

2014 Maryland May Count

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The annual May Count was held on Saturday, 10 May 2014. Results were submitted from 19 of Maryland's 23 counties (Table 1), five more than submitted results for the 2013 May Count.

Weather statewide on 10 May was unsettled, with most compilers reporting significant cloudiness through much of the day. Light showers were widespread but at least one strong thunderstorm was recorded. Temperatures were generally mild, with lows in the 50s and 60s °F and highs ranging from the 70s to about 80 °F.

Table 1. 2014 Maryland May Count: participating counties, county codes, and compilers.

County	Code	Compiler
Garrett	GA	Connie Skipper
Allegany	AL	J.B. Churchill
Frederick	FR	Michael Welch
Montgomery	MO	Diane Ford
Carroll	CA	Don Jewell
Howard	HO	Kevin Heffernan
Prince George's	PG	Fred Fallon
Anne Arundel	AA	Dotty Mumford
Charles	CH	George Jett
Calvert	CT	Sherman Suter
St. Mary's	SM	Patty Craig
Harford	HA	Deb Mosley
Cecil	CE	Richard Donham
Talbot	TA	Les Coble
Dorchester	DO	Harry Armistead
Caroline	CN	Debby Bennett
Wicomico	WI	Ellen Lawler
Worcester	WO	Marcia Balestri
Somerset	SO	Paul Bystrak

A total of 290 counters in 197 parties turned up 238 species and 114,004 individual birds (Table 2). Among the most unusual sightings reported were: a lingering Snow Goose and two Common Goldeneyes in Worcester; three Mississippi Kites at the Fort Smallwood Park hawk watch in Anne Arundel; two White-rumped Sandpipers in Dorchester; three Black Terns in Harford; an Olive-sided Flycatcher in Montgomery; a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher in Charles; an early Alder Flycatcher in Garrett; a Swainson’s Warbler in Calvert (this report is under review by the Maryland records committee); a Mourning Warbler in Harford; and two lingering Rusty Blackbirds, one in Howard and one in Prince George’s (Table 3).

Table 2. 2014 Maryland May Count: summary.

	GA	AL	FR	MO	CA	HO	PG	AA	CH	CT	SM	HA	CE	TA	DO	CN	WI	SO	WO	Total
Parties			10	5	9	61	19	21	8	7	7	8	3	6	9	12	8	1	3	197
Observers	42	8	19	5	14	39	30	28	8	11	14	12	8	7	13	14	12	2	4	290
Start Time	0400		0445			0500	0530	0600	0500	0500	0500	0600	0445			0500	0450	0515	0615	
Stop Time	2130		1900			2040	2030	1800	1100	2045	1500	1900	1200	1850		2200	1915	1915	2020	
Driving																				
hours	49		50		17	37	20	12	26	3	34			4	39	26	16	4	12	349
miles	428		476		301	358	223	86	203	17	360			105	574	360	120	25	130	3766
Walking																				
hours	82		36	10	47	196	106	59	28	41	18			16	71	35	9	6	8	768
miles	62		22	14	32	135	84	41	18	28	13			13	4	17	13	10	7	4
Owling																				
hours	1		2.3			0.2	2.6		2		6.5			3	2	9	2	0.5		0.6
Stationary																				
hours	42		5	1	3	4	6	10		5		2				13	11	4		106
Other tractor								var.								boat				
hours	1							13								2				16
miles	19							11								1				31
Total Species	149	113	138	103	125	145	161	144	121	137	140	150	107	112	171	136	105	84	113	238
Total Birds	6660	2431	11375	1721	5905	14784	6952	8199	5338	4411	6645	6018	1004	1817	15704	7829	2630	915	3666	114004

Despite the concerted efforts of the counters, a few expected species escaped detection. These include Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Henslow’s Sparrow, and Pine Siskin (163 in 2013). Only one Red-breasted Nuthatch was reported in contrast to 22 found in 2013.

Many thanks to all of the participants and compilers. I look forward to future May Counts and hope for 100% participation by Maryland’s counties. As I tell the Frederick Bird Club, it is the best day of the year to be out counting birds!

Table 3. 2014 Maryland May Count: observed species.

	GA	AL	FR	MO	CA	HO	PG	AA	CH	CT	SM	HA	CE	TA	DO	CN	WI	SO	WO	Total	
Snow Goose																				1	1
Canada Goose	151	20	385	92	263	741	649	409	137	41	101	162	39	27	271	209	74	8	80	3859	
Mute Swan			1	8			1	4	1		6	2									23
Tundra Swan							1					2	1		1						5
Wood Duck	22	10	14	49	8	28	132	22	11	5		52	5	10	44	21	8	2	1	444	
Gadwall							4					1			1				2		8
American Wigeon							3				8										11
American Black Duck	1		2				2					2		3	56			13			79
Mallard	37	8	98	6	33	123	82	83	44	42	20	16	18	52	210	30	11	2	11		926
Blue-winged Teal	1						1	2							1						5
Northern Shoveler																1					1
Green-winged Teal															17				2		19
Ring-necked Duck	2								1												3
Lesser Scaup															2						2
Surf Scoter																16					16
White-winged Scoter																1					1
Black Scoter											5					4					9
scoter sp.																56					56
Long-tailed Duck		1																			1
Bufflehead	1																				1
Common Goldeneye																				2	2
Hooded Merganser	1			1		6	1					1									10
Common Merganser	7		5	1	1																14
Red-breasted Merganser		9		6			1									3					19
Ruddy Duck	5						3		1							47					56
Northern Bobwhite												1			9	5					15
Ring-necked Pheasant									1												1
Ruffed Grouse	8																				8
Wild Turkey	17	2	12	4	1	4	12	6	28	8	1	54		12	30	94	6		1		292
Common Loon	10				4	1	4	3		3	10	3			16						54
Pied-billed Grebe				2		1	1														4
Horned Grebe				7	2						8				8						25
Red-necked Grebe	1			10																	11
Double-crested Cormorant	10	1	25	2	19	39	154	109	43	28	764	660		190	621	36	34	21	74		2830
American White Pelican																1					1
Brown Pelican											2				39						41
American Bittern			1			1		1									1				4
Least Bittern							2					2			2						6
Great Blue Heron	2		36	10	2	54	52	90	24	13	37	76	37	8	97	47	13	11	1		610
Great Egret			6	10		1	1	1	2	3	5	2			106	2		8	9		156
Snowy Egret							3		23	1				1	88	2				7	125
Little Blue Heron																			12	3	15
Tricolored Heron							1								1						2
Cattle Egret								1							2					39	42
Green Heron	12	4	12	4	10	34	27	6	4	3	5	3		3	11	3	1		1		143
Black-crowned Night-Heron			19			1	4														3
Glossy Ibis										2	3	2			1	3					155
																					166

	GA	AL	FR	MO	CA	HO	PG	AA	CH	CT	SM	HA	CE	TA	DO	CN	WI	SO	WO	Total	
Black Vulture		2	62	5	26	120	108	83	47	13	21	18	19	4	24	43	13		2	610	
Turkey Vulture	49	31	109		69	160	74	154	64	72	104	64	11	13	278	184	65	14	53	1568	
Osprey	4			9	3	10	53	91	128	60	117	27	3	35	266	36	29	1	7	879	
Mississippi Kite								3												3	
Bald Eagle	8	1	3	1	2	4	14	6	37	16	12	61	12	10	156	18	12	13	6	392	
Northern Harrier			2		1		3	1	1	1		3			6					18	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1		4		3	2		10							2	1				23	
Cooper's Hawk	1		2		3	13	3	5	5	1	2		1	1		2			1	40	
Red-shouldered Hawk	2		17	6	6	43	14	18	8	4	1	6			2	5	1		1	134	
Broad-winged Hawk	10	1	2		1	3		52					2							71	
Red-tailed Hawk	9	8	15	3	16	21	12	15	3	1	3	16	2	1	17	11	2	1		156	
Clapper Rail											5				44		2	19	2	72	
King Rail							1				1	2			1					5	
Virginia Rail	1					1	1	1			2	4		2	66	1	2	4		85	
Sora rail sp.	1					1	1				1	2		1	2					9	
Common Gallinule															8					8	
American Coot			2					1			1									4	
Black-necked Stilt															3			1		4	
American Oystercatcher															4				5	9	
Black-bellied Plover							2		1		1				15	9			1280	1308	
Semipalmated Plover							10				3	1	1	3	207	73	4	9		311	
Killdeer	25	8	40	1	7	21	22	25	11	5	34	30	1	12	43	17	7		2	311	
Spotted Sandpiper	39	8	25	2	31	38	23	10	11	4	9	16	3	3	14	10	1		6	253	
Solitary Sandpiper	8	1	31		5	50	20	29		4	10	12	4	4	12	3	2	1		196	
Greater Yellowlegs			1	5		11	5			5	6	2		7	68	17	2	1	66	196	
Willet															18			23	16	57	
Lesser Yellowlegs	1	2	20		1	5	12	2	2	20		3	3	2	53	23	2	3	24	178	
Ruddy Turnstone															6			1	13	20	
Sanderling											5				5					10	
Dunlin										2					712		109	291		1114	
Least Sandpiper	15	6	33			31	55	6	3	18	14	9	57	3	209	77		8	3	547	
White-rumped Sandpiper															2					2	
Pectoral Sandpiper														2	6	1				9	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	3		2			2	12			8	4		1	3	58	2		37		132	
peep sp.											35									35	
Short-billed Dowitcher															18			3	32	53	
Wilson's Snipe			1			1		4			2	2			2	8				20	
American Woodcock	2					1						7				2				12	
Bonaparte's Gull								3		33					2	2				40	
Laughing Gull							170	603		136	134				183	2161	1024	54	31	448	4944
Ring-billed Gull				1		6	142	249	73	92	246	50	3	31	36	135			18	1082	
Herring Gull							12	48		25	87	1	25	5	18	1		2	55	279	
Lesser Black-backed Gull																			4	4	
Great Black-backed Gull								21		95	23	3		1	15			5	52	215	
gull sp.											503									503	
Least Tern								7		6		14		20	27	2	3	2	7	88	
Caspian Tern								46	8						2					79	
Black Tern															3					3	

	GA	AL	FR	MO	CA	HO	PG	AA	CH	CT	SM	HA	CE	TA	DO	CN	WI	SO	WO	Total		
Common Tern								4		11	2			12	5					22	56	
Forster's Tern							2	1	1	43	10	1			151	5	4	8	7		233	
Royal Tern								3		10	16			1	1					30	61	
tern sp.											1										1	
Black Skimmer																					12	12
Rock Pigeon	100	20	101	1	68	114	36	46		3	12	53		24	48	72	2	6	2		708	
Mourning Dove	120	61	254	27	138	330	264	146	92	82	127	59	12	33	145	170	49	6	17		2132	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	7	18	64	3	33	2	15	38	31	13	10	3	1	19	10	12	1	3		284	
Black-billed Cuckoo		2	1			8		1		1		1				1					15	
Eastern Screech-Owl	2	1	1		1							2		1	1	3	2		1		15	
Great Horned Owl				3		3	2			1		3	1		4	4	1				22	
Barred Owl	2		9		1	10	1	8	6	3		4	2	2	4	9	3				64	
Common Nighthawk	2			100		5		1							1	5					114	
Chuck-will's-widow											4				22	2	7		6		41	
Eastern Whip-poor-will	5				1							35	5		1	4	7		2		60	
Chimney Swift	24	57	165	10	94	125	23	76	61	22	32	22	6	41	52	249	14	4	8		1085	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	88	20	8	3	15	18		25	5	14	12	16	1	7	21	26	11	2			292	
Belted Kingfisher	4		13	3	4	19		6	6	2	1	5	1	1		3					68	
Red-headed Woodpecker	16		11		1	3		3	8	7	7	2	2		16		3	1			80	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	37	19	140	38	69	247	15	82	81	52	37	48	14	4	42	43	15	1	4		988	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	6																				6	
Downy Woodpecker	42	24	52	12	47	114	7	42	6	12	10	20	7	5	30	19	9	1			459	
Hairy Woodpecker	32	5	5	1	7	22	2	9	5	5	1	7	2	1	7	6					117	
Northern Flicker	48	8	17	2	16	45	4	12	2	5	11	5	3	3	20	12	3	1			217	
Pileated Woodpecker	18	8	23	10	16	44	2	12	15	13	5	20	1	2	19	28	5	2	2		245	
American Kestrel	6		2		2			1		1		2			4	3					21	
Merlin											1				1						2	
Peregrine Falcon									2	1					1						4	
Olive-sided Flycatcher				1																	1	
Eastern Wood-Pewee	14	6	91	14	34	115	8	27	52	61	36	25	9	10	45	27	29	2	1		606	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher									1												1	
Acadian Flycatcher	10	4	58	14	19	169	3	25	87	68	46	61	11	2	15	10	16		3		621	
Alder Flycatcher	1								0												1	
Willow Flycatcher	4		6		3	3			0												16	
Least Flycatcher	21					1				1			1		2						26	
Empid. sp.					1																1	
Eastern Phoebe	30	13	44	4	39	53	6	12	19	13	4	21	6	1	1	8	2		2		278	
Great Crested Flycatcher	13	5	79	48	50	105	17	40	53	40	74	33	6	25	270	85	70	12	14		1039	
Eastern Kingbird	18	3	102	5	65	118	10	40	15	11	26	35	6	9	71	25	20	5	5		589	
White-eyed Vireo	5	1	26	14	24	41	1	31	52	34	36	15	8	4	57	18	44	14	5		430	
Yellow-throated Vireo	4	4	7	3	8	22	1	6	3	11	5	23	3	1	4		1		1		107	
Blue-headed Vireo	29	1	2					3	19	10			2			1					67	
Warbling Vireo	2	7	34	2	11	36		2		1		15	3								113	
Red-eyed Vireo	158	66	254	90	106	460	28	151	258	176	122	133	38	14	88	31	35	6	12		2226	

	GA	AL	FR	MO	CA	HO	PG	AA	CH	CT	SM	HA	CE	TA	DO	CN	WI	SO	WO	Total
Blue Jay	109	51	244	28	131	519	52	378	40	70	55	97	18	19	56	70	32		5	1974
American Crow	162	24	236	16	260	350	21	171	123	82	133	101	20	37	153	136	30	8	3	2066
Fish Crow		5	26	10	15	51	16	52	7	27	14	20	2	9	31	36	13	2	6	342
crow sp.			7		30	130	40	17			1			1	21		19			266
Common Raven	24	6	3				3													36
Horned Lark	1		49		8	23				4	2	1	3	1	40	46	2		7	187
Purple Martin	11		42		30	89		11	113	10	37	53		40	314	364	66		4	1184
Tree Swallow	142	8	92	28	38	169	6	89	59	8	12	309	15	13	204	100	23	10		1325
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	34	20	43		6	56	1	8	11	28	4	145		2	2	7				367
Bank Swallow					5			18				100			3	10				136
Cliff Swallow	18	25	9		7	83	5	2			1				2	4				156
Barn Swallow	190	31	293	19	121	304	24	163	153	115	196	300	12	35	496	165	81	11	46	2755
Carolina Chickadee			119	14	111	259	31	135	76	63	71	60	25	16	152	50	34	10	2	1228
Black-capped Chickadee	116	37																		153
Tufted Titmouse	78	44	157	57	117	365	22	142	187	168	105	58	19	21	150	98	55	7	10	1860
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1																			1
White-breasted Nuthatch	63	25	30	8	23	59	4	19	11	19	7	17	3	3		9	2			302
Brown-headed Nuthatch										6	5			3	40		2	14		70
Brown Creeper	6						8													14
House Wren	58	18	123	15	60	118		11	13	6	6	18	2		51	13	15	20	9	556
Winter Wren	2																			2
Marsh Wren	1									1	2	3			48	2	5	18		80
Carolina Wren	11	25	166	31	59	222	27	88	78		68	31	15	26	115	68	69	10	9	1118
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	31	19	161	52	93	290	166	75	112	63	21	122	10	4	55	6	55	8	2	1345
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	13				2					1				1	1					18
Eastern Bluebird	29	8	97	16	58	145	71	72	80	35	58	30	4	19	122	69	10	6	6	935
Veery	3		7		10	2	4	2	16	3	6	7	1							61
Gray-cheeked Thrush							1			1		1								3
Swainson's Thrush	2		10	5		29	18	1	5	6	5	17	5	1					1	105
Hermit Thrush	14				3		2									4				23
Wood Thrush	30	11	147	15	96	261	99	48	77	56	37	28	42	8	34	17	32		9	1047
thrush sp.														1						1
American Robin	393	267	700	7	208	583	290	470	84	73	101	117	13	88	537	513	194	8	33	4679
Gray Catbird	171	61	413	89	465	497	135	114	28	50	81	107	26	12	50	38	27	11	8	2383
Brown Thrasher	38	9	37	2	19	30	19	14	51	14	31	19	1	19	14	33	7		2	359
Northern Mockingbird	2	7	105	2	59	154	63	98	15	26	101	37	11	27	158	100	27	3	14	1009
European Starling	264	283	1131	96	402	610	600	398	254	124	304	170	3	61	680	569	149	2	169	6269
Cedar Waxwing	17	13	144	46	3	157	387	172	126	21	58	123		3	47	28			1	1346
Ovenbird	156	7	69	11	52	159	93	31	127	66	65	30	48	14	84	28	41	15	8	1104
Worm-eating Warbler	2	4	2		9	11	2	2	5	24	15	10	6	3	10	3	21		1	130
Louisiana Waterthrush	8	1	17		2	55	8	2	11	11	10	20		1	2	1	10		2	161
Northern Waterthrush	10	3	1	1	1	16	16	2	2	1	2	7	1	1	2	1			1	68
Golden-winged Warbler	2																			2
Blue-winged Warbler		1	1	1	2	7						2								14
Black-and-white Warbler	41	4	9	1	16	63	23	15	37	31	24	30	8		14	8	8		1	333
Prothonotary Warbler	1		4	4			16	20	19	1	1	13			56	7	19		3	164

	GA	AL	FR	MO	CA	HO	PG	AA	CH	CT	SM	HA	CE	TA	DO	CN	WI	SO	WO	Total
Swainson's Warbler										1										1
Tennessee Warbler	9		2		1	2			1											15
Nashville Warbler	1	3				2	3					1	1							11
Mourning Warbler												1								1
Kentucky Warbler	5		1		3	5	1	3	4	13	7	9	4				6	1		62
Common Yellowthroat	170	17	79	16	100	251	148	95	72	122	70	124	13	14	262	33	41	68	4	1699
Hooded Warbler	30	5	7		5	10	21	8	53	34	13	3	6		1					196
American Redstart	91	43	54	6	15	110	63	23	15	30	69	65	8	1	25	7	3			628
Cape May Warbler		1	5	1		5	2						1							15
Cerulean Warbler	18	3	5			1						20								47
Northern Parula	29	10	46	9	42	173	109	38	146	75	61	108	20	6	13	8	7		2	902
Magnolia Warbler	34	5	14	7	7	42	21	8	1	9	3	24	4		1					180
Bay-breasted Warbler	5	2	2		2	4	1			1										17
Blackburnian Warbler	20	3	4		1	7	3		1	1		4			1					45
Yellow Warbler	78	22	78	2	53	70	32	26	8	9	17	34	6	1	5	1	2	4		448
Chestnut-sided Warbler	93	5	10		3	49	7	1		4		5	1				1			179
Blackpoll Warbler		7	26	2	4	50	33	4	21	51	16	28	3	2	2	2	4		1	256
Black-throated Blue Warbler	36	4	19	1	13	51	32	7	4	37	14	26	6				4			254
Palm Warbler	1	1	2		1	4	1										2			12
Pine Warbler	3	1			4	7	5	11	21	16	36		9	5	101	6	23	12	1	261
Yellow-rumped Warbler	34	11	47	2	24	76	76	35	11	13	66	62	11	3	34	18	3			526
Yellow-throated Warbler	1	1	1			1	6	2	19	23	8	1			1		7	6		77
Prairie Warbler		3	10	4	2	21	19	17	19	10	27	11			31	16	19	6	6	221
Black-throated Green Warbler	76	9	17	2	6	36	16	1	3	6	7	10	6					1		196
Canada Warbler	5		3	2	1	16	8		3	1		9	2							50
Wilson's Warbler			1		1	6	2	2				2								14
Warbler sp.													5							5
Yellow-breasted Chat	4	4	7	6	1	11	15	6	17	13	12	15	3	2	11	11	9	1	1	149
Eastern Towhee	193	31	130	12	72	184	75	44	35	32	39	22	24	1	45	7	6	12	4	968
Chipping Sparrow	143	45	328	18	144	319	110	73	104	44	104	76	6	52	191	106	55	5	10	1933
Field Sparrow	63	7	118	9	35	45	26	54	15	7	12	14	3	4	16	21	11			460
Vesper Sparrow			15													7				22
Savannah Sparrow	16	2			1	34	27	1	5	3	9	51			8	2				159
Grasshopper Sparrow	10		44	2	11	28	20	7	8	8	27	11	3	9	39	19	1		1	248
Saltmarsh Sparrow															1			3		4
Seaside Sparrow															125			3	48	176
Song Sparrow	144	54	170	4	95	175	67	85	18	30	20	14	1	1	5	10	4	10		907
Lincoln's Sparrow					1	1	1					1								4
Swamp Sparrow	39			1	7	15	7	1		3	7	6			12	1				99
White-throated Sparrow	13	15	8	2	19	37	26	49		8		17	4	5	12	8	11		3	237
White-crowned Sparrow	9	4	6		2	3	2													26

	GA	AL	FR	MO	CA	HO	PG	AA	CH	CT	SM	HA	CE	TA	DO	CN	WI	SO	WO	Total
Dark-eyed Junco	11	1				1	1	1												15
Summer Tanager				3			14	7	20	37	37	1		5	55	7	13		4	203
Scarlet Tanager	111	32	88	16	51	171	79	26	62	33	31	42	15	4	12	14	5			792
Northern Cardinal	103	70	490	71	260	686	349	347	156	176	232	144	22	30	249	174	71	18	21	3669
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	78	10	3	2	8	5	2	1	1	4	1	5		1		1	1		1	124
Blue Grosbeak			10			5	22	21	19	10	22	11	1	11	85	42	26	7	1	293
Indigo Bunting	76	45	231	67	67	209	181	87	159	74	134	107	11	18	212	87	87	7	14	1873
Bobolink	65	2	151			194	80		30		10	115	15		14	43				719
Red-winged Blackbird	520	96	606	43	353	636	530	295	217	315	234	133	22	81	1147	212	121	80	67	5708
Eastern Meadowlark	29	4	62	1	10	12	18	3	8	4	41	25	2		35	4	9	7	7	281
Rusty Blackbird						1	1													2
Common Grackle	168	120	425	9	151	211	307	356	276	140	354	65	4	113	1072	720	237	5	165	4898
Boat-tailed Grackle											2				21			5	8	36
Brown-headed Cowbird	57	7	108	16	84	192	112	100	87	67	57	84	18	43	250	162	20	6	13	1483
Orchard Oriole	10	4	15	12	9	63	61	32	30	11	11	52	9	15	72	27	11	11		455
Baltimore Oriole	107	18	98	7	54	153	45	8		1		47	8	1	3	14			1	565
House Finch	22	34	90		55	117	29	124	27	27	22	24		11	16	29	10	2		639
Purple Finch	34	3																		37
American Goldfinch	269	82	309	57	145	303	133	174	59	87	43	78	6	16	147	105	43		5	2061
House Sparrow	44	102	219	29	113	257	12	96	59	60	117	13	1	14	108	250	10	2	4	1510
Total Species	149	113	138	103	125	145	161	144	121	137	140	150	107	112	171	136	105	84	113	238
Total Individuals	6660	2431	11375	1721	5905	14784	6952	8199	5338	4411	6645	6018	1004	1817	15704	7829	2630	915	3666	114004