

Great Falls Park

George Washington Memorial Parkway



NPS Staff

Eastern Bluebird

Typical Habitat & When Found:

Eastern Bluebirds are year round residents of Great Falls Park, where they nest in tree cavities. Their populations dramatically declined in the mid-1900s across the U.S. due to loss of habitat, especially because they require tree cavities for nesting. Bluebird lovers spearheaded a successful effort to provide the birds with nesting boxes, which was instrumental in the bluebird's recovery. Look for Bluebirds in the trees surrounding the parking lots, the picnic area, and the overlooks.

Bird song: *The most common call is a soft, low-pitched tu-a-wee with a querulous tone. The call lasts a little less than a second, with males' calls typically slightly longer than females'.*

(www.allaboutbirds.org)

Importance to the park: *They eat insects, berries, and fruits. The sight of a Bluebird can induce the sensation of happiness for our park visitors.*

www.nps.gov/grfa

www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/year-of-the-bird/