

Ferry Farm is situated across the Rappahannock River from the City of Fredericksburg, offering a rural oasis in an otherwise urban setting. In the 1990s, this historic property was rescued from commercial development. Today, the George Washington Foundation owns Ferry Farm and preserves 80 acres of the original 600-acre Washington plantation. The modern landscape is significantly different from what George Washington would have known in his youth, or the pristine environs inhabited by Native Americans. Vestiges of these bygone environments, however, can still be seen by the careful observer. The most tangible link is the great diversity of wild birds.

This checklist contains 135 species of birds that have been identified at Ferry Farm. The abundance of bird life is due to the wide range of favorable habitat available on the property. This includes a native grasses and wildflower meadow, hardwood bottomlands, fallow areas, open lawn, and the adjacent waters of the Rappahannock River.

Birds can be found at Ferry Farm any time of the year. Species diversity peaks during periods of migration. In the spring, especially April and May, waves of neo-tropical migrants pass through on their way to breeding grounds in the north. In the fall, September to November, adult and juvenile birds journey south to their wintering grounds.

The records presented in this checklist are based on observations made from 2002-2009 by Paul Nasca. Any additions, comments, or corrections to this list should be sent to him at nasca@gwffoundation.org or by writing to the address on the cover.

Please stay on designated pathways and exercise the *Principles of Birding Ethics* while enjoying your visit at Ferry Farm.

Publication of this checklist has been made possible by a generous gift of the Confederate Ridge Garden Club.

Seasonal Occurrence:

Sp Spring March - May
Su 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

* Known or suspected of breeding on the property

† Not considered an actual species

	Sp	Su	F	W
Ducks – Geese				
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose	C	U	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard Duck	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Duck				R
<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Merganser				O
Turkey - Quail				
<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Turkey*	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Bobwhite*	R	R	R	R
Cormorants – Herons				
<input type="checkbox"/> Double-crested Cormorant	U			U
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Heron	U	U	O	
Vultures – Hawks – Falcons				
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Vulture	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Osprey	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Harrier			R	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooper's Hawk	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-shouldered Hawk*	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American Kestrel	R		R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Merlin			R	
Plovers – Sandpipers				
<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Spotted Sandpiper	O			

	Sp	Su	F	W
Gulls				
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull	A		C	A
Pigeons – Doves – Cuckoos				
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Pigeon	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove*	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-billed Cuckoo*		U	O	
Owls – Nightjars				
<input type="checkbox"/> Barred Owl		O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Nighthawk	O			
Swifts – Hummingbirds – Kingfishers				
<input type="checkbox"/> Chimney Swift	C	A	A	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	U	C	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher	U	U	U	O
Woodpeckers – Flycatchers				
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-bellied Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U		U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker*	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker*	U	U	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker*	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Wood-Pewee*	O	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Acadian Flycatcher*	O	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Flycatcher	R		R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Trail's Flycatcher [†] (Alder or Willow)			R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Phoebe*	U	U	U	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Crested Flycatcher*	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Kingbird*	C	U	U	
Vireos – Jays – Crows				
<input type="checkbox"/> White-eyed Vireo*	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-headed Vireo			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-eyed Vireo*	C	C	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Jay*	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> American Crow*	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish Crow	U	U	U	U
Swallows				
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Martin	U	U		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Swallow*	C	C		
<input type="checkbox"/> N. Rough-winged Swallow	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Cliff Swallow*	U	U		
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow*	A	A	O	
Chickadees – Nuthatches – Creepers				
<input type="checkbox"/> Carolina Chickadee*	A	A	A	A
<input type="checkbox"/> Tufted Titmouse*	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Nuthatch	R		R	R
<input type="checkbox"/> White-breasted Nuthatch*	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Creeper	U		U	U

	Sp	Su	F	W
Wrens – Kinglets - Gnatcatchers				
<input type="checkbox"/> Carolina Wren*	A	A	A	A
<input type="checkbox"/> House Wren*	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Winter Wren	O		O	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-crowned Kinglet	O		U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U		U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	C	C	U	
Thrushes – Mockingbirds – Thrashers				
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Bluebird*	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Veery	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermit Thrush	U		U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Thrush*	U	U		
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin*	A	A	A	A
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird*	U	C	C	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Mockingbird*	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Thrasher*	U	U	U	
Starlings – Waxwings				
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling*	A	A	A	A
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing*	A	C	A	A
Warblers				
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville Warbler			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Parula*	U	U	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	U	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-sided Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cape May Warbler			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Blue Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		A	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Green Warbler	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackburnian Warbler			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Warbler*	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Warbler	U	O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Warbler*	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackpoll Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Prothonotary Warbler*	O	O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Worm-eating Warbler			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush			R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut Warbler			R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat*	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Warbler	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Warbler	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Warbler	O			

	Sp	Su	F	W
Tanagers – Sparrows				
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Tanager	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Towhee*	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow*	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Sparrow*	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Sparrow	O		O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Grasshopper Sparrow	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Sparrow	R			R
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow*	A	C	U	A
<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln's Sparrow			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow	O		U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	A		C	A
<input type="checkbox"/> White-crowned Sparrow			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	A		C	A
Cardinals and Allies				
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal*	A	A	A	A
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Grosbeak*	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting*	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dickcissel			R	
Blackbirds – Finches				
<input type="checkbox"/> Bobolink	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird	U	O	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Meadowlark	R			
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle	C	C	C	A
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird*	C	C	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Orchard Oriole*	U	U	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore Oriole	U	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Finch			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> House Finch*	A	A	A	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Siskin			R	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch*	C	A	A	C
Old World Sparrows				
<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow*	C	C	C	C

Date _____

Weather _____

Observers _____

Notes _____



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOUNDATION

A Checklist of the Birds at Ferry Farm



George Washington's Boyhood Home at Ferry Farm
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www.ferryfarm.org