

Birds of Mt. Philo State Park

	<i>Sp</i>	<i>Su</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ Tree Swallow	c	u	c	-
___ Barn Swallow	u	u	u	-
<i>Chickadees and Titmice</i>				
___ Black-capped Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
___ Tufted Titmouse*	c	c	c	c
<i>Nuthatches</i>				
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch*	u	u	u	r
___ White-breasted Nuthatch*	c	c	c	c
<i>Creepers</i>				
___ Brown Creeper*	u	u	u	u
<i>Wrens</i>				
___ Winter Wren*	c	c	c	-
<i>Kinglets</i>				
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	c	-	c	-
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	c	-	c	-
<i>Thrushes</i>				
___ Veery*	c	c	c	-
___ Swainson's Thrush	u	-	u	-
___ Hermit Thrush*	c	c	c	-
___ Wood Thrush*	c	c	c	-
___ American Robin*	c	c	c	r
<i>Waxwings</i>				
___ Bohemian Waxwing	r	-	-	r
___ Cedar Waxwing*	c	c	c	r
<i>Warblers</i>				
___ Ovenbird*	c	c	c	-
___ Golden-winged Warbler	-	-	r	-
___ Black-and-white Warbler*	c	c	c	-
___ Nashville Warbler	c	r	c	-
___ Mourning Warbler*	r	r	r	-
___ Common Yellowthroat*	c	c	c	-
___ American Redstart*	c	c	c	-
___ Northern Parula	c	-	c	-

	<i>Sp</i>	<i>Su</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ Magnolia Warbler	c	r	c	-
___ Bay-breasted Warbler	r	-	u	-
___ Blackburnian Warbler*	c	u	c	-
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler*	c	c	c	-
___ Blackpoll Warbler	u	-	c	-
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler*	c	c	c	-
___ Pine Warbler*	u	u	u	-
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	c	r	c	-
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	c	r	c	-
___ Canada Warbler*	u	r	u	-
<i>Sparrows</i>				
___ Eastern Towhee*	c	c	c	-
___ Chipping Sparrow*	c	c	c	-
___ Field Sparrow	r	r	r	-
___ Savannah Sparrow	r	r	r	-
___ Song Sparrow*	c	c	c	-
___ White-throated Sparrow	c	-	c	-
___ Dark-eyed Junco*	u	u	u	-
<i>Cardinals and Relatives</i>				
___ Scarlet Tanager*	c	c	c	-
___ Northern Cardinal*	c	c	c	c
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak*	c	c	c	-
___ Indigo Bunting*	u	u	u	-
<i>Blackbirds</i>				
___ Red-winged Blackbird*	c	c	c	-
___ Common Grackle*	c	c	c	-
___ Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	c	c	-
___ Baltimore Oriole*	c	c	c	-
<i>Finches</i>				
___ Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	r
___ Purple Finch	r	-	-	r
___ Pine Siskin	r	-	-	r
___ American Goldfinch*	c	c	c	r



Mt. Philo state park is an excellent birding destination for beginner and expert birders alike. Highlights include a variety of colorful songbirds, an ethereal serenade of resident thrushes, and a fall spectacle of migrating raptors. The following 101 species have been encountered at Mt. Philo since 2004. Some, such as geese and loons, are only seen flying by. About half nest in the park each year. All look forward to making your acquaintance. Happy birding!

Seasons

Sp = Spring: March through May
 Su = Summer: June and July
 F = Fall: August through October
 W = Winter: November through February

Peak abundance

c = common: likely to be seen or heard in appropriate habitat
 u = uncommon: usually present but less often encountered
 r = rare: not always present and only occasionally encountered

* species known or presumed to nest in the park

Hawkwatching on Mt. Philo

Mt. Philo is renowned as one of the best hawkwatching sites in Vermont. The mountain holds the state record for the largest number of migrating raptors seen in a single day (3,688). The peak of the hawkwatching season is the second and third weeks of September when the bulk of the Broad-winged Hawk population heads south. Numbers, however, vary greatly with the weather - a light north wind is ideal. The best area to watch for raptors is the main overlook at the southwest end of the summit.

This checklist is based on surveys of Mt. Philo conducted for the Vermont Breeding Bird Atlas in 2004, predominantly unpublished Mt. Philo hawkwatch data, and various other sightings from 2004 through 2011. Species names and taxonomic order are in compliance with the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds Seventh Edition, 52nd supplement. Cover art by Caitlin Gates. Ted Murin 8/5/11

	Sp	Su	F	W
Waterfowl				
___ Snow Goose	u	-	u	r
___ Canada Goose	u	-	u	r
Grouse and Turkeys				
___ Ruffed Grouse *	u	u	u	u
___ Wild Turkey	r	r	r	r
Loons				
___ Common Loon	r	-	r	r
Cormorants				
___ Double-crested Cormorant	r	r	r	-
Hérons				
___ Great Blue Heron	r	r	r	-
Vultures and Hawks				
___ Turkey Vulture	c	c	c	-
___ Osprey	u	r	c	-
___ Bald Eagle	u	r	u	r
___ Northern Harrier	u	r	u	-
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	u	-	c	r
___ Cooper's Hawk	u	-	u	r
___ Northern Goshawk	-	-	r	-
___ Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	r	-
___ Broad-winged Hawk	u	-	c	-
___ Red-tailed Hawk	c	u	c	u
___ Golden Eagle	r	-	r	-
___ American Kestrel	c	r	c	-
___ Merlin	-	-	r	-
___ Peregrine Falcon	r	-	r	r
Gulls				
___ Ring-billed Gull	c	c	c	r
___ Herring Gull	r	-	r	-
Doves				
___ Mourning Dove	u	u	u	-

	Sp	Su	F	W
Cuckoos				
___ Black-billed Cuckoo*	u	u	u	-
Owls				
___ Barred Owl	u	u	u	-
___ Saw-whet Owl	r	-	r	-
Swifts				
___ Chimney Swift	-	-	r	-
Hummingbirds				
___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	u	u	u	-
Woodpeckers				
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*	c	c	c	-
___ Downy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
___ Hairy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
___ Northern Flicker*	u	u	u	-
___ Pileated Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
Flycatchers				
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee*	c	c	c	-
___ Least Flycatcher	u	-	u	-
___ Eastern Phoebe*	c	c	c	-
___ Great Crested Flycatcher*	c	c	c	-
___ Eastern Kingbird	u	u	u	-
Vireos				
___ Yellow-throated Vireo	r	-	r	-
___ Blue-headed Vireo	u	-	u	-
___ Warbling Vireo	r	-	r	-
___ Red-eyed Vireo*	c	c	c	-
Jays and Crows				
___ Blue Jay*	c	c	c	c
___ American Crow*	c	c	c	c
___ Common Raven*	c	c	c	c
Swallows				
___ Purple Martin	r	r	r	-