

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge
1730 Eastern Neck Road
Rock Hall, MD 21661
410/639 7056
410/639 2516 Fax
<http://fws.gov/northeast/easternneck>
Email: r5rw_ennwr@mail.fws.gov

Federal Relay Service
for the deaf and hard-of-hearing
1 800/877 8339

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1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov/>

August 2009



Eastern Neck

National Wildlife Refuge

Birds



printed on recycled paper with vegetable based inks



This blue goose, designed by J.N. Ding Darling, has become a symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge is one of more than 550 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The National Wildlife Refuge System is a network of lands and waters managed specifically for the protection of wildlife and wildlife habitat and represents the most comprehensive wildlife management program in the world. Units of the system stretch across the United States from northern Alaska to the Florida Keys and include small islands in the Caribbean and South Pacific. The character of the refuges is as diverse as the nation itself.

The Service also manages national fish hatcheries, and provides federal leadership in habitat protection, fish and wildlife research, technical assistance, and the conservation and protection of migratory birds, certain marine mammals and threatened and endangered species.

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge in Kent County on Maryland's Eastern Shore was established in 1962 for the protection and management of migratory birds.

The 2,285 acres of diversified habitat on the island, plus the waters of the Chester River and Chesapeake Bay, provide habitat for a wide variety of bird life. Diving and puddle ducks, swans and geese concentrate around the island in late fall and early winter. Peak concentrations occur from November to January.

This brochure lists the birds that are found in the area of Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge. A total of 257 species have been recorded on the refuge. Sixteen accidental species are also listed.



Canada Geese

This list follows the Seventh American Ornithologists Union Checklist and was updated in 2006 by the Maryland Ornithological Society, Kent County Chapter. It is subject to change as more birds are identified on the refuge.

Most birds are migratory, therefore, their seasonal occurrence is coded as follows:

SEASON

Sp	Spring	March – May
S	Summer	June – August
F	Fall	September – November
W	Winter	December – February

RELATIVE ABUNDANCE

a	abundant	a species which is very numerous
c	common	likely to be seen or heard in suitable habitat
u	uncommon	present, but not certain to be seen
o	occasional	seen only a few times during a season
r	rare	may be present but not every year

- Birds known to nest on or near the refuge

	Sp	S	F	W
SWANS – GEESE – DUCKS				
___ TundraSwan	c		a	a
___ •Mute Swan	c	c	c	c
___ Greater White-fronted Goose			r	r
___ Snow Goose	o		o	o
___ Brant			r	r
___ CacklingGoose			r	r
___ CanadaGoose	a	o	a	a
___ •Wood Duck	u	u	u	o
___ Green-wingedTeal	u		u	r
___ •American Black Duck	u	u	u	c
___ •Mallard	a	c	a	a
___ NorthernPintail	u		u	u
___ Blue-wingedTeal	o		o	r
___ NorthernShoveler	o		o	r
___ Gadwall	u	r	u	u
___ AmericanWigeon	u		u	u
___ Canvasback	u		u	c
___ Redhead	o		o	o
___ Ring-neckedDuck	u		u	u
___ GreaterScaup	u		u	c
___ LesserScaup	c		c	c
___ Long-tailedDuck	u		u	u
___ Black Scoter	o		o	o
___ SurfScoter	o		o	o
___ White-wingedScoter	r		r	r
___ CommonGoldeneye	c		c	c
___ Bufflehead	c		c	c
___ HoodedMerganser	o		o	o
___ CommonMerganser	o		o	o
___ Red-breastedMerganser	u		r	u
___ RuddyDuck	u		c	c

GROUSE – QUAIL – TURKEY

___ •Wild Turkey	u	u	u	u
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LOONS

___ Red-throated Loon	o			o
___ Common Loon	u		u	u

GREBES

___ Pied-billedGrebe	o	r	o	o
___ HornedGrebe	o		u	u
___ Red-neckedGrebe.....	r		r	r

PELICANS

___ BrownPelican		r	r	
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CORMORANTS

___ Double-crestedCormorant	c	c	c	o
___ Great Cormorant			r	r

BITTERNS – HERONS – IBISES

	Sp	S	F	W
___ AmericanBittern	r	r	r	r
___ LeastBittern	r	r		
___ Great Blue Heron	c	c	c	u
___ GreatEgret	o	o	o	
___ SnowyEgret	o	o	o	
___ Little Blue Heron	r	r	r	
___ TricoloredHeron	r	r	r	
___ CattleEgret	o	o	o	
___ •Green Heron	u	u	u	
___ Black-crownedNight-Heron	r	o	o	r
___ Yellow-crownedNight-Heron	r	r	r	
___ GlossyIbis		r	r	

VULTURES

___ •Black Vulture	u	u	u	u
___ •Turkey Vulture	a	a	a	a

OSPREY – HAWKS – EAGLES

___ •Osprey	a	a	c	
___ •Bald Eagle	c	u	c	c
___ NorthernHarrier	u		u	u
___ Sharp-shinnedHawk	u		c	u
___ Cooper'sHawk	u		u	u
___ NorthernGoshawk			r	
___ Red-shoulderedHawk	o	o	o	o
___ Broad-wingedHawk	o		o	
___ •Red-tailed Hawk	u	u	u	u
___ Rough-leggedHawk	r		r	r
___ GoldenEagle	r		r	r
___ AmericanKestrel	u	r	u	u
___ Merlin	r		o	r

FALCONS

___ Peregrine Falcon	r		o	r
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RAILS

___ ClapperRail	r	r	r	
___ •King Rail	o	o	o	o
___ •Virginia Rail	u	u	u	u
___ Sora	r		r	r
___ CommonMoorhen	r	r	r	
___ AmericanCoot	o		u	o

PLOVERS – SANDPIPERS

___ Black-belliedPlover	o	o	o	
___ SemipalmatedPlover	o	o	o	
___ •Killdeer	u	u	u	o
___ GreaterYellowlegs	u	u	u	
___ LesserYellowlegs	u	u	u	
___ SolitarySandpiper	o	o	o	

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Willet	r		r	
___ Spotted Sandpiper	o	o	o	
___ Ruddy Turnstone			r	
___ Sanderling			r	
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	o	o	o	
___ Western Sandpiper	r	r	r	
___ Least Sandpiper	u	u	u	
___ White-rumped Sandpiper		o	o	
___ Pectoral Sandpiper	o	o	o	
___ Dunlin	u		u	r
___ Stilt Sandpiper		r	r	
___ Short-billed Dowitcher	o	o	o	
___ Wilson's Snipe	o		o	o
___ American Woodcock	o	r	o	r

GULLS – TERNS

___ Laughing Gull	c	u	c	r
___ Bonaparte's Gull	u		u	o
___ Ring-billed Gull	a	c	a	c
___ Herring Gull	c	u	c	c
___ Lesser Black-backed Gull	r		o	r
___ Great Black-backed Gull	u	r	u	u
___ Caspian Tern	c		c	
___ Royal Tern	r		u	
___ Common Tern	o	o	o	
___ Forster's Tern	c	o	c	r
___ Least Tern	o	u		
___ Black Tern		r	r	

DOVES

___ Rock Pigeon	o	o	o	o
___ • Mourning Dove	c	c	c	c

CUCKOOS

___ Black-billed Cuckoo	o	o	o	
___ • Yellow-billed Cuckoo	u	u	u	

OWLS

___ Common Barn Owl	r	r	r	r
___ • Eastern Screech-Owl	u	u	u	u
___ • Great Horned Owl	u	u	u	u
___ Barred Owl	r	r	r	r
___ Short-eared Owl	r		r	r
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl			r	r

NIGHTJARS

___ Common Nighthawk	o	o	o	
___ Chuck-will's-widow	o	o	r	
___ Whip-poor-will	r	r	r	

SWIFTS

___ • Chimney Swift	u	u	u	
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HUMMINGBIRDS

___ • Ruby-throated Hummingbird	u	u	u	
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KINGFISHER

___ Belted Kingfisher	o	o	o	o
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WOODPECKERS

___ Red-headed Woodpecker	r		r	r
___ • Red-bellied Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	u		u	u
___ • Downy Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
___ • Hairy Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
___ • Northern Flicker	c	c	c	c
___ Pileated Woodpecker	r	r	r	r



Blue jay

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	r		r	
___ • Eastern Wood-Pewee	c	c	c	
___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	o		o	
___ • Acadian Flycatcher	u	u	u	
___ Willow Flycatcher	r		o	
___ Least Flycatcher			o	
___ • Eastern Phoebe	c	o	c	r
___ • Great Crested Flycatcher	c	c	u	
___ • Eastern Kingbird	c	c	c	
___ Western Kingbird			r	r

VIREOS

___ • White-eyed Vireo	c	u	u	
___ Blue-headed Vireo	o		o	
___ Yellow-throated Vireo	o	o	o	
___ Warbling Vireo	r	r	r	
___ Philadelphia Vireo			r	
___ • Red-eyed Vireo	c	u	c	

	Sp	S	F	W
JAYS – CROWS				
___ •Blue Jay	c	c	a	c
___ •American Crow	c	c	c	c
___ •Fish Crow	c	c	u	o

LARKS

___ Horned Lark	o		o	
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SWALLOWS

___ Purple Martin	u	u	u	
___ •Tree Swallow	c	c	c	r
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	u	u	u	
___ Bank Swallow	u	u	u	
___ Cliff Swallow	r		r	
___ •Barn Swallow	c	c	c	

TITMICE – CHICKADEES

___ Black-capped Chickadee			r	r
___ •Carolina Chickadee	c	c	c	c
___ •Tufted Titmouse	c	c	c	c

NUTHATCHES

___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	u		u	u
___ White-breasted Nuthatch	u	r	u	u
___ •Brown-headed Nuthatch	o	o	o	o

CREEPERS

___ Brown Creeper	u		u	u
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WRENS

___ •Carolina Wren	c	c	c	c
___ •House Wren	c	c	u	r
___ Winter Wren	u		u	u
___ Sedge Wren	r	r	r	r
___ •Marsh Wren	c	c	c	r

KINGLETS

___ •Golden-crowned Kinglet	u		c	u
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	c		c	u

GNATCATCHER

___ •Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	c	u	u	r
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THRUSHES

___ •Eastern Bluebird	c	c	c	c
___ Veery	u		u	
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	o		o	
___ Swainson's Thrush	u		o	
___ Hermit Thrush	u		u	u

	Sp	S	F	W
___ •Wood Thrush	c	c	u	
___ •American Robin	a	c	a	c

MIMIC THRUSHES

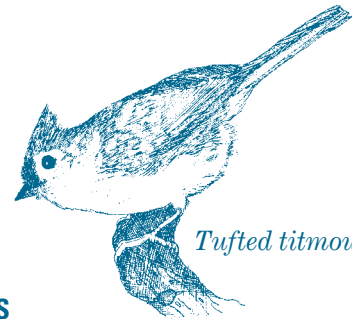
___ •Gray Catbird	c	c	c	o
___ •Northern Mockingbird	c	c	c	c
___ •Brown Thrasher	c	c	c	o

STARLINGS

___ •European Starling	c	c	a	c
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PIPETS

___ American Pipit	r		o	r
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Tufted titmouse

WAXWINGS

___ •Cedar Waxwing	c	u	c	u
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WOOD WARBLERS

___ Blue-winged Warbler	o		o	
___ Golden-winged Warbler			r	
___ Tennessee Warbler	o		o	
___ Orange-crowned Warbler			r	
___ Nashville Warbler	r		o	
___ Northern Parula	c	r	c	
___ •Yellow Warbler	c	c	u	
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler	u		u	
___ Magnolia Warbler	u		c	
___ Cape May Warbler	r		o	
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler	u		c	
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	c		c	u
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	u		u	
___ Blackburnian Warbler	u		u	
___ •Yellow-throated Warbler	u	o	o	
___ •Pine Warbler	c	c	c	r
___ Prairie Warbler	u		u	
___ Palm Warbler	u		u	r
___ Bay-breasted Warbler	o		o	
___ Blackpoll Warbler	u		u	
___ Cerulean Warbler	r			
___ Black-and-white Warbler	c		c	
___ American Redstart	c	r	c	

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Prothonotary Warbler	r	r	r	
___ Worm-eating Warbler	r		r	
___ Ovenbird	u	r	u	
___ Northern Waterthrush	u		u	
___ Louisiana Waterthrush	o	o		
___ Kentucky Warbler	o	r	o	
___ Connecticut Warbler			r	
___ Mourning Warbler	r		r	
___ • Common Yellowthroat	c	c	c	r
___ Hooded Warbler	r			
___ Wilson's Warbler	r		r	
___ Canada Warbler	o		o	
___ • Yellow-breasted Chat	u	u	u	r

TANAGERS

___ Summer Tanager	r	r	r	
___ • Scarlet Tanager	u	o	u	

SPARROWS

___ • Eastern Towhee	c	c	c	u
___ American Tree Sparrow	o		o	o
___ • Chipping Sparrow	c	c	c	o
___ • Field Sparrow	u	u	u	u
___ Vesper Sparrow	r	r	r	r
___ Savannah Sparrow	u		u	u
___ Grasshopper Sparrow	o	o	o	
___ Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	r	r	r	r
___ Seaside Sparrow	r	r	r	r
___ Fox Sparrow	o		u	u
___ • Song Sparrow	c	c	c	c
___ Lincoln's Sparrow			o	
___ • Swamp Sparrow	c	r	c	c
___ White-throated Sparrow	c		c	a
___ White-crowned Sparrow	u		u	u
___ Dark-eyed Junco	c		c	c
___ Snow Bunting			r	o

CARDINALS – GROSBEAKS

___ • Northern Cardinal	c	c	c	c
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	o		u	
___ • Blue Grosbeak	c	c	u	
___ • Indigo Bunting	c	c	c	

BLACKBIRDS – ORIOLES

___ Bobolink	u		u	
___ • Red-winged Blackbird	a	c	a	a
___ Eastern Meadowlark	o		o	o
___ Rusty Blackbird	o		u	r
___ • Common Grackle	c	c	c	c
___ • Brown-headed Cowbird	c	c	c	c

	Sp	S	F	W
___ • Orchard Oriole	c	c	o	
___ • Baltimore Oriole	u	o	u	r

FINCHES

___ Purple Finch	o		o	o
___ • House Finch	u	u	u	u
___ Red Crossbill				r
___ Pine Siskin	o		o	o
___ • American Goldfinch	c	c	c	c
___ Evening Grosbeak	r		r	r

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

___ • House Sparrow	o	o	o	o
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American goldfinch

VAGRANTS

Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Snowy Owl
Eurasian Wigeon	Loggerhead Shrike
Northern Gannet	Northern Shrike
Sandhill Crane	Lawrence's Warbler
Black Rail	Clay-colored Sparrow
Parasitic Jaeger	Henslow's Sparrow
Little Gull	Painted Bunting
Black Skimmer	Yellow-headed Blackbird

EXTIRPATED

Northern Bobwhite

Please report any sightings of birds not in agreement with this list to:

**Refuge Manager
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1730 Eastern Neck Road
Rock Hall, MD 21661
410/639 7056
Hearing impaired visitors may call the
Federal Relay Service at 1 800/877 8339.**