

B.I.R.D. Bird Information Research and Data

2021 Annual Program Report

Warner Park Nature Center, Friends of Warner Parks, and Nashville Metro Parks and Recreation

2021 BIRD Research Projects

1. Long-term Fall Migration Bird Banding (1982—40 years!): 96 captures, with 21 recaptures. Inexplicably low capture rate despite good weather conditions.
2. Long-term Winter Bird Banding (1983): 222 captures, with 160 recaptures.
3. Long-term Spring Migration Bird Banding (1983): 25 captures, with 7 recaptures
4. Monitoring Avian Productivity & Survivorship (MAPS, 1991): continent-wide research with Institute of Bird Populations, 114 captures, with 30 recaptures
5. Breeding Bird Survey (1985): 272 birds of 48 species
6. Bluebird Nesting Box (1936): Banded 133 bluebird nestlings & 13 adults, 9 adult recaptures, 28 Tree Swallows, 3 tufted Titmouse, 4 Carolina Chickadee, and 16 Carolina Wren
7. Purple Martin Nest Box (2002): 12 active nests, 47 fledged, banded 27 nestlings and 2 adults. Results submitted to Purple Martin Conservation Association.
8. WPNC Hummingbird Banding (2002): 105 banded (93 new, 12 recaptures).
9. Metro Hummingbird Banding Projects at Bells Bend (2009), Beaman and Shelby Bottoms (2011): Captures this year—50 at Bells, 27 at Beaman, and 16 at Shelby. Nice recapture at Bells was an adult female first captured in 2018—at least 4 years old. While we didn't band it, Shelby had a winter Rufous Hummingbird on 29 December.
10. Project FeederWatch (1997): Partnership with Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon. Volunteers held 21 counts and observed 29 species from November 2020-April 2021. Results submitted to Project FeederWatch.
11. eBird (2015): Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon. Results from each banding session for birds banded and birds seen & heard are reported,
12. iNaturalist (2018): Warner Park Biodiversity Project with banded species highlighted
13. Nashville Chapter of Tennessee Ornithological Society bird counts(1927): To assess long-term populations trends. Number of species observed in our area for each count— 88 spring, 69 fall, and 48 Christmas count
14. Barn Swallow Project (2018): Park-wide survey found 86 nests, 41 of which were active. We banded 46 nestlings at the Steeplechase where there were 31 active nests & 85 fledglings. The Learning Center building had 10 active nests & 46 fledglings. We contribute our results to the iNaturalist Swallow Tracker Project.
15. Motus (2019): Second receiver station installed at Harpeth Hills Golf Course. Radio-tagged 29 birds (11 Swainson's Thrush, 3 Gray-cheeked Thrush, 1 Veery, 4 Wood Thrush, 6 Purple Martin). Highlights: Radio-tagged Wood Thrush pair breeding at nature center, Swainson's Thrush detected in Costa Rica, Purple Martin fledglings joined large Nashville migration roost.
16. Northern Saw-whet Owls (2007): On 03 November, captured our 3rd ever saw-whet at 1015pm—a hatch year male.



BIRD Program by the #s	2021
Research Projects	16 Projects. Radio-tagged Purple Martins, Saw-whet Owls reinstated, no Bird Genoscape project
Bird Banding Station	40th year—Ongoing since Fall 1982, will continue to celebrate in 2022
Birds banded	56 banding sessions and 882 bird captured (330 less than last year) with 233 recaptures
Eastern Bluebirds	133 nestlings & 13 adults banded, 9 adults recaptured
Ruby-throated Hummingbirds	190 hummingbirds banded & 15 recaptures at Warner, Shelby, Bells, & Beaman
Purple Martins	27 nestlings banded, 12 gourds occupied
Barn Swallows	46 nestlings banded at Steeplechase, at least 91 fledglings from 3 locations in the parks
Motus and Life Tag Transmitters	2 receiver stations, 1 foreign detection, 29 Life Tags deployed on 5 species of thrush and martins
Best hummingbird day	34 hummingbirds captured in 1.5 hrs on 15 September, a record for us
Last banding session of the Fall	39 birds captured of 13 species, including 11 Field Sparrows
Recaptures	26% of total birds were recaptures. Most of these during winter banding where 72% were recaps
Visitors and Programs	Engaged with 1,901 visitors during banding sessions, bird walks, and public programs
BIRD Volunteers	Team of 51 trained volunteers, contributing over 1,566 volunteer hours
Partner Organizations	14 research partners
New Federal Permits	1 Auxiliary permit for Purple Martin radio-tags and colored leg bands
BIRD Intern	6th summer with a BIRD Intern, Savanah Emery, funded by Lipscomb University's Biology Dept
BIRD Staff	2 part-time staff fully funded by Friends of Warner Parks

2021 BIRD Program Volunteers

Thank you to our amazing team of wonderful, dedicated volunteers and staff. 51 volunteers dedicated 1,566 hours

Kathy Shaw	Caroline Schism	Mary Griffin
Diana McLusky	Charlotte Barnes	Melissa Donohue
Susan Bradfield	Chris Sloan	Matt Jenkins
John Kell	Cody Cook	Nancy Cole
Ethel Kawamura	Debbie Bright	Perry Wasdin
Leah LaRocco	Elizabeth Cook	Rachael Payton
Patty Ghertner	Graham Gerdeman	Rachel Anderson
Justin Hiltner	Heather Gallagher	Rebecca & Mia Dandekar
Alan Plummer	Jean Louis Barnes	Samantha Oliveres-Meija
Sandy Bivens	Jordan Jurnisky	Steve Ghertner
Ann Acheson	Kathy VonArb	Surya Gunesekares
Anne Hoos	Kim Bailey	Susan Peoples
Austin Anderson	Linda Breggin	Tahira Mohyuddin
Ava Cassidy	Lise Brown	Terry Cook
Beth Preston	Margie Hunter	Thomas Copland
Bob Parrish	Mary Griffin	Toni Rodgers
Camille Monohan	Melissa Donohue	Vera Roberts
		Virginia P'Poole



2021 BIRD Program Highlights

- Diana McLusky & Sandy Bivens published in the TN Ornithological Society's journal The Migrant. This article tells the story of a nestling banded here at Warner Park that emigrated & bred in Wisconsin!
- Jack Sudderth completed his Eagle Scout project on the nature center campus—a beautiful Chimney Swift tower.
- Thanks to a generous donation, we have a second Purple Martin gourd system that successfully fledged young martins.
- Formed a Research Advisory Team to assist the BIRD Program with research priorities, data analysis, & scientific publications. A special thank you to Dr. David Aborn at UT Chattanooga, Dr. John Lewis at Lipscomb University, Dr. Darlene Panvini at Belmont University, & David Hanni at TN Wildlife Conservation Agency for serving on this team.
- Several bird-related stories and blogs published at warneparkblogspot.com & www.warnerparks.org.
- Our Motus project was featured on PBS tv program Tennessee Wild Side @ youtube.com: telemetry stations decline in birds.
- Kathy Shaw & Laura Cook shared our Purple Martin research on the Mark Fraley Podcast—<https://www.markfraley.com>.
- Volunteers worked on our 40 year BIRD database—a special thanks to Jordan Jurnisky, Tahira Mohyuddin, and Nancy Cole.
- Dr. Dawn Wilkins from UT Martin presented on owls: <https://www.youtube.com/c/WarnerParkNatureCenter>.
- The team attended several professional virtual meetings such as the annual American Ornithological Union conference.
- Savannah Emery completed her summer BIRD internship from Lipscomb University. She assisted with MAPS, Barn Swallow monitoring & banding, and is currently analyzing 20 years of hummingbird data for her research project.
- The Wood Thrush Shop helped us set up our bird feeder systems in the Sandy Bivens Bird Garden.
- Motus research: We now have 52 radio-tagged birds, a second receiver station, & learning more about thrushes & martins!

2021 Supporters and Partners

A huge thank you to all who have supported us through donations to Friends of Warner Parks. The BIRD Program is funded by Friends of Warner Parks in partnership with Warner Park Nature Center and Nashville Metro Parks & Recreation. A special thank you to the Andrea Waitt Carlton Family Foundation for their long-term commitment to the BIRD Program and to the Barbara J. Mapp Foundation for supporting the Motus research.

So many of our research projects are made possible because of partnerships with other organizations including Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Inland Bird Banding Association, Institute for Bird Populations, National Audubon Society, Purple Martin Conservation Association, Southeast Motus Working Group, Tennessee Bluebird Society, Tennessee Ornithological Society, Tennessee Wildlife Federation, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, and The Nature Conservancy of Tennessee.

