



Fort Wayne Christmas Bird Count
When: Saturday, December 18, 2010

The Fort Wayne count is held in a 15-mile diameter circle in northern Allen and southern DeKalb Counties. Participants divide into field parties of two to four, each with at least one experienced leader, to count all birds identified by sight or call in a designated section of the circle. Groups drive county roads slowly and walk where public lands or permission from landowners permits.

It is possible to participate in a field party for the day, or for half a day, morning or afternoon. All-day and morning participants meet inside **Hall's Restaurant**, corner of Coliseum Blvd. and Lima Rd., by **6:45 a.m.** Some of us arrive in time to have breakfast at Hall's before 6:45. Parties depart by 7 a.m. to find owls at daybreak. Afternoon-only participants will join their parties at lunch (11-12) at locations designated by each party leader. Be sure to dress for the weather, including waterproof, warm boots for wet or snowy conditions. Pack a thermos and snacks. Some parties will need to bring a sack lunch. There is a participation fee (**\$5 per person** age nineteen and over as of 2009) which goes to National Audubon Society to help defray the cost of compiling and publishing the count data, which goes into a database along with the results of the other counts across the continent.

Persons who live in the count circle can also participate by counting birds at their feeders and in the yard. **There is no fee for feeder watchers.** Call Jim to see if you're in the count circle.

A chili supper follows the count at 6 p.m. at Franke Park Day Camp (Psi Ote Lodge). All participants are invited to eat, share the day's experiences, and join in compiling the day's list.

If you plan to join in the count, please contact the compiler, Jim Haw, by phone at 485-7802, or e-mail jhawillet@aol.com, by December 12. Jim will also take reservations for the chili supper, and he can answer questions or provide further information.

(Hint: when you come in the door, don't reveal your rare sightings until the very last minute!)



Pigeon River Christmas Bird Count
When: Sunday, December 20, 2010

Participants in the Pigeon River count will meet inside Hall's Restaurant, corner of Coliseum Blvd. and Lima Rd., by 6:45 AM. Come early to enjoy a warm breakfast with good company. **If you plan on attending, please notify Gary Tieben at 493-7058, by December 15.** There is a \$5.00 participation fee which goes to the National Audubon Society to help defray the cost of publishing the data from the nationwide counts. Wear warm clothing and boots for wet or snowy conditions. Bring a sack lunch, thermos, and snacks, along with your birding gear. **Because the hunting season will be in progress, you need to wear an article of clothing of hunter orange.**



Pokagon Christmas Bird Count
When: Tuesday, December 28, 2010

Participants for the Pokagon count will meet at the Pokagon State Park Nature Center by 7:45 AM. **If you plan on attending, please notify the Park Nature Center during business hours at 260-833-2012.** Please register **by Dec. 25th.** Remember to bring warm clothes and boots for wet, snowy conditions, and of course, your lunch, drinks and snacks. Usually we meet back at the Nature Center at noon to eat and warm up. There is a \$5.00 participation fee, as in the other counts, and you will need to pay the park entrance fee or use your annual pass.

Did you know.....the Christmas Bird Count started in 1900, so this year's will be the 111th!

This would be a fun project for a snowy weekend, especially if you have internet-savvy children who can enter the data online. All you have to do is count

for at least 15 minutes a day. You can count on your own property, or go to a park or Grandma's house. Audubon is one of the sponsors; another is Wild Birds Unlimited.

14th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count



Count for the Birds in America's Great Backyard: February 18-21, 2011

- No Fee or registration required
- All ages and skill levels welcome
- Track results in real time online
- Count in your backyard, balcony, schoolyard, park, wildlife refuge
- Be a part of the network

Join with thousands of others to find out how many birds are being seen in your area and across the continent this winter. By participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count, you help document where birds are, and track changes in their numbers compared to previous years, helping scientists paint a picture of the state of birds this winter. Imagine scientists 250 years from now comparing 2011's data with their own!

For more information, and to view results, go to <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>



Indiana Audubon Winter Bird Feeder Count

Here's an easy way to count from your own window. The count periods are Nov. 20-25, Dec. 20-25, Jan. 20-25, and Feb. 20-25. You record the highest number of each species seen at one time. The record form is available from DNR biologist John Castrale at jcastrale@dnr.IN.gov.

Last year there were only 3 counts recorded from Allen County.....we can do better than that!

And don't forget **Project FeederWatch**, sponsored by Audubon and Cornell Lab of Ornithology. It starts Nov. 13 and goes into April. Cost is \$15 (\$12 for Lab members.) Check out feederwatch@cornell.edu. It's fun! Involve your kids!