

## Ohio Birding Checklist with Difficulty Codes

Daily/Year/Life \_\_\_\_\_

This checklist is arranged in three sections, each corresponding to a pair of difficulty codes. The six codes/descriptions are based primarily on the collective experience of Greg Miller and Dan Sanders. Overall abundance and ease of identification have been factored into each of the six codes and are as follows:

### Easier to See Birds

1. Readily found within expected habitat during at least one season of the year.
2. Migrant in spring & fall OR breeding/wintering somewhat restricted within the state.

### Harder to See Birds

3. Spring-only or fall-only migrant OR breeding/wintering very local within the state.
4. Reported annually but easily missed, even with special effort.

### Review List Birds

5. More regularly occurring of the OBRC review-list species during the past 20 years or so.
6. Least expected of the OBRC review-list species; very rare in Ohio.

Taxonomic order and nomenclature within each section are from the Fifty-Seventh Supplement (July 2016) to the American Ornithologists' Union *Check-List of North American Birds*. The original version of this checklist was produced by Paul Gardner and Joe Hammond. Helpful comments were contributed by Bill Whan.

### Easier to See Birds - 203 Species

Date	Species	Location
_____	Canada Goose 1	_____
_____	Mute Swan 1	_____
_____	Tundra Swan 2	_____
_____	Wood Duck 1	_____
_____	Gadwall 1	_____
_____	American Wigeon 1	_____
_____	American Black Duck 1	_____
_____	Mallard 1	_____
_____	Blue-winged Teal 1	_____
_____	Northern Shoveler 1	_____
_____	Northern Pintail 1	_____
_____	Green-winged Teal 1	_____
_____	Canvasback 2	_____
_____	Redhead 2	_____
_____	Ring-necked Duck 1	_____
_____	Greater Scaup 2	_____
_____	Lesser Scaup 1	_____
_____	Bufflehead 1	_____
_____	Common Goldeneye 2	_____

_____	Hooded Merganser 1	_____
_____	Common Merganser 2	_____
_____	Red-breasted Merganser 1	_____
_____	Ruddy Duck 1	_____
_____	Wild Turkey 2	_____
_____	Pied-billed Grebe 1	_____
_____	Horned Grebe 1	_____
_____	Rock Pigeon 1	_____
_____	Mourning Dove 1	_____
_____	Yellow-billed Cuckoo 2	_____
_____	Common Nighthawk 2	_____
_____	Chimney Swift 1	_____
_____	Ruby-throated Hummingbird 1	_____
_____	Virginia Rail 2	_____
_____	Sora 1	_____
_____	Common Gallinule 2	_____
_____	American Coot 1	_____
_____	Black-bellied Plover 1	_____
_____	American Golden-Plover 2	_____
_____	Semipalmated Plover 1	_____
_____	Killdeer 1	_____
_____	Ruddy Turnstone 2	_____
_____	Sanderling 2	_____
_____	Dunlin 1	_____
_____	Least Sandpiper 1	_____
_____	Pectoral Sandpiper 1	_____
_____	Semipalmated Sandpiper 1	_____
_____	Short-billed Dowitcher 1	_____
_____	Wilson's Snipe 2	_____
_____	American Woodcock 2	_____
_____	Spotted Sandpiper 1	_____
_____	Solitary Sandpiper 1	_____
_____	Greater Yellowlegs 1	_____
_____	Lesser Yellowlegs 1	_____
_____	Bonaparte's Gull 1	_____
_____	Ring-billed Gull 1	_____
_____	Herring Gull 1	_____
_____	Great Black-backed Gull 1	_____
_____	Caspian Tern 1	_____
_____	Common Tern 1	_____
_____	Forster's Tern 1	_____
_____	Common Loon 1	_____
_____	Double-crested Cormorant 1	_____
_____	Great Blue Heron 1	_____
_____	Great Egret 1	_____
_____	Snowy Egret 2	_____
_____	Green Heron 1	_____
_____	Black-crowned Night-Heron 1	_____
_____	Black Vulture 2	_____
_____	Turkey Vulture 1	_____
_____	Osprey 1	_____
_____	Bald Eagle 1	_____
_____	Northern Harrier 1	_____
_____	Sharp-shinned Hawk 2	_____
_____	Cooper's Hawk 1	_____
_____	Red-shouldered Hawk 1	_____
_____	Broad-winged Hawk 2	_____
_____	Red-tailed Hawk 1	_____
_____	Rough-legged Hawk 2	_____
_____	Eastern Screech-Owl 2	_____
_____	Great Horned Owl 2	_____
_____	Barred Owl 2	_____

_____	Short-eared Owl 2	_____
_____	Belted Kingfisher 1	_____
_____	Red-headed Woodpecker 2	_____
_____	Red-bellied Woodpecker 1	_____
_____	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 2	_____
_____	Downy Woodpecker 1	_____
_____	Hairy Woodpecker 1	_____
_____	Northern Flicker 1	_____
_____	Pileated Woodpecker 1	_____
_____	American Kestrel 1	_____
_____	Eastern Wood-Pewee 2	_____
_____	Acadian Flycatcher 2	_____
_____	Willow Flycatcher 2	_____
_____	Least Flycatcher 1	_____
_____	Eastern Phoebe 1	_____
_____	Great Crested Flycatcher 1	_____
_____	Eastern Kingbird 1	_____
_____	White-eyed Vireo 1	_____
_____	Yellow-throated Vireo 2	_____
_____	Blue-headed Vireo 2	_____
_____	Warbling Vireo 1	_____
_____	Red-eyed Vireo 1	_____
_____	Blue Jay 1	_____
_____	American Crow 1	_____
_____	Horned Lark 1	_____
_____	Purple Martin 1	_____
_____	Tree Swallow 1	_____
_____	N. Rough-winged Swallow 1	_____
_____	Bank Swallow 1	_____
_____	Cliff Swallow 1	_____
_____	Barn Swallow 1	_____
_____	Carolina Chickadee 1	_____
_____	Black-capped Chickadee 1	_____
_____	Tufted Titmouse 1	_____
_____	Red-breasted Nuthatch 2	_____
_____	White-breasted Nuthatch 1	_____
_____	Brown Creeper 1	_____
_____	House Wren 1	_____
_____	Winter Wren 2	_____
_____	Marsh Wren 2	_____
_____	Carolina Wren 1	_____
_____	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 1	_____
_____	Golden-crowned Kinglet 1	_____
_____	Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1	_____
_____	Eastern Bluebird 1	_____
_____	Veery 2	_____
_____	Swainson's Thrush 1	_____
_____	Hermit Thrush 1	_____
_____	Wood Thrush 1	_____
_____	American Robin 1	_____
_____	Gray Catbird 1	_____
_____	Brown Thrasher 1	_____
_____	Northern Mockingbird 1	_____
_____	European Starling 1	_____
_____	Cedar Waxwing 1	_____
_____	House Sparrow 1	_____
_____	American Pipit 2	_____
_____	House Finch 1	_____
_____	American Goldfinch 1	_____
_____	Lapland Longspur 2	_____
_____	Snow Bunting 2	_____
_____	Ovenbird 1	_____

_____	Worm-eating Warbler 2	_____
_____	Louisiana Waterthrush 2	_____
_____	Northern Waterthrush 2	_____
_____	Blue-winged Warbler 1	_____
_____	Black-and-white Warbler 1	_____
_____	Prothonotary Warbler 2	_____
_____	Tennessee Warbler 2	_____
_____	Nashville Warbler 1	_____
_____	Kentucky Warbler 2	_____
_____	Common Yellowthroat 1	_____
_____	Hooded Warbler 1	_____
_____	American Redstart 1	_____
_____	Cape May Warbler 2	_____
_____	Cerulean Warbler 2	_____
_____	Northern Parula 2	_____
_____	Magnolia Warbler 1	_____
_____	Bay-breasted Warbler 2	_____
_____	Blackburnian Warbler 2	_____
_____	Yellow Warbler 1	_____
_____	Chestnut-sided Warbler 1	_____
_____	Blackpoll Warbler 2	_____
_____	Black-throated Blue Warbler 1	_____
_____	Palm Warbler 1	_____
_____	Pine Warbler 2	_____
_____	Yellow-rumped Warbler 1	_____
_____	Yellow-throated Warbler 2	_____
_____	Prairie Warbler 2	_____
_____	Black-throated Green Warbler 1	_____
_____	Canada Warbler 2	_____
_____	Wilson's Warbler 2	_____
_____	Yellow-breasted Chat 2	_____
_____	Eastern Towhee 1	_____
_____	American Tree Sparrow 1	_____
_____	Chipping Sparrow 1	_____
_____	Field Sparrow 1	_____
_____	Vesper Sparrow 2	_____
_____	Savannah Sparrow 1	_____
_____	Grasshopper Sparrow 2	_____
_____	Henslow's Sparrow 2	_____
_____	Fox Sparrow 2	_____
_____	Song Sparrow 1	_____
_____	Lincoln's Sparrow 2	_____
_____	Swamp Sparrow 1	_____
_____	White-throated Sparrow 1	_____
_____	White-crowned Sparrow 1	_____
_____	Dark-eyed Junco 1	_____
_____	Summer Tanager 2	_____
_____	Scarlet Tanager 1	_____
_____	Northern Cardinal 1	_____
_____	Rose-breasted Grosbeak 1	_____
_____	Indigo Bunting 1	_____
_____	Dickcissel 2	_____
_____	Bobolink 2	_____
_____	Red-winged Blackbird 1	_____
_____	Eastern Meadowlark 1	_____
_____	Rusty Blackbird 2	_____
_____	Common Grackle 1	_____
_____	Brown-headed Cowbird 1	_____
_____	Orchard Oriole 2	_____
_____	Baltimore Oriole 1	_____

## Harder to See Birds - 93 Species

Greater White-fronted Goose 3  
Snow Goose 3  
Ross's Goose 4  
Brant 4  
Cackling Goose 4  
Eurasian Wigeon 4  
Harlequin Duck 4  
Surf Scoter 3  
White-winged Scoter 3  
Black Scoter 3  
Long-tailed Duck 4  
Northern Bobwhite 4\*\*  
Ring-necked Pheasant 3\*\*  
Ruffed Grouse 4  
Red-necked Grebe 4  
Eared Grebe 4  
Eurasian Collared-Dove 3  
Black-billed Cuckoo 3  
Chuck-will's-widow 4  
Eastern Whip-poor-will 3  
Rufous Hummingbird 4  
King Rail 4  
Sandhill Crane 3  
Black-necked Stilt 4  
American Avocet 4  
Upland Sandpiper 4  
Whimbrel 4  
Hudsonian Godwit 4  
Marbled Godwit 4  
Red Knot 4  
Stilt Sandpiper 3  
Purple Sandpiper 4  
Baird's Sandpiper 3  
White-rumped Sandpiper 3  
Buff-breasted Sandpiper 4  
Western Sandpiper 4  
Long-billed Dowitcher 3  
Willet 4  
Wilson's Phalarope 3  
Red-necked Phalarope 3  
Red Phalarope 4  
Pomarine Jaeger 4  
Black-legged Kittiwake 4  
Sabine's Gull 4  
Little Gull 4  
Laughing Gull 4  
Franklin's Gull 4  
Thayer's Gull 4  
Iceland Gull 4  
Lesser Black-backed Gull 3  
Glaucous Gull 3  
Black Tern 3  
Red-throated Loon 4  
American White Pelican 3  
American Bittern 3  
Least Bittern 3  
Little Blue Heron 4  
Cattle Egret 4  
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron 4  
Golden Eagle 4

Barn Owl 4  
Snowy Owl 4  
Long-eared Owl 3  
Northern Saw-whet Owl 4  
Merlin 3  
Peregrine Falcon 3  
Olive-sided Flycatcher 4  
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher 4  
Alder Flycatcher 4  
Northern Shrike 4  
Bell's Vireo 4  
Philadelphia Vireo 3  
Common Raven 4  
Sedge Wren 3  
Gray-cheeked Thrush 3  
Purple Finch 3  
Red Crossbill 4  
White-winged Crossbill 4  
Common Redpoll 4  
Pine Siskin 3  
Evening Grosbeak 4  
Golden-winged Warbler 4  
Orange-crowned Warbler 3  
Connecticut Warbler 4  
Mourning Warbler 3  
Clay-colored Sparrow 4  
Lark Sparrow 3  
Le Conte's Sparrow 4  
Nelson's Sparrow 4  
Blue Grosbeak 3  
Western Meadowlark 4  
Yellow-headed Blackbird 4  
Brewer's Blackbird 4

## Review-List Birds - 132 Species

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck 4  
Fulvous Whistling-Duck 6  
Trumpeter Swan 6\*  
Cinnamon Teal 6  
Garganey 6  
Tufted Duck 6  
King Eider 6  
Common Eider 6  
Barrow's Goldeneye 6  
Western Grebe 6  
Common Ground-Dove 6  
White-winged Dove 5  
Smooth-billed Ani 6  
Groove-billed Ani 6  
White-throated Swift 6  
Mexican Violetear 6  
Anna's Hummingbird 6  
Allen's Hummingbird 6  
Calliope Hummingbird 6  
Yellow Rail 6  
Black Rail 6  
Purple Gallinule 6  
Whooping Crane 6  
Northern Lapwing 6  
Snowy Plover 6  
Wilson's Plover 6

Piping Plover 5  
Long-billed Curlew 6  
Ruff 5  
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper 6  
Curlew Sandpiper 6  
Red-necked Stint 6  
Eurasian Woodcock 6  
Spotted Redshank 6  
Parasitic Jaeger 5  
Long-tailed Jaeger 5  
Thick-billed Murre 6  
Black Guillemot 6  
Long-billed Murrelet 6  
Ancient Murrelet 6  
Atlantic Puffin 6  
Ivory Gull 6  
Black-headed Gull 5  
Ross's Gull 6  
Black-tailed Gull 6  
Heermann's Gull 6  
Mew Gull 6  
California Gull 5  
Kelp Gull 6  
Sooty Tern 6  
Least Tern 6  
Large-billed Tern 6  
Arctic Tern 6  
Royal Tern 6  
Arctic Loon 6  
Pacific Loon 5  
Black-capped Petrel 6  
Leach's Storm-Petrel 6  
Wood Stork 6  
Magnificent Frigatebird 6  
Northern Gannet 6  
Neotropic Cormorant 6  
Great Cormorant 6  
Anhinga 6  
Brown Pelican 6  
Tricolored Heron 5  
Reddish Egret 6  
White Ibis 6  
Glossy Ibis 5  
White-faced Ibis 5  
Roseate Spoonbill 6  
Swallow-tailed Kite 6  
Mississippi Kite 5  
Northern Goshawk 5  
Harris's Hawk 6  
Swainson's Hawk 6  
Northern Hawk Owl 6  
Burrowing Owl 6  
Great Gray Owl 6  
Boreal Owl 6  
Red-naped Sapsucker 6  
Red-cockaded Woodpecker 6  
Black-backed Woodpecker 6  
Crested Caracara 6  
Gyr Falcon 6  
Prairie Falcon 6  
Gray Flycatcher 6  
Dusky Flycatcher 6

Say's Phoebe 6  
Vermilion Flycatcher 6  
Western Kingbird 5  
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 6  
Loggerhead Shrike 5  
Black-billed Magpie 6  
Fish Crow 5  
Violet-green Swallow 6  
Cave Swallow 6  
Boreal Chickadee 6  
Brown-headed Nuthatch 6  
Rock Wren 6  
Bewick's Wren 6  
Northern Wheatear 6  
Mountain Bluebird 6  
Townsend's Solitaire 6  
Varied Thrush 5  
Bohemian Waxwing 6  
Eurasian Tree Sparrow 6  
Sprague's Pipit 6  
Brambling 6  
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch 6  
Pine Grosbeak 6  
Hoary Redpoll 6  
Smith's Longspur 6  
Swainson's Warbler 6  
Kirtland's Warbler 5  
Black-throated Gray Warbler 6  
Townsend's Warbler 6  
Painted Redstart 6  
Green-tailed Towhee 6  
Spotted Towhee 6  
Cassin's Sparrow 6  
Bachman's Sparrow 6  
Black-throated Sparrow 6  
Lark Bunting 6  
Baird's Sparrow 6  
Harris's Sparrow 5  
Golden-Crowned Sparrow 6  
Western Tanager 6  
Black-headed Grosbeak 6  
Painted Bunting 6  
Great-tailed Grackle 6  
Bullock's Oriole 6

Total Ohio Species = 434 (Six Extinct/Extirpated Species Omitted)

\* Vagrant Trumpeter Swans from the west, although probably unrecognizable as such, would be code 6. ODNR-released TRUS and their progeny are not countable in Ohio but would be code 2.

\*\* Only considered to be countable in certain counties/locations due to frequently released populations.

**Acknowledgements:** These current codes are based primarily on the collective experience of Dan Sanders and other avid Ohio birders. Thanks to Jacob Roalef for producing the 2016 revision of this document.