

Summer Censuses
Four Methods

Summit County
Carol Tveekrem

The Greater Akron Audubon Society has for the last three years conducted a summer bird count. I am the compiler-organizer. The count is organized in a manner similar to the Christmas bird count and uses many of the same observers. However, the area covered is different. The boundaries are the Summit County lines. The count is held on a weekend in June and continues for three or more consecutive days. There was this year at least one party in every township except those areas north of State Route 303. There is very little urban area coverage, thus the numbers of Pigeons, Nighthawks, Swifts, Robins, Starlings and House Sparrows are probably low in proportion to other species. Our best coverage is near water and in parks (any well known "birdy" spots). Huge increases in Mourning Doves, Robins, Starlings, House Sparrows, Red-winged Blackbirds, Grackles and Cowbirds this year are due to the increased coverage of the Copley, Ohio muck flats. Below I have listed the results of our counts for the last three years.

1978: 6-24 to 6-27; approximately 85 party hours; 17 participants; generally warm, partly cloudy; 99 species and 4,700 birds individual birds.

1979: 6-27 to 7-4; approximately 60 party hours; 17 participants; unseasonably cold and rainy, especially 6-30 to 7-4; 98 species and 4,871 individuals.

1980: 6-20 to 6-23; approximately 125 party hours; 28 participants; fair, calm and warm throughout period; 108 species and 12,039 individuals.

	1978	1979	1980		1978	1979	1980
Great Blue Heron	8	10	13	Mourning Dove	157	100	339
Green Heron	18	7	19	Black-billed Cuckoo	5	1	7
Canada Goose	7	5	65	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5	2	3
Mallard	53	102	95	Great Horned Owl	2	2	2
Black Duck		1	1	Screech Owl	6		2
Wood Duck	13	24	25	Barred Owl			8
Turkey Vulture	3	2	5	Whip-poor-will		1	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk		2	2	Com. Nighthawk	23	18	16
Cooper's Hawk		1	6	Chimney Swift	146	63	128
Red-tailed Hawk	4	12	13	Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	5	4	7
Red-should. Hawk	1		3	Belted Kingfisher	14	10	24
Broad-winged Hawk	4	2	6	Common Flicker	47	40	72
Marsh Hawk	1			Pileated Woodpecker	2		2
Kestrel	11	5	6	Red-bellied Wood.	6	6	21
Bobwhite	15	7	7	Red-headed Wood.	4	4	1
Ring-neck. Pheasant	24	3	15	Hairy Woodpecker	5	12	6
Virginia Rail	1	2	1	Downy Woodpecker	18	36	70
Sora	4	1		Eastern Kingbird	3	5	7
Common Gallinule	17	2	1	Great Crested Flyc.	18	14	34
Killdeer	80	74	207	Eastern Phoebe	3	3	21
Woodcock	4		4	Acadian Flycatcher	3	11	14
Spotted Sandpiper		2	7	Alder Flycatcher			1
Rock Dove	116	115	223	Willow Flycatcher	25	5	30

	1978	1979	1980		1978	1979	1980
Least Flycatcher	9	2	5	Cerulean Warbler	9	6	11
Wood Pewee	35	24	67	Chestnut-sided Warbler			2
Olive-sided Flycatcher		1		Prairie Warbler	2		6
Horned Lark	2	17	7	Ovenbird	7		6
Tree Swallow	6	8	19	Waterthrush species		1	
Bank Swallow	6	228	101	Kentucky Warbler			2
Rough-winged Sw.	14	27	71	Mourning Warbler	1		
Barn Swallow	47	70	221	Com. Yellowthroat	94	64	150
Purple Martin	18	33	14	Yellow-breasted Chat	10		5
Blue Jay	176	100	340	Hooded Warbler	14	11	16
Common Crow	88	57	98	American Redstart	18	2	8
Black-cap. Chickadee	91	85	175	House Sparrow	366	720	2011
Tufted Titmouse	44	39	113	Bobolink	7	4	13
White-br. Nuthatch	34	25	57	Eastern Meadowlark	17	22	70
House Wren	109	96	108	Red-winged Blackbird	353	213	753
Carolina Wren			2	Northern Oriole	44	22	83
Long-billed Marsh Wren	5	6	6	Orchard Oriole		1	
Mockingbird		1		Common Grackle	255	257	607
Catbird	139	104	272	Brown-headed Cowbird	86	205	261
Brown Thrasher	32	14	33	Scarlet Tanager	19	8	34
Am. Robin	268	489	1121	Cardinal	154	120	455
Wood Thrush	38	25	76	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	20	20	44
Swainson's Thrush	1			Indigo Bunting	81	67	103
Veery	4	3	7	Purple Finch		2	6
Eastern Bluebird	42	6	16	House Finch	2	2	3
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	8	3	5	Am. Goldfinch	110	101	316
Cedar Waxwing	32	71	119	Rufous-sided Towhee	40	16	56
Starling	337	359	1721	Savannah Sparrow	25	12	13
White-eyed Vireo	2	1	4	Grasshopper Sparrow	3	4	5
Yellow-throated Vireo			7	Vesper Sparrow		4	1
Red-eyed Vireo	40	35	82	Chipping Sparrow	48	57	91
Warbling Vireo	12	14	14	Field Sparrow	55	61	127
Blue-winged Warbler	38	6	69	Swamp Sparrow	35	17	29
Yellow Warbler	79	32	85	Song Sparrow	186	155	420

Additional Species:

Double-cr. Cormorant			1
American Wigeon	1		
Redhead	1		
Red-breasted Merganser			1

Lucas County
Matt Anderson

I live on a farm of 110 acres in Maumee, Ohio. I surveyed this "backyard" this summer and all of the following nested on our property:

Green Heron:	found nest May 13, hatched early June.
Least Bittern:	successfully raised five young (pictures) in June and early July.
Wood Duck:	several families
Ring-necked Pheasant:	two nests in May
Virginia Rail:	nest with nine eggs on May 24.
Am. Woodcock:	nest in May.
Screech Owl:	nest with four young June 1.

Red-headed Woodpecker: active nest during May and June; young fledged in July.

Tree Swallow: attempted nesting on a diving board at our lake; present through mid-June; very unusual occurrence away from Lake Erie.

Purple Martin: two pairs nested.

Black-capped Chickadee: one brood.

White-breasted Nuthatch: nest found on May 26.

Wood Thrush: nested

White-eyed Vireo: raised at least one young by late June.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: All nested in the same tree for six out of Northern Oriole: last seven years.

Orchard Oriole:

Savannah Sparrow: nested.

Other summer records for our property included:

Purple Finch: singing June 27.

Brown Creeper: singing June 22.

Philadelphia Vireo: early migrant July 28.

Tennessee Warbler: early migrant August 6.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: early migrant July 31.

Hocking and Fairfield Counties
Jerry Cairo

I have done a summer bird census in Clearcreek Valley for the past three years. The Valley lies just south of U.S. 33 near Sugar Grove, Ohio. I cover eight miles of Clearcreek Road and about three miles of Starnier Ridge Road South. There are many valleys and separate trails that I cover away from these roads. The area is very hilly with steep grades throughout although the hills are not exceptionally high. There are sandstone outcroppings and the soil is basically acid. This is typical of Hocking County. The area is forested with oaks, hickories, maples, pines and hemlock. There is considerable second growth that supports exceptional bird numbers. Other habitat includes creekside and a few pastures. Of the eleven miles that I cover, eight are low valley areas which contain 90% of the bird species.

My census in 1980 included May 28 through July 10. I found 93 species and two hybrids. There was a possible third hybrid. (This latter hybrid was seen June 20. It appeared to be a warbler. It had a yellow throat, a hint of black streaking on sides of breast and a bluish black color.) The total of 1,977 birds was the highest of the three years. Notable increases were seen in the following species: Carolina wren, red-bellied woodpecker, common flicker, wood thrush, towhee and song sparrow. It was a peak year for these species: wood pewee, ovenbird, hooded warbler. Ruffed grouse and wild turkey were again seen. The following species were decimated from this area: bobwhite, vesper sparrow, mockingbird. Down in numbers were yellow-billed cuckoo, chimney swift, rough-winged swallow, blue-gray gnatcatcher, redstart. Nineteen species of warbler plus two hybrids were summer residents this year. Of these 21 forms, 17 were actually known to nest.

For the third consecutive summer a "Lawrence's" warbler was found. It was a male and it nested with a female blue-winged warbler. One gray fledgling was seen. It was either a golden-winged or "Brewster's" warbler. However, it was

too early to tell and it was not seen again. A "Brewster's" warbler was found at Revenge some four miles from the "Lawrence's". This bird showed no territorial traits. It appeared to be roaming.

New species in 1980 were: great-horned owl, red-shouldered hawk, "Brewster's" warbler, olive-sided flycatcher. The flycatcher appeared to be a young male. It rarely sang and displayed no territorial traits but was seen occasionally in the same area.

Rock dove, starling and house sparrow are not increasing in the area. However, at Barnebey Center most of the bluebird boxes were occupied by House Sparrows. But the bluebird is holding its own.

One bird not mentioned on the following census report was a pied-billed grebe found by Mr. Robinson of Columbus on a small pond near Barnebey in early June.

<u>Species</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>Pairs</u> <u>1979</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>Comment for 1980</u>
Gr. Bl. Heron	1 bird	0	1 bird	seen throughout valley
Gr. Heron	1	1	1	probably nested
Mallard	2	1	0	1 brood; 3 nests
Wood Duck	2	2	1	2 broods; 5 young
Turk Vulture	17	22	25	
Bl. Vulture	7	3	4	
Cooper's Hk.	2 birds	1 bird	1 bird	2 birds were separate
R.T. Hawk	2	1	1	
B.W. Hawk	1	1	1	young seen
R.S. Hawk	1	0	0	one pair at Lake Komona
Ruf. Grouse	5	4	2	not indicative of actual numbers
W. Turkey	1 bird	0	2 birds	not indicative of actual numbers
Killdeer	1 bird	1	0	
M. Dove	6	4	9	nested
R. Dove	1	2	1	
Y.B. Cuckoo	5	8	10	nested; downward trend
B.B. Cuckoo	5	5	5	nested
Screech Owl	1 bird	1	1	
G.H. Owl	1	0	0	probably nested
Barred Owl	1 bird	0	0	
Whip-poor-will	7	6	4	nested
Chimney Swift	10	23	20	noticeably down
R.T. Humbrd	5	6	6	nested
B. Kingfisher	4	4	2	
C. Flicker	7	4	5	nested
R.B. Woodpkr	8	4	3	
Pil. Woodpkr	8	8	6	nested
Ha. Woodpkr	4	5	5	nested
Do. Woodpkr	7	6	7	nested
E. Kingbird	2	1	1	nested
G.C. Flyctchr	8	11	5	nested
E. Phoebe	14	11	8	nested; apparently an upward trend
Acid. Flyctchr	49	35	69	nested
E.W. Pewee	29	11	22	nested; varies greatly year to year
O.S. Flyctchr	1 bird	0	0	
R.W. Swallow	7	9	20	nested
B. Swallow	11	12	6	nested
Prpl. Martin	3	1	0	nested
Blue Jay	6	6	9	nested

Crow	10	19	18	nested
Car. Chickde	16	14	20	nested
Tuft Titmse	19	9	11	nested
W.B. Nuthac	7	5	3	nested
Hse. Wren	5	3	5	nested
Car. Wren	5 birds	1	0	noted one pair
Catbird	17	14	10	nested
B. Thrasher	3	2	3	
A. Robin	7	7	5	nested
Wd. Thrush	28	23	19	nested
E. Bluebird	3	4	3	nested
B.G. Gnatchr	8	15	20	nested
Cedar Waxwg	7	7	7	
Starling	4	3	8	nested
W.E. Vireo	15	18	13	nested
R.E. Vireo	46	49	59	nested
Y.T. Vireo	7	6	2	nested
Warb. Vireo	3	2	3	nested
B. & W. Warb.	13	13	10	nested
Worm-eat.	6	6	6	nested
Blue-wing.	16	15	9	nested
"Lawrence's"	1 male	1 fem.	1 pair	nested
"Brewster's"	1 bird	0	0	
N. Parula	17	21	19	nested
Yellow	15	11	18	nested
B. Th. Green	11	8	8	nested
Cerulean	13	8	17	nested
Yel. Thrtd.	11	15	9	nested
Chest.-sd.	3	1	0	
Pine	3	1	1	
Prairie	8	5	9	nested
Ovenbird	41	23	26	nested
La. Water.	7	9	9	nested
Kentucky	11	12	13	nested
C. Yelthrt.	44	50	44	nested
Yel.-br. Chat	13	15	14	nested
Hooded	17	10	15	nested
Canada	4	2	1	possibly increasing
A. Redstart	5	8	8	nested
Hse. Sparrow	13	13	15	nested
E. Mdolrk	3	1	1	nested
R.W. Blbrd	7	10	6	nested
N. Oriole	5	1	1	nested; increase this year
C. Grakl	7	4	4	nested
E. Cowbrd	11	16	17	young noted
Scar Tangr	23	24	18	nested
Sum Tangr	5	2	4	nested
Cardinal	17	20	20	nested
In. Buntg	66	57	70	nested
A. Goldfn	19	14	17	
R.S. Towhee	21	9	14	nested
Grass. Spar.	2	1	1	noted only in hi-ridge fields
Hens. Spar.	3	1	1	noted only in hi-ridge fields
Chip. Spar.	18	17	16	nested
Field Spar.	10	7	2	nested
Song Spar.	23	15	16	nested

In 1978 I found 86 species plus one hybrid and in 1979 90 species plus one

hybrid. In three years, 103 species plus two hybrids. The following species were not found in 1980 but in previous years: A. Kestrel (79), Bobwhite (78), Red-headed Woodpecker (78), Willow Flycatcher (78, 79), Mockingbird (78), Veery (78, 79), Magnolia Warbler (78, 79), Orchard Oriole (79), Rose-breasted Grosbeak (78,79), Vesper Sparrow (78).

Seneca County
Tom Bartlett

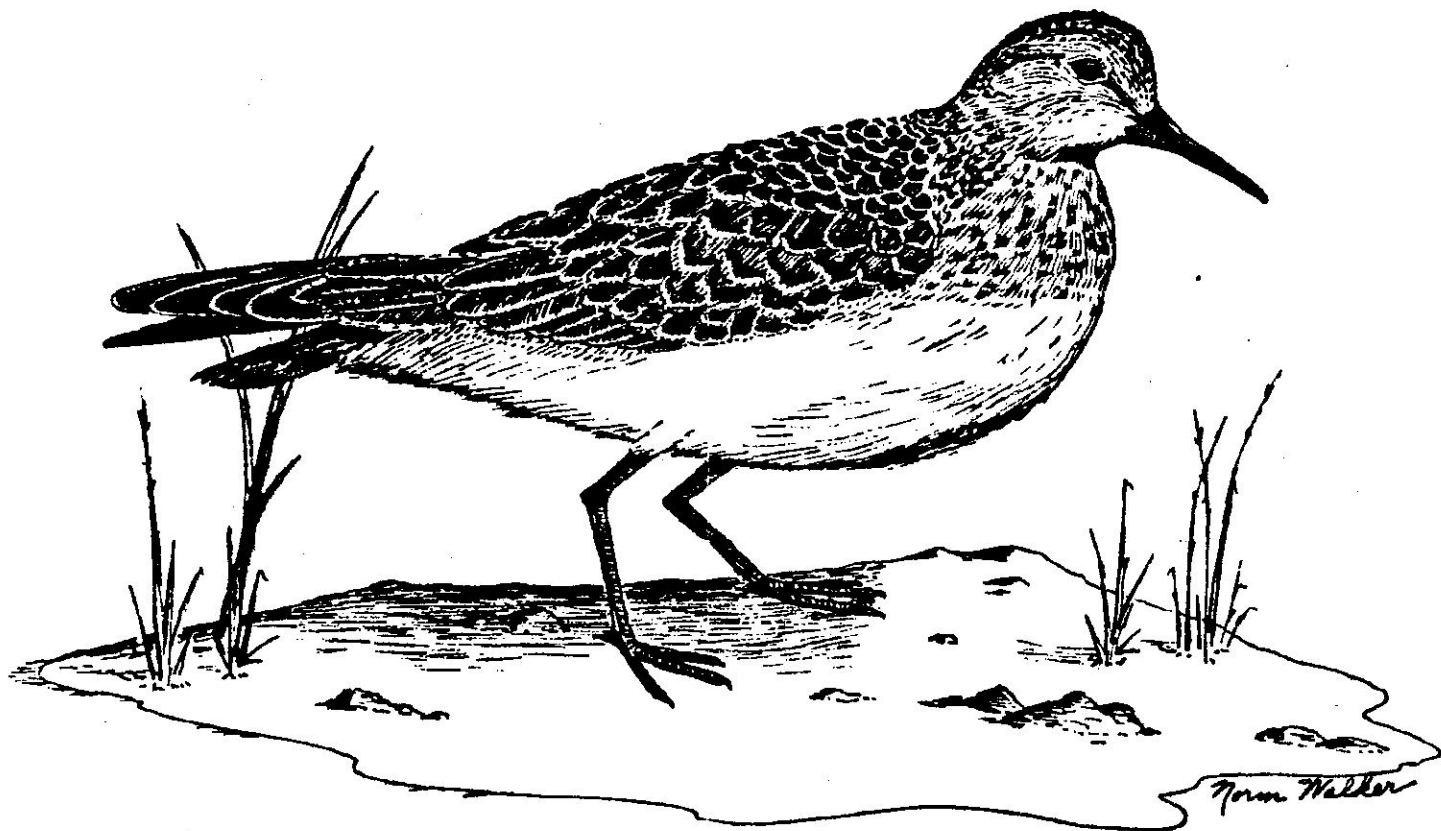
My survey is patterned after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Survey. I started in 1979 when I plotted eight routes out of Tiffin. I chose the 8 major compass points. I start between 5:30 and 6:00 each morning. I then drive 1/2 mile, stop, and count all birds that I see or hear in three minutes. I vary some from the official survey in that I will count birds I see between stops and I will stop short of 1/2 mile if it looks like good habitat. I am looking not only for population numbers but also species. This method has produced three new nesting records, 2 new summer records and changed the status of several species within the county in two years. It also will give me some comparison of populations in future years. In 1980 I was unable to complete all the routes.

I have calculated birds per mile from my data and compared it to my 1979 data. Only changes of .01 or more are felt significant. The following list for 1980 includes data from these surveys, various other field trips and reports from others all within the county. The total species observed was 100. (Total species in county since 1947 is approximately 115.)

(* = nest, young, or adult with or carrying food regularly)

G.B. Heron*	C. Flicker*	Hse Wren*
Gr. Heron*	<u>Pil. Wdpkr*</u>	(down .56/m to .41/m)
Can. Goose*	(up to 6 prs.)	<u>Car. Wren</u>
Mallard*	R.B. Wdpr*	L.B.M. Wren
Bl. Wg. Teal	R.H. Wdpr*	Mockngbrd*
Wd. Duck*	Ha. Wdpr	Catbird
<u>Turk Vulture*</u>	Do. Wdpr*	B. Thrasher*
<u>Cooper's Hawk*</u>	E. Kingbird*	A. Robin*
R.T. Hawk*	G.C. Flycthr	(down 2.64/m to 2.0/m)
A. Kestrel*	(up .14/m to .24/m)	W. Thrush*
<u>Bobwhite - one</u>	E. Phoebe*	Veery
R.N. Pheasant*	Acid. Flycthr	E. Bluebird*
Sora	Will. Flycthr*	B.G. Gnatctchr*
A. Coot	E.W. Pewee	Ced. Waxwg*
(1st sum. record)	H. Lark*	(down .26/m to .14/m)
Killdeer*	(down 1.07/m to .93/m)	<u>Log. Shrike</u>
(up .38/m to .48/m)	T. Swallow	Starling*
A. Wdcock*	Bank Swallow*	(down 9.93/m to 2.65/m)
Spot. Sndpipr	R.W. Swallow*	W.E. Vireo*
M. Dove*	Barn. Swalo*	R.E. Vireo*
Y.B. Cuckoo	(up .41/m to .53/m)	Y.T. Vireo
B.B. Cuckoo*	Prpl. Martin*	Warb. Vireo*
Screech Owl*	Blue Jay*	Bl. Wg. Warb.
G.H. Owl*	C. Crow*	Yellow*
Barred Owl*	(down .66/m to .52/m)	Cerulean
C. Nite Hk	Bl.-cap. Chicd	Ovenbird
Chm. Swift*	<u>Car. Chicd</u>	<u>Kentucky*</u>
(down .40/m to .26/m)	Tuft. Titms	(1st nest record)
R.T. Humbrd	W.B. Nuthct	C. Yel. thrt*
B. Kingfisher*	(up .04/m to .17/m)	(up .26/m to .44/m)

Yel.-br. Chat	N. Oriole*	A. Goldfnch*
A. Redstart*	C. Grackle	(up 1.24/m to 1.52/m)
Hse. Spar.*	(down 8.78/m to 3.14/m)	R.S. Towhee
(down 10.2/m to 7.21/m)	B.H. Cowbird	Sav. Spar.*
Bobolink*	(down .96/m to .62/m)	(down .74/m to .58/m)
(down .39/m to .2/m)	Scar. Tangr.	Grass. Spar.*
E. Medolk*	Cardinal*	Ves. Spar.
(down .45/m to .27/m)	R.B. Grosbk*	Chip. Spar.*
W. Medolk	(up .02/m to .17/m)	(down .33/m to .22/m)
R.W. Blbrd*	In. Btng*	Field Spar.*
(down 5.72/m to 3.96/m)	(down .87/m to .63/m)	Swamp Spar.*
Orch. Oriole*	Prpl. Finch*	(up .005/m to .15/m)
		Song. Spar.*



Baird's Sandpiper
 Pen and Ink Drawing
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