

Nat Theo Club

FIELD NOTES

ISSUE #78



Bird List

BIRDS / ACTIVITY

HABITAT

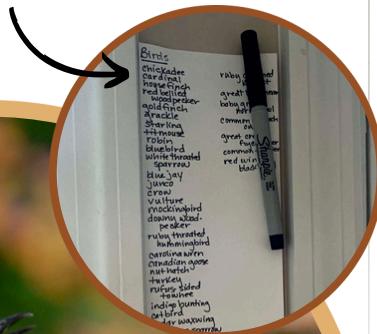
Migratory and resident birds that find food and nesting sites in neighborhoods, forests, and open yards.

FUN FACT

Not all birds can eat seeds because they do not have a beak to open them. Common visitors to my seed feeder include the tufted titmouse, chickadee, woodpeckers, cardinal, house finch, and nuthatch.

Jill's bird list

Catbird



WHAT BIRDS LIVE NEAR YOU?

When my family moved into our current Nashville home 9 years ago, I began keeping a bird list. Currently, my list has 47 different bird species. Every time we see a new one, I record it and rejoice. Most of the birds we see do not eat at the bird feeder. Many do, but most do not. Some birds visit the woods behind us. Some fly overhead and are only seen briefly. Some are migratory and stop for a bite to eat before heading north or south.

Alongside my seed feeders, I hang hummingbird feeders and a small bird bath in spring and summer. I try to attract an array of birds to my deck. All of these containers need to be filled and washed to keep the birds coming and to keep them disease-free.

I also plant trees that will attract birds. I have several mulberry trees, cedar trees, flowering dogwoods, and a holly tree that produce fruit. One of my favorite summer tree visitors is the catbird. This black-capped gray bird's call can sound like a cat meowing. It will stay until all of the red cedar berries (bluish) are gone.

I love the diversity of birds that live in and visit Tennessee. I have learned new birds just by being observant and putting out food and water to attract them. I don't think that I would have been aware of the number and diversity of birds if I hadn't written them down. Try keeping a list and learning the birds near you.

Are lists important to you? I know that when I need to remember something, I write it down on paper. Proverbs 3:3 says "let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart." Did you know that your heart has a tablet? This is very different than a piece of paper that can get lost or damaged. When you write love and faithfulness on your heart, you will always have a reminder that God is faithful and that He loves you.