

# Bird Checklist Of Bear Creek Pioneers Park

By: Fred Collins  
&  
John Berner

Design By: Kendra Kocob



Merlin

**Commissioner Steve Radack** welcomes you to Bear Creek Pioneers Park. This checklist is the result of a cooperative effort between the Houston Audubon Society's Citizen Science Committee and Precinct 3 park staff.

Bear Creek Pioneers Park occupies part of Addicks Reservoir, created by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers in the 1940's to prevent a repetition of a disastrous flood that damaged Houston in 1935. Harris County leased 2,154 acres of the reservoir in 1965 and created the park, which is named for one of the creeks in the area. The park and the entire reservoir are subject to flooding, but most of the land is dry most of the time. The Precinct 3 Parks headquarters is in the park, as is a small zoo, which includes several Texas owls and hawks.

The park became a favorite birding spot not long after it opened because the only Acorn Woodpecker ever found on the Upper Texas Coast was present from January 7 through Feb 24, 1968.

Today the park is known for wintering birds including Merlin, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, Rusty Blackbird, Purple Finch and Pine Siskin. The Merlins are often in the picnic and pavilion areas. Other birds are often found along N. Golbow Drive in the vicinity of Langham Creek. A small wooded wetland north of the intersection of S. Golbow Drive and Fox Lane is a good place for Rusty Blackbird. This spot is also good for migrating warblers in spring. Water birds including egrets, herons, White Ibis and Wood Duck are also found here. During drier periods the equestrian and nature trail makes for a delightful bird walk.

Key:  Abundant  Common  Rare

\*Checklist reflects eBird data through 08/13/09

<http://www.pct3.hctx.net/parks/bearcreekpioneers.aspx>



Species	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Wood Thrush												
American Robin												
<b>Mimidae</b>												
Gray Catbird												
Northern Mockingbird												
Brown Thrasher												
<b>Sturnidae</b>												
European Starling												
<b>Motacillidae</b>												
American Pipit												
Sprague's Pipit												
<b>Bombycillidae</b>												
Cedar Waxwing												
<b>Parulidae</b>												
Blue-winged Warbler												
Gldn-winged Warbler												
Tennessee Warbler												
Orange-crown Warb.												
Nashville Warbler												
Northern Parula												
Yellow Warbler												
Chestnut-sided Warb.												
Magnolia Warbler												
Ylw-rumped Warbler												
Blk-throat Grn. Warb.												
Blackburnian Warb.												
Ylw-throated Warbler												
Pine Warbler												
Palm Warbler												
Bay-breast. Warbler												
Blackpoll Warbler												
Cerulean Warbler												
Blk-and-wht. Warbler												
American Redstart												
Prothonotary Warbler												
Worm-eating Warbler												
Swainson's Warbler												
Ovenbird												
North. Waterthrush												
Louis. Waterthrush												
Kentucky Warbler												

Species	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Mourning Warbler												
Common Yellowthroat												
Hooded Warbler												
Wilson's Warbler												
Canada Warbler												
Yellow-breasted Chat												
<b>THRAUPIDAE</b>												
Summer Tanager												
Scarlet Tanager												
Western Tanager												
<b>EMBERIZIDAE</b>												
Spotted Towhee												
Eastern Towhee												
Chipping Sparrow												
Field Sparrow												
Vesper Sparrow												
Savannah Sparrow												
Grasshop. Sparrow												
Le Conte's Sparrow												
Fox Sparrow												
Song Sparrow												
Lincoln's Sparrow												
Swamp Sparrow												
Wht-throat. Sparrow												
Harris's Sparrow												
Wht-crown. Sparrow												

Species	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Dark-eyed Junco												
<b>CARDINALIDAE</b>												
Northern Cardinal												
Rose-breast. Grosb.												
Blk-head. Grosbeak												
Indigo Bunting												
Painted Bunting												
Dickcissel												
<b>ICTERIDAE</b>												
Red-wing. Blackbird												
Eastern Meadowlark												
Rusty Blackbird												
Brewer's Blackbird												
Common Grackle												
Great-tailed Grackle												
Brwn-head. Cowbird												
Orchard Oriole												
Bullock's Oriole												
Baltimore Oriole												
<b>FRINGILLIDAE</b>												
Purple Finch												
House Finch												
Pine Siskin												
American Goldfinch												
<b>PASSERIDAE</b>												
House Sparrow												



