

Check List of Birds
Wakulla Springs State Park

Revised June 9, 2007

This is a list of the 182 birds that are observed one or more times per year at Wakulla Springs. Please refer to the key definitions below for seasonal abundance and nesting.

Enjoy your visit!

Key Definitions:

Seasons

Sp = Spring (March to May)
Su = Summer (June to August)
F = Fall (September to November)
W = Winter (December to February)

Abundance

A = Abundant: Observed daily or in great numbers
C = Common: Observed weekly or many times a season
U = Uncommon: Observed only a few times a season
R = Rare: Observed once or twice per year

Nesting

* = Nests within the park.

	Sp	Su	F	W
DUCKS				
__ American Black Duck	R	-	R	R
__ American Wigeon	A	-	C	A
__ Blue-winged Teal	U	-	C	C
__ Bufflehead	R	-	R	R
__ Common Goldeneye	R	-	R	R
__ Eurasian Wigeon	R	-	R	R
__ Gadwall	U	-	U	U
__ Greater Scaup	R	-	R	R
__ Green-winged Teal	R	-	U	U
__ Hooded Merganser	U	-	U	C
__ Lesser Scaup	R	-	R	U
__ Mallard	R	-	R	R
__ Northern Pintail	R	-	R	R
__ Northern Shoveler	R	-	R	R
__ Red-breasted Merganser	R	-	-	R
__ Ring-necked Duck	U	-	R	R
__ Redhead	R	-	R	R
__ Wood Duck *	A	A	A	A

	Sp	Su	F	W
OTHER SWIMMING BIRDS				
__ Anhinga *	A	A	A	A
__ American Coot	A	R	A	A
__ Common Moorhen *	A	A	A	A
__ Double-crested Cormorant *	A	A	C	C
__ Horned Grebe	R	-	R	R
__ Pied-billed Grebe *	A	A	A	A
__ Purple Gallinule *	U	U	U	R

AERIAL WATER BIRDS

__ Brown Pelican	-	-	R	R
__ Forster's Tern	U	U	C	C
__ Laughing Gull	U	U	U	U
__ Ring-billed Gull	U	-	R	C

BIRDS OF PREY

__ American Kestrel	R	-	R	U
__ American Swallow-tailed Kite *	U	C	-	-
__ Bald Eagle *	U	U	U	C
__ Barn Owl	R	R	R	R
__ Barred Owl *	A	A	A	A
__ Black Vulture	A	A	A	A
__ Broad-winged Hawk *	C	C	R	-
__ Cooper's Hawk	R	R	R	R
__ Eastern Screech-Owl *	C	C	C	A
__ Great Horned Owl *	C	C	C	A
__ Merlin	R	-	R	R
__ Mississippi Kite *	U	C	-	-
__ Northern Harrier	R	-	R	R
__ Osprey *	A	A	C	C
__ Peregrine Falcon	R	-	R	C
__ Red-shouldered Hawk *	C	A	C	C
__ Red-tailed Hawk *	C	C	C	C
__ Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	-	C	C
__ Turkey Vulture	A	A	A	A

CHICKEN-LIKE BIRDS

__ Wild Turkey *	A	A	A	A
__ Northern Bobwhite *	C	C	U	U

WADING BIRDS

	Sp	Su	F	W
__ American Bittern	R	-	R	R
__ Black-crowned Night-Heron	U	U	U	U
__ Cattle Egret *	U	C	U	R
__ Glossy Ibis	-	-	R	-
__ Great Blue Heron *	C	C	C	C
__ Great Egret *	C	C	C	C
__ Green Heron *	A	A	C	U
__ Least Bittern *	C	C	C	C
__ Limpkin	R	R	R	R
__ Little Blue Heron	C	C	C	C
__ Roseate Spoonbill	-	R	-	-
__ Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	R
__ Snowy Egret *	C	C	C	C
__ Sora	R	-	R	C
__ Tricolored Heron	C	C	C	C
__ White Ibis	U	C	C	C
__ Wood Stork	R	R	R	R
__ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron *	A	A	C	C

SHOREBIRDS

__ American Woodcock	U	R	U	U
__ Common Snipe	R	-	R	R
__ Killdeer	U	R	U	U
__ Solitary Sandpiper	R	-	R	-
__ Spotted Sandpiper	A	-	U	U

MEDIUM-SIZED LAND BIRDS

__ Belted Kingfisher	U	U	A	C
__ Chuck-will's-widow *	C	A	-	-
__ Common Ground-Dove *	U	C	U	U
__ Common Nighthawk	C	A	-	-
__ Downy Woodpecker *	A	A	A	A
__ Eurasian Collared Dove	-	-	R	-
__ Hairy Woodpecker *	U	U	U	U
__ Mourning Dove *	A	A	A	A
__ Northern Flicker	C	C	C	C
__ Pileated Woodpecker *	A	A	A	A
__ Red-bellied Woodpecker *	A	A	A	A
__ Red-headed Woodpecker *	C	C	C	A
__ Whip-poor-will	R	-	R	R
__ White-winged Dove	-	-	R	-
__ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U	-	C	C
__ Yellow-billed Cuckoo *	A	A	U	-

HUMMINGBIRDS, SWIFTS, SWALLOWS

	Sp	Su	F	W
__ Bank Swallow	R	-	R	-
__ Barn Swallow *	C	U	C	-
__ Chimney Swift	C	A	U	-
__ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	U	-	U	-
__ Purple Martin	U	C	U	R
__ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	C	A	U	-
__ Tree Swallow	C	-	U	C

FLYCATCHERS

__ Acadian Flycatcher *	C	C	-	-
__ Eastern Kingbird	U	U	-	-
__ Eastern Phoebe	C	-	C	A
__ Eastern Wood-pewee *	C	C	U	-
__ Great-crested Flycatcher *	A	A	R	-

TYPICAL SONGBIRDS

__ American Crow *	C	C	C	C
__ American Robin	C	-	A	A
__ Blue Jay *	A	A	A	A
__ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	C	A	C	U
__ Blue-headed Vireo	U	-	U	C
__ Brown Creeper	-	-	R	R
__ Brown Thrasher*	C	A	C	C
__ Brown-headed Nuthatch *	C	C	C	U
__ Carolina Chickadee *	A	A	A	A
__ Carolina Wren*	A	A	A	A
__ Cedar Waxwing	C	-	U	A
__ Eastern Bluebird *	C	C	U	C
__ Fish Crow *	A	A	A	A
__ Golden-crowned Kinglet	U	-	U	U
__ Gray Catbird	C	-	C	A
__ Gray-cheeked Thrush	U	-	U	-
__ Hermit Thrush	C	-	U	A
__ House Wren	C	-	C	A
__ Loggerhead Shrike	U	U	U	U
__ Northern Mockingbird *	A	A	A	A
__ Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	-	R	R
__ Red-eyed Vireo *	C	A	C	-
__ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	-	C	A
__ Sedge Wren	U	-	U	R
__ Swainson's Thrush	C	-	C	-
__ Tufted Titmouse*	A	A	A	A
__ Veery	U	-	U	-

	Sp	Su	F	W
TYPICAL SONGBIRDS Continued				
___ White-breasted Nuthatch	-	-	R	R
___ White-eyed Vireo *	C	A	C	C
___ Winter Wren	R	-	-	R
___ Wood Thrush	U	U	U	U
___ Yellow-throated Vireo *	U	U	-	U

WARBLERS

___ American Redstart	C	R	C	-
___ Black-and-white Warbler	C	-	C	C
___ Blue-winged Warbler	-	R	R	-
___ Cerulean Warbler	R	-	R	-
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler	R	-	U	-
___ Common Yellowthroat *	U	U	U	U
___ Golden-winged Warbler	R	-	R	-
___ Hooded Warbler *	U	A	U	-
___ Kentucky Warbler*	R	R	U	-
___ Louisiana Waterthrush	R	R	R	-
___ Magnolia Warbler	C	-	U	-
___ Northern Parula*	A	A	C	-
___ Northern Waterthrush	U	-	U	-
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	U	-	U	C
___ Ovenbird	U	-	U	R
___ Palm Warbler	C	-	C	U
___ Pine Warbler *	A	A	A	A
___ Prairie Warbler	U	-	U	U
___ Prothonotary Warbler *	A	A	U	-
___ Swainson's Warbler	U	-	U	-
___ Tennessee Warbler	U	-	U	-
___ Wilson's Warbler	R	-	R	-
___ Worm-eating Warbler	U	-	U	-
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	A	-	A	A
___ Yellow-throated Warbler *	C	C	C	C

TANAGERS, BLACKBIRDS

___ Baltimore Oriole	-	-	-	R
___ Boat-tailed Grackle	R	R	U	U
___ Brown-headed Cowbird *	C	A	U	U
___ Common Grackle *	C	C	C	A
___ Orchard Oriole	U	U	R	-
___ Red-winged Blackbird *	C	C	A	A
___ Rusty Blackbird	R	-	R	U
___ Scarlet Tanager	U	-	U	-
___ Summer Tanager *	C	C	U	-

SPARROWS

	Sp	Su	F	W
___ Chipping Sparrow	C	-	A	A
___ Dark-eyed Junco	U	-	C	U
___ Eastern Towhee *	A	A	A	A
___ Field Sparrow	C	-	C	C
___ Fox Sparrow	R	-	R	R
___ House Sparrow	R	R	R	R
___ Song Sparrow	U	-	U	C
___ Swamp Sparrow	U	-	U	C
___ White-throated Sparrow	C	-	A	A

FINCHES, BUNTINGS

___ American Goldfinch	U	-	U	C
___ Blue Grosbeak *	R	-	-	-
___ House Finch	R	-	-	R
___ Indigo Bunting *	C	-	U	-
___ Northern Cardinal *	A	A	A	A
___ Pine Siskin	R	-	R	R
___ Purple Finch	R	-	-	R
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	U	-	U	-

Wakulla Springs has been a birding Mecca for decades. The following birds are no longer found here because of extinction, drastic range reduction, or changes in migration patterns:

- *Canada Goose*: Not recorded since the 1950's
- *Snail Kite*: Wakulla Springs was named as the westernmost limit of the Snail Kite in Florida in 1932.
- *Ivory-billed Woodpecker*: Now believed by many to be extinct in the U.S., sightings were reported as late as 1918 at Wakulla.
- *Carolina Parakeet*: Extinct in Florida after 1920, correspondence mentions parakeets along the Wakulla River as late as 1838.

Limpkin ... Gone Forever?

At one time the limpkin was abundant here, but lately this brown and white spangled bird has been scarce. Its departure is directly related to the disappearance of the apple snail, the limpkin's main source of food. Like the limpkin, apple snails were once abundant along the river, but are now nearly gone.

Many believe that *Hydrilla*, a non-native invasive aquatic weed is to blame. First found in the river and spring in 1997, this fast growing weed had virtually taken over the river, crowding out native plants and wildlife. Or maybe apple snails are gone because of previous river flooding. Apple snails only live about one year. They lay their eggs above the water line to prevent embryos from drowning. But high flood waters may have drowned an entire breeding season of eggs.

Whatever the reason, until the apple snails return, the lonesome call of the limpkin will be sorely missed.

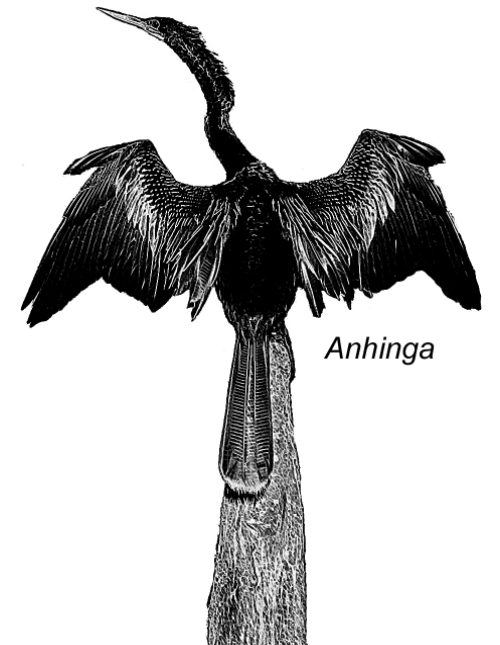


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Birds of the Wakulla Springs State Park



Anhinga