What is Bird-a-thon?

May is our favorite month of the year because May is Bird-a-thon for Seattle Audubon. It’s like a walk-a-thon, but we’re counting birds. Challenge yourself and your friends to a little friendly competition to do a “Big Day in May”!

Bird-a-thon is also Seattle Audubon’s biggest fundraiser of the year. Collect pledges per species or flat donations for your effort. However you do it, your birding adventure will support all that Seattle Audubon does in our community for:

- Environmental Education for ages 3-103,
- Conservation advocacy for Seattle-area birds and their habitats, and
- Citizen Science, contributing to important studies about birds and our environment for over 80 years.

Details & registration at birdathon.seattleaudubon.org

Bird is a VERB!

Get outside. No two Bird-a-thons are alike! Participation is open to teams or individuals -- you can hit the trails or watch your feeders.

Support friends. Not in the mood for a Big Day? Sponsor birders who love Seattle Audubon! All teams will bird better with your support.
GiveBIG for Bird-a-thon | May 3, 2016

Some might say that The Seattle Foundation’s community fundraiser competes with Bird-a-thon. We think they complement one another! GiveBIG contributions can count towards anyone’s Bird-a-thon. Simply add a note in the Comments field on the event check out page:

www.seattleaudubon.org/GiveBIG

Winner’s Circle

Congratulations and thank you to last year’s top Bird-a-thon teams and individuals!

Fundraising Champions
Team: Board Birders
Individual: Mary Anne Thorbeck

Birding Champions
Team: Raven Loonatics
(172 species) pictured, right
Individual: Alissa Hartman
(60 species)

“Raven Loonatics”

Doug Schurman
Jordan Gunn
Sarah Peden
Travis Keay

Think you can top ‘em?
Want to Bird-a-thon, but don’t know where to start? Registering for a field trip is a great way to get outside and make new friends. Field trips in May are premium trips that support Bird-a-thon fundraising. Call (206) 523-4483 to register.

Sunday, May 1, 2016: Washington Park Arboretum Bird Walk
Leader: Penny Bolton    Limit: 12
Meet: 9AM at the Graham Visitor’s Center  Donation: $15
Let’s do a City Birders Field Trip to the Washington Park Arboretum. Join Master Birder Penny Bolton to learn about city birds and the habitat that supports them. Learn what you can do to make your yard bird friendly. Penny will take you through the forested part of the Arboretum to listen to our local birds. Then we’ll visit the “Duck Pond” and see who is there. Bring your curiosity and binoculars, if you have them. Walk will be over by 11AM.

Friday, May 6, 2016: Discovery Park Bird Walk
Leaders: Kathy and Arn Slettebak   Limit: 8
Meet: 6AM Discovery Park Visitor Center  Donation: $15
Entrance on W Government Way
We’ll take a leisurely 3- to 4-mile walk, with some elevation gain and loss, on the Loop Trail and Wolf Tree Nature Trail. We will explore forest, field and wetland habitats looking for resident and migrant birds. Dress for weather; bring binoculars, water & snacks. Over by 11AM.

Saturday, May 7, 2016: Teanaway Basin Hotspots
Leaders: Scott Ramos and Jeanelle Richardson Limit: 6
Meet: 5AM Green Lake (Ravenna) Park & Ride  Donation: $25
We will explore the Teanaway River valley, including the Teanaway Campground, Carlson Canyon and several points in between and around. Targets will be the variety of warblers, vireos, and flycatchers which breed in the area, as well as woodpeckers, raptors and grouse. We will walk on flat trails at some spots but other stops will require some elevation gain on more difficult terrain. Bring snacks, lunch, plenty of fluids, sturdy footwear, and lots of enthusiasm. Back late afternoon to early evening. Bring Discover Pass if you have one. Carpool cost $36 to be shared among passengers, in addition to donation to Seattle Audubon for Bird-a-thon.

Field Trips continued on page 13.
2016 Participant Tool Kit

Participant Name:___________________________

Team Name (optional):_______________________

Bird-a-thon Date:__________________________

Good luck and have fun!

Seattle Audubon Society
8050 35th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115
(206) 523-4483
birdathon.seattleaudubon.org
How To Launch Your Bird-a-thon

1 Register

- Register online: birdathon.seattleaudubon.org
- Join a team or go on a solo adventure!
- Personalize your page with pictures and videos.

2 Share

- Tell your friends and family why you’re birding to support Seattle Audubon.
- Share your love of birds with others and ask for donations to boost your efforts.
- Collect pledges in person (see page 11) or online.

3 Bird

- Choose any 24-hour window during the month of May for your Bird-a-thon “Big Day.”
- Count as many species as you can see or hear!
- Plan your own trip, join a Seattle Audubon field trip, or head out into the field with your team.

4 Report

- Contact your sponsors and share your tale of birding adventure!
- Collect any outstanding pledges.
- Return any hardcopy pledge sheets, donations, and your summary form (included here) to Seattle Audubon by June 9, 2016.

Need gear? Call the Nature Shop (206) 523-4483
2016
Birds of Washington State
Checklist

Participant Name:____________________________

Team Name (optional):_______________________

Bird-a-thon Date:_________________________
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Earthcare Northwest
Seattle Audubon

- Long-tailed Jaeger
- Common Murre
- Pigeon Guillemot
- Marbled Murrelet
- Scripps’s Murrelet
- Guadalupe Murrelet
- Ancient Murrelet
- Cassin’s Auklet
- Parakeet Auklet
- Rhinoceros Auklet
- Horned Puffin
- Tufted Puffin
- Black-legged Kittiwake
- Sabine’s Gull
- Bonaparte’s Gull
- Franklin’s Gull
- Heermann’s Gull
- Mew Gull
- Ring-billed Gull
- Western Gull
- California Gull
- Herring Gull
- Thayer’s Gull
- Lesser Black-backed Gull
- Glaucous-winged Gull
- Glaucous Gull
- Caspian Tern
- Black Tern
- Common Tern
- Arctic Tern
- Forster’s Tern
- Elegant Tern
- Rock Pigeon (I)
- Band-tailed Pigeon
- Eurasian Collared-Dove (I)
- Mourning Dove
- Barn Owl
- Flammulated Owl
- Western Screech-Owl
- Great Horned Owl
- Snowy Owl
- Northern Hawk Owl
- Western Screech-Owl
- Great Horned Owl
- Snowy Owl
- Northern Hawk Owl
- Northern Pygmy-Owl
- Burrowing Owl
- Spotted Owl
- Barred Owl
- Great Gray Owl
- Long-eared Owl
- Short-eared Owl
- Boreal Owl
- Northern Saw-whet Owl
- Common Nighthawk
- Common Poorwill
- Black Swift
- Vaux’s Swift
- White-throated Swift
- Black-chinned Hummingbird
- Anna’s Hummingbird
- Rufous Hummingbird
- Calliope Hummingbird
- Belted Kingfisher
- Lewis’s Woodpecker
- Acorn Woodpecker
- Williamson’s Sapsucker
- Red-naped Sapsucker
- Red-breasted Sapsucker
- Downy Woodpecker
- Hairy Woodpecker
- White-headed Woodpecker
- Am. Three-toed Woodpecker
- Black-backed Woodpecker
- Northern Flicker
- Pileated Woodpecker
- American Kestrel
- Merlin
- Gyrfalcon
- Peregrine Falcon
- Prairie Falcon
- Olive-sided Flycatcher
- Western Wood-Pewee
- Willow Flycatcher
- Least Flycatcher
- Hammond’s Flycatcher
- Gray Flycatcher
- Dusky Flycatcher
- Pacific-slope Flycatcher
- Black Phoebe
- Say’s Phoebe
- Ash-throated Flycatcher
- Tropical Kingbird
- Western Kingbird
- Eastern Kingbird
- Loggerhead Shrike
- Northern Shrike
- Cassin’s Vireo
- Hutton’s Vireo
- Warbling Vireo
- Red-eyed Vireo
- Gray Jay
- Steller’s Jay
- Blue Jay
- Western Scrub-Jay
- Clark’s Nutcracker
- Black-billed Magpie
- American Crow
- Northwestern Crow
- Common Raven
- Horned Lark
- Purple Martin
- Tree Swallow
- Violet-green Swallow
- N. Rough-winged Swallow
- Bank Swallow
- Cliff Swallow
- Barn Swallow
- Black-capped Chickadee
- Mountain Chickadee
- Chestnut-backed Chickadee
- Boreal Chickadee
- Bushtit
- Red-breasted Nuthatch
- White-breasted Nuthatch
- Pygmy Nuthatch
- Brown Creeper
- Rock Wren
- Canyon Wren
- House Wren
- Pacific Wren
- Marsh Wren
- Bewick’s Wren
- American Dipper
- Golden-crowned Kinglet
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- Western Bluebird
- Mountain Bluebird
- Townsend’s Solitaire
- Veery
- Swainson’s Thrush
Hermit Thrush
American Robin
Varied Thrush
Gray Catbird
Sage Thrasher
Northern Mockingbird
European Starling (I)
American Pipit
Bohemian Waxwing
Cedar Waxwing
Lapland Longspur
Snow Bunting
Northern Waterthrush
Orange-crowned Warbler
Nashville Warbler
MacGillivray’s Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
American Redstart
Yellow Warbler
Palm Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Townsend’s Warbler
Hermit Warbler
Wilson’s Warbler
Yellow-breasted Chat
Green-tailed Towhee
Spotted Towhee
American Tree Sparrow
Chipping Sparrow
Clay-colored Sparrow
Brewer’s Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Black-throated Sparrow
Sagebrush Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Lincoln’s Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Harris’s Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Western Tanager
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Black-headed Grosbeak
Lazuli Bunting
Bobolink
Red-winged Blackbird
Tricolored Blackbird
Western Meadowlark
Yellow-headed Blackbird
Rusty Blackbird
Brewer’s Blackbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Bullock’s Oriole
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch
Pine Grosbeak
House Finch
Purple Finch
Cassin’s Finch
Red Crossbill
White-winged Crossbill
Common Redpoll
Pine Siskin
Lesser Goldfinch
American Goldfinch
Evening Grosbeak
House Sparrow (I)

**Birds of Washington State Checklist courtesy of Washington Ornithological Society.**

Listed in taxonomic order. Review List species excluded.

(I) Introduced
(s) Sight-record only

Total Species Recorded

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**Seattle Audubon Bird-a-thon**  
2016 Pledge Sheet

**Participant Name:**   
**Team (optional):**

**Phone:**     
**Address:**

**Email:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone and Email</th>
<th>Pledge Amount</th>
<th>Employer (for matching)</th>
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**Page _____ of _____**  
**Page Subtotal: $__________**

*Make additional copies as needed. Seattle Audubon is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.*
Summary Form: Return to Seattle Audubon by June 9, 2015 (Don’t forget to write your name, team (optional), and Bird-a-thon date on the front.)

# of Species recorded:____________
# of Pledge sheets attached:_______
Total $ of pledges paid now:________
Total $ of pledges paid online:_______
Total $ of GiveBIG pledges:________
Balance unpaid:___________________

Total Pledges: $__________________

Participants who raise $50 or more get one FREE T-shirt!

THEY’RE BACK! Birds of WA Checklist T-shirts: Centennial Edition

Call the Nature Shop to purchase or redeem.
(206) 523-4483

$20 tax included
Field Trips (continued from pg. 4)
May 1-31, 2016

Sunday, May 8, 2016: Rattlesnake and Christmas Lakes
Leader: Andy McCormick  Limit: 11
Meet: Before 6:45AM at Ravenna Park & Ride or at 7:15AM at Tibbets Park & Ride
Donation: $25
It will be a good day for Moms and Mother Earth. So, let’s go birding! Rattlesnake and Christmas Lakes offer a variety of habitats for spring birding in the Cascade foothills near North Bend. We will have opportunities to see warblers, flycatchers, wrens, woodpeckers, swallows, ducks, and raptors. The old red alders, second-growth conifers, black cottonwoods, wetlands and lakes provide a variety of habitats and possibly some unexpected species. Bring lunch, water and a snack. Return by early afternoon. Passenger cost/car is $40 in addition to Seattle Audubon donation for Bird-a-thon.

Sunday, May 8, 2016: Luther Burbank Park (Mercer Island)
Leader: Judy Roan  Limit: 10
Meet: 9AM North parking lot near tennis courts
Donation: $15
Nesting season has begun and birds will be courting and singing on territories. Red-winged Blackbirds, Bald Eagles, grebes, woodpeckers, Anna’s Hummingbirds, sparrows -- we will just have to see what we find. Walk one mile; ground can be soggy, so proper foot-gear is needed. Back by noon.

Monday, May 9, 2016: Vashon Island
Leader: Ed Swan  Limit: 11
Meet: 8:25AM on Fauntleroy Ferry (park in southernmost Lincoln Park lot or street parking)
We will start birding from the Fauntleroy Ferry! We’ll look for Brant and alcids on the way over. We’ll bird a little at the dock on the Vashon side, catching the last of the water birds in breeding plumage, such as the bright white plumes on the Brandt’s Cormorant. We’ll head to Fisher Pond, which may be covered with Wood Duck and Mallard broods. We’ll also visit Mukai Pond to look and listen for flycatchers and warblers. Don’t arrange rides in parking lot, meet on ferry. Let the Nature Shop know if you can drive when you sign up -- we’ll need 2 cars (plus Ed’s car). You can park for 4 hours in the southernmost parking lot at Lincoln Park (1 block north of the ferry dock) or find parking on nearby neighborhood streets. Do not park on Fauntleroy Way or you risk getting towed. Participants should plan to arrive early enough to park, purchase a ticket, and board the 8:25AM ferry. Ed will meet up with participants on the ferry. Carpool cost $6 and cost of ferry ($5.20 per passenger and share of $13.95 car ticket) shared equally by passengers, in addition to Seattle Audubon donation for Bird-a-thon.

Wednesday, May 11, 2016: Snoqualmie Wildlife Area - Stillwater Unit & Tolt River-MacDonald Park, Carnation
Leaders: Patty North and Anne Jacobs  Limit: 12
Meet: 7:30AM, South parking lot of the Stillwater Unit or 6:45AM at Ravenna Park & Ride
Donation: $15
Stillwater offers a fine diversity of habitat from open fields and riparian woodlands to marshy wetlands. We’ll bird along the Snoqualmie Valley Trail and head out across the fields to the Snoqualmie River. At the end of our 3-mile loop we will return to the cars and move to Tolt -- MacDonald Park in Carnation. This is another area of diverse habitat where you can expect almost any Western Washington lowland species. Mostly level walking about 5 miles total for (continued on next page)
Field Trips (continued from previous)

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both locations. Field trip over by about noon. Discover Pass required. The Stillwater Unit is located on Highway 203 between Carnation and Duvall, on the west side of the Carnation-Duvall highway. The south parking lot is 300 yards north of the Stillwater gas station on Highway 203. (47°40'59.0"N 121°55'26.1"W) Carpool cost $15 shared equally by passengers, plus Seattle Audubon donation for Bird-a-thon.

Wednesday, May 11, 2016: Nearly Local Birding “North of the Border” | Edmonds Area Hotspots
Leaders: Jon Houghton and Blair Bernson  Limit: 6
Meet: 6:30AM Lynnwood Park & Ride Donation: $15
(southernmost corner)
This will be a great trip for north-end beginning and intermediate birders. Learn some cool birding areas you can access for a few minutes, or a few hours, any day of the year! We’ll visit some easily accessible areas within minutes of Northgate (OK, they’re in south Snohomish Co.). Diverse habitats of mature second growth forest, freshwater marsh and riparian scrub, salt marsh, and marine shorelines will be included. We should see a diverse mixture of resident and migrant birds including warblers, vireos, sparrows, wrens, herons (Green and Great Blue), scoters, alcids, and maybe an urban owl! Bring Discover Pass if you have one.

Sunday, May 15, 2016: Bike & Bird! Snoqualmie Valley Trail
Leader: Jean Olson    Limit: 10
Meet: 7AM Ravenna Park & Ride or 8:30AM Duvall Park & Ride Donation: $15
Bike and Bird the Snoqualmie Valley Trail. The Snoqualmie Valley Trail is a Rails-to-Trail that follows the Snoqualmie River from Duvall towards North Bend. It is flat and composed of gravel and rock, so a cross or mountain bike is recommended. Expect to see migrating waterfowl and shorebirds, raptors and songbirds. We will ride between 10 and 15 miles total, stopping frequently along the way. Biking is a great way to practice your birding by ear. Bring binoculars, your bike helmet, snacks, water, and clothing layers for changes in weather. For logistical reasons, we do not recommend bringing scopes. You should be comfortable on a bike and children are welcome with parents. We will meet at the Ravenna Park & Ride to carpool to the trail. Bring Discover Pass if you have one for the parking area. If you need bike transport, we may be able to accommodate you with prior arrangement. Otherwise, you can transport your own bike. The ride will be over by early to mid-afternoon, depending on the birds.

Wednesday, May 18, 2016: Blewett Pass/Teanaway/Table Mountain area
Leader: Ed Swan     Limit: 11
Meet: 7AM Issaquah Park & Ride (Tibbetts Lot) Donation: $25
Look for sapsuckers, woodpeckers, and arriving warblers around Blewett Pass and Table Mountain with some looking around the Teanaway area for bluebirds. Bring lunch and fluids. Wear good walking shoes and dress for the weather. Bring Discover Pass if you have one. Carpool cost $48, split amongst the passengers, plus Seattle Audubon donation for Bird-a-thon.

Saturday, May 21, 2016: Nearly Local Birding “North of the Border”
Leaders: Jon Houghton and Blair Bernson  Limit: 6
Meet: 6:30AM at the Lynnwood Park & Ride Donation: $15
(southernmost corner)
Repeat offering of May 11, 2016 trip described above.
Field Trips (continued)

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Saturday, May 21, 2016: Umtanum Creek Recreational Area
Leaders: Tiffany and Tor Linbo  Limit: 10 in 3 cars
Meet: 6AM Issaquah Park & Ride (Tibbetts Lot)  Donation: $25
Prepare to hike 6 miles through sage-steppe, riparian, Ponderosa pine, and open meadows up Umtanum Creek. Elevation gain is gradual, but there are a couple of shallow stream crossings. Birds we hope to see include Yellow-breasted Chat, Prairie Falcon, Lazuli Bunting, Bullock’s Oriole, and Lewis Woodpecker. Wear appropriate footwear. Bring lunch, water and snacks; back late afternoon. Parking fee payable at the parking lot or National Parks Pass required for each car. Carpool cost $60 shared equally by riders, in addition to Seattle Audubon donation for Bird-a-thon.

Saturday, May 21, 2016: Lincoln Park (West Seattle)
Leaders: Jen McKeirnan and Renee Koval-Hueniqueo  Limit: 12
Meet: 8AM South parking lot, Fauntleroy Way SW & SW Cloverdale St.
Lincoln Park was recently described as one of Seattle’s premier urban birding sites! Due to its varied habitats, it hosts a diverse group of bird species, with sections of old growth forest, meadow, rocky and sandy shorelines. Bring binoculars, and scopes if you own one. Restrooms will be available.

Sunday, May 22, 2016: Carkeek Park
Leaders: Jen McKeirnan and Joe Sweeney  Limit: 12
Meet: 8AM Far west parking area, overlooking water  Donation: $15
Carkeek Park is in northwest Seattle, enter from 3rd Ave NW at 110th St. Expect to walk up to 3 leisurely paced miles with some hills and stairs. Bring binoculars, and scopes if you own one. Restrooms will be available. Over by 10AM.

Sunday, May 22, 2016: Magnuson Park
Leader: Emily Bishton  Limit: 12
Meet: 9AM Promontory Point Environmental Learning Center
This field trip is geared for beginning birders and families. We will spend approx. 3 hrs spotting birds from the trails of Promontory Point, the Flyway, and the entire Wetlands Complex. We’ll keep a lookout for the multiple sparrow and swallow species that are annual summer visitors, as well as year-round residents such as Downy Woodpecker, Pied-billed Grebe, Osprey, other raptors and waterfowl. Be prepared for approximately 2 miles of walking, up hill and down. If you wish to borrow binoculars, make sure to request them from the SAS office when you register. Magnuson Park is in NE Seattle. Meet at the Promontory Point Environmental Learning Center, which is the red-metal-roofed shelter next to the little drive-in road at the west edge of parking lot #E-1, marked with a pink square on the park map, found online: http://www.seattle.gov/parks/magnuson/docs/magnuson_map.pdf

Monday, May 23, 2016: East of the Cascades - Snoqualmie to Liberty, Colockum
Leader: Dave Swayne  Limit: 12
Meet: 6AM Issaquah Park & Ride, Tibbetts Lot  Donation: $25
The east side of the Cascades offers a variety of birds we rarely see in the Puget Trough, and by late May most migrants should be back on their breeding grounds. We’ll drive over Snoqualmie Pass and bird the east side foothills, exploring river valleys and open hillsides, trying to make it all the way across the Kittitas valley and into the sage. We may do a little walking, but we’ll likely stay close to the cars so we can cover more ground. Bring lunch and drinks, and wear appropriate clothing for the weather. Discover Pass could come in handy. Carpool cost $60, split amongst riders in car excluding driver, in addition to Seattle Audubon donation for Bird-a-thon.