

Great Backyard Bird Count Results

The annual Great Backyard Bird Count, sponsored by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society, was held February 18-21. As of press time, only preliminary results were posted on the Great Backyard Bird Count website at birdcount.org, but United States bird watchers had submitted the most checklists by far. We have reports of findings here in Pine Knoll Shores and a couple of sites in Virginia.

From her home on Bogue Sound, Susan King spotted seven mergansers, two sea gulls, two mourning doves, one great blue heron, one snowy egret, one belted kingfisher, six house wrens, three Carolina wrens, 12 American robins, three house finches and four Northern cardinals.

Jean McDanal has multiple birdfeeders and found that her birds came in numbers too great to count, but she recognized chickadees, tufted titmice, Carolina wrens, robins, Northern cardinals and mourning doves. Of course, a few days later when she was no longer counting, she had about 50 robins in her yard, and she also saw finches come in.

Gina Harris spotted mourning doves, Carolina wrens, tufted titmice, house finches, American crows, a red-bellied woodpecker, Northern cardinals and Carolina chickadees.



Noah and Emma were happy to be part of the Great Backyard Bird Count on their visit to Fort Valley, Virginia.—Photo Marianne Trigg Price

Emma Price and Noah Trigg of Arlington, Virginia, grandchildren of Janie and Jerry Price, counted in their yard and used a bird book to identify sparrows, cardinals, a blue jay and a dark-eyed junco. The next day they were in Fort Valley, Virginia, and reported seeing a bunch of turkey vultures and several hawks—and they are pretty sure they heard a barred owl.



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