

Why participate in the Delaware Bird-A-Thon?

Delaware's Bayshore is a globally significant habitat for coastal birds. You can help keep it that way. Spend a few hours, an afternoon, or all day enjoying nature and watching birds while supporting the cause of conservation. Through DOS partnerships with DNREC, The Conservation Fund, and other conservation groups, your contributions will directly support habitat protection and restoration for Delaware's coastal birds. In addition, 10% of Bird-a-Thon funds will be used to start a new DOS Conservation Science Grants Program that will support bird conservation research in our region.

Delaware Bird-A-Thon Funded Projects

- Acquired 17 acres of bayshore habitat at Fowler Beach, added to Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge
- Acquired 10 additional acres along Fowler Beach in 2012 with funds from the DOS Migratory Shorebird Habitat Acquisition Fund
- Partnered with DNREC to purchase 52 acres of high marsh at Mispillion Harbor for Red Knot roosting areas
- Partnered with DNREC to purchase 194 acres of coastal freshwater marsh at Thousand Acre Marsh, creating the first public access to the marsh
- Established the Ashland Hawk Watch in partnership with the Delaware Nature Society
- Provided funding for (2) GPS-GSM radio transmitters for Project SNOWstorm, a research initiative on the Snowy Owl irruption of 2013/2014
- Partnered with DNREC to purchase over 800 acres of tidal wetlands, forested buffers and farmland along the Delaware Bay & St. Jones River
- Partnered with DNREC to purchase 140-acre Bennett property at Thousand Acre Marsh

Total acreage acquired to date: 1226 acres



"What you can do to save the Red Knot: Support the Delmarva Ornithological Society's Bird-A-Thon which helps raise money to purchase bayfront property as a shorebird sanctuary."

David Sibley

Author of *The Sibley Guide to Birds*, and a leading contributor to numerous birding publications.



What is DOS?

The Delmarva Ornithological Society (DOS) is the area's leading organization focused on promoting the study of birds, advancing and disseminating ornithological knowledge, and facilitating the conservation of birds and their environment.

The society includes over 450 members from nine states who come from diverse backgrounds. All share a love of birds and an interest in protecting their valuable habitats. In addition to the annual Delaware Bird-A-Thon, DOS sponsors many other bird-related activities and trips around the region for birders of all levels.

Delmarva Ornithological Society (DOS)
PO Box 4247, Greenville, DE 19807
www.dosbirds.org

IN ALLIANCE WITH:

THE CONSERVATION FUND



American Birding Association



SPONSORED BY:

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Cover and inside bird photography courtesy of Kim Steinger, Blue Grosbeak by Chandler Wiegand, and Birder photo by Derek Stoner.

9TH ANNUAL DELAWARE
Bird-a-thon
MAY 2-10, 2015





What is a Bird-A-Thon?

A Bird-A-Thon is a fundraiser much like a walk-a-thon or bike-a-thon. Individuals and teams collect pledges for each bird species seen or heard in a 24-hour period. The goal of the Delaware Bird-a-Thon is to raise funds to purchase, protect, and enhance habitat for migratory shorebirds and other coastal bird species within the globally important Delaware Estuary.

Tell me more!

Participants sign up as many pledge sponsors as possible using the form in this brochure. During any single 24-hour period from May 2 through May 10, 2015, bird anywhere in the State of Delaware, count as many species as you can, and check them off on the enclosed Delaware Field Checklist. You can sit in your backyard, walk through your neighborhood or visit a state park. Better yet, follow the Delaware Birding Trail at www.DelawareBirdingTrail.org and explore all of Delaware or join one of our Bird-A-Thon walks (visit our website for the schedule). Remember, you have only one 24-hour period, so make it count.

What if you want to contribute but can't tell a wren from a warbler?

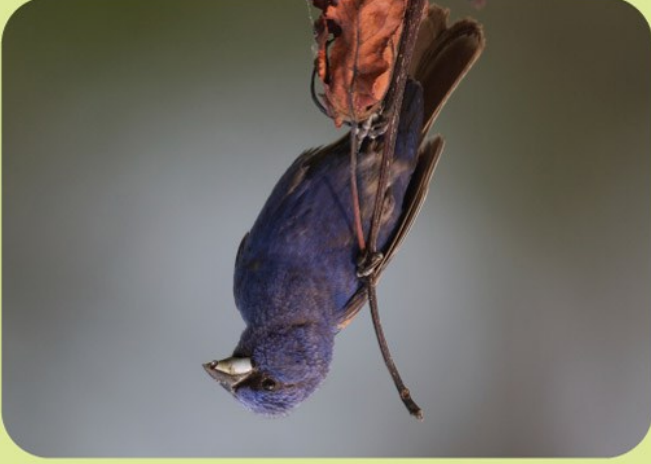
There are three options:

- Join one of our Bird-A-Thon walks led by DOS experts to help guide you.
- Make a tax-deductible donation on our secure website at www.dosbirds.org.
- Mail the contributor's form with your donation.

Bird-A-Thon Fundraising Ideas

We want you to have fun and be successful. Here are some ideas:

- Set a Goal!
- Compete as an individual or form a team (2 to 6 birders).
- Contact family and friends and ask them to pledge!
- Start a discussion with your co-workers and ask them to support you.
- Ask business owners to sponsor you.



Delaware Bird-A-Thon Rules

- Time period: May 2 through May 10, 2015
- Count must be conducted during a single 24-hour period during Bird-A-Thon dates.
- Birds may be identified either by sight or song.
- Record birds on the checklist provided for count totals.
- Birds counted must be seen or heard within the State of Delaware, maritime boundaries included.
- Wild birds only, no zoo birds or escapees are eligible!

- All checklists, pledge sheets and funds must be received by June 13, 2015, to be eligible for prizes.
- Mail completed checklist, pledge form, registration or contributor's form and collected donations to: DOS, PO Box 4247, Greenville, DE 19807

If you have any questions or need help with your participation in the Delaware Bird-A-Thon, please call Bill Stewart at 610-864-0370 or email at bstewart@dba.org.



Business sponsorships are welcome.

If you or your business would like to contribute to the success of bird conservation in Delaware, you can make a tax-deductible donation on our secure website at www.dosbirds.org or by sending your contribution by mail. Please make checks payable to: DOS/Bird-A-Thon; mail to: DOS, PO Box 4247, Greenville, DE 19807

Bird-A-Thon Prizes

Prize categories have been established to acknowledge those participants whose efforts achieved the greatest results.

SCORING: One point for each species plus one point for each dollar raised equals your total points. (Example: 57 species + \$650 = 707 points)

- **ADULT TEAM - MOST FUNDS RAISED, MOST SPECIES IDENTIFIED**
- **YOUTH TEAM - MOST FUNDS RAISED, MOST SPECIES IDENTIFIED**
- **MOST FUNDS RAISED BY A SCHOOL, CHURCH OR ORGANIZATION**
- **MOST FUNDS RAISED BY AN INDIVIDUAL**
- **NEW! ZERO CARBON - MOST FUNDS RAISED, MOST SPECIES IDENTIFIED WHILE PRODUCING ZERO CO₂ EMISSIONS**
- **NEW! COUNTY CHALLENGE - MOST FUNDS RAISED, MOST SPECIES IDENTIFIED WITHIN ANY ONE COUNTY OF DELAWARE**

Results and prizes will be announced and awarded at the DOS June 17th meeting and picnic held at the Flint Woods Preserve in Centerville, DE. All Bird-A-Thon participants are welcome to join us. Please visit website for details, directions and times.

www.dosbirds.org

Follow us on: [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/dosbirds)

