



KLEINSTUCK PRESERVE

2022 Annual Bird Survey Summary

**Observations & reporting by
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The Kalamazoo Nature Center has been surveying Western Michigan University's Kleinstuck Preserve daily during the spring migration since 1973. By doing the same survey method every day, we can track the movements of migrating birds as they make small and large pushes northward. This year's survey extended from March 22, 2022 – May 27, 2022.

The 2022 season started out normally, with some of the early migrants already at Kleinstuck from the first day of the survey. The early migrating species are birds that usually overwinter in the southern parts of the U.S. and are not neo-tropical migrants that go to Central and South America. These early migrating birds usually are gone by the time the majority of the neo-tropical species comes through a bit later in the season.

Most of March and early April was cool and wet and we even had a day or two of measurable snowfall! The first major push of warm air took place on April 23rd which brought with it a nice variety of new species into this area, including Baltimore Oriole and Rose-breasted Grosbeak which are some of my favorites. After this initial push of warm air though the weather turned cold and wet again for the next 2 weeks which caused a slowdown in the migration in our area. However the birds did not stop migrating they just took different paths northward including other states in the Great Lakes region like Minnesota. During this unfavorable weather in Michigan there was great movements of birds in Minnesota which can be seen by exploring the migration forecast maps found at <https://birdcast.info/migration-tools/migration-forecast-maps/>. This website is run by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and predicts each night's movement of birds using national weather radars. The weather in our area finally changed in our favor beginning on May 7th when the winds turned to the south and the temperatures soared into the 80's. The majority of the birds that migrate through Kalamazoo took place from May 7th though the 15th with millions of birds each night flying through. Another noteworthy movement of birds happened on May 19th and 20th. The last survey of the year took place on May 27th and only one migrant was found, a lone Mourning Warbler.

There were two species I noticed were in low numbers this year and they were the Nashville and Black-throated Green Warblers. Both of these species peak in migration during late April and early May which was right during the unusually cold weather we had. The average count for both of these species is around 75 individuals each year at Kleinstuck, however this spring I was only able to find 17 individuals

of each species, so they were well below their average. There were also a few species that had higher than average counts this year and the most notable one was the Swainson's Thrush which doubled its average count with nearly 125 birds found this year. Another notable thing that happened this year was the first ever nesting attempt of a Red-shouldered Hawk at Kleinstuck, unfortunately the nesting attempt failed for unknown reasons so fingers crossed they will try again next year.

Altogether, we finished this year with 134 species, which is a fairly typical species count.

The entire list of species found in 2022 is included below.

2022 KLEINSTUCK PRESERVE BIRD SURVEY SPECIES OBSERVED

Acadian Flycatcher	Chipping Sparrow	Lincoln's Sparrow	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Alder Flycatcher	Common Grackle	Magnolia Warbler	Rusty Blackbird
American Crow	Common Yellowthroat	Mallard	Sandhill Crane
American Goldfinch	Connecticut Warbler	Mourning Dove	Scarlet Tanager
American Kestrel	Cooper's Hawk	Mourning Warbler	Solitary Sandpiper
American Redstart	Dark-eyed Junco	Nashville Warbler	Song Sparrow
American Robin	Double-crested Cormorant	Northern Cardinal	Sora
Baltimore Oriole	Downy Woodpecker	Northern Flicker	Swainson's Thrush
Barn Swallow	Eastern Bluebird	Northern Parula	Swamp Sparrow
Barred Owl	Eastern Kingbird	N. Rough-winged Swallow	Tennessee Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler	Eastern Phoebe	Northern Waterthrush	Tree Swallow
Belted Kingfisher	Eastern Towhee	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Trumpeter Swan
Black-and-white Warbler	Eastern Wood-Pewee	Orange-crowned Warbler	Tufted Titmouse
Black-billed Cuckoo	European Starling	Orchard Oriole	Turkey Vulture
Blackburnian Warbler	Field Sparrow	Osprey	Veery
Black-capped Chickadee	Fox Sparrow	Ovenbird	Virginia Rail
Blackpoll Warbler	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Palm Warbler	Warbling Vireo
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Golden-winged Warbler	Philadelphia Vireo	White-breasted Nuthatch
Black-throated Green Warbler	Gray Catbird	Pied-billed Grebe	White-throated Sparrow
Blue Jay	Gray-cheeked Thrush	Pileated Woodpecker	Wild Turkey
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Great Blue Heron	Pine Siskin	Willow Flycatcher
Blue-headed Vireo	Great Crested Flycatcher	Pine Warbler	Wilson's Warbler
Blue-winged Warbler	Great Egret	Purple Finch	Winter Wren
Broad-winged Hawk	Great Horned Owl	Purple Martin	Wood Duck
Brown Creeper	Green Heron	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Wood Thrush
Brown Thrasher	Hairy Woodpecker	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Yellow Warbler
Brown-headed Cowbird	Hermit Thrush	Red-eyed Vireo	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
Canada Goose	House Finch	Red-shouldered Hawk	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Canada Warbler	House Sparrow	Red-tailed Hawk	Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Cape May Warbler	House Wren	Red-winged Blackbird	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Carolina Wren	Indigo Bunting	Ring-billed Gull	Yellow-throated Vireo
Cedar Waxwing	Kentucky Warbler	Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Killdeer	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	
Chimney Swift	Least Flycatcher	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	