

Bloomin' Birdathon

Let's count for a great cause!

April 15 - May 31

What is the Bloomin' Birdathon?

Photo by Jane Gamble



The Bloomin' Birdathon is our annual fundraising event that provides an excellent opportunity for you, your family, friends and coworkers to engage with nature in a fun outdoor activity while supporting ANS nature education and conservation programs.

Your participation is more important than ever! Your support of the Bloomin' Birdathon as a counter or donor will enable ANS to continue to provide our services to help people of all ages experience and learn about nature, and help us protect our natural environment. THANK YOU for helping to make this possible.

Bloomin' Birdathon Guidelines

Participating is easy and open to nature enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels – you don't have to be an expert to count! Plus, you can count from home, in your yard, on walks around your neighborhood, in nearby parks, or on multiple trips to your favorite natural areas.

- You can count birds and/or blooms (or other species, if you want) between April 15 – May 31. You can count on multiple days but for no more than 24 hours in total. Identifying a bird call counts as a sighting. So do birds that you spot at your feeder or on a bird cam!
- Children can count anything in nature.
- All counters and their sponsors will receive a 20% discount coupon at our Naturalist Shop (optics excluded) as our way of saying THANK YOU!
- Please use our Bloomin' Birdathon resources for a fun experience and, as always, please be sure to follow CDC guidance and government regulations for social distancing.



To REGISTER, sign up online or contact Corinna Fisk at corinna.fisk@anshome.org



Audubon Naturalist Society

Woodend Nature Sanctuary, Headquarters | 8940 Jones Mill Road Chevy Chase, MD 20815 | anshome.org

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Raising Funds

Photo by Jane Gamble



The Bloomin' Birdathon is like a walk-a-thon or bike-a-thon. Instead of asking for a donation pledge of \$1 per mile walked or biked, for example, you'll seek pledges based on the number of bird species and/or flowers ("blooms") that you spot over a maximum of 24 hours between April 15 and May 31. You can count alone or as part of a team. And if you don't want to count anything but you still want to help, you can simply make a donation. The funds that you raise will support ANS conservation, education, and restoration programs across the DMV.

You are the key to the success of the Bloomin' Birdathon, and to everything that ANS hopes to accomplish. We thank you for your commitment to the natural world around us.

Helpful Tips

Invite friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers to sponsor you and help raise funds for ANS's environmental education and conservation programs. Sponsors can pledge an amount for each species you identify or they can make a fixed donation.

- Use the enclosed email template to invite potential sponsors to support your count.
- You'll want to start by setting a fundraising goal. We suggest a minimum of \$100 per person. Aim high – think about all the creative ways in which you can raise money and have fun with it!
- Promote your participation on social media, including photos or drawings of what you hope to see during your count.
- Be sure to keep your sponsors up-to-date about your adventure.
- Direct your sponsors to anshome.org/birdathon-donation to make fulfill their pledges in support of your count.
- You can also mail your collected pledges and donations to:

Audubon Naturalist Society
Attn: Bloomin' Birdathon
8940 Jones Mill Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Do you want to participate but you don't want to solicit sponsors?

See how many birds and/or blooms you can count then send ANS a donation for that amount or a multiple of that amount!

You can make a direct, tax-deductible donation to the ANS Bloomin' Birdathon at anshome.org/birdathon-donation

To REGISTER, sign up [online](https://anshome.org/birdathon-donation) or contact Corinna Fisk at corinna.fisk@anshome.org

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Sample Sponsor Request Letter/Email

Share your love of nature with your friends, family, and coworkers by inviting them to sponsor you in the Bloomin' Birdathon!

Start by setting a fundraising goal. We suggest a minimum of \$100. From there, personal emails, letters, and phone calls go a long way when asking for support. Make a list of potential sponsors and email or call at least five potential sponsors a week. You'll reach your fundraising goal in no time!

The following is a sample email/letter to use when soliciting sponsors. Remember, the more personal you make it, the more effective it will be.

Dear _____,

Thank goodness for nature! Throughout the pandemic, I found tremendous solace in my daily walks around my neighborhood/working in my garden/watching birds at my feeder. Nature gives us so much and I want to do my part to protect it.

I have decided to do that by participating in Audubon Naturalist Society's (ANS) special Bloomin' Birdathon. ANS works to protect our region's natural environment and provides environmental educational programs for children and adults.

I have set a personal goal of raising \$_____ to help ANS's work.

You can protect nature, too, by donating funds to help me reach my goal.

On my walks over the next few weeks, I am hoping to see at least ___ different types of bird species [or wildflowers or flowering trees] (insert what you are going to count). Personally, I'm hoping to see a _____ -- my favorite bird [tree in bloom, etc.]

Your support would be greatly appreciated! Please complete the enclosed Sponsor form to support me. After I have finished my count, I will let you know my results. PLUS, as a sponsor, you will receive a 20% discount coupon for the ANS Naturalist Shop which has lots of wonderful natural history books, gifts, and a variety of unique items for all ages.

If you would like to donate online, you can do so here. You may also donate by check. Please make your check out to the Audubon Naturalist Society and mail it to the Audubon Naturalist Society Attn: Bloomin Birdathon 8940 Jones Mill Road Chevy Chase, MD 20815. Don't forget to include my name in the "memo" portion of the check!

I'm looking forward to [meeting up with you again soon and] telling you all about my adventures. Thank you in advance for your support and stay safe and healthy!

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SPONSOR TRACKING SHEET

Use this sheet to help you keep track of your sponsors. Please send it to ANS after finishing your count.

Name/Team Name _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

COUNT TOTALS:

	BIRDS	FLOWERS	TREES	BUTTERFLIES	OTHER
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

SPONSOR PLEDGES

All donations to ANS are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.
All sponsors will receive a thank you letter for tax purposes.

Sponsor's Name	Address, Phone or Email	Pledge Amount	Paid

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SPONSOR PLEDGE FORM

Name of counter(s) _____

Thank you for choosing to support the Audubon Naturalist Society as a Bloomin' Birdathon Sponsor!

Sponsor Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

DONATE: You can sponsor a counter or make a general donation in support of the Bloomin' Birdathon.

Name of Individual or Family _____

General donation in support of the Bloomin' Birdathon \$ _____

DONATION AMOUNT:

\$ _____ per species pledge **or** \$ _____ fixed donation

Donations and pledge gifts can be made online or by check. Please let us know who you are sponsoring.

For online donations and pledge gifts, please visit anshome.org/birdathon-donation

Please make checks payable to **Audubon Naturalist Society** and mail to:

Audubon Naturalist Society
Attn: Bloomin' Birdathon
8940 Jones Mill Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

All donations to ANS are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

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Sample Social Media Posts



Social Media platforms like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are ideal for sharing your enthusiasm for birds, nature and Audubon Naturalist Society. Not only will your posts keep sponsors and supporters up-to-date on your progress, you might just inspire them to want to learn more about nature themselves.

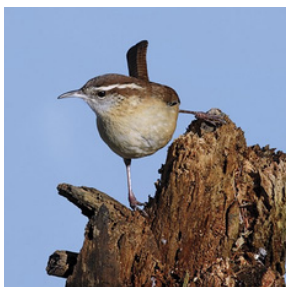
One of the most important elements for creating compelling social media posts is to convey excitement and emotion. Be sure to let people know why you are excited about participating in the ANS Birdathon and why you are passionate about nature. And good photos are a must! Posts with a photo (or video) tend to get more attention from your friends and followers.

Please tag us so that we can share your posts!

Facebook: @AudubonNaturalistSociety • Twitter: @ANSTweets • Instagram: @ansnature

Hashtag: #ANSBirdathon

EXAMPLE POSTS



This Carolina Wren is going on my count list for the #ANSBirdathon. It's so great to get outside and help support nature education and conservation at the same time! You can help, too, at anshome.org/birdathon-donation



It's my first #ANSBirdathon and this Carolina Wren is the first bird on my count list! I love being outside right now. You can join the fun AND support conservation and nature education from your own backyard! Learn how at anshome.org/birdathon



This beautiful Virginia Bluebell is going on my list of blooms for the @ANSTweets #ANSBirdathon. You can enjoy the outdoors and support nature education and conservation, too: anshome.org/birdathon



The #ANSBirdathon is more fun than ever. I don't know much about birds so I'm counting wildflowers like these Virginia Bluebells. Or you can count trees. Or butterflies. Whatever you count helps @ANSTweets conservation & nature education programs: anshome.org/birdathon



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Black-bellied Whistling Duck*		
Fulvous Whistling Duck		
Pink-footed Goose*		
Greater White-fronted Goose		
Snow Goose		
Ross's Goose		
Brant		
Barnacle Goose*		
Cackling Goose		
Canada Goose		
Mute Swan		
Trumpeter Swan*		
Tundra Swan		
Wood Duck		
Gadwall		
Eurasian Wigeon		
American Wigeon		
American Black Duck		
Mallard		
Blue-winged Teal		
Cinnamon Teal*		
Northern Shoveler		
Northern Pintail		
Green-winged Teal		
Canvasback		
Redhead		
Ring-necked Duck		
Tufted Duck*		
Greater Scaup		
Lesser Scaup		
King Eider**		
Common Eider**		
Harlequin Duck**		
Surf Scoter		
White-winged Scoter		
Black Scoter		
Long-tailed Duck		
Bufflehead		
Common Goldeneye		
Barrow's Goldeneye*		
Hooded Merganser		
Common Merganser		
Red-breasted Merganser		
Masked Duck*		
Ruddy Duck		
Northern Bobwhite		
Ring-necked Pheasant		
Ruffed Grouse		
Wild Turkey		
Red-throated Loon		
Pacific Loon*		
Common Loon		

Pied-billed Grebe		
Horned Grebe		
Red-necked Grebe		
Eared Grebe		
Western Grebe*		
American Flamingo*		
Yellow-nosed Albatross*		
Northern Fulmar**		
Herald Petrel*		
Black-capped Petrel*		
Cory's Shearwater**		
Cape Verde Shearwater*		
Great Shearwater**		
Sooty Shearwater**		
Manx Shearwater**		
Audubon's Shearwater**		
Wilson's Storm-Petrel**		
White-faced Storm-Petrel*		
Leach's Storm-Petrel**		
Band-rumped Storm-Petrel*		
White-tailed Tropicbird*		
Wood Stork*		
Magnificent Frigatebird*		
Brown Booby*		
Northern Gannet**		
Neotropic Cormorant*		
Double-crested Cormorant		
Great Cormorant**		
Anhinga		
American White Pelican		
Brown Pelican**		
American Bittern		
Least Bittern		
Great Blue Heron		
Great Egret		
Snowy Egret		
Little Blue Heron		
Tricolored Heron**		
Reddish Egret*		
Cattle Egret		
Green Heron		
Black-crowned Night-Heron		
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron		
White Ibis		
Glossy Ibis		
White-faced Ibis**		
Roseate Spoonbill*		
Black Vulture		
Turkey Vulture		
Osprey		
Swallow-tailed Kite		
White-tailed Kite*		
Mississippi Kite		
Bald Eagle		

Northern Harrier		
Sharp-shinned Hawk		
Cooper's Hawk		
Eared Grebe		
Northern Goshawk*		
Red-shouldered Hawk		
Broad-winged Hawk		
Swainson's Hawk*		
Red-tailed Hawk		
Rough-legged Hawk		
Golden Eagle		
Yellow Rail*		
Black Rail**		
Corn Crane*		
Clapper Rail**		
King Rail		
Virginia Rail		
Sora		
Purple Gallinule*		
Common Gallinule		
American Coot		
Limpkin*		
Sandhill Crane		
Black-necked Stilt**		
American Avocet		
American Oystercatcher**		
Northern Lapwing*		
Black-bellied Plover		
American Golden-Plover		
Wilson's Plover*		
Semipalmated Plover		
Piping Plover**		
Killdeer		
Spotted Sandpiper		
Solitary Sandpiper		
Greater Yellowlegs		
Willet		
Lesser Yellowlegs		
Upland Sandpiper		
Eskimo Curlew*		
Whimbrel**		
Long-billed Curlew*		
Hudsonian Godwit**		
Marbled Godwit**		
Ruddy Turnstone		
Red Knot		
Ruff**		
Stilt Sandpiper		
Curlew Sandpiper*		
Red-necked Stint*		
Sanderling		
Dunlin		
Purple Sandpiper**		
Baird's Sandpiper		
Little Stint*		

Least Sandpiper		
White-rumped Sandpiper		
Buff-breasted Sandpiper		
Pectoral Sandpiper		
Semipalmated Sandpiper		
Western Sandpiper		
Short-billed Dowitcher		
Long-billed Dowitcher		
Wilson's Snipe		
American Woodcock		
Wilson's Phalarope		
Red-necked Phalarope		
Red Phalarope**		
Great Skua*		
South Polar Skua*		
Pomarine Jaeger**		
Parasitic Jaeger**		
Long-tailed Jaeger*		
Dovekie**		
Common Murre**		
Thick-billed Murre*		
Razorbill**		
guillemot, species*		
Atlantic Puffin**		
Black-legged Kittiwake**		
Sabine's Gull*		
Bonaparte's Gull		
Black-headed Gull**		
Little Gull**		
Ross's Gull*		
Laughing Gull**		
Franklin's Gull**		
Black-tailed Gull*		
Mew Gull*		
Ring-billed Gull		
California Gull*		
Herring Gull		
Yellow-legged Gull*		
Thayer's Gull**		
Iceland Gull**		
Lesser Black-backed Gull**		
Glaucous Gull**		
Great Black-backed Gull**		
Kelp Gull*		
Sooty Tern**		
Bridled Tern**		
Least Tern**		
Gull-billed Tern**		
Caspian Tern		
Black Tern		
Roseate Tern*		
Common Tern		
Arctic Tern*		
Forster's Tern		

Royal Tern**		
Sandwich Tern**		
Black Skimmer**		
Rock Pigeon		
Eurasian Collared-Dove*		
White-winged Dove*		
Mourning Dove		
Inca Dove*		
Common Ground-Dove*		
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		
Black-billed Cuckoo		
Groove-billed Ani*		
Barn Owl		
Eastern Screech-Owl		
Great Horned Owl		
Snowy Owl		
Burrowing Owl*		
Barred Owl		
Long-eared Owl		
Short-eared Owl		
Northern Saw-whet Owl		
Common Nighthawk		
Chuck-will's-widow		
Eastern Whip-poor-will		
Chimney Swift		
Green Violetear*		
Ruby-throated Hummingbird		
Anna's Hummingbird*		
Rufous Hummingbird		
Allen's Hummingbird*		
Calliope Hummingbird*		
Belted Kingfisher		
Red-headed Woodpecker		
Red-bellied Woodpecker		
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		
Downy Woodpecker		
Hairy Woodpecker		
Red-cockaded Woodpecker*		
Northern Flicker		
Pileated Woodpecker		
American Kestrel		
Merlin		
Gyr Falcon*		
Peregrine Falcon		
Olive-sided Flycatcher		
Eastern Wood-Pewee		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		
Acadian Flycatcher		
Alder Flycatcher		
Willow Flycatcher		
Least Flycatcher		
Hammond's Flycatcher*		
Eastern Phoebe		
Say's Phoebe*		

Vermilion Flycatcher*		
Ash-throated Flycatcher*		
Great Crested Flycatcher		
Tropical Kingbird*		
Western Kingbird		
Eastern Kingbird		
Gray Kingbird*		
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher*		
Fork-tailed Flycatcher*		
Loggerhead Shrike*		
Northern Shrike		
White-eyed Vireo		
Bell's Vireo*		
Yellow-throated Vireo		
Blue-headed Vireo		
Warbling Vireo		
Philadelphia Vireo		
Red-eyed Vireo		
Blue Jay		
American Crow		
Fish Crow		
Common Raven		
Horned Lark		
Purple Martin		
Tree Swallow		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow		
Bank Swallow		
Cliff Swallow		
Cave Swallow		
Barn Swallow		
Carolina Chickadee**		
Black-capped Chickadee		
Boreal Chickadee*		
Tufted Titmouse		
Red-breasted Nuthatch		
White-breasted Nuthatch		
Brown-headed Nuthatch**		
Brown Creeper		
Rock Wren*		
House Wren		
Winter Wren		
Sedge Wren		
Marsh Wren		
Carolina Wren		
Bewick's Wren*		
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		
Golden-crowned Kinglet		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		
Northern Wheatear*		
Eastern Bluebird		
Mountain Bluebird*		
Townsend's Solitaire*		
Veery		

**Checklist for
Common Spring Wildflowers
of Washington, DC area**

Alumroot heuchera americana				
Anemone, Canada Anemone canadensis				
Anemone, rue Anemonella Thalictroides				
Anemone, wood Anemone quinquefolia				
Anise, smooth Osmorhiza longistylus				
Arbutus, trailing Epigaea repens				
Beardtongue Penstemon digitalis				
Bedstraw Galium aparine				
Beefsteak plant Perilla frutescens				
Bellwort, perfoliate Uvularia perfoliata				
Bellwort, sessile-leaved U. sessilifolia				
Betony, wood Pedicularis canadensis				
Bittercress, Pennsylvania Cardamine pennsylvanica				
Bittercress, small-flowered C. parviflora				
Black-eyed Susan Rudbeckia hirta				
Bloodroot Sanguinaria canadensis				
Blue-eyed grass, common Sisyrinchium mucronatum				
Blue-eyed grass, Eastern S. atlanticum				
Bluebells, Virginia Mertensia virginica				
Bluet Houstonia caerulea				
Buttercup, abortive Ranunculus abortivus				
Buttercup, bulbous R. bulbosus				
Buttercup, common R. acris				
Buttercup, early R. fascicularis				
Buttercup, hooked R. recurvatus				
Buttercup, swamp R. septentrionalis				
Cancerroot Orobancha uniflora				
Carrión flower Smilax herbacea				
Celandine Chelidonium majus				
Celandine, lesser Renunculus ficaria				
Celandine poppy Stylophorum diphyllum				
Cheeses Malva neglecta				

Chervil, wild Chaerophyllum procubens				
Chickweed, common Stellaria media				
Chickweed, field Cerastium arvense				
Chickweed, mouse-eared C. vulgatum				
Chickweed, star Stellaria pubera				
Chrysogonum Chrysogonum virginianum				
Cinquefoil, common Potentilla simplex				
Cinquefoil, rough-fruited P. recta				
Cinquefoil, silvery P. argentea				
Clover, hop Trifolium agrarium				
Clover, red T. pratense				
Clover, white T. repens				
Clover, white sweet Melilotus alba				
Clover, yellow sweet M. officinalis				
Cohosh, black Cimicifuga racemosa				
Cohosh, blue Caulophyllum thalictroides				
Coltsfoot Tussilago farfara				
Columbine Aquilegia canadensis				
Corydalis, yellow Corydalis flavula				
Crane-fly orchis Tipularis discolor				
Cranesbill, carolina Geranium carolinianum				
Cress, spring Cardamine bulbosa				
Cress, winter Barbarea vulgaris				
Cress, early winter Barbarea verna				
Cucumber-root, Indian Medeola virginiana				
Daisy oxeye Chrysanthemum leucanthemum				
Dandelion, common Taraxacum officinale				
Dandelion, dwarf Krigia virginica				
Dayflower, Asiatic Commelina communis				
Dead-nettle, purple Lamium perpureum				
Dock, curly Rumex crispus				
Dogbane, intermediate Apocynum medium				
Dutchman's breeches Dicentra cucullaria				
False mermaid Floerkea proserpinacoides				

False Solomon's seal Smilacina racemosa				
Fleabane, common Erigeron philadelphicus				
Fleabane, daisy E. annus				
Foamflower Tiarella Cordifolia				
Galinsoga Galinsoga ciliata				
Garlic, field Allium vineale				
Garlic, wild A. canadense				
Geranium, wild Geranium maculatum				
Ginger, wild Asarum canadense				
Ginseng, dwarf Panax trifolium				
Golden Alexander Zizia aurea				
Golden ragwort Senecio aureus				
Greek valerian Polemonium reptans				
Green dragon Arisaema dracontium				
Gromwell, corn Lithospermum arvense				
Ground ivy Glechoma hederacea				
Harbinger of spring Erigenia bulbosa				
Hawkweed Hieracium pratense				
Heal-all Prunella vulgaris				
Henbit Lamium amplexicaule				
Hepatica Hepatica americana				
Honewort Cryptotaenia canadensis				
Houstonia, tall H. purpurea				
Houstonia, long-leaved H. longifolia				
Jack-in-the-pulpit Arisaema triphyllum				
Jacob's ladder Polemonium van-bruntiae				
Keniworth-ivy Cymbalaria muralis				
Lady's slipper, pink Cypripedium acaule				
Lady's slipper, yellow C. calceolus				
Lady's thumb Polgonum persicaria				
Leopard's bane Arnica acaulis				
Lettuce, wild Lactuca canadensis				
Lizard's tail Saururus cernus				
Loosestrife, whorled Lysimachia quadrifolia				

Meadowrue, early Thalictrum dioicum					
Mayapple Podophyllum peltatum					
Miami mist Phacelia purshii					
Miterwort Mitella diphylla					
Mustard, garlic Alliaria officinalis					
Mustard, field Brassica rapa					
Nemophila Nemophila microcalyx					
Nightsade, purple Solanum dulcamara					
Nyctelea Ellisia nyctelea					
Orchis cranefly Tipularis discolor					
Orchis, showy Orchis spectabilis					
Pennywort Obolaria virginica					
Pennywort, water Hydrocotyle americana					
Peppergrass Lepidium virginicum					
Peppergrass, field L. campestre					
Periwinkle Vinca minor					
Phacelia, small-flowered Phacelis dubia					
Phlox, moss Phlox subulata					
Phlox, wild blue Phlox divaricata					
Pimpernel, scarlet Anagallis arvensis					
Pimpernel, yellow Taenidia integerrima					
Pink, deptford Silene caroliniana					
Pink, wild Silene caroliniana					
Pogonia, whorled Isortia verticillata					
Pussytoes, field Antennaria neglecta					
Pussytoes, plantain-leaved A. plantaginifolia					
Pussytoes, smoth A. parlinii					
Puttyroot Apelctrum hyemale					
Rattlesnake weed Hieracium venosum					
Rock cress, hairy Arabis hirsuta					
Rock cress, lyre-leaved A. lyrata					
Rock cress, smooth A. laevigata					
Robin plantain Erigeron pulchellus					
Sage, lyre-leaved Salvia lyrata					

Saxifrage, early Saxifraga virginensis					
Saxifrage, swamp S. pennsylvanica					
Shepherd's purse Capsella bursa-pastoris					
Sickle-pod Arabis canadensis					
Skullcap, downy Scutellaris incana					
Skullcap, showy S. serrata					
Skunk cabbage Symlocarpus foetidus					
Smartweed, spp. Polygonum spp.					
Snakeroot, black Sanicula marilandica					
Solomon's seal Polugonatum biflorum					
Sorrel, sheep Rumex acetosella					
Speedwell, bird's eye Veronica chamaedrys					
Speedwell, common V. officinalis					
Speedwell, ivy-leaved V. hederifolia					
Speedwell, persian V. persica					
Speedwell, thyme-leaved V. serpyllifolia					
Speedwell, slender V. filiformis					
Spiderwort Tradescantia virginiana					
Spring beauty Claytonia virginica					
Spurge, cypress Euphorvia cyparissias					
Squirrel corn Dicentra canadensis					
Star of Bethlehem Orinithogulum umbellatum					
Star of Bethlehem, modding O. nutans					
Stargrass, yellow Hypoxis hirsuta					
Stonecrop Sedum ternatum					
Stonecrop, mossy Sedum acre					
Strawberry, barren Waldsteinia fragarioides					
Strawberry, indian Duchesnea indica					
Strawberry, wild Fragaria virginiana					
Strawberry, wood F. vesca					
Sweet cicely Osmorhiza claytoni					
Toadflax, star Comandra umbellata					
Toothwort Dentaria diphylla					
Toothwort, cut-leaved D. laciniata					

Toothwort, slender D. heterophylla					
Trillium, sessile Trillium sessile					
Trout lily, white Erythronium albidum					
Trout lily, yellow E. americanum					
Twayblade Liparis liliifolia					
Twingleaf Jeffersonia diphylla					
Valerian Valeriana pauciflora					
Vetch, cow Vicia cracca					
Vetch, hairy Vicia villosa					
Vetch, purple V. americana					
Vetch, spring V. sativa					
Violet, bird's foot Viola pedata					
Violet, confederate V. papilionacea princeana					
Violet, common V. papilionacea					
Violet, creamy V. striata					
Violet, early blue V. palmata					
Violet, field pansy V. kitaibeliana					
Violet, marsh blue V. cucullata					
Violet, three-lobed V. triloba					
Violet, white V. blanda					
Violet, smooth yellow V. pennsylvanica					
Violet, downy yellow V. pubescens					
Watercress Nasturtium officinale					
Waterleaf, broad-leaved Hydrophyllum canadense					
Waterleaf, large-leaved H. appendiculatum					
Waterleaf, Virginia H. virginianum					
Whitlow grass Draba verna					
Wild yam Dioscorea glauca					
Woodsorrel, violet Oxalis violacea					
Woodsorrel, yellow O. stricta O. europaea					
Yarrow Achillea millefolia					

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Guide to Nature ID Apps

AUDUBON BIRD GUIDE

The Audubon Bird Guide app allows the user to identify a bird based on observations, learn more about bird species through the field guide, explore birding hotspots, share photos, and keep track of all bird sightings. The field guide features over 3,000 photos, over eight hours of audio clips of songs and calls, multi-season range maps, and in-depth text by leading North American bird expert Kenn Kaufman.

MERLIN BIRD ID

The Merlin Bird ID App is very useful in helping you identify a bird you see based on its size, colors, where you saw it (trees, flying overhead etc.), time of day, and your location. It acts a field guide with both pictures and sounds, and has numerous catalogs of bird species for specific regions of the world.

eBIRD

The e-Bird App goes hand-in-hand with the Merlin Bird App above and is the official community science app that Cornell Lab of Ornithology uses to track bird populations. As a user, you create a checklist in which you log all of the birds you are able to identify while you are birding and then submit the list when you are done. The app even tracks your personal stats so you can see how many total species you've seen and where you've seen them.

BIRDSONG ID

BirdSong ID USA is an app that can automatically identify a bird by its call or song. It focuses on birds of the United States and requires the user to input a recording of the call they hear. The app is available for \$5.

iNATURALIST

The iNaturalist app is another community science app designed to help users identify any and all things nature through pictures or sounds. iNaturalist reinforces user identifications through peer review by experts and other users, giving you more confidence in your observations.

SEEK BY iNATURALIST

Seek by iNaturalist is an easy-to-use app to identify trees, plants, and animals using image recognition software. Simply hold your camera up to a plant, organism, or leaf and the app will identify it in real-time.

VIRGINIA TECH'S VTREE

Virginia Tech's VTree uses your location to generate a list of likely trees in your area. Answer a short list of questions to help narrow down the possibilities and identify the tree or woody plant you are examining. Explore different species through detailed fact sheets with pictures of leaves, flowers, fruit, twig, and bark.

FLORA OF VIRGINIA

The Flora of Virginia app is based on the comprehensive book by the same name and covers the flora of Virginia, Maryland, and West Virginia, along with many regions east of the Mississippi. The app has information on nearly 3,200 plant species in nearly 200 families and allows the user to identify a plant using a helpful graphic key. The app is available for \$20

Audubon Naturalist Society

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Bloomin' Birdathon

Guide to Bird Feeder Watching

Counting birds as they feed at your feeder is a great way to participate in the ANS Bloomin' Birdathon without having to leave your home. Here's how you do it.

1) Choose a day or 24-hour period (max) during which you are going to count.

2) Register as a counter at anshome.org/birdathon-register

3) Send a letter or email to your family, friends, and colleagues asking them to donate a certain amount per species that you see. You can use language from the Sample Sponsor Request Email/Letter in this packet. Be sure to give your sponsors a sense of how many different birds you think you might see.

4) Do your count - have fun and good luck!

5) Let your sponsors know how many species you saw. Include some fun sightings and stories. Ask your sponsors to make their checks out to Audubon Naturalist Society and note on the check that this is for your Birdathon count.

6) Your sponsors can mail their checks directly to Audubon Naturalist Society at:

Audubon Naturalist Society
Bloomin' Birdathon
8940 Jones Mill Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Or they can donate directly online at anshome.org/birdathon-donation

Need more bird seed?

The ANS Naturalist Shop, 8940 Jones Mill Road in Chevy Chase, is open 11am – 3pm every day (except Wednesdays and Sundays). You can also order your seeds, suet and bird feeders online at audubon-naturalist-society.square.site



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Bloomin' Birdathon

Guide to Bird Cam Watching

Counting birds as you watch various Bird Cams is another great way to participate in the ANS Bloomin' Birdathon without having to leave your home. Here's how!

1) Choose a day or 24-hour period (max) during which you are going to count.

2) Register as a counter at anshome.org/birdathon-register

3) Send a letter or email to your family, friends, and colleagues asking them to donate a certain amount per species that you see. You can use language from the Sample Sponsor Request Email/Letter in this packet. Be sure to give your sponsors a sense of how many different birds you think you might see.

4) Do your count by finding and watching bird cams from around the USA and count how many different species you see within your chosen time period. Here are a couple of links to get you started:

allaboutbirds.org/cams audubon.org/birdcams

5) Let your sponsors know how many species you saw. Include some fun sightings and stories. Ask your sponsors to make their checks out to Audubon Naturalist Society and note on the check that this is for your Birdathon count.

6) Your sponsors can mail their checks directly to Audubon Naturalist Society at:

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Photo by Jane Gamble

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Bloomin' Birdathon

Top Ten Birds!



AMERICAN ROBIN
Song sounds like cheerio!
Sings early in the morning.



TUFTED TITMOUSE
Call: Peter, Peter, Peter.
Common in neighborhoods.



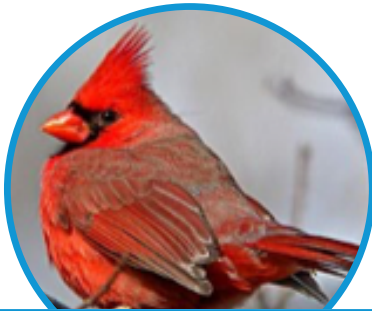
BLUE JAY
Raucous call: Jay! Jay! Jay!
Neighborhood police officer.



CAROLINA CHICKADEE
Tuxedo bird. Repeats its
own name. Energetic.



CROW
Ubiquitous and
noisy.



NORTHERN CARDINAL
East coast stunner!
Male is especially gorgeous.



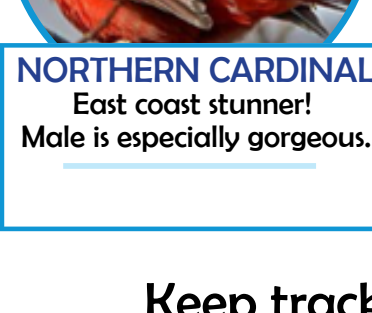
CAROLINA WREN
Small bird, loud voice with a
teakettle, teakettle, teakettle song.



DOWNY WOODPECKER
Our smallest woodpecker.
Frequent feeder visitor.



RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER
Black and white.
Male has full red crown.



NORTHERN CARDINAL
East coast stunner!
Male is especially gorgeous.



CAROLINA WREN
Small bird, loud voice with a
teakettle, teakettle, teakettle song.



MOURNING DOVE
Soft, drawn-out calls. Wings
make whinnying sound.

Keep track of the birds
you see or hear with tally marks!

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Bloomin' Birdathon

Top Ten Wildflowers!



SPRING BEAUTIES
Among the longest blooming spring wildflowers.



MAY APPLES
Umbrella-like leaves and one big flower.



TROUT LILY
Named for its leaves which are speckled like trout.



VIRGINIA BLUEBELLS
Bell-shaped, sky-blue flowers.



CUTLEAF TOOTHWORT
Leaves have deeply cut lobes that resemble teeth.



SMOOTH SOLOMON'S SEAL
Has dangling white flowers.



COMMON BLUE VIOLET
Heart-shaped leaves. Common in yards and woodlands.



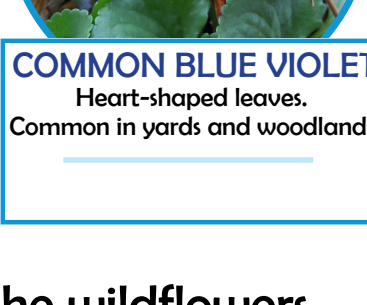
WILD BLUE PHLOX
Bright blue-pink flowers in a woodland setting.



DUTCHMAN'S BREECHES
Blooms resemble a pair of upside down pants.



SMOOTH SOLOMON'S SEAL
Has dangling white flowers.



COMMON BLUE VIOLET
Heart-shaped leaves. Common in yards and woodlands.



PINK LADY'S SLIPPER
Two-to-three inch showy long flowers.

Keep track of the wildflowers you see with tally marks!

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Bloomin' Birdathon

Top Ten Butterflies!



EASTERN TIGER SWALLOWTAIL

One of the most common eastern butterflies.



ZEBRA SWALLOWTAIL

Its markings resemble zebra stripes.



SPICEBUSH SWALLOWTAIL

Brilliant blue or greenish coloring on hindwings.



CABBAGE WHITE

Has one or two small black dots on wings.



CLOUDED SULPHUR

Medium sized and abundant with dark spots.



EASTERN TAILED-BLUE

Small, flies low to the ground.



RED SPOTTED PURPLE

A woodland butterfly.



PAINTED LADY

Flies fast and likes thistle plants.



PEARL CRESCENT

Small butterfly. Common along sunny road edges.



MONARCH

Beautiful "King" of butterflies.

Keep track of the butterflies you see with tally marks!

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Bloomin' Birdathon

Top Ten Trees!



AMERICAN BEECH
Smooth,
grey trunk.



NORTHERN RED OAK
One of our
most common oaks.



BLACK LOCUST
Pendulous, white
fragrant blooms.



TULIP TREE
Beautiful blooms that
look like tulips.



EASTERN REDBUD
Pink flowers and
heart-shaped leaves.



FLOWERING DOGWOOD
Pink or white blooms.



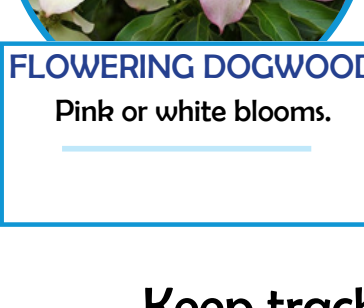
RED MAPLE
Common tree with
"helicopter" seeds.



AMERICAN HOLLY
Prickly leaves with
classic red berries.



AMERICAN SYCAMORE
Likes to be near water.
Camouflage-like bark.



WILLOW OAK
Common street tree with
narrow leaves.

Keep track of the trees
you see with tally marks!

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