

## Checklist of Lancaster County Birds

Proven breeders are shown in **Bold**, probable breeders are shown in *italics*; breeding counties not specified. For seasonality see Niobrara Valley checklist. Compiled by Paul Johnsgard.

### Location Abbreviations:

**P: Reported from Pioneers Park**

**S: Reported from Spring Creek Audubon Nature Center**

**W: Reported from Wilderness Park**

**X: Reported from anywhere in the county**

### Anatidae: Swans, Geese, and Ducks

Greater White-fronted Goose, *Anser albifrons* P, W,

Snow Goose, *Chen caerulescens* P, W, S,

Ross's Goose, *Chen rossii* X

Cackling Goose, *Branta hutchinsii* X,

**Canada Goose, *Branta canadensis* P, W, S,**

**Wood Duck, *Aix sponsa* P, W, S,**

*Gadwall, Anas strepera* P, W, S,

Eurasian Wigeon, *Anas penelope* V

American Wigeon, *Anas americana* P, S,

American Black Duck, *Anas rubripes* P,

**Mallard, *Anas platyrhynchos* P, W, S,**

**Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors* P, W, S,**

Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera* X

**Northern Shoveler, *Anas clypeata* P, W, S,**

**Northern Pintail, *Anas acuta* P, S,**

*Green-winged Teal Anas crecca* P,S,

Canvasback, *Aythya valisineria* P, S,

Redhead, *Aythya americana* P, S,

Ring-necked Duck, *Aythya collaris* P, S,

Greater Scaup, *Aythya marila* X

Lesser Scaup, *Aythya affinis* P, S,

Harlequin Duck, *Histrionicus histrionicus* V

Surf Scoter, *Melanitta perspicillata* X

White-winged Scoter, *Melanitta fusca* X

Long-tailed Duck, *Clangula hyemalis* X

Bufflehead, *Bucephala albeola* P, S,

Common Goldeneye, *Bucephala clangula* P, S,

Barrow's Goldeneye, *Bucephala islandica* V

**Hooded Merganser, *Lophodytes cucullatus* P, S,**

Common Merganser, *Mergus merganser* P, S,

**Ruddy Duck, *Oxyura jamaicensis* P,**

**Phasianidae: Partridges, Grouse, etc**

**Ring-necked Pheasant, *Phasianus colchicus* P, W, S.**

**Greater Prairie-Chicken, *Tympanuchus cupido* S,**

**Wild Turkey, *Meleagris gallopavo* P, S,**

**Odontophoridae: New World Quail**

**Northern Bobwhite, *Colinus virginianus* P, W, S,**

**Gaviidae: Loons**

Common Loon, *Gavia immer* X

Yellow-billed Loon, *Gavia adamsii* V

**Podicipedidae: Grebes**

**Pied-billed Grebe, *Podilymbus podiceps* P, S,**

Horned Grebe, *Podiceps auritus* P,

Eared Grebe, *Podiceps nigricollis* P,

Western Grebe, *Aechmophorus occidentalis* X

**Pelecanidae: Pelicans**

American White Pelican, *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos* P, S,

**Phalacrocoracidae: Cormorants**

*Double-crested Cormorant, Phalacrocorax auritus* P, W, S

Neotropic Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* V

**Ardeidae: Bitterns and Herons**

American Bittern, *Botaurus lentiginosus* P, S.

**Least Bittern, *Ixobrychus exilis* P,**

**Great Blue Heron, *Ardea herodias* P, W, S,**

Great Egret, *Ardea alba* P, S,

Snowy Egret, *Egretta thula* P S,,

Little Blue Heron, *Egretta caerulea* P, W,

Tricolored Heron, *Egretta tricolor* X

Cattle Egret, *Bubulcus ibis* P, S,

**Green Heron, *Butorides virescens* P, W, S,**

**Black-crowned Night-Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax* P, W, S,**

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, *Nyctanassa violacea* P, W, (historic breeder)**

**Threskiornithidae: Ibises, Spoonbills**

White-faced Ibis, *Plegadis chihi* P, S,

**Cathartidae: American Vultures**

**Turkey Vulture, *Cathartes aura* P, W, S,**

**Accipitridae: Kites, Hawks, Eagles**

Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus* P, S,  
Mississippi Kite, *Ictinia mississippiensis* W,  
*Bald Eagle, Haliaeetus leucocephalus* P, S,  
**Northern Harrier, Circus cyaneus** P, W, S,  
Sharp-shinned Hawk, *Accipiter striatus* P, W, S,  
**Cooper's Hawk, Accipiter cooperii** P, W, S,  
Northern Goshawk, *Accipiter gentilis* W,  
Red-shouldered Hawk, *Buteo lineatus* W,  
Broad-winged Hawk, *Buteo platypterus* P, W, S,  
**Swainson's Hawk, Buteo swainsoni** P, W, S,  
**Red-tailed Hawk, Buteo jamaicensis** P, W, S,  
Ferruginous Hawk, *Buteo regalis* S,  
Rough-legged Hawk, *Buteo lagopus* P,

**Falconidae: Falcons**

**American Kestrel, Falco sparverius** P, W, S,  
Merlin, *Falco columbarius* P, W,  
Prairie Falcon, *Falco mexicanus* X  
**Peregrine Falcon, Falco peregrinus** W, S,  
Gyr Falcon, *Falco rusticolus* V

**Rallidae: Rails, Gallinules, Coots**

*King Rail, Rallus elegans* X  
**Virginia Rail, Rallus limicola** P,  
**Sora, Porzana carolina** P, S,  
**Common Moorhen, Gallinula chloropus** X  
**American Coot, Fulica americana** P, W, S,

**Gruidae: Cranes**

Sandhill Crane, *Grus canadensis* P, W, S,  
Whooping Crane, *Grus americana* (historic records)

**Charadriidae:**

Black-bellied Plover, *Pluvialis squatarola* P  
American Golden-Plover, *Pluvialis dominica* P,  
Semipalmated Plover, *Charadrius semipalmatus* P,  
**Piping Plover, Charadrius melodus** P,  
**Killdeer, Charadrius vociferus** P, W, S,

**Scolopacidae: Sandpipers, Phalaropes**

Greater Yellowlegs, *Tringa melanoleuca* P, W, S,  
Lesser Yellowlegs, *Tringa flavipes* P, S.

Solitary Sandpiper, *Tringa solitaria* P, W, S,  
 Willet, *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus* P, S,  
**Spotted Sandpiper, *Actitis macularia* P, W, S,**  
**Upland Sandpiper, *Bartramia longicauda* P, S,**  
 Hudsonian Godwit, *Limosa haemastica* P,  
 Marbled Godwit, *Limosa fedoa* P,  
 Sanderling, *Calidris alba* P,  
 Semipalmated Sandpiper, *Calidris pusilla* P, S,  
 Western Sandpiper, *Calidris mauri* P,  
 Least Sandpiper, *Calidris minutilla* P, S,  
 White-rumped Sandpiper, *Calidris fuscicollis* P, S,  
 Baird's Sandpiper, *Calidris bairdii* P, S,  
 Pectoral Sandpiper, *Calidris melanotos* P S,,  
 Dunlin, *Calidris alpina* P, S,  
 Stilt Sandpiper, *Calidris himantopus* P, S,  
 Buff-breasted Sandpiper, *Tryngites subruficollis*, S,  
 Short-billed Dowitcher, *Limnodromus griseus* P, S,  
 Long-billed Dowitcher, *Limnodromus scolopaceus* P,  
**Wilson's Snipe, *Gallinago delicata* P, W, S,**  
**American Woodcock, *Scolopax minor* P, W, S,**  
**Wilson's Phalarope, *Phalaropus tricolor* P, S,**

#### **Laridae: Gulls and Terns**

Pomarine Jaeger, *Stercorarius pomarinus* X, V  
 Parasitic Jaeger, *Stercorarius parasiticus* X, V  
 Long-tailed Jaeger, *Stercorarius longicaudus* X, V  
 Franklin's Gull, *Larus pipixcan* P, W, S,  
 Little Gull, *Larus minutus* V  
 Bonaparte's Gull, *Larus philadelphia* P, W,  
 Mew Gull, *Larus canus* V  
 Ring-billed Gull, *Larus delawarensis* P, W, S,  
 Herring Gull, *Larus argentatus* P,  
 Thayer's Gull, *Larus thayeri* V  
 Iceland Gull, *Larus glaucoides* V  
 Lesser Black-backed Gull, *Larus fuscus* V  
 Glaucous Gull, *Larus hyperboreus* V  
 Great Black-backed Gull, *Larus marinus* V  
 Sabine's Gull, *Xema sabini* V  
 Black-legged Kittiwake, *Rissa tridactyla* X, V  
 Caspian Tern, *Sterna caspia* P,  
 Common Tern, *Sterna hirundo* P,  
 Forster's Tern, *Sterna forsteri* S,  
**Least Tern, *Sterna antillarum* X**  
 Black Tern, *Chlidonias niger* P, W,

**Columbidae: Pigeons and Doves**

**Rock Pigeon, *Columba livia* P, W, S,**

Band-tailed Pigeon, *Columba fasciata* V

*Eurasian Collared-Dove, *Streptopelia decaocto* X*

White-winged Dove, *Zenaida asiatica* X

**Mourning Dove, *Zenaida macroura* P, W, S,**

**Cuculidae: Cuckoos and Anis**

**Black-billed Cuckoo, *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus* P, W, S,**

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo, *Coccyzus americanus* P, W, S,**

**Tytonidae: Barn Owls**

**Barn Owl, *Tyto alba* X**

**Strigidae: Typical Owls**

**Eastern Screech-Owl, *Otus asio* P, W, S,**

**Great Horned Owl, *Bubo virginianus* P, W, S,**

Snowy Owl, *Nyctea scandiaca* X

Northern Hawk Owl, *Surnia ulula* X (historic)

**Burrowing Owl, *Athene cunicularia* X,**

**Barred Owl, *Strix varia* P, W, S,**

**Long-eared Owl, *Asio otus* P, W,**

Short-eared Owl, *Asio flammeus* P, S,

Northern Saw-whet Owl, *Aegolius acadicus*

**Caprimulgidae: Goatsuckers**

**Common Nighthawk, *Chordeiles minor* P, W, S,**

Common Poorwill, *Phalaenoptilus nuttallii* X

Whip-poor-will, *Caprimulgus vociferus* W,

**Apodidae: Swifts**

**Chimney Swift, *Chaetura pelagica* P, W, S,**

**Trochilidae: Hummingbirds**

Ruby-throated Hummingbird, *Archilochus colubris* P, W, S,

**Alcedinidae: Kingfishers**

*Belted Kingfisher, *Ceryle alcyon* P, S,*

**Picidae: Woodpeckers**

**Red-headed Woodpecker, *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* P, W, S,**

**Red-bellied Woodpecker, *Melanerpes carolinus* P, W, S,**

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, *Sphyrapicus varius* P, W, S,

Williamson's Sapsucker, *Sphyrapicus thyroideus*  
**Downy Woodpecker, *Picoides pubescens* P, W, S,**  
**Hairy Woodpecker, *Picoides villosus* P, W, S,**  
**Northern Flicker, *Colaptes auratus* P, W, S,**

**Tyrannidae: Tyrant Flycatchers**

Olive-sided Flycatcher, *Contopus cooperi* P, W, S,  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee, *Contopus virens* P, W, S,**  
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, *Empidonax flaviventris* P, W, S,  
Acadian Flycatcher, *Empidonax virescens* P, W,  
Alder Flycatcher, *Empidonax alnorum* P, W,  
**Willow Flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii* P, W, S,**  
Least Flycatcher, *Empidonax minimus* P, W, S,  
**Eastern Phoebe, *Sayornis phoebe* P, W, S,**  
**Great Crested Flycatcher, *Myiarchus crinitus* P, W, S,**  
**Western Kingbird, *Tyrannus verticalis* P, W, S,**  
**Eastern Kingbird, *Tyrannus tyrannus* P, W, S,**  
**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, *Tyrannus forficatus*, X,**

**Laniidae: Shrikes**

Northern Shrike, *Lanius excubitor* P,  
**Loggerhead Shrike, *Lanius ludovicianus* P, W, S,**

**Vireonidae: Vireos**

White-eyed Vireo, *Vireo griseus* P, W,  
**Bell's Vireo, *Vireo bellii* P, W, S,**  
Blue-headed Vireo, *Vireo solitarius* P, W, S,  
**Yellow-throated Vireo, *Vireo flavifrons* P, W,**  
**Warbling Vireo, *Vireo gilvus* P, W, S,**  
Philadelphia Vireo, *Vireo philadelphicus* P, W,  
*Red-eyed Vireo, *Vireo olivaceus* P, W, S,*

**Corvidae: Jays, Magpies, and Crows**

**Blue Jay, *Cyanocitta cristata* P, W, S,**  
*Black-billed Magpie, *Pica pica* W, S,*  
**American Crow, *Corvus brachyrhynchos* P, W, S,**  
Chihuahuan Raven, *Corvus cryptoleucus* V  
Common Raven, *Corvus corax* V

**Alaudidae: Larks**

**Horned Lark, *Eremophila alpestris* P, S,**

**Hirundinidae: Swallows**

**Purple Martin, *Progne subis* P, W, S,**

**Tree Swallow, *Tachycineta bicolor* P, W, S,**  
**N. Rough-winged Swallow, *Stelgidopteryx serripennis* P, W, S,**  
**Bank Swallow, *Riparia riparia* P, W, S,**  
**Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica* P, W, S,**  
**Cliff Swallow, *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* P, W, S,**

**Paridae: Titmice**

**Black-capped Chickadee, *Poecile atricapillus* P, W, S,**  
*Tufted Titmouse, *Baeolophus bicolor* P, W,*

**Sittidae: Nuthatches**

Red-breasted Nuthatch, *Sitta canadensis* P, W, S,  
**White-breasted Nuthatch, *Sitta carolinensis* P, W, S,**

**Certhiidae: Creepers**

Brown Creeper, *Certhia americana* P, W, S,

**Troglodytidae: Wrens**

**Carolina Wren, *Thryothorus ludovicianus* P, W, C,**  
Bewick's Wren, *Thryomanes bewickii*  
**House Wren, *Troglodytes aedon* P, W, S,**  
Winter Wren, *Troglodytes troglodytes* P, W,  
*Sedge Wren, *Cistothorus platensis* P, W, S,*  
**Marsh Wren, *Cistothorus palustris* P, W, S,**

**Regulidae: Kinglets**

Golden-crowned Kinglet, *Regulus satrapa* P, W, S,  
Ruby-crowned Kinglet, *Regulus calendula* P., W, S,

**Sylviidae: Gnatcatchers**

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, *Polioptila caerulea* W, S,**

**Turdidae: Thrushes and Allies**

**Eastern Bluebird, *Sialia sialis* P, W, S,**  
Townsend's Solitaire, *Myadestes townsendi* P,  
Veery, *Catharus fuscescens* P, W,  
Gray-cheeked Thrush, *Catharus minimus* P, W,  
Swainson's Thrush, *Catharus ustulatus* P, W, S,  
Hermit Thrush, *Catharus guttatus* P, W,  
**Wood Thrush, *Hylocichla mustelina* P, W,**  
**American Robin, *Turdus migratorius* P, W, S,**  
Varied Thrush, *Ixoreus naevius* V

**Mimidae: Mockingbirds, Thrashers**

**Gray Catbird, *Dumetella carolinensis* P, W, S,**  
**Northern Mockingbird, *Mimus polyglottos* P, W, S,**  
**Brown Thrasher, *Toxostoma rufum* P, W, S,**

**Sturnidae: Starlings**

**European Starling, *Sturnus vulgaris* P, W, S,**

**Motacillidae: Pipits**

American Pipit, *Anthus rubescens* P, S,  
Sprague's Pipit, *Anthus spragueii* S

**Bombycillidae: Waxwings**

**Cedar Waxwing, *Bombycilla cedrorum* P, W, S,**

**Parulidae: Wood Warblers**

Blue-winged Warbler, *Vermivora pinus* W,  
Golden-winged Warbler, *Vermivora chrysoptera* W,  
Tennessee Warbler, *Vermivora peregrina* P, W, S.  
Orange-crowned Warbler, *Vermivora celata* P, W, S,  
Nashville Warbler, *Vermivora ruficapilla* P, W, S,  
Northern Parula, *Parula americana* W,  
**Yellow Warbler, *Dendroica petechia* P, W, S,**  
Chestnut-sided Warbler, *Dendroica pensylvanica* P,  
Magnolia Warbler, *Dendroica magnolia* P, W, S,  
Black-throated Blue Warbler, *Dendroica caerulescens* P, W,  
Yellow-rumped Warbler, *Dendroica coronata* P, W, S,  
Townsend's Warbler, *Dendroica townsendi* V  
Black-throated Green-Warbler, *Dendroica virens* P, W,  
Blackburnian Warbler, *Dendroica fusca* P,  
Yellow-throated Warbler, *Dendroica dominica* W,  
Pine Warbler, *Dendroica pinus* P, W,  
Prairie Warbler, *Dendroica discolor* P,  
Palm Warbler, *Dendroica palmarum* P, W, S,  
Bay-breasted Warbler, *Dendroica castanea* P, W,  
Blackpoll Warbler, *Dendroica striata* P, W, S,  
Cerulean Warbler, *Dendroica cerulea* W,  
Black-and-white Warbler, *Mniotilta varia* P, W, S,  
**American Redstart, *Setophaga ruticilla* P, W, S,**  
Prothonotary Warbler, *Protonotaria citrea* P, W,  
Worm-eating Warbler, *Helmitheros vermivorus* W,  
Swainson's Warbler, *Limnothlypis swainsonii* W,  
*Ovenbird, *Seiurus aurocapillus* P, W, S,*  
Northern Waterthrush, *Seiurus noveboracensis* P, W, S,



Louisiana Waterthrush, *Seiurus motacilla* P, W, S,  
*Kentucky Warbler, Oporornis formosus* P, W,  
Connecticut Warbler, *Oporornis agilis* P, W,  
Mourning Warbler, *Oporornis philadelphia* P, W,  
**Common Yellowthroat, *Geothlypis trichas* P, W, S,**  
Hooded Warbler, *Wilsonia citrina* W  
Wilson's Warbler, *Wilsonia pusilla* P, W, S,  
Canada Warbler, *Wilsonia canadensis* P, W,  
Yellow-breasted Chat, *Icteria virens* P,

#### **Thraupidae: Tanagers**

Summer Tanager, *Piranga rubra* P, W, S,  
*Scarlet Tanager, Piranga olivacea* P, W,

#### **Emberizidae: Towhees & Sparrows**

**Eastern Towhee, *Pipilo erythrophthalmus* P, W, S,**  
Spotted Towhee, *Pipilo maculatus* P, W, D,  
American Tree Sparrow, *Spizella arborea* P, W, S,  
**Chipping Sparrow, *Spizella passerina* P, W, S,**  
Clay-colored Sparrow, *Spizella pallida* P, W, S,  
**Field Sparrow, *Spizella pusilla* P, W, S,**  
**Vesper Sparrow, *Poocetes gramineus* P, W, S,**  
**Lark Sparrow, *Chondestes grammacus* P, S,**  
**Lark Bunting, *Calamospiza melanocorys* X (historic breeder)**  
Savannah Sparrow, *Passerculus sandwichensis* P, W, S,  
**Grasshopper Sparrow, *Ammodramus savannarum* P, W, S**  
Henslow's Sparrow, *Ammodramus henslowii* P, S,  
Le Conte's Sparrow, *Ammodramus leconteii* P, W, S,  
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, *Ammodramus nelsoni* P, S,  
Fox Sparrow, *Passerella iliaca* P, W, S,  
**Song Sparrow, *Melospiza melodia* P, W, S,**  
Lincoln's Sparrow, *Melospiza lincolnii* P, W, S,  
**Swamp Sparrow, *Melospiza georgiana* P, W, S,**  
White-throated Sparrow, *Zonotrichia albicollis* P, W, S,  
Harris's Sparrow, *Zonotrichia querula* P, W, S,  
White-crowned Sparrow, *Zonotrichia leucophrys* P, W, S,  
Dark-eyed Junco, *Junco hyemalis* P, W, S,  
Lapland Longspur, *Calcarius lapponicus* P, W,  
Smith's Longspur, *Calcarius pictus* S,  
Snow Bunting, *Plectrophenax nivalis* W,

#### **Cardinalidae: Cardinals & Grosbeaks**

**Northern Cardinal *Cardinalis cardinalis* P, W, S,**  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak, *Pheucticus ludovicianus* P, W, S,**

**Black-headed Grosbeak, *Pheucticus melanocephalus* P, W, S, (historic breeder)**

**Blue Grosbeak, *Passerina caerulea* P, W,**

Lazuli Bunting, *Passerina amoena* W,

**Indigo Bunting, *Passerina cyanea* P, W, S,**

Painted Bunting, *Passerina ciris* V

**Dickcissel, *Spiza americana* P, W, S,**

**Icteridae: Blackbirds, Orioles, etc**

**Bobolink, *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* P, S,**

**Red-winged Blackbird, *Agelaius phoeniceus* P, W, S,**

**Eastern Meadowlark, *Sturnella magna* P, W, S,**

**Western Meadowlark, *Sturnella neglecta* P, W, S,**

**Yellow-headed Blackbird, *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* P, S,**

Rusty Blackbird, *Euphagus carolinus* P, W,

**Brewer's Blackbird, *Euphagus cyanocephalus* P, W, S, (historic breeder)**

**Common Grackle, *Quiscalus quiscula* P, W, S,**

**Great-tailed Grackle, *Quiscalus mexicanus* P, W,**

**Brown-headed Cowbird, *Molothrus ater* P, W, S,**

**Orchard Oriole, *Icterus spurius* P, W, S,**

**Baltimore Oriole, *Icterus galbula* P, W, S,**

**Fringillidae: Finches**

Purple Finch, *Carpodacus purpureus* P, W, S.

**House Finch, *Carpodacus mexicanus* P, W, S,**

Red Crossbill, *Loxia curvirostra* P,

Common Redpoll, *Carduelis flammea* P, W,

**Pine Siskin, *Carduelis pinus* P, W, S,**

**American Goldfinch, *Carduelis tristis* P, W, S,**

Evening Grosbeak, *Coccothraustes vespertinus* P,

**Passeridae: Old World Sparrows**

**House Sparrow, *Passer domesticus* P, W, S,**