

Species

Seasonal Abundance

S Sp Su F W

Geese and Ducks					
Snow Goose	c	r	-	c	c
Brant	c	r	r	c	c
Canada Goose*	c	c	c	c	c
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	r	r
Wood Duck*	r	r	r	o	r
Green-Winged Teal	u	u	-	u	u
American Black Duck*	c	c	c	c	c
Mallard*	c	c	c	c	c
Northern Pintail	u	o	-	u	u
Blue-Winged Teal	u	o	-	u	-
Northern Shoveler	o	o	-	u	u
Gadwall	o	o	-	o	o
American Wigeon	o	o	-	o	o
Canvasback	r	-	-	r	r
Redhead	r	-	-	r	r
Ring-Necked Duck	r	-	-	o	o
Greater Scaup	u	-	-	u	u
Lesser Scaup	u	-	-	u	u
Common Eider	r	-	-	o	o
King Eider	r	-	-	r	r
Harlequin Duck	r	-	-	r	r
Long-tailed Duck	c	-	-	c	c
Black Scoter	c	r	-	c	c
Surf Scoter	c	r	-	c	c
White-Winged Scoter	u	-	-	u	u
Common Goldeneye	c	-	-	c	c
Bufflehead	c	-	-	c	c
Hooded Merganser	o	-	-	o	o
Common Merganser	r	-	-	r	r
Red-Breasted Merganser	c	o	o	c	c
Ruddy Duck	u	-	-	u	u
Gamebirds					
Northern Bobwhite*	o	o	o	o	o
Wild Turkey*	o	u	u	o	o
Loons, Grebes and Seabirds					
Red-Throated Loon	c	o	r	c	c
Common Loon	c	o	r	c	c
Pied-billed Grebe	u	u	r	u	u
Horned Grebe	u	r	-	u	u
Red-necked Grebe	r	-	-	r	r
Eared Grebe	r	-	-	r	r
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	-	-	o	-	-
Gannet, Cormorants, Herons and Egrets					
Northern Gannet	c	o	r	c	u
Double-Crested Cormorant	c	c	c	c	c
Great Cormorant	u	-	-	u	u
Brown Pelican	r	u	u	u	u

Delaware Seashore State Park offers bird enthusiasts unlimited opportunities to study and enjoy the natural world of the Delaware Coast. The park's geographic location puts it in the direct flight path of many birds. The park's variety of marine, estuarine and upland habitats provides critical feeding, resting and nesting areas for migrating and breeding birds.

Delaware Seashore offers excellent birding year-round. In spring and fall, shorebirds, songbirds and raptors move through the park in impressive numbers. In late October and early November thousands of seaducks, cormorants, gannets and loons stream south just offshore as they migrate. Winter offers the chance to see northern visitors like harlequin duck, little gull, orange-crowned warbler and snowy owl. During the summer months the largest concentration of Ospreys in the state is busy raising young on man-made platforms around Rehoboth and Indian River Bays.

Delaware Seashore State Park offers a number of good birding sites. The Indian River Inlet is by far the best place to look for rare gulls, terns and waterbirds. The marshes on the east side of Rehoboth Bay, Thompson and Burtons Island Nature Preserves, and the Fresh Pond area of the park are all great places to look for birds. Two bathhouses and a number of beach-side parking lots allow easy access for those interested in scanning the ocean for seabirds year-round.

Relative Abundance

- c - Common Fairly abundant and likely to be seen in proper habitat on each visit
- u - Uncommon Present in small numbers and not always seen on every visit
- o - Occasional Occurs sporadically in proper season and habitat
- r - Rare Seldom seen

*Indicates a species which has nested within the park

Species in **bold print** are neotropical migrants - they spend the winter in tropical regions of South and Central America

Species in *italicized print* are species that have been introduced into North America by humans.

Seasons

- EARLY SPRING = S March 15 *thru* April
- LATE SPRING = SP May 1 *thru* JUNE 15
- SUMMER = SU June 15 *thru* AUGUST
- FALL = F SEPTEMBER *thru* NOVEMBER
- WINTER = W December *thru* MARCH 15



This checklist includes many species that occur in the park fairly regularly. The list is based on the Seventh Edition of the American Ornithological Union's Checklist of North American Birds. Your sightings are crucial to helping us better understand the abundance and occurrence of birds at Delaware Seashore State Park. If you are not already a regular eBird user, please consider entering your sightings into the eBird database at www.ebird.org.

39415 Inlet Road
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
(302) 227-2800

DELAWARE SEASHORE STATE PARK

The Division of Parks and Recreation
89 Kings Hwy.
Dover, DE, 19901
(302)739-9220



BIRDS
of
Delaware Seashore State Park

