

WELCOME TO THE 2025 FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS BIRDING CHALLENGE



Birding provides countless ways to learn about and experience the world around you. Complete challenge activities between Mar. 1 and Nov. 9 for your chance to win fun, bird-themed prizes.

Over 450 species of birds can be found in Ohio, and they need our support so they can thrive. Join the Five Rivers MetroParks Birding Challenge today to contribute to important citizen science projects and help birds in your own backyard! With 30 tasks to choose from, the challenge has something everyone will enjoy.

- We've designed this challenge with both beginner and advanced birders in mind, so anyone can participate.
- Activities can be completed alone or in a group.
- While all Five Rivers MetroParks locations provide opportunities to bird, we've identified 12 Best Birding Areas to get you started.
- The 2025 challenge runs Mar. 1 through Nov. 9.

Over the course of the challenge, you'll develop birding skills, learn how to help birds and reap the many benefits of birding, including improved mental and physical health. Also, you'll help build a conservation community by sharing your experiences with others, so Get Out & Bird today!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

To enter, complete at least one task in each challenge category for a minimum of six tasks completed. Everyone who enters will receive a MetroParks' Birding Challenge Sticker as well as one entry into this year's raffle. Complete additional tasks to earn more raffle entries!

- You will need to complete at least six tasks to qualify for a sticker and raffle entry - one from each category.
- For every additional six tasks you complete, you'll receive one additional raffle entry. Additional tasks do not need to be in each category, so you can pick and choose which tasks interest you the most.

- For a bonus entry, submit a photo showing all the fun you had during the challenge.
- The maximum raffle entries one participant may earn is six.

RAFFLE PRIZES

- A pair of Nikon PROSTAFF P7 8 x 45 binoculars
- An EcoClean® Medium Seed Tube Feeder and 20lbs of Wild Birds Unlimited Supreme Blend Bird Seed
- A basket of bird-themed goodies including shade-grown, bird friendly coffee, a copy of *Birds of the Photo Ark* by Joel Sartore and Noah Strycker, and a Charley Harper mug

GETTING STARTED

Many of the tasks coordinate with our new Birding Challenge Guide. Get started by reading through this helpful booklet of how-tos, activities and resources.

Learn about the best places to bird by visiting sites identified on our Best Birding Areas map. These locations are marked onsite with park signage, so you'll know when you've arrived at a Best Birding Area.

The 2025 MetroParks' Birding Challenge features 30 tasks from which you can choose to customize your own birding adventure. Complete at least one task from each category to be eligible for prizes. To download the list of challenge tasks, scan the QR code or visit metroparks.org/birdingchallenge.



FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS BIRDING CHALLENGE 2025 ACTIVITY LOG



Complete the form below to submit completed challenge tasks. As a reminder, one task in each category must be completed. You'll receive a challenge sticker and one entry into the raffle. For every additional six tasks you complete, you'll receive an additional entry into the raffle. Submit a photo showing all the fun you had during the challenge for a bonus entry. The maximum raffle entries one participant may earn is six.

CONTACT INFORMATION (All fields must be filled out)

Name _____

Date of birth _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

ABOUT YOU (All fields must be filled out)

1. What category best describes your birding experience level at the beginning of this challenge?

- Beginner Intermediate Experienced

2. How did you hear about the birding challenge? (Check all that apply)

- Attended a MetroParks' program
 Best Birding Area signage
 Newsletter
 ParkWays magazine
 Social media
 Website
 Other _____

3. Which Five Rivers MetroPark facilities did you bird during the challenge? (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aullwood Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugarcreek |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carriage Hill | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunrise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cox Arboretum | <input type="checkbox"/> Taylorsville |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deeds Point | <input type="checkbox"/> Twin Creek |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastwood | <input type="checkbox"/> Wegerzyn Gardens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Englewood | <input type="checkbox"/> Wesleyan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Germantown | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hills & Dales | <small>Conservation Areas:</small> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Huffman | <input type="checkbox"/> Dull Woods |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Island | <input type="checkbox"/> Medlar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Possum Creek | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring Run |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RiverScape | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodman Fen |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

CHALLENGE TASKS COMPLETED

1. **SPOT!** Find the birds (Complete at least 1)

- A B C D E

2. **LEARN!** Build your skills (Complete at least 1)

- A B C D E

3. **SUPPORT!** Help the birds (Complete at least 1)

- A B C D E

4. **ENJOY!** Birding for well-being (Complete at least 1)

- A B C D E

5. **GET TOGETHER!** Birding with others (Complete at least 1)

- A B C D E

6. **HAVE FUN!** Special birding experiences (Complete at least 1)

- A B C D E

7. **BONUS ENTRY:** Share a photo showing all the fun you had during the challenge! Those who submit a photo will receive an additional entry into the raffle.*

(*Photos may be used by Five Rivers MetroParks. By providing this image, you are granting Five Rivers MetroParks permission to freely use this content.)

COMMENTS _____

SUBMIT your Birding Challenge Log

- Online at: metroparks.org/birdingchallenge
- By mail: send your completed, printed copy to Five Rivers MetroParks, Attn: Birding Challenge 409 E. Monument Ave. Dayton, OH 45402

