

# Bird Information, Research and Data Quarterly Report

January, February, March 2018

Warner Park Nature Center, Friends of Warner Parks, and Metro Parks and Recreation



Students visit the banding station, meet a cardinal up close and learn about bird longevity, migration, diet, & habitat.



The Cook Family volunteered together on the Winter Bird Banding Day with over 100 visitors and many birds.



This Red-bellied Woodpecker is recorded as a male because the red on top of his head reaches all the way down to its bill. He also has a red belly.



Tufted Titmouse #2341-31257 was first banded here on January 2013 as an adult so is at least 6 years old. It has been recaptured each year but only in January or February!



Diana McLusky trains new volunteer Patty Guertner to record important recapture data. Patty has started a new Park BIRD project entering photos of banded birds and other data into iNaturalist, a citizen-science app.



Volunteer Laura Cook (left) bands her first bird at Warner Park, while Volunteer John Kell (right) surprises the BIRD team with a female Eastern Bluebird from the mist net, an unusual find.

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## BIRD Program Accomplishments

- Volunteers contributed **444 hours and 153 visits**
- Bird Research Projects and Programs connected with over **481 visitors**
- Trained volunteers to enter data, record recapture records and assist with winter banding operation
- Participated in new TN BIRD Conservation Partnership Meeting led by David Hanni, TWRA in January
- Completed 2017 banding records and submitted to USGS Bird Banding Laboratory
- Kathy Shaw compiled summer and fall banding projects and submitted to IBBA for publication
- Worked with Paul Fowler and FOWP to write volunteer award nomination and recognize volunteers
- Planned spring 2018 bird programs and Spring Bird Celebration Day and Year of the BIRD events
- Scheduled spring banding project and MAPS summer breeding bird project dates (28th year)
- Evaluated 2017 Hummingbird Project and met with Heather Gallagher and planned 2018 hummer project
- Completed 2017 4th quarter report and annual 2017 BIRD Program, Bluebird, and Hummingbird Reports
- Attended and assisted with BIRD Committee and Hummingbird Happy Hour Planning meetings
- Consider the Indigo Bunting article, written by volunteers Allison Salas, Kathy Shaw, Sandy Bivens, was published in the 2018 spring issue of *The Tennessee Conservationist* magazine; distributed copies
- Volunteer Laura Cook banded her first bird at the Warner Park Nature Center!
- Planned for sustainability and future of the BIRD program with staff, volunteers, and FOWP committees
- Assisted with closing of learning center for new exhibits and moving out and into library for the winter
- Coordinator worked 274 hours and volunteered 96 hours

## BIRD Projects and Programs

- **Long-term Winter Banding Project:** 10 sessions scheduled (2 cancelled for weather) Jan-Feb. 271 birds of 16 species captured (81 new, 188 recaptures, 2 unbanded). Top 5 species—Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Cardinal and Yellow-rumped Warbler. More woodpeckers and yellow-rumped warblers than usual. Species of special interest were Eastern Bluebird, Swamp Sparrow, Golden-crowned Kinglet. Several interesting recaptures. 328 visitors attended. Thanks to volunteers Kathy Shaw, Diana McLusky, John Kell, Ethel Kawamura, Laura Cook, Ethel Kawamura, Justin Hiltner, Patty Guertner, Melinda Welton, Amy Potter, Marion Praitt.
- **Bird Programs:** 6 bird programs, including a hike in honor of Dr. Ed Gleaves, with 153 participants. Winter Bird Banding Day on Saturday, 3 Feb, with 100 visitors and led a bird hike on the newly opened Burch Reserve for the board of the TN Nature Conservancy.
- **eBird Project:** Sandy Bivens and volunteer John Kell entered current and historical Warner Park data.
- **Purple Martin Project:** Heather Gallagher Coordinator. Gourds readied, first males seen in early March.
- **iNaturalist:** New project added to the BIRD program by Volunteer Patty Guertner this winter. She entered bird photos and observations to this citizen-science project built on the concept of mapping & sharing observations of biodiversity around the globe. Patty is also training staff, volunteers, and visitors to add observations.
- **Bluebird Project, ongoing since 1936:** Diana McLusky, Coordinator, held kickoff meeting and training session in February. Notebooks were prepared, boxes inspected, repaired, replaced and a new box added at the Burch Reserve. 1st egg found on 26 March. Thanks to the Bluebird Team for monitoring boxes March-September - John Kell, Sue Shallow, Kim Bailey, Sandy Bivens, Diana McLusky and new volunteers—the Laura Cook family of 4!
- **Project FeederWatch, ongoing since 1997:** Melissa Donahue, Coordinator. Completed 21st season in partnership with Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Data used to track broad scale movements of winter bird populations & long-term trends in bird distribution and abundance. Conducted 18 counts with 30 species recorded. Highlights include 6 species of sparrows and both species of kinglets. Thanks to our Park Citizen Scientists - Laurie Campbell, Beth Preston, Margie Hunter, Jean Louise Barnes, Virginia Barnes, Rebecca Dandekar, Linda Breggin, Katie Doyle and Beth Adams.

Bird Education and Research Program Coordinator Sandy Bivens, Assistant Coordinator Kathy Shaw

Submitted by Sandy Bivens, May 2018