

**74<sup>th</sup> Annual G. Bartlett Hendricks Central Berkshire Waterfowl Count  
Sunday, November 3, 2019 Report by Tom Tynning**

Twenty-four Hoffmann Bird Club members and guests participated in the 74th Annual Waterfowl Count on Sunday, November 3, 2019. Chip Blake and Dick Ferren covered southern Berkshire County wetlands while Tom Gagnon led 19 Hampshire Bird Club members from the Ct. Valley. The trip began at 7:00 am at the Berkshire Museum and ended about 1:30 pm at Laurel Lake. Air temperature ranged from 27°F to 46°F. The day was mostly clear with thick fog on Pontoosuc to begin. The wind was calm in the morning and picked up in the afternoon from the west. Visibility (from 8 am on) was mostly excellent. Several boats were on Onota, Pontoosuc and Stockbridge. Water levels were very high in most lakes with virtually no mudflats. The results are as follows, featuring 16 species. Overall, the species count was low as were individual numbers.

Common Loon	5	Bufflehead	15
Pied-Billed Grebe	1	Ringneck Duck	1509
Redneck Grebe	1	Common Goldeneye	4
D. C. Cormorant	1	Hooded Merganser	27
Canada Goose	743	Common Merganser	17
Wood Duck	20	Ruddy Duck	15
Black Duck	5	American Coot	6
Mallard	49	Mute Swan	3

This report includes these Berkshire Lakes and other wetlands: Pontoosuc, Onota, Muddy (Olsen's) Pond, Hoosic Lake (Cheshire Reservoir), Cleveland Reservoir, Richmond Pond, Stockbridge Bowl, Laurel Lake, Fairfield Pond, Woods Pond. No records this year from Cleveland Reservoir, Highlawn, or Silver Lake (added in 2015).

**Other Aquatic Birds Observed (5 spp)** included Ring-bill Gull, Herring Gull, Bald Eagles, Kingfishers. One **Great Egret** was seen at Crane Pond.

**Other more terrestrial species (29 spp)** noted during the day by all observers include: Black-Capped Chickadee, Blue Jay, Tufted Titmouse, Cardinal, American Crow, Fish Crow, Common Raven, American Robin, Eastern Bluebirds, Redwing Blackbirds, Pileated, Downy, Redbelly, and Hairy Woodpeckers, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Am. Goldfinch, Cedar Waxwing, European Starling, Red-tail Hawks, Cooper's Hawk, **Am. Kestrel, Osprey, Turkey Vulture**, House Sparrow, Brown Creeper, Dark-eyed Junco, and **America Pipits** (16).

**The following Hoffmann Bird Club members** and guests participated in this 73rd Annual Waterfowl Count: Dick and Heidi Ferren, Chip Blake, Tom Tynning, Matt Kelly, Ginny Akabane, Chris Blagdon, Ann Connors, Gael Hurley, Sue and Ed Lewis, Tim Wright, Jonathan Pierce, Rene Wendell, Chuck Johnson, Charles Dutelle, Pauline and Rick Banducci, Devon Griswold, Jean Jew, Roberta Hayes, Nikki Hall, Maria Nardi, and Brian Tarpinian.

The following areas were counted (between 7 am and 4:30 pm) by **Dick Ferren** but not included above (except for Woods Pond):

1. Woods Pond and Lee Wetlands: Canada goose (10).
2. Goose Pond: Bufflehead (7), Mallard (25), Black Duck (2)
3. Steven's Pond (Monterey): Canada Goose (3); Mallard (7); Black duck (1); Hooded Merg (3); Bufflehead (2); Ringneck (41); Common Merg (1); Wood duck (13).
4. Lake Garfield (three vantage points): Canada goose (164); Mallard (73); Black Duck (4); Hooded Merg (13); Bufflehead (2).
5. Lake Buel: Canada Goose (2).
6. 1,000-acre Swamp: No birds of any sort!
7. Coyne Farm (Southfield): Canada goose (14); Mallard (4); Black Duck (1).
8. Three-Mile Pond (Great Barrington): No Waterfowl. 1 Kingfisher; 1 Baby Porcupine.

**Chip Blakes South County 2019 Waterfowl Survey:**

	Mill Pond (Shfd)	Giberson Pond (Shfd)	Spurr Lake (Shfd)	Corbins Neck (AF)	Century Pond (AF)	Covered Bridge (Shfd)	Mill (Smiley's) Pond	Simons Rock (GB)	Total
Canada Goose			35	350		170	2	557	
Mallard				3		6		9	
American Black Duck						4		4	
Common Merganser				4				4	
Hooded Merganser		2				13		15	
Mourning Dove	1							1	
Turkey Vulture						1		1	
Hairy Woodpecker					1			1	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1							1	
Pileated Woodpecker	1							1	
Blue Jay	1							1	
American Crow	1	3	33	1	1	2		41	
Tufted Titmouse	1							1	
Eastern Bluebird	1		3					4	
Dark-eyed Junco			1					1	
Red-winged Blackbird		2		5				7	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>642</b>