DANIEL WEBSTER WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

BIRD, CHECK LIST



Marshfield, MA 781-837-9400 southshore@massaudubon.org

FIELD NOTES

Date:
Time:
Weather:
Trails taken:
Observations:

How Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary Helps Birds

This entire sanctuary is managed for birds and has been designated an Important Bird Area (IBA).

- We maintain over 300 acres of this 475-acre sanctuary as grassland habitat through rotational mowing. Fields are important habitat for nesting and foraging by a wide variety of bird and mammal species. Bobolinks and Tree Swallows nest during the summer; Rough-legged Hawks, Northern Shrikes, and a variety of owls feed on mice and voles in the winter. Nest boxes are maintained and monitored for Wood Duck, American Kestrel, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee and Barred Owl.
- The wet panne is fed by groundwater and provides seasonal wetland habitat for a number of birds including Wilson's Snipe, Spotted Sandpipers, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Green Heron, and Glossy Ibis, along with a variety of ducks and songbirds.
- Portions of the property are managed shrubland habitat. Shrublands provide habitat for Brown Thrasher, American Woodcock, and a variety of songbirds. As this habitat decreases, so do these bird populations. We are working to increase this habitat at the sanctuary as well as maintain native plant species in existing shrublands.
- The osprey pole at the sanctuary has been occupied since 1990 and was one of the first successful nests on the South Shore after a dramatic decrease in the osprey population during the 1950's and 60's. Osprey were heavily impacted by the spraying of DDT but have rebounded since DDT has been outlawed. They are a remarkable success story. Our close proximity to Green Harbor River and the coast provide good feeding grounds for the sanctuary's osprey and their young.
- The Purple Martin colony, housed in hanging gourds and more traditional housing apartments, is one of only a few colonies in Massachusetts. Purple Martins are aerial foragers, eating insects caught on the wing over our open fields and skimming the surface of nearby Webster Pond to drink. Volunteers and staff monitor this colony, providing additional housing as needed and banding the young so we can learn about their habits and needs.

Mass Audubon's Statewide Bird Conservation Projects

- Important Bird Areas (IBAs) are sites providing essential habitat to one or more species of breeding, wintering, and/or migrating birds. The statewide portfolio of 79 IBAs represents critical habitat for every bird species regularly occurring in Massachusetts.
- Birds, like many Massachusetts residents, flock to the coastal areas of our state.
 We help protect Piping Plovers, tern species, and coastal habitat at 90 sites in southeastern Massachusetts.
- This important work cannot be done alone. We depend on the support of our members and work closely with many other organizations, agencies, and landowners.

HOW YOU CAN HELP.

Turn your checklists into data and contribute to Mass Audubon's knowledge and understanding of Massachusetts' birdlife and the birds of our wildlife sanctuaries. Keep a list of birds on your walk and log on to www.massaudubon.org/ebird to submit your observations. Your sightings will be stored in a database that Mass Audubon scientists can use to track birds on our sanctuaries.

Help us collect important data by participating in Mass Audubon bird monitoring programs including the Oriole Project, the Whip-poorwill Survey, the second statewide Breeding Bird Atlas, or our sanctuary breeding bird surveys. You can also get involved in the annual Christmas Bird Count or our annual Bird-athon. For more information, visit our website:

www.massaudubon.org.

BIRD CHECKLIST FOR DANIEL WEBSTER

Canada Goose □ American Coot □ Warbling Vireo Philadelphia Vireo □ Mute Swan □ Black-bellied Plover U Wood Duck □ Red-eyed Vireo □ Semipalmated Plover □ Killdeer □ Gadwall \Box Blue lay American Wigeon □ Spotted Sandpiper □ American Crow □ Solitary Sandpiper American Black Duck Fish Crow □ Mallard □ Greater Yellowlegs Purple Martin □ Blue-winged Teal □ Lesser Yellowlegs Tree Swallow □ Northern Rough-winged Swallow □ Northern Shoveler □ Whimbrel □ Semipalmated Sandpiper □ Northern Pintail □ Bank Swallow Green-winged Teal Least Sandpiper □ Cliff Swallow □ Ring-necked Duck Pectoral Sandpiper Barn Swallow Greater Scaup □ Wilson's Snipe □ Black-capped Chickadee Lesser Scaup American Woodcock □ Tufted Titmouse □ Ring-billed Gull □ Bufflehead □ Red-breasted Nuthatch Common Goldeneye □ Herring Gull □ White-breasted Nuthatch □ Hooded Merganser Great Black-backed Gull □ Brown Creeper Common Merganser Least Tern Carolina Wren □ Red-breasted Merganser Common Tern House Wren □ Pied-billed Grebe □ Forster's Tern □ Marsh Wren Rock Pigeon Double-crested Cormorant □ Golden-crowned Kinglet Great Blue Heron □ Ruby-crowned Kinglet □ Mourning Dove □ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Great Egret □ Yellow-billed Cuckoo □ Snowy Egret □ Black-billed Cuckoo Eastern Bluebird Little Blue Heron Eastern Screech-Owl U Wood Thrush Great Horned Owl Green Heron American Robin □ Black-crowned Night-Heron Barred Owl Gray Catbird □ Long-eared Owl Glossy Ibis Northern Mockingbird □ Turkey Vulture □ Short-eared Owl Brown Thrasher Common Nighthawk European Starling □ Bald Eagle American Pipit Chimney Swift □ Northern Harrier □ Ruby-throated Hummingbird Cedar Waxwing Belted Kingfisher □ Sharp-shinned Hawk Blue-winged Warbler Red-bellied Woodpecker Cooper's Hawk □ Tennessee Warbler □ Red-shouldered Hawk Downy Woodpecker □ Northern Parula Hairy Woodpecker □ Broad-winged Hawk ☐ Yellow Warbler Red-tailed Hawk □ Northern Flicker Chestnut-sided Warbler □ Rough-legged Hawk Eastern Wood-Pewee □ Magnolia Warbler □ American Kestrel Cape May Warbler □ Willow Flycatcher □ Merlin Eastern Phoebe □ Black-throated Blue Warbler Great Crested Flycatcher □ Wild Turkey □ Virginia Rail Eastern Kingbird □ Sora □ Northern Shrike Common Moorhen □ Blue-headed Vireo

☐ Yellow-rumped Warbler Black-throated Green Warbler Blackburnian Warbler Pine Warbler Prairie Warbler Palm Warbler Bay-breasted Warbler Blackpoll Warbler □ Black-and-white Warbler American Redstart Connecticut Warbler Common Yellowthroat □ Wilson's Warbler Canada Warbler □ Scarlet Tanager Eastern Towhee American Tree Sparrow □ Chipping Sparrow □ Field Sparrow □ Savannah Sparrow □ Song Sparrow Swamp Sparrow □ White-throated Sparrow □ White-crowned Sparrow Dark-eyed Junco □ Northern Cardinal □ Rose-breasted Grosbeak □ Indigo Bunting □ Bobolink □ Red-winged Blackbird Eastern Meadowlark Rusty Blackbird Common Grackle Brown-headed Cowbird Baltimore Oriole House Finch American Goldfinch Evening Grosbeak □ House Sparrow