

Birding Resources

Prepared by Louise Ridlon, Lost Pines Master Naturalists, January 2020

FIELD GUIDES:

- Kauffman, Kenn: Birds of North America
- National Geographic: Field Guide to the Birds of North America
- Peterson, Roger Tory: Field Guide to the Birds of Eastern and Central North America
Field Guide to Western Birds
Field Guide to Birds of North America
Field Guide to Birds of Texas
- Sibley, David Allen: The Sibley Guide to Birds
The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of North America

BIRDING RESOURCE BOOKS:

- Ehrlich, Paul R.; Dobkin, David S.; and Wheye, Darryl: **The Birder's Handbook – A Field Guide to the Natural History of North American Birds**
- Karlson, Kevin T. and Rosselet, Dale: **Birding by Impression (Peterson Guide)**
- O'Brien, Michael; Crossley, Richard; and Karlson, Kevin: **The Shorebird Guide**
- The Texas Ornithological Society **Handbook of Texas Birds**
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department: **Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail** and **Wildlife Trail** maps

WEBSITES:

- **www.birds.cornell.edu** Cornell Lab of Ornithology website: Includes online field guide All About Birds (**www.allaboutbirds.org**) and lots of other resources, including webcams and Citizen Science projects. Link to Merlin Bird ID app.
- **eBird.org** Data base where you can record your sightings; these are available to the public and often used for reference and research. Great for looking up what's been seen in a specific area, "Birding Hot Spots" are identified.
- **Audubon.org/birding** How-to's, what bird guide is best, dictionary, etc. Link to Audubon Bird Guide app.
- **www.aba.org** American Birding Association website has access to lists, articles, resources.

WEBSITES CONTINUED...

- iNaturalist.org Data base to report bird and nature sightings and more. You can see what's been reported or can be expected in your local area. Requires a photo of your sighting, but includes an identifier and identification input by other users.
- www.bastropcountyaudubon.org Includes articles, pictures, local birding spots, links, and a bird checklist for Bastrop and Buescher State Parks and Lake Bastrop.
- Travisaudubon.org Local birding sites in Austin and surrounding area. Look under Birding with Us and Central Texas Birding on dropdown menus. Also includes information about field trips and classes.

APPS:

- iBird and iBird Pro - Complete field guide with photos, maps, natural history, and sounds
- Merlin – bird identifier, very user friendly for beginners
- Audubon Bird Guide
- Sibley eGuide to the Birds of North America
- Peterson's Birds of North America
- BirdsEye Bird Finding Guide (has a Texas version)
- Song Sleuth
- eBird
- iNaturalist

CITIZEN SCIENCE:

- Great Backyard Bird Count, sponsored by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab, takes place in February. www.birdsource.org/gbbc
- Project Feeder Watch (Cornell) --Watch birds at your feeders 2 days a week, report data to Cornell (participation fee).
- Project Nest Watch (Cornell) --Monitor nesting birds in your area and submit data.
- Christmas Bird Counts --Our area has one in Austin in mid-December, the Lost Pines Count (McKinney Roughs/Elgin) in late December, and Bastrop/Buescher on January 1. Teams cover area within a 15-mile diameter circle to count every bird. Data goes back over 30 years in Bastrop.

