

- The nest of Barn Owls in Union County increased the total for this species nicely.

- The Painted Bunting in Cass County was another good find.

- Not until 2008 did the Red-throated Loon make its appearance on a count day; now it's been recorded two years in a row

- The Double-crested Cormorant was, from 1996 thru 2005, one of the most-commonly reported species, even in the top 20 list six times. However there were fewer than 50% as many this year as there was during the earlier 2000's—its peak years.

- There were three reports of three dark ibises – one each of the two species and the third that was not specifically identified.

- What has happened to the Swainson's Hawk? It used to be a regular species in Kane County and sometimes McHenry but it's been missed for the fourth consecutive year.

- The Least Tern made it back on the count in Randolph County after an absence of many years; this is only the 9th year it's been reported.

- After several years of continuous gains, the Eurasian Collared-Dove took a step backward in total

number of birds and the number of counties reporting them.

- Why is it that the number of Rock Pigeons reported is always so low? Does it matter?

- The number of nightjars continues to decline despite the large number of nocturnal hours observers spend listening for them.

- Loggerhead Shrikes continue to be very scarce.

- Blue Grosbeaks continue a major northward expansion and are becoming more regular in northern counties.

- Orchard Orioles, likewise, are expanding in good numbers north-

TABLE 7: Species Accounts for the 2009 Spring Bird Count

Key to Table:

* New Spring Bird Count High Total

Ties Previous Spring Bird Count High Total

New species to Count in **BOLD FACE CAPS**

Species Reported from a Single County in **Bold Face**

Species	Total Co.s	No. of Birds	High County	(Total)	Species	Total Co.s	No. of Birds	High County	(Total)
Grtr White-fronted Goose	4	8	Knox	(4)	Common Loon	13	25	Richland	(6)
Snow Goose	9	76	Bond	(29)	Pied-billed Grebe	49	246	Monroe	(26)
Canada Goose	96	19416	Cook	(2026)	Horned Grebe	4	6	2 counties	(2)
Mute Swan	18	184	Tazewell	(36)	American White Pelican	24	1163	Rock Island	(197)
Trumpeter Swan	2	3	Carroll	(2)	Double-crest Cormorant	69*	3925	Will	(836)
Wood Duck	85	2044	Cook	(256)	American Bittern	19	35	DuPage	(6)
Gadwall	21	112	Lake	(22)	Least Bittern	3	7	Monroe	*(5)
American Wigeon	1	2	Cook	(2)	Great Blue Heron	97	3811	DuPage	(295)
American Black Duck	1	1	Pike	(1)	Great Egret	61	1872	Will	(285)
Mallard	88	5740	Cook	(868)	Snowy Egret	9	73	Pulaski	(21)
Blue-winged Teal	64	1220	Kane	(90)	Little Blue Heron	14	119	St. Clair	(59)
Northern Shoveler	44	230	Kane	(31)	Cattle Egret	26	337	St. Clair	(107)
Northern Pintail	3	15	Lake	(10)	Green Heron	85	487	Cook	(94)
Green-winged Teal	18	35	2 counties	(4)	Black-crown Night-Heron	22	515	Cook	(449)
Canvasback	2	6	Jo Daviess	(5)	Yellow-crown Night-Heron	6	17	Madison	(10)
Redhead	4	12	McHenry	(7)	Glossy Ibis	1#	1	Calhoun	(1)
Ring-necked Duck	14	37	Rock Island	(7)	White-faced Ibis	1#	1	LaSalle	(1)
Greater Scaup	3	5	Cook	(3)	(Plegadis, species)	1#	1#	Clinton	*(1)
Lesser Scaup	13	49	Cook	(12)	Black Vulture	9#	75	Johnson	(25)
Bufflehead	4	14	Hancock	(7)	Turkey Vulture	97	5210*	Pike	(206)
Hooded Merganser	30	145	Monroe	(34)	Osprey	27	48	DuPage	(7)
Common Merganser	5	5	5 counties	(1)	Mississippi Kite	10	53	Alexander	*(27)
Red-breasted Merganser	10	122	Lake	(72)	Bald Eagle	49*	220*	Jo Daviess	*(38)
Ruddy Duck	19	52	Cook	(13)	Northern Harrier	37	62	Will	(6)
Gray Partridge	1	1	Carroll	(1)	Sharp-shinned Hawk	35	80	2 counties	(9)
Ring-necked Pheasant	53	489	Champaign	(37)	Cooper's Hawk	62	307*	DuPage	*(60)
Greater Prairie-Chicken	2	51	Marion	(26)	Red-shouldered Hawk	29	73	Union	(8)
Wild Turkey	82	1082	Boone	(90)	Broad-winged Hawk	34	66	DuPage	(7)
Northern Bobwhite	68	777	Richland	(58)	Red-tailed Hawk	97	1615	DuPage	(131)
Red-throated Loon	1#	1#	Macon	*(1)	American Kestrel	81	394	Cook	(16)