



Bird checklist

GREATER PORTLAND

Hello, we're Metro.

Metro brings people together to shape the future of greater Portland and provides places, services and tools that work best at a regional scale. Led by an elected council, this unique government gives Oregonians a voice in their community.

Parks and nature

Metro protects clean water, restores fish and wildlife habitat, and connects people to nature across 17,000 acres of parks, trails and natural areas – and the Oregon Zoo.

Land and transportation

Metro plans for new homes, jobs, transportation options and access to local businesses and parks.

Garbage and recycling

Metro manages the garbage and recycling system and is a resource for information about safe disposal and ways to reduce waste.

Arts and events

Metro runs the Oregon Convention Center, Portland Expo Center and Portland's Centers for the Arts.



Western wood-pewee at Smith and Bybee Wetlands

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Old world sparrows					
House sparrow (introduced)	c	c	c	c	n

Very rare birds

These birds have been seen in our region a few times, but are basically out of their normal range. If one is spotted you can be sure it will be on the rare bird alert at the Audubon Society of Portland.

Red-necked grebe	Arctic tern
Brown pelican	Snowy owl
Snowy egret	Long-eared owl
Cattle egret	Black swift
White-faced ibis	Black-chinned hummingbird
Emperor goose	Costa's hummingbird
Tufted duck	Calliope hummingbird
Harlequin duck	Black phoebe
Long-tailed duck	Tropical kingbird
Northern goshawk	Loggerhead shrike
Swainson's hawk	Black-bellied magpie
Ferruginous hawk	Rock wren
Prairie falcon	Bohemian waxwing
American golden-plover	Tennessee warbler
Pacific golden-plover	Palm warbler
Willet	Black-and-white warbler
Ruddy turnstone	American tree sparrow
Black turnstone	Brewer's sparrow
Semipalmated sandpiper	Vesper sparrow
Sharp-tailed sandpiper	Lark sparrow
Stilt sandpiper	Black-throated sparrow
Buff-breasted sandpiper	Lark bunting
Ruff	Rose-breasted grosbeak
Red phalarope	Indigo bunting
Slaty-backed gull	Tricolored blackbird
Sabine's gull	Rusty blackbird
Common tern	Brambling
Forster's tern	Common redpoll

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Chat					
Yellow-breasted chat	o	o	-	-	n
Tanagers					
Western tanager	c	u	u	-	n
New world sparrows					
Spotted towhee	c	c	c	c	n
Chipping sparrow	o	o	o	r	n
Clay-colored sparrow	r	-	r	r	-
Savannah sparrow	c	c	c	r	n
Fox sparrow	u	-	u	u	-
Song sparrow	c	c	c	c	n
Lincoln's sparrow	o	-	o	o	-
Swamp sparrow	o	-	r	o	-
White-throated sparrow	o	-	o	o	-
Harris's sparrow	o	-	-	o	-
White-crowned sparrow	c	c	c	c	n
Golden-crowned sparrow	u	r	u	c	-
Dark-eyed junco	c	u	c	c	n
Lapland longspur	-	-	r	r	-
Snow bunting	-	-	-	r	-
Grosbeaks and buntings					
Black-headed grosbeak	c	c	u	-	n
Lazuli bunting	o	o	-	-	n
Blackbirds and relatives					
Red-winged blackbird	c	c	c	c	n
Western meadowlark	u	r	u	u	n
Yellow-headed blackbird	o	o	o	r	n
Brewer's blackbird	c	c	c	c	n
Brown-headed cowbird	c	c	c	r	n
Bullock's oriole	c	c	u	-	n
Finches					
Purple finch	u	o	o	o	n
House finch	c	c	c	c	n
Red crossbill	o	o	o	o	n
Pine siskin	u	o	o	u	n
Lesser goldfinch	u	u	u	o	n
American goldfinch	c	c	c	u	n
Evening grosbeak	c	o	o	u	n

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This checklist of the birds regularly seen in greater Portland was originally created by Metro parks naturalist James Davis, based on the one by Harry Nehls in "Wild in the City." For the latest information on bird sightings in the region, call the Audubon Society of Portland's rare bird alert at 503-292-6855 or visit audubonportland.org for other birding links.

Updated: fall 2018

Key

c – common

Seen or heard often in suitable habitat. Hard to miss.

u – uncommon

Usually present in suitable habitat but not numerous. You'll probably find at least one.

o – occasional

Irregular and hard to predict. May be secretive, low in number, or very local. You might find one if you're in the right place at the right time.

r – rare

Very few seen each year and there may be some years with no sightings. Lots of luck.

n – nests in our region (N)

For the purposes of this checklist, spring (**Sp**) is March through May; summer (**Su**) is June through August; fall (**F**) is August through October; winter (**W**) is November through February.

Common names are based on the American Ornithologists Union's Checklist of North American Birds, the authority for bird names and classifications. Non-native birds are indicated by the word "introduced," also in parentheses.

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Waterfowl					
Greater white-fronted goose	u	-	u	r	-
Snow goose	u	-	u	o	-
Ross's goose	r	-	r	r	-
Cackling goose	u	-	c	c	-
Canada goose	c	c	c	c	n
Brant	o	-	o	o	-
Trumpeter swan	o	-	-	o	-
Tundra swan	u	-	o	c	-
Wood duck	u	u	u	c	n
Gadwall	u	r	u	c	-
Eurasian wigeon	o	-	u	u	-
American wigeon	c	r	c	c	-
Mallard	c	c	c	c	n
Blue-winged teal	o	o	o	r	n
Cinnamon teal	u	u	u	r	n
Northern shoveler	c	o	c	c	n
Northern pintail	c	r	c	c	-
Green-winged teal	c	o	c	c	-
Canvasback	u	-	o	u	-
Redhead	o	-	o	o	-
Ring-necked duck	c	o	c	c	-
Tufted duck	r	-	-	r	-
Greater scaup	r	-	r	r	-
Lesser scaup	c	r	u	c	-
Surf scoter	r	-	r	r	-
White-winged scoter	-	-	r	r	-
Bufflehead	c	r	u	c	-
Common goldeneye	o	-	o	u	-
Barrow's goldeneye	-	-	r	r	-
Hooded merganser	u	u	u	u	n
Common merganser	c	u	u	c	n
Red-breasted merganser	r	-	r	o	-
Ruddy duck	c	o	u	c	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Pheasants, grouse and quail					
Ring-necked pheasant (introduced)	u	u	u	u	n
Ruffed grouse	o	o	o	o	n
California quail	u	u	u	u	n
Mountain quail	r	r	r	r	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Wrens					
Bewick's wren	c	c	c	u	n
House wren	u	u	u	-	n
Pacific wren	c	u	u	u	n
Marsh wren	c	c	c	o	n
Marsh wren	c	c	c	o	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Wrentit					
Wrentit	o	o	o	-	-

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Dippers					
American dipper	r	-	-	r	-

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Kinglets					
Golden-crowned kinglet	c	c	c	c	n
Ruby-crowned kinglet	c	-	c	c	-

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Thrushes					
Western bluebird	o	o	o	o	n
Mountain bluebird	r	-	-	r	-
Townsend's solitaire	r	-	r	r	-
Swainson's thrush	u	c	o	-	n
Hermit thrush	o	-	r	o	-
American robin	c	c	c	c	n
Varied thrush	c	o	u	c	-

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Thrashers					
Northern mockingbird	r	-	r	r	-

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Starlings					
European starling (introduced)	c	c	c	c	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Pipits and waxwings					
American pipit	u	-	u	o	-
Cedar waxwing	u	c	c	o	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Warblers					
Orange-crowned warbler	c	c	u	r	n
Nashville warbler	u	-	r	-	-
Yellow warbler	u	u	u	r	n
Yellow-rumped warbler	c	o	c	o	-
Black-throated gray warbler	c	u	u	r	n
Townsend's warbler	c	o	u	o	-
Hermit warbler	o	-	-	r	-
Macgillivray's warbler	u	o	o	-	n
Common yellowthroat	c	c	u	o	n
Wilson's warbler	c	c	u	-	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Flycatchers, cont.					
Ash-throated flycatcher	r	r	r	-	-
Western kingbird	o	r	r	-	n
Eastern kingbird	r	r	r	-	n

Shrikes					
Northern shrike	o	-	r	o	-

Vireos					
Cassin's vireo	o	o	o	-	n
Hutton's vireo	o	o	o	o	n
Warbling vireo	u	u	o	-	n
Red-eyed vireo	r	o	o	-	n

Corvids					
Canada jay (gray jay)	r	r	r	r	n
Steller's jay	c	c	c	c	n
California scrub-jay	c	c	c	c	n
American crow	c	c	c	c	n
Common raven	r	-	r	r	-

Larks					
Horned lark	-	-	r	r	n

Swallows					
Purple martin	u	u	u	-	n
Tree swallow	c	c	c	o	n
Violet-green swallow	c	c	c	o	n
Northern rough-winged swallow	u	u	u	-	n
Bank swallow	r	r	r	-	n
Cliff swallow	c	c	c	-	n
Barn swallow	c	c	c	o	n

Chickadees and bushtit					
Black-capped chickadee	c	c	c	c	n
Mountain chickadee	r	r	r	r	-
Chestnut-backed chickadee	c	c	c	c	n
Bushtit	c	c	c	c	n

Nuthatches and creeper					
Red-breasted nuthatch	c	c	c	c	n
White-breasted nuthatch	u	u	u	u	n
Brown creeper	u	u	u	u	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Loons					
Red-throated loon	r	-	r	r	-
Pacific loon	r	-	r	r	-
Common loon	o	r	o	o	-

Grebes					
Pied-billed grebe	u	u	u	u	n
Horned grebe	r	-	-	r	-
Red-necked grebe	r	-	r	r	-
Eared grebe	r	-	r	r	-
Western grebe	u	-	o	u	-
Clark's grebe	r	-	r	r	-

Pelicans and cormorants					
American white pelican	r	o	r	r	-
Double-crested cormorant	c	o	c	c	-

Hérons, egrets and bitterns					
American bittern	u	u	u	o	n
Great blue heron	c	c	c	c	n
Great egret	u	o	u	u	n
Snowy egret	-	-	r	r	-
Green heron	o	o	o	r	n
Black-crowned night-heron	o	r	o	o	-

New world vultures					
Turkey vulture	c	c	c	-	n

Diurnal raptors					
Osprey	c	c	u	r	n
White-tailed kite	r	r	r	r	-
Bald eagle	u	o	u	c	n
Northern harrier	u	u	u	u	n
Sharp-shinned hawk	u	o	u	u	n
Cooper's hawk	u	o	u	u	n
Red-shouldered hawk	r	-	r	r	-
Red-tailed hawk	c	c	c	c	n
Rough-legged hawk	o	-	o	o	-
Golden eagle	r	-	r	r	-
American kestrel	c	c	c	c	n
Merlin	o	-	o	o	-
Peregrine falcon	u	u	u	u	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Rails, coots and cranes					
Virginia rail	u	u	u	o	n
Sora	u	u	u	o	n
American coot	c	u	c	c	n
Sandhill crane	u	r	c	c	-

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Shorebirds					
Black-bellied plover	o	-	o	r	-
Semipalmated plover	r	r	o	-	-
Killdeer	c	c	c	c	n
Black-necked stilt	r	-	r	-	-
American avocet	r	-	r	-	-
Greater yellowlegs	u	o	u	o	-
Lesser yellowlegs	u	o	u	-	-
Solitary sandpiper	o	-	r	-	-
Spotted sandpiper	u	u	u	u	n
Whimbrel	r	-	r	-	-
Long-billed curlew	r	-	r	-	-
Marbled godwit	r	-	r	-	-
Sanderling	r	-	o	r	-
Western sandpiper	c	o	c	o	-
Least sandpiper	c	o	c	u	-
Baird's sandpiper	r	r	r	-	-
Pectoral sandpiper	-	r	o	-	-
Dunlin	c	-	o	c	-
Short-billed dowitcher	o	r	o	-	-
Long-billed dowitcher	c	o	c	u	-
Wilson's snipe	u	o	u	o	n
Wilson's phalarope	o	o	o	-	-
Red-necked phalarop	o	-	o	-	-

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Gulls and terns					
Franklin's gull	r	-	o	r	-
Bonaparte's gull	o	r	o	o	-
Mew gull	u	r	u	u	-
Ring-billed gull	c	o	c	c	-
California gull	c	o	c	c	-
Herring gull	u	-	u	u	-
Iceland gull	u	-	o	u	-
Western gull	o	-	o	o	-
Glaucous-winged gull	c	o	c	c	n
Glaucous gull	r	-	-	r	-
Caspian tern	u	u	u	-	-

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Pigeons and doves					
Rock pigeon (introduced)	c	c	c	c	n
Band-tailed pigeon	u	u	u	o	n
Eurasian collared-dove (introduced)	c	c	c	c	n
Mourning dove	c	c	c	u	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Owls					
Barn owl	u	u	u	u	n
Western screech-owl	u	u	u	u	n
Great horned owl	u	u	u	u	n
Northern pygmy-owl	o	o	o	o	n
Barred owl	u	u	u	u	n
Short-eared owl	o	-	-	o	-
Northern saw-whet owl	r	r	r	r	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Nighthawks and relatives					
Common nighthawk	r	o	o	-	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Swifts and hummingbirds					
Vaux's swift	c	c	c	-	n
Anna's hummingbird	c	c	c	c	n
Rufous hummingbird	c	c	u	r	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Kingfishers					
Belted kingfisher	u	u	u	u	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Woodpeckers					
Lewis's woodpecker	r	-	r	r	-
Acorn woodpecker	o	o	o	o	n
Red-breasted sapsucker	o	o	o	o	n
Downy woodpecker	c	c	c	c	n
Hairy woodpecker	o	o	o	o	n
Northern flicker	c	c	c	c	n
Pileated woodpecker	u	u	u	u	n

	Sp	Su	F	W	N
Flycatchers					
Olive-sided flycatcher	u	u	u	-	n
Western wood-pewee	c	c	u	-	n
Willow flycatcher	u	u	u	-	n
Hammond's flycatcher	o	o	o	-	n
Dusky flycatcher	r	-	r	-	-
Pacific-slope flycatcher	c	c	u	-	n
Black phoebe	u	o	o	u	-
Say's phoebe	r	-	-	r	-