

PERMANENT RESIDENTS (Birds here year round)

FORESTS

Carolina Chickadee ---

Small, black cap and bib, white face and belly, gray back and wings

Song: 4 note "see-saw, see-saw" or call "chick-a-dee-dee-dee"

Tufted Titmouse ---

Gray back and wings, gray crest, orange flanks, white belly

Song: 2 note "peter, peter, peter" or 1 note "here, here, here"

White-breasted Nuthatch -Bluish gray back, crown and wings, white breast.

Walks down tree trunk. Song: Nasal "ank...ank...ank"

Pileated Woodpecker -

Our largest woodpecker. Red crest. Black body with white stripe through face that runs

down neck. Voice: Irregular rhythm, high-pitched "kuk kuk keekeekeekeekeekeekeekuk

kuk"

Northern Flicker -

Our only woodpecker that's brownish overall. Flash of yellow when it flies.

Voice: similar to Pileated's but regular, lower pitched, long, "kwikwikwikwikwik..."

continued steadily for up to 15 seconds

Red-bellied Woodpecker -Red on top of head, buff face and breast, black and white streaky back

Voice: Nasal bark "churr....churr... churr"

Hairy Woodpecker ---

Black and white similar to Downy but with much longer bill.

Voice: Rapid series of notes on one pitch.

Downy Woodpecker --

Black and white, smaller than Hairy with short bill.

Voice: descending whinny

Eastern Screech Owl --

Our smallest owl (size of a can of cola). Either red or gray. Ear tufts.

Voice: Not a screech but a descending whinny with husky falsetto quality or long,

whistled monotone trill

Barred Owl ---

Large round head with no horns. Bars running down breast.

Voice: "who cooks for you, who cooks for you all."

Great Horned Owl ---

Our largest owl. Prefers conifers. Brown, with horns and yellow eyes.

Voice: Muffled hoot. The classic hoot owl. "who whowho who "

Cooper's Hawk ---

Female is Pileated Woodpecker sized. Much longer tail than Buteos. Gray back, brownish

red breast. Prefers deciduous trees. Looks like Sharp-shinned Hawk but bigger. Broad

white band at end of tail. Voice: Nasal barking notes, "pek pek pek..."

Sharp-shinned Hawk --- Looks much like Cooper's Hawk except smaller. Female is Blue Jay sized. Prefers

conifers. Voice: short, sharp "kiw kiw kiw..."

Thickets, Secondary Growth

Eastern Towhee --- Male: black head, back and wings (Female brown). Orange flanks, white belly.

Voice: "Drink your teeeeeaaa"

Northern Cardinal --- Male: bright red with crest. Black mask and goatee. Female: colors muted. Voice: various

LOUD whistled phrases: down-slurred "cheeeer, cheeeer, cheeeer" or up-slurred "wheeet, wheeet, wheeet" followed by series of repeated notes. Also a loud whistled quick tempo

"purty, purty, purty"

Carolina Wren --- Perky brown wren with white stripe above eye. Tail erect.

Voice: Very energetic, loud repeated 2 note "weedle, weedle, weedle"

or 3 note "weedeater, weedeater, weedeater"

Birds of the Lakes, Ponds, Rivers, Wetlands (What they look and sound like)

Belted Kingfisher --- Shaggy blue crest. Blue back, wings. Wide white collar. Dark breast band. Female has

rusty band across breast. Voice: uneven loud rattle.

Great Blue Heron -- Our tallest bird. Bluish gray with white face and black plume.

Often seen standing in shallow water. Pulls in long neck when it flies.

Wood Duck --- Male very colorful. Green drooping crest Black face with white at neck,

rusty orange breast, yellow flanks. Female brown, white around eyes.

Male: Green head, reddish brown breast, buff body, black and white tail. Female: Brown

Canada Goose --- Black head and neck with white vertical mark behind eye. Body gray.

Double-crested Cormorant -Large, black bird. Orange chin. Flies with neck kinked.

Double crest is hard to see.

Red-winged Blackbird --- Male: Overall black with yellow and red epaulets. Female: brown streaked.

Voice: "kon-kee-reeeeee."

Birds of the City Parks, Suburban Areas, Near Humans (What they look and sound like)

Mourning Dove --- Buffy ground bird. Taped tail with white tips when in flight.

Voice: mournful cooing: "oo-ah, whoo, whoo, whoo"

Rock Pigeon --- The city pigeon. Various colors but typically grayish with flicks of iridescent color.

Brown morph is rarer. Voice: soft, muffled low hoots.

Eastern Phoebe --- Olive green overall. Bobs tail when perched. Typical flycather behavior.

Voice: Says its name, "fee bee, fee bee"

Blue Jay --- Overall blue with pale gray breast and black necklace, blue crest.

Voice: varied, harsh "jay, jay, jay" or strained "queedle-dee"

American Robin --- Dark head, back, wings, orange-red breast.

Voices: rhythmic sing-song pattern: "cheerily cheer-up, cheerily cheer-up"

Northern Mockingbird ---Overall dark gray, pale gray breast. Flash of white when it flies.

Voice: long song with a wide range of phrases, some melodious,

some harsh. Each phrase repeated three or more times.

Cedar Waxwing --- Warm brown to gold. Crest and black mask. Yellow tip of tail. Travels in groups.

Voice: very high pitched trilled "sree, sree, sree"

Song Sparrow --- Brown. One large spot in center of smaller spots on breast.

Voice: 3 introductory notes followed by various notes and trills.

Song extremely variable. Something like "maids, maids, maids put on your tea kettle, ettle,

ettle"

House Finch --- Brownish bird with red on front of face and neck.

Voice: a long high-pitched burry, warbled chatter

House Sparrow --- Brownish sparrow with gray cheeks and crown, black goatee and neck.

Song: series of nearly identical chirps.

American Crow --- Large all black. Voice: hoarse "caaw caaw", hollow rattle.

Common Grackle --- All black with multicolored iridescence. Yellow eyes.

Voice: harsh, unmusical, metallic

European Starling --- Iridescent, oily looking black with green tint. Voice: Various high-pitched squeaky

squeals, clucks, clicks, wolf whistles and electronic sounding squeaks

Brown-headed Cowbird -Sparrow-sized black bird with brown head.

Voice: gurgling notes followed by slurred whistle

Birds of Meadows, Edges, Open Spaces, Grasslands (What they look and sound like)

Turkey Vulture --- Black soaring bird with small, red head. Back of wings and flight feathers are silvery.

Red-shouldered Hawk --- Soaring hawk. Reddish breast, and front edges of wings. Thick black, thin white barred tail.

Voice: very vocal, load "keeyuur, keeyuur."

Red-tailed Hawk --- Our largest soaring hawk with belly band and red tail.

Voice: raspy, falling in pitch "cheeeeeeeewv"

Killdeer --- Leggy, strutting shorebird. Brown back, white front with twin black stripes at neck.

Voice: says its name, "kill deer, kill deer"

Eastern Bluebird -- Male: blue with rusty breast. Female: muted

Voice: Short warbling notes, 1 or 2 seconds long, up to 20 a minute

Eastern Meadowlark -- Brown streaked back. Yellow breast with black chevron.

Voice: bittersweet, "spring of the ye eeeeer."

American Goldfinch --Male: bright yellow with black wings and cap. Wing bar.

Female: muted. Voice: high, musical, long phrases, similar to house finch, long warbled chatter but with interspersed sad whine. Listen for flight call: "potato chip, potato chip,

potato chip"

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Small falcon. Black and white face pattern. Male: blue gray wings Female: bronze wings. Voice: Loud "killy killy killy." American Kestrel --