

From: "'Alice Horst' via The Village Birders" <The-Village-Birders@googlegroups.com>  
Subject: [the-village-birders] Villages' June Bird Challenge 2026 our 6th year!  
Date: July 3, 2026 at 10:52:19 PM EDT  
To: Pepper Susan <spepp336@yahoo.com>, VILLAGE BIRDERS <the-village-birders@googlegroups.com>  
Reply-To: ahorst@comcast.net

7/32026

Good Evening, Birders:

WOW, what a month of chasing birds. From the north end of TV where I live to the south end many times. HOT, HOT, HOT!  
For 5 years we had increased our numbers because of more participants and/or expansion of The Villages.

That was not how it happened this year.

I saw fewer of every species that I counted and I never saw a Pied-billed Grebe, Gray Catbird, or Yellowlegs; Swallow-tailed Kite was hard to find.

I went out every day when I could and searched.....

Other birders reported where birds were being spotted as I did.

Everyone of you helped with our total count even if your list was short.

The purpose of this count is:

- 1) to see "migration" in person - birds that are here in June nest here - birds that leave (migrate) nest elsewhere.
- 2) to get outside in Nature.
- 3) to see NEW birding areas IN The Villages.

The list I am sending out was Susan Pepper's list because it is legible - mine is not.

Species seen by Susan are marked X

Other birds you all sent me are listed - marked O

WINNER: Susan Pepper observed and listed 81 species.

Additionally you all sent me 14 species giving us a total of 95. Some species were only observed by ONE person.

I marked Sandpiper sp. on our list. I saw and have flight photos at Soulierre but I can still not ID them.

Susan and I both had Red-eyed Vireo and Khaki Campbell Duck on our lists.

**BOTTOM LINE:** We had 25 participants counted 95 species.

I am not a scientist but I believe that low water levels, perhaps our prolonged winter freeze, and maybe earlier migration due to warmer spring temperatures were factors.

Thank you EVERYONE for helping, I assume you had fun.  
I love compiling our results each year.

My favorite quote from John Burroughs:

"I go to Nature to be soothed and healed and to have my senses put in order"

Same time next year - meanwhile keep on eBirding!!

It would be fun to see some of your photos.  
I will send some of mine out in couple of days.



<b>WOODPECKERS</b>		<b>CORVID, SWALLOW</b>		<b>WOOD WARBLERS</b>		<b>SPARROWS</b>	
Red-headed Wood.		Blue Jay	X	Ovenbird		Eastern Towhee	X
Red-bel. Woodpecker	X	Florida Scrub-Jay		Worm-eating Warbler		Bachman's Sparrow	
Yellow-bel. Sapsucker		American Crow	X	Louisiana Waterthrsh		Amer. Tree Sparrow	
Downy Woodpecker	X	Fish Crow	X	Northern Waterthrush		Chipping Sparrow	
Hairy Woodpecker		Purple Martin	X	Blue-winged Warbler		Field Sparrow	
Red-cockaded Wood.		Tree Swallow	0	Blk-and-wht Warbler		Vesper Sparrow	
Northern Flicker	X	N. R-winged Swallow		Prothonotary Warbler		Savannah Sparrow	
Pileated Woodpecker	X	Cliff Swallow		Tennessee Warbler		Gr'hopper Sparrow	
		Barn Swallow	0	Or-crowned Warbler		Le Conte's Sparrow	
				Kentucky Warbler		Nelson's Sparrow	
<b>FALCONS PARROTS</b>				Com. Yellowthroat		Seaside Sparrow	
Crested Caracara		<b>PARIDS, HATCHES</b>		Hooded Warbler		Song Sparrow	
American Kestrel	X	Carolina Chickadee	X	American Redstart		Lincoln's Sparrow	
Merlin		Tufted Titmouse	X	Cape May Warbler		Swamp Sparrow	
Peregrine Falcon		R-breasted Nuthatch		Cerulean Warbler		Wh-throated Sparrow	
Nanday Parakeet		Brn-headed Nuthatch		Northern Parula	X	Wh-crowned Sparrow	
				Magnolia Warbler			
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>		<b>WREN GNAT KING</b>		Blackburnian Warbler		<b>TANS, GROS, BUNTS</b>	
Eastern Wood-Pewee		House Wren		Yellow Warbler		Summer Tanager	
Yel-bellied Flycatcher		Sedge Wren		Chest-sided Warbler		Scarlet Tanager	
Acadian Flycatcher		Marsh Wren		Blackpoll Warbler		Northern Cardinal	X
Least Flycatcher		Carolina Wren	X	Blk-thr. Blue Warbler		R-breasted Grosbeak	
Eastern Phoebe		Bl-gray Gnatcatcher	X	Palm Warbler		Blue Grosbeak	
Vermilion Flycatcher		Ruby-crowned Kinglet		Pine Warbler		Indigo Bunting	0
Ash-throated Fly.				Yel-rumped Warbler		Painted Bunting	
Great Crested Fly.	X	<b>THRUSH, MIMICS</b>		Yel-throated Warbler			
Tropical Kingbird		Eastern Bluebird	X	Prairie Warbler		<b>ICTERIDS</b>	
Cassin's Kingbird		Veery		Bl-thr. Green Warbler		Bobolink	
Western Kingbird		Gray-cheeked Thrush		Yellow-breasted Chat		Red-winged Blackbird	X
Eastern Kingbird	X	Swainson's Thrush				Eastern Meadowlark	X
Gray Kingbird		Hermit Thrush				Common Grackle	X
Scissor-tailed Fly.		Wood Thrush				Boat-tailed Grackle	X
		American Robin				Bronzed Cowbird	
<b>SHRIKE, VIREOS</b>		Gray Catbird	0			Brn-headed Cowbird	0
Loggerhead Shrike	X	Brown Thrasher	X			Orchard Oriole	
White-eyed Vireo	X	Northern Mockingbird	X			Baltimore Oriole	
Yellow-throated Vireo	X						
Blue-headed Vireo		<b>STAR, PIP, WWING</b>					
Red-eyed Vireo	X	European Starling	X			<b>FINCHES, WEAVER</b>	
Blk-whiskered Vireo		Common Hill Myna				House Finch	X
		American Pipit				American Goldfinch	
		Cedar Waving				House Sparrow	X
						<b>TOTAL SPECIES</b>	81

+ 0 (others) 14  
total: 95

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