

Schoolhouse Pond, Maryland Checklist of Birds



√ Species	Sp	Su	F	W
__ Greater White-fronted Goose	Ac	__	__	Ac
__ Ross's Goose	__	__	__	Ca
__ Cackling Goose	VR	__	R	R
__ Snow Goose	__	__	VR	VR
__ Canada Goose (Br)	C	U	A	A
__ Tundra Swan	R	__	R	R
__ Mute Swan (Br)	U	U	U	U
__ Trumpeter Swan	Ca	Ca	Ca	Ca
__ Wood Duck (Br)	C	C	C	VR
__ Gadwall	FC	__	FC	FC
__ American Wigeon	R	__	VR	R
__ Eurasian Wigeon	__	__	__	Ca
__ American Black Duck	R	__	R	R
__ Mallard (Br)	C	C	C	A
__ Blue-winged Teal	R	__	__	__
__ Northern Shoveler	C	__	C	A
__ Northern Pintail	R	__	R	R
__ Green-winged Teal	FC	__	U	__
__ Canvasback	__	__	__	VR
__ Redhead	__	__	__	VR
__ Ring-necked Duck	U	__	U	U
__ Greater Scaup	VR	__	__	VR
__ Lesser Scaup	R	__	R	R
__ Bufflehead	R	__	R	R
__ Hooded Merganser	U	__	U	U
__ Common Merganser	R	__	__	R
__ Red-breasted Merganser	R	__	__	R
__ Ruddy Duck	U	__	U	FC
__ Common Goldeneye	__	__	__	VR
__ Common Loon	R	__	__	__
__ Pied-billed Grebe	U	__	U	U
__ Horned Grebe	U	__	U	U
__ Eared Grebe	__	__	Ca	__
__ Double-cr. Cormorant	C	U	C	VR
__ American White Pelican	__	__	Ac	__
__ Great Blue Heron	C	C	C	C
__ Great Egret	FC	FC	FC	R
__ Snowy Egret	VR	VR	VR	__
__ Little Blue Heron	R	R	__	__
__ Tricolored Heron	__	VR	__	__
__ Cattle Egret	__	R	__	__
__ Green Heron	C	C	C	Ca
__ Black-cr. Night Heron	U	U	R	VR
__ Yellow-cr. Night Heron	VR	VR	__	__

√ Species	Sp	Su	F	W
__ American Bittern	Ca	__	__	__
__ Glossy Ibis	VR	__	__	__
__ Black Vulture	A	A	A	A
__ Turkey Vulture	A	A	A	A
__ Osprey	C	C	FC	__
__ Bald Eagle	FC	U	FC	C
__ Northern Harrier	__	__	VR	__
__ Mississippi Kite	Ca	__	__	__
__ Sharp-shinned Hawk	FC	__	FC	FC
__ Cooper's Hawk	FC	FC	FC	FC
__ Northern Goshawk	__	__	Ca	__
__ Red-should. Hawk (Br)	C	C	C	C
__ Broad-winged Hawk	VR	__	R	__
__ Red-tailed Hawk	FC	FC	FC	FC
__ Rough-legged Hawk	__	__	__	Ca
__ Golden Eagle	__	__	VR	VR
__ American Kestrel	R	R	R	R
__ Merlin	VR	__	VR	VR
__ Peregrine Falcon	__	__	VR	VR
__ Common Gallinule	__	Ca	__	__
__ American Coot	C	__	C	C
__ Virginia Rail	__	__	__	Ca
__ Killdeer	C	C	C	C
__ Semipalmated Plover	VR	__	__	__
__ American Avocet	__	__	Ca	__
__ Spotted Sandpiper	C	VR	U	__
__ Solitary Sandpiper	U	__	__	__
__ Greater Yellowlegs	U	__	U	__
__ Lesser Yellowlegs	U	__	U	__
__ Least Sandpiper	U	__	R	__
__ Semipalmated Sandpiper	VR	__	__	__
__ Dunlin	Ca	__	__	__
__ Pectoral Sandpiper	VR	__	__	__
__ Wilson's Snipe	FC	__	R	__
__ American Woodcock	__	__	__	VR
__ Bonaparte's Gull	U	__	R	R
__ Black-headed Gull	__	__	__	VR
__ Little Gull	__	__	Ca	__
__ Laughing Gull	C	VR	A	VR
__ Franklin's Gull	__	__	Ca	__
__ Mew Gull	__	__	__	Ac
__ Ring-billed Gull	C	__	C	A
__ Herring Gull	FC	__	FC	A
__ Thayer's Gull	__	__	__	VR
__ Iceland Gull	__	__	__	R

√ Species	Sp	Su	F	W
__ Lesser Bl.-backed Gull	__	__	R	U
__ Glaucous Gull	__	__	__	VR
__ Great Bl.-backed Gull	U	__	U	FC
__ Least Tern	VR	VR	__	__
__ Caspian Tern	FC	VR	R	__
__ Forster's Tern	U	__	R	__
__ Rock Pigeon	C	C	C	C
__ Mourning Dove (Br)	C	C	C	C
__ Yellow-billed Cuckoo (Br)	FC	FC	R	__
__ Black-billed Cuckoo	VR	__	__	__
__ Eastern Screech-Owl	__	__	__	VR
__ Great Horned Owl	__	__	__	VR
__ Barred Owl (Br)	U	U	U	U
__ Common Nighthawk	VR	VR	__	__
__ Chimney Swift	C	C	C	__
__ Ruby-thr. Hummingbird (Br)	C	C	FC	__
__ Belted Kingfisher	FC	FC	FC	FC
__ Red-bell. Woodpecker (Br)	C	C	C	C
__ Yellow-bell. Sapsucker	U	__	U	U
__ Downy Woodpecker (Br)	C	C	C	C
__ Hairy Woodpecker (Br)	U	U	U	U
__ Northern Flicker (BR)	C	R	C	C
__ Pileated Woodpecker (Br)	FC	FC	FC	FC
__ Red-headed Woodpecker	__	__	Ca	__
__ Olive-sided Flycatcher	VR	__	VR	__
__ Eastern Wood -Pewee (Br)	C	C	U	__
__ Yellow-bell. Flycatcher	R	__	R	__
__ Acadian Flycatcher (Br)	C	C	UC	__
__ Alder Flycatcher	VR	__	__	__
__ Willow Flycatcher	VR	__	VR	__
__ Least Flycatcher	VR	__	VR	__
__ Eastern Phoebe (Br)	C	C	C	VR
__ Great Cr. Flycatcher (Br)	U	U	R	__
__ Eastern Kingbird (Br)	C	C	U	__
__ White-eyed Vireo (Br)	C	C	C	__
__ Yellow-thr. Vireo (Br)	U	U	R	__
__ Blue-headed Vireo	U	__	U	__
__ Warbling Vireo	R	VR	R	__
__ Philadelphia Vireo	__	__	VR	__
__ Red-eyed Vireo (Br)	C	C	C	__
__ Blue Jay (Br)	C	C	C	C
__ American Crow	C	C	C	C
__ Fish Crow	C	C	C	C
__ Common Raven	Ac	__	__	__
__ Purple Martin	R	VR	__	__

√ Species	Sp	Su	F	W
__Northern Rough-winged Swallow	FC	FC	R	__
__Tree Swallow (Br)	C	C	C	__
__Bank Swallow	R	R	__	__
__Barn Swallow (Br)	C	C	C	__
__Cliff Swallow	VR	__	__	__
__Carolina Chickadee (Br)	C	C	C	C
__Tufted Titmouse (Br)	C	C	C	C
__Red-breasted Nuthatch	__	__	VR	VR
__White-br. Nuthatch (Br)	C	C	C	C
__Brown Creeper	R	__	R	U
__Carolina Wren (Br)	C	C	C	C
__House Wren (Br)	U	U	R	__
__Winter Wren	R	__	U	U
__Marsh Wren	R	__	R	__
__Blue-gr. Gnatcatcher (Br)	C	C	FC	__
__Golden-crowned Kinglet	U	__	U	U
__Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U	__	U	U
__Eastern Bluebird (Br)	U	U	U	FC
__Veery	__	__	R	__
__Swainson's Thrush	R	__	R	__
__Gray-cheeked Thrush	__	__	VR	__
__Hermit Thrush	U	__	U	U
__Wood Thrush (Br)	FC	FC	FC	__
__American Robin (Br)	C	C	C	C
__Gray Catbird (Br)	C	C	C	Ca
__Northern Mockingbird (Br)	C	C	C	C
__Brown Thrasher	U	U	U	U
__European Starling (Br)	A	A	A	A
__Cedar Waxwing (Br)	FC	U	FC	FC
__Blue-winged Warbler	VR	__	VR	__
__Tennessee Warbler	VR	__	VR	__
__Orange-crowned Warbler	VR	__	VR	Ca
__Nashville Warbler	VR	__	VR	__
__Northern Parula (Br)	C	C	C	__
__Yellow Warbler (Br)	C	U	U	__
__Chestnut-sided Warbler	VR	__	R	__
__Magnolia Warbler	R	__	U	__
__Black-th. Blue Warbler	VR	__	R	__
__Yellow-rumped Warbler	C	__	C	C
__Black-th. Green Warbler	R	__	R	__
__Blackburnian Warbler	__	__	VR	__
__Pine Warbler	R	__	R	__
__Prairie Warbler	R	__	R	R
__Palm Warbler	U	__	R	__

√ Species	Sp	Su	F	W
__Bay-breasted Warbler	__	__	VR	__
__Blackpoll Warbler	FC	__	U	__
__Yellow-th. Warbler (Br)	VR	VR	__	__
__Cerulean Warbler	Ca	__	__	__
__Black-and-white Warbler	U	U	U	__
__American Redstart (Br)	C	C	C	__
__Prothonotary Warbler (Br)	U	U	U	__
__Worm-eating Warbler	VR	__	__	__
__Ovenbird	R	__	VR	Ca
__Northern Waterthrush	R	__	U	__
__Louisiana Waterthrush	U	__	U	__
__Kentucky Warbler	VR	__	VR	__
__Mourning Warbler	VR	__	VR	__
__Common Yellowthroat (Br)	C	C	C	__
__Hooded Warbler (Br)	U	U	U	__
__Wilson's Warbler	R	__	__	__
__Canada Warbler	R	__	R	__
__Yellow-breasted Chat	VR	VR	VR	__
__Eastern Towhee (Br)	U	U	U	U
__American Tree Sparrow	__	__	__	VR
__Chipping Sparrow (Br)	C	C	C	__
__Field Sparrow	U	__	U	__
__Savannah Sparrow	__	__	__	R
__Fox Sparrow	R	__	R	U
__Song Sparrow (Br)	C	C	C	A
__Swamp Sparrow	FC	__	FC	FC
__Lincoln's Sparrow	__	__	VR	__
__White-throated Sparrow	C	__	C	A
__White-crowned Sparrow	__	__	__	VR
__Dark-eyed Junco	U	__	U	C
__Summer Tanager	__	VR	VR	__
__Scarlet Tanager (Br)	U	U	U	__
__Northern Cardinal (Br)	C	C	C	C
__Rose-breasted Grosbeak	VR	__	VR	__
__Blue Grosbeak	U	U	U	__
__Indigo Bunting (Br)	C	C	C	__
__Painted Bunting	Ac	__	__	__
__Red-winged Blackbird (Br)	A	A	C	U
__Eastern Meadowlark	__	__	VR	__
__Rusty Blackbird	R	__	R	VR
__Common Grackle (Br)	C	C	C	C
__Brown-headed Cowbird (Br)	U	U	U	U
__Orchard Oriole (Br)	FC	U	U	__
__Baltimore Oriole (Br)	U	U	U	__
__Purple Finch	__	__	R	R

√ Species	Sp	Su	F	W
__House Finch (Br)	C	C	C	C
__American Goldfinch (Br)	A	A	A	A
__Pine Siskin	__	__	VR	VR
__House Sparrow (Br)	C	C	C	C

Schoolhouse Pond

Schoolhouse Pond is located along Governor Oden Bowie Drive in Upper Marlboro. A trail and boardwalk runs around the perimeter of the pond and allows viewing of a variety of habitats ranging from the riparian corridor of Federal Branch, wetlands, mature woodlands, and the open water of the pond. An observation platform is located at the rear of the pond. A wide variety of birds and other wildlife can be found throughout the year. Some birds are common and can be found wintering or breeding at the pond, while others are rare migrants.

The relative abundance or frequency of occurrence is noted for each species by the inclusion of a frequency code for each season. The following definitions generally describe what is meant by each code.

- Abundant (A):** very numerous species
- Common (C):** likely to be seen or heard
- Fairly common (FC):** seen or heard on more than half of visits
- Uncommon (U):** present, but may not be seen
- Rare (R):** seen annually at the pond, but typically only one or very small numbers
- Very Rare (VR):** Not an annual occurrence, but typically bi-annual or every few years
- Casual (Ca):** Does not occur annually or bi-annually, but has been recorded several times
- Accidental (Ac):** recorded only once or twice, well out of range and not expected

The frequency of each species is noted for the seasons that it is typically found at Schoolhouse Pond. The seasons are abbreviated with the following codes: spring (Sp), summer (Su), fall (F) and winter (W). Some birds are common during some seasons, but absent during others. For example, White-throated Sparrows are listed as abundant, but this is during the fall, winter and spring only. Similarly, Indigo Buntings are common at the pond, but only during the warmer months, including spring, summer, and the early part of fall. Other birds are only seen during migration, and these are typically indicated by occurrence in the spring and/or fall only. Blackpoll Warblers are listed as fairly common in spring and uncommon in fall, but this is only during migration when they are passing through the area.

Breeding Birds at Schoolhouse Pond

Although birds are present year round at Schoolhouse Pond, a number of species can be found nesting along or near the pond during the warmer months. A large number of species nest near the pond due to the diversity of habitat present. Through work done for the *Maryland and the District of Columbia Breeding Bird Atlas* from 2002 to 2006, information was collected regarding breeding bird activity across the state, including the vicinity of Schoolhouse Pond. Birds that have been documented as probable or confirmed breeders along or in the immediate vicinity of Schoolhouse Pond during the breeding bird atlas (or subsequent years) are indicated with the inclusion of "Br" in parentheses immediately after the species name. Updates to this list can be e-mailed to Fred Shaffer at fred.shaffer@ppd.mncppc.org. Artwork completed by Judy Leyshon, M-NCPPC.