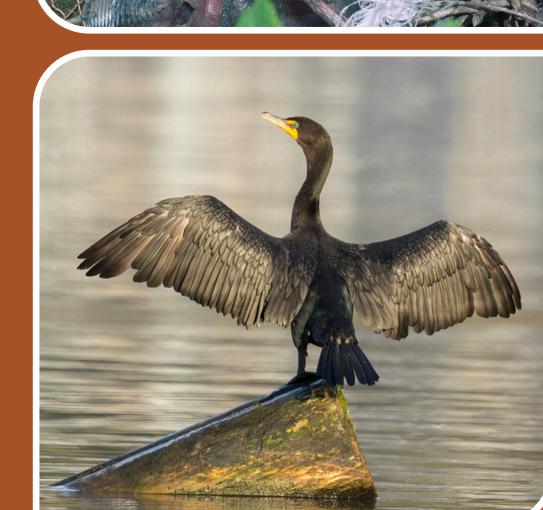
In the past 50 years, we have lost 25% of the bird population in North America.

SEE AND HEAR THE BIRDS OF CARL SCHURZ PARK:







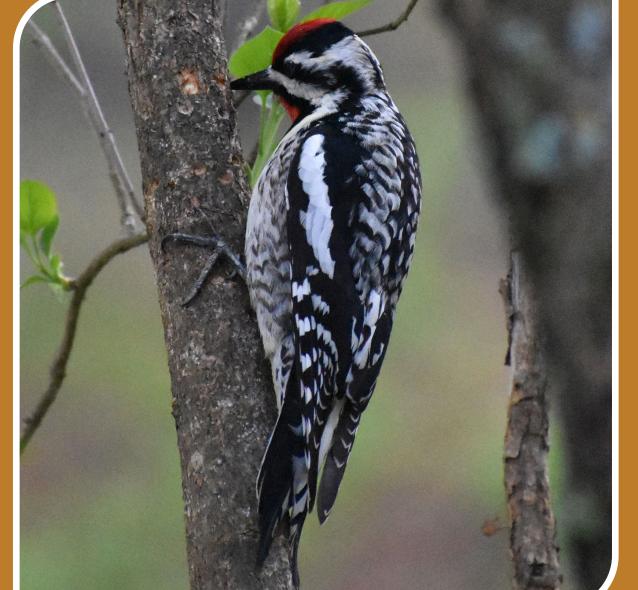


FOCUS

In recent years, the number and variety of documented birds in the park has significantly increased, indicating an improved habitat. Robins, Doves, Blue Jays, Mockingbirds, Hawks and Cardinals are some of the native birds that raise their young in the park's trees.

CARDINAL, YEAR-ROUND RESIDENT (Cardinalis cardinalis)

- They don't lose their feathers (molt) like other birds.
- The females not only sing, which is unusual, but they have a larger variety of songs than the males.
- Males' red color becomes more vivid from eating red fruits, such as crabapples.



YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER, MIGRANT (Sphyrapicus varius)

- They can be found in the park from September to May, often on Elm trees.
- They are actually a type of Woodpecker, drilling neat, horizontal rows of holes in the bark of trees.
- Their tongues have brush-like tips, useful for lapping up tree sap and any insects caught in the sticky fluid.
- Sap-eating birds like Warblers, Hummingbirds, and other Woodpeckers will steal from the sap wells that Sapsuckers have drilled in the trees.

FUTURE

Birds are in decline globally due to extreme heat and drought from climate change and habitat loss. In addition, rampant pesticide usage kills insects that birds depend on for food.



- planting and maintaining beneficial habitat for birds: here they can find shelter and healthy food, such as berries, nuts, seeds and nectar.
- leaving fallen leaves to support insects, which are important protein sources for birds.
- not using any pesticides.
- providing clean water year-round.

Steps you can take to join in the effort

- Use native plants to provide the most beneficial food and shelter.
- Leave fallen leaves to promote insects and earthworms.
- Don't use pesticides.
- Provide access to clean water year-round.
- Consider bird-proofing windows.





WHAT'S IN FLIGHT": DISCOVER MORE



