

GLOSSARY OF TERMS:

SP/ FOUND DURING SPRING MIGRATION

These birds spend the winter in the southern U.S., Mexico, Caribbean, Central or South America. They stop to rest and feed in the park during migration before continuing on to their breeding grounds to the north. Early morning is the best time to see these migrants as they actively feed in trees.

SU/ FOUND DURING THE SUMMER

Most of these birds nest in the park. Some of the large, soaring birds may nest a considerable distance away, but can be seen regularly in the summer.

F/ FOUND DURING FALL MIGRATION

These birds breed in the northern U.S and Canada. They stop in the park to rest and feed during migration to their wintering grounds to the south.

W/ FOUND DURING THE WINTER

These birds breed north of us and travel south to our area for the winter. Some of these species come every year, but others come only in some winters when their food is scarce in the north.

RES / PERMANENT RESIDENT

These birds are found in the park all year. Most of them nest in the park or not far away.

RARE/ NOT OBSERVED EVERY YEAR

Some of these species pass through every year, but in such small numbers that they are not always seen. Most are not rare birds in eastern North America, but are just rarely seen in within park.

VERY RARE/ MAY HAVE BEEN OBSERVED ONCE

These birds have been observed only once or twice in the parks history and are not expected to appear again.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TO THE AUTHOR:

Paul Hess has been a birder since about age 10 in Southern California. He resides in Natrona Heights where he has intensively studied birds at Harrison Hills Park every year since 1970, before the park officially opened in 1971.

Paul's many accomplishments in the field of birding include: former editor of bird reports for the Audubon Society of Western Pa.; former chair of Pa. Birds Records Committee (to evaluate rare bird reports; former editor of the Three Rivers Birding Club newsletter; author of "News & Notes" for American Birding Assoc. magazine; author of two chapters in National Geographic's book, "The Complete Birds of North America;" and author of National Geographic Field Guide to Birds of Pa.



If you are interested in learning more about the birds of Southwestern Pennsylvania, visit

Three Rivers Birding Club
www.3rbc.org

Or

Audubon Society of Western Pa
www.aswp.org

Produced by Friends
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THE BIRDS OF HARRISON HILLS PARK

1970 – PRESENT
BY PAUL HESS, ET AL.



The following 192 species of birds have been found in Harrison Hills Park by the author or other observers since 1970. Species marked with an asterisk have been known to nest in the park.

Harrison Hills Park is part of an area extending north into southeast Butler County and southwest Armstrong County that have been designated by the Audubon Society as the "Buffalo Creek Valley Important Birding Area" (IBA). The designation calls attention to the need to conserve the diverse habitats used by many species of birds to nest, spend the winter, or stop for rest and feeding during migration.

Harrison Hills Park is well know as a "birding hotspot" which attracts birders from across western Pennsylvania.

Canada Goose – Res*
Tundra Swan – Sp/F (rare)
Wood Duck- Sp/Su/F*
American Wigeon- Sp/F (rare)
American Black Duck- Sp/F (rare)
Mallard – Res*
Blue-winged Teal- Sp/F (rare)
Green-winged Teal- Sp/F (rare)
Ring-necked Duck- Sp/F (rare)
Bufflehead- Sp/F (rare)
Hooded Merganser – Sp/F (rare)
Common Merganser – F (rare)
Ring-necked Pheasant – Res (rare)
Ruffed Grouse – Res (rare)*
Wild Turkey – Res*
Common Loon- Sp/F (rare)
Pied-billed Grebe- Sp/F (rare)
American Bittern- Sp (rare)
Great Blue Heron- Sp/Su/F
Great Egret- Sp/Su/F (rare)
Green Heron- Sp/Su/F (rare)
Black-crowned Night-Heron- Sp/F (rare)
Yellow-crowned Night Heron- F (rare)
Turkey Vulture- Sp/Su/F
Black Vulture– Sp/Su/F
Osprey- Sp/F (rare)
Bald Eagle- Res (rare)
Northern Harrier- W (rare)
Sharp-shinned Hawk – Res*
Cooper’s Hawk – Res*
American Goshawk- Sp/F (very rare)
Red-shouldered Hawk- Sp/Su/F*
Broad-winged Hawk- Sp/Su/F*
Red-tailed Hawk – Res
American Kestrel – Res
Merlin- Sp/F/W (rare)
Sora- Sp/F (rare)
Virginia Rail– Sp (rare)
Killdeer- Sp/Su/F*
Greater Yellowlegs- Sp/Su/F (rare)
Solitary Sandpiper- Sp/Su/F
Spotted Sandpiper- Sp/Su/F
Wilson’s Snipe- Sp/F (rare)
American Woodcock- Sp/F (rare)
Ring-billed Gull- Sp/Su/F
Herring Gull – Res (on river)
Caspian Tern- Sp/F (rare on river)
Rock Pigeon – Res*

Mourning Dove – Res*
Black-billed Cuckoo- Sp/Su/F*
Yellow-billed Cuckoo- Sp/Su/F*
Eastern Screech-Owl- Res *
Great Horned Owl- Res *
Barred Owl- Sp/F (rare)
Northern Saw-whet Owl– Sp/F (rare)
Common Nighthawk- Sp/Su/F*
Chimney Swift- Sp/Su/F*
Ruby-throated Hummingbird- Sp/Su/F*
Belted Kingfisher- Sp/Su/F
Red-headed Woodpecker- Sp/Su/F (rare)
Red-bellied Woodpecker – Res*
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – Sp/F/W
Downy Woodpecker – Res*
Hairy Woodpecker – Res*
Northern Flicker – Res*
Pileated Woodpecker – Res*
Olive-sided Flycatcher- Sp/F (rare)
Eastern Wood-Pewee- Sp/Su/F*
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher- Sp/F (rare)
Acadian Flycatcher- Sp/Su/F*
Alder Flycatcher- Sp/F (rare)
Willow Flycatcher- Sp/F (rare)*
Least Flycatcher- Sp/F
Eastern Phoebe- Sp/Su/F*
Great Crested Flycatcher- Sp/Su/F*
Eastern Kingbird- Sp/F (rare)
Loggerhead Shrike- Sp/F (very rare)
Northern Shrike- W (very rare)
White-eyed Vireo- Sp/Su/F*
Yellow-throated Vireo- Sp/Su/F*
Blue-headed Vireo- Sp/F
Warbling Vireo- Sp/F
Philadelphia Vireo- Sp/F
Red-eyed Vireo- Sp/Su/F
Blue Jay – Res
American Crow – Res
Fish Crow – Sp (very rare)
Common Raven – Sp (rare)
Purple Martin- Sp/Su*
Tree Swallow- Sp/Su/F*
Northern Rough-winged Swallow- Sp/Su/F
Bank Swallow- Sp/F (rare)
Barn Swallow- Sp/Su/F*
Black-capped Chickadee – Res*
Carolina Chickadee-
Tufted Titmouse- Res*

Red-breasted Nuthatch- Sp/F/W
White-breasted Nuthatch – Res*
Brown Creeper – Sp/F/W
Carolina Wren – Res*
House Wren- Sp/Su/F*
Winter Wren- Sp/F
Sedge Wren – F (very rare)
Marsh Wren- Sp/F (rare)
Golden-crowned Kinglet- Sp/F/W
Ruby-crowned Kinglet- Sp/F
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher- Sp/Su/F*
Eastern Bluebird – Res*
Veery- Sp/F
Gray-cheeked Thrush- Sp/F
Swainson’s Thrush- Sp/F
Hermit Thrush- Sp/F/W
Wood Thrush- Sp/Su/F*
American Robin – Res*
Gray Catbird- Sp/Su/F*
Northern Mockingbird- Sp/Su/F
Brown Thrasher- Sp/Su/F*
European Starling – Res*
American Pipit- F (rare)
Cedar Waxwing- Sp/Su/F*
Blue-winged Warbler- Sp/Su/F*
Golden-winged Warbler- Sp/F (rare)*
Tennessee Warbler- Sp/F
Orange-crowned Warbler- Sp/F (rare)
Nashville Warbler- Sp/F
Northern Parula- Sp/F
Yellow Warbler- Sp/Su/F*
Chestnut-sided Warbler- Sp/F
Magnolia Warbler- Sp/F
Cape May Warbler- Sp/F
Black-throated Blue Warbler- Sp/F
Yellow-rumped Warbler- Sp/F/W
Black-throated Green Warbler- Sp/F
Blackburnian Warbler- Sp/F
Yellow-throated Warbler- Sp/Su*
Pine Warbler- Sp/F
Prairie Warbler- Sp/F
Palm Warbler- Sp/F
Bay-breasted Warbler- Sp/F
Blackpoll Warbler- Sp/F
Cerulean Warbler- Sp/Su/F*
Black-and-white Warbler- Sp/Su/F*
American Redstart- Sp/Su/F*
Worm-eating Warbler- Sp/F*

Ovenbird- Sp/F
Northern Waterthrush- Sp/F (rare)
Louisiana Waterthrush- Sp/Su*
Kentucky Warbler- Sp/Su/F*
Connecticut Warbler- Sp/F (rare)
Mourning Warbler- Sp/F (rare)
Common Yellowthroat- Sp/Su/F*
Hooded Warbler- Sp/Su/F*
Wilson’s Warbler- Sp/F
Canada Warbler- Sp/F
Yellow-breasted Chat- Sp/Su/F*
Summer Tanager- Sp/F (very rare)
Scarlet Tanager- Sp/Su/F*
Western Tanager- F (very rare)
Eastern Towhee- Sp/Su/F*
American Tree Sparrow- W
Chipping Sparrow- Sp/Su/F*
Clay-colored Sparrow- Sp/F (very rare)
Field Sparrow- Sp/Su/F*
Vesper Sparrow- Sp/F (rare)
Grasshopper Sparrow – Sp (rare)
Henslow’s Sparrow- Sp/F (rare)
Fox Sparrow- Sp/F (rare)
Song Sparrow- Res*
Lincoln’s Sparrow- Sp/F
Swamp Sparrow- Sp/F
White-throated Sparrow- Sp/F/W
White-crowned Sparrow- Sp/F
Dark-eyed Junco- Sp/F/W
Northern Cardinal- Res*
Rose-breasted Grosbeak- Sp/Su/F*
Common Grackle- Sp/Su/F*
Brown-headed Cowbird- Sp/Su/F*
Indigo Bunting- Sp/Su/F*
Red-winged Blackbird- Sp/Su/F*
Eastern Meadowlark- Sp/F (rare)
Rusty Blackbird- Sp/F (rare)
Orchard Oriole- Sp/Su*
Baltimore Oriole- Sp/Su/F*
Purple Finch- Sp/F/W
House Finch- Res*
Red Crossbill- Sp/F/W (rare)
White-winged Crossbill- Sp/F/W (rare)
Common Redpoll- W (rare)
Pine Siskin- W (rare)
American Goldfinch- Res*
Evening Grosbeak- W (rare)
House Sparrow- Res*