



A Checklist of Birds within the Grand River Watershed

This list comprises all 292 bird species that have been recorded within the Grand River watershed according to the best evidence available to the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA). Classification and nomenclature follow the American Ornithologist's Union Checklist of Birds (7th edition, including 45th supplement.). Species status is based on the current list of species-at-risk prepared by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Conservation priority species within the Grand River Watershed were identified by Bird Studies Canada. Please take the time to report your sightings of rare or unusual species to the GRCA. This checklist may be updated periodically. Therefore, species not appearing on this checklist other than domestic escapees should also be reported to GRCA.

Status:

Extinct - A species that exists nowhere in the wild

Extirpated - A species that no longer exists in the wild in Ontario but that still occurs elsewhere

Endangered - A species at risk of becoming extinct or extirpated in Ontario. We have 11 on our list, and eight of these are regulated under Ontario's Endangered Species Act. These eight are noted as "Endangered-R".

Threatened - A species at risk of becoming endangered in Ontario

Special Concern - A species that is sensitive to human activities or natural events

Conservation Priority (CP) - Denotes a conservation priority species identified by Bird Studies Canada using a combined approach that considers the relative importance of the Grand River watershed to each breeding bird species relative to its overall breeding distribution, as well as information on each species' abundance, population trend, sensitivity, and habitat size requirement. The aim of this designation is to help planning authorities set priorities for conservation efforts by targeting bird species and their associated habitats that are significant within a specific region. Conservation priority bird species have also been established for upper tier municipalities within the Grand River watershed (Grey, Dufferin, Wellington, Perth, Halton, Waterloo, Hamilton-Wentworth, Oxford, Brant, and Haldimand-Norfolk).

Introduced - Species that are not native to North America.

Rare/accidental - These species are not typically found every year.

References:

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Sandilands, A.P. 1984. Annotated Checklist of the Vascular Plants and Vertebrates of Luther Marsh, Ontario. Special Publication Number 2. Ontario Field Biologist, December 1984.

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	Status	Date	Date	Date
WATERFOWL				
Greater White-fronted Goose				
Snow Goose				
Brant				
Canada Goose				
Mute Swan	Introduced			
Trumpeter Swan				
Tundra Swan				
Wood Duck				
Gadwall	CP			
Eurasian Wigeon				
American Wigeon	CP			
American Black Duck	CP			
Mallard				
Blue-winged Teal	CP			
Northern Shoveler				
Northern Pintail	CP			
Green-winged Teal				
Canvasback	CP			
Redhead				
Ring-necked Duck	CP			
Greater Scaup				
Lesser Scaup	CP			
Surf Scoter				
White-winged Scoter				
Black Scoter				
Long-tailed Duck				
Bufflehead				
Common Goldeneye				
Hooded Merganser	CP			
Common Merganser				
Red-breasted Merganser				
Ruddy Duck				
Greater White-fronted Goose				
Snow Goose				
Brant				
Canada Goose				
Mute Swan	Introduced			
Trumpeter Swan				
GALLINACEOUS BIRDS				
Gray Partridge	Introduced			
Ring-necked Pheasant	Introduced			
Ruffed Grouse	CP			
Wild Turkey				
Northern Bobwhite	Endangered, CP			
LOONS & GREBES				
Red-throated Loon				
Pacific Loon	Rare/Accidental			
Common Loon	CP			
Pied-billed Grebe	CP			
Horned Grebe				
Red-necked Grebe				
PELICANS & CORMORANTS				
American White Pelican	Endangered-R			
Double-crested Cormorant				

	Status	Date	Date	Date
BITERNS, HERONS, & ALLIES				
American Bittern	CP			
Least Bittern	Threatened, CP			
Great Blue Heron				
Great Egret				
Snowy Egret				
Little Blue Heron	Rare/Accidental			
Cattle Egret				
Green Heron	CP			
Black-crowned Night-Heron				
Glossy Ibis	Rare/Accidental			
Black Vulture	Rare/Accidental			
Turkey Vulture	CP			
HAWKS & FALCONS				
Osprey	CP			
Bald Eagle	Endangered-R			
Northern Harrier	CP			
Sharp-shinned Hawk	CP			
Cooper's Hawk	CP			
Northern Goshawk	CP			
Red-shouldered Hawk	Special Concern, CP			
Broad-winged Hawk	CP			
Red-tailed Hawk				
Rough-legged Hawk				
Golden Eagle	Endangered-R			
American Kestrel	CP			
Merlin				
Peregrine Falcon	Endangered-R			
RAILS, CRANES, & ALLIES				
King Rail	Endangered-R			
Virginia Rail	CP			
Sora	CP			
Common Moorhen	CP			
American Coot	CP			
Sandhill Crane				
SHOREBIRDS				
Black-bellied Plover				
American Golden Plover				
Semipalmated Plover				
Killdeer				
American Avocet				
Greater Yellowlegs				
Lesser Yellowlegs				
Solitary Sandpiper				
Willet				
Spotted Sandpiper	CP			
Upland Sandpiper	CP			
Whimbrel				
Hudsonian Godwit				
Ruddy Turnstone				
Sanderling				
Semipalmated Sandpiper				
Western Sandpiper				
Least Sandpiper				
White-rumped Sandpiper				
Baird's Sandpiper				

	Status	Date	Date	Date
Pectoral Sandpiper				
Dunlin				
Stilt Sandpiper				
Short-billed Dowitcher				
Long-billed Dowitcher				
Wilson's Snipe	CP			
American Woodcock	CP			
Wilson's Phalarope	CP			
Red-necked Phalarope				
GULLS & TERNS				
Franklin's Gull				
Bonaparte's Gull				
Ring-billed Gull				
Herring Gull				
Thayer's Gull				
Iceland Gull				
Lesser Black-backed Gull				
Glaucous Gull				
Great Black-backed Gull				
Caspian Tern				
Common Tern	CP			
Forster's Tern				
Black Tern	Special Concern, CP			
PIDGEOONS & DOVES				
Rock Pigeon	Introduced			
Mourning Dove				
Passenger Pigeon	Extinct			
CUCKOOS				
Black-billed Cuckoo	CP			
Yellow-billed Cuckoo				
OWLS				
Barn Owl	Endangered, CP			
Eastern Screech-Owl				
Great Horned Owl				
Snowy Owl				
Northern Hawk Owl				
Barred Owl	CP			
Great Gray Owl				
Long-eared Owl	CP			
Short-eared Owl	Special Concern, CP			
Northern Saw-whet Owl	CP			
GOATSUCKERS				
Common Nighthawk	CP			
Whip-poor-will	CP			
Chimney Swift				
HUMMINGBIRDS				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	CP			
KINGFISHERS				
Belted Kingfisher				
WOODPECKERS				
Red-headed Woodpecker	Special Concern, CP			

	Status	Date	Date	Date
Red-bellied Woodpecker	CP			
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	CP			
Downy Woodpecker				
Hairy Woodpecker				
American Three-toed Woodpecker				
Black-backed Woodpecker				
Northern Flicker				
Pileated Woodpecker	CP			
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	CP			
Eastern Wood-Pewee				
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				
Acadian Flycatcher	Endangered, CP			
Alder Flycatcher	CP			
Willow Flycatcher				
Least Flycatcher	CP			
Eastern Phoebe	CP			
Great Crested Flycatcher				
Western Kingbird				
Eastern Kingbird	CP			
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Rare/Accidental			
SHRIKES				
Loggerhead Shrike	Endangered-R, CP			
Northern Shrike				
VIREOS				
White-eyed Vireo	CP			
Yellow-throated Vireo				
Blue-headed Vireo	CP			
Warbling Vireo				
Philadelphia Vireo				
Red-eyed Vireo				
JAYS & CROWS				
Gray Jay				
Blue Jay				
Black-billed Magpie	Rare/Accidental			
American Crow				
Common Raven				
LARKS				
Horned Lark	CP			
SWALLOWS				
Purple Martin	CP			
Tree Swallow				
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	CP			
Bank Swallow	CP			
Cliff Swallow	CP			
Barn Swallow	CP			

	Status	Date	Date	Date
CHICKADEES & TITMICE				
Black-capped Chickadee	CP			
Boreal Chickadee				
Tufted Titmouse	CP			
NUTHATCHES				
Red-breasted Nuthatch	CP			
White-breasted Nuthatch				
CREEPERS				
Brown Creeper	CP			
WRENS & ALLIES				
Carolina Wren	CP			
House Wren				
Winter Wren				
Sedge Wren	CP			
Marsh Wren	CP			
Golden-crowned Kinglet	CP			
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	CP			
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	CP			
THRUSHES				
Eastern Bluebird	CP			
Veery	CP			
Gray-cheeked Thrush				
Swainson's Thrush				
Hermit Thrush	CP			
Wood Thrush				
American Robin				
MIMICS				
Gray Catbird	CP			
Northern Mockingbird	CP			
Brown Thrasher	CP			
STARLINGS				
European Starling	Introduced			
PIPITS				
American Pipit				
WAXWINGS				
Bohemian Waxwing				
Cedar Waxwing				
WOOD WARBLERS				
Blue-winged Warbler	CP			
Golden-winged Warbler	CP			
Tennessee Warbler				
Orange-crowned Warbler				
Nashville Warbler	CP			
Northern Parula				
Yellow Warbler				
Chestnut-sided Warbler	CP			
Magnolia Warbler	CP			
Cape May Warbler				
Black-throated Blue Warbler	CP			
Yellow-rumped Warbler	CP			

	Status	Date	Date	Date
Black-throated Green Warbler	CP			
Blackburnian Warbler	CP			
Pine Warbler	CP			
Prairie Warbler	CP			
Palm Warbler				
Bay-breasted Warbler				
Blackpoll Warbler				
Cerulean Warbler	Special Concern, CP			
Black-and-white Warbler	CP			
American Redstart	CP			
Prothonotary Warbler	Endangered-R, CP			
Worm-eating Warbler				
Swainson's Warbler				
Ovenbird	CP			
Northern Waterthrush	CP			
Louisiana Waterthrush	Special Concern, CP			
Kentucky Warbler				
Connecticut Warbler				
Mourning Warbler	CP			
Common Yellowthroat				
Hooded Warbler	Threatened, CP			
Wilson's Warbler				
Canada Warbler	CP			
Yellow-breasted Chat	Special Concern, CP			
TANAGERS				
Summer Tanager				
Scarlet Tanager	CP			
SPARROWS				
Spotted Towhee	Rare/Accidental			
Eastern Towhee	CP			
American Tree Sparrow				
Chipping Sparrow				
Clay-colored Sparrow	CP			
Field Sparrow	CP			
Vesper Sparrow	CP			
Savannah Sparrow	CP			
Grasshopper Sparrow	CP			
Henslow's Sparrow	Endangered-R, CP			
Le Conte's Sparrow	CP			
Fox Sparrow				
Song Sparrow				
Lincoln's Sparrow				
Swamp Sparrow	CP			
White-throated Sparrow	CP			
White-crowned Sparrow				
Dark-eyed Junco	CP			
Lapland Longspur				
Snow Bunting				

	Status	Date	Date	Date
GROSBEAKS				
Northern Cardinal				
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				
Indigo Bunting				
Dickcissel				
BLACKBIRDS				
Bobolink	CP			
Red-winged Blackbird				
Eastern Meadowlark	CP			
Western Meadowlark	CP			
Yellow-headed Blackbird				
Rusty Blackbird				
Brewer's Blackbird				
Common Grackle				
Brown-headed Cowbird				
Orchard Oriole	CP			
Baltimore Oriole				
WINTER FINCHES				
Pine Grosbeak				
Purple Finch	CP			
House Finch				
Red Crossbill	CP			
White-winged Crossbill				
Common Redpoll				
Hoary Redpoll				
Pine Siskin				
American Goldfinch	CP			
Evening Grosbeak				
WEAVER FINCHES				
House Sparrow	Introduced			

**Please submit reports
of rare or unusual species to:**

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