Tower Hill Botanic Garden
An Ideal Location for Birding

Tower Hill Botanic Garden has developed a remarkable reputation as a wonderful resource to observe and learn about thousands of fascinating plants. Because of this grand diversity, it has also become home to many species of birds, both rare and common to New England.

The **Wildlife Garden**, located in a secluded area below the main gardens, has features including a vernal pool and a human-sized "birdhouse" viewing station surrounded by native flora and fauna. The Wildlife Garden provides a ideal location for birders to observe a variety of birds, attracted by eight bird feeders maintained year-round. The remaining 132 acres of the Tower Hill property are no exception. Any birder, experienced or novice, can enjoy a leisurely walk through the garden and trails while viewing dozens of different bird families and their allies. A recent survey by an accredited bird-watching group counted more than 56 species of birds nesting at Tower Hill!

Be sure to take along this check list of birds, previously spotted at Tower Hill. Though many of the hunting birds and songbirds' favorite time of day is just after dawn, Tower Hill's hours of operation still affords plenty of opportunities for observation and sightings – the birds enjoy the spectacular greenery and plant diversity as much as we do!

Listen, look, learn, and love are four key points for successful bird watching – Listen for the birds' song; **Look** for distinguishing colors and markings; **Learn** about the birds in your field guide; **Love** and respect the birds in their natural habitat.

In sharing the pleasures of bird watching, **Tower Hill Botanic Garden and the Massachusetts Audubon Society occasionally collaborate to develop bird-related programs**. Be sure to check the Tower Hill quarterly newsletter, Learn With Us for possible upcoming events. To learn more about the Audubon Society, click on this link: **www.massaudubon.org**

Also, be sure to stop by the ***The Shop At Tower Hill*** in the Stoddard Education and Visitors Center for some birder favorites: "The Identiflyer" to identify bird calls at the touch of a button, color-photograph bird books, bird seed and buckets, feeders, bird baths, and creative bird houses.

Baltimore oriole

Barn swallow

Field sparrow

Gray catbird

Merlin

Northern mockingbird

Birds Found at Tower Hill Botanic Garden
Birder's Checklist

Cormorants
- ❑ Double-crested Cormorant

Ducks and Geese
- ❑ Canada Goose
- ❑ Mallard Duck

Herons
- ❑ Great Blue Heron

New World Vultures
- ❑ Turkey Vulture

Hawks, Eagles, Osprey
- ❑ Broad-winged Hawk
- ❑ Copper's Hawk
- ❑ Red-tailed Hawk*
- ❑ Northern Harrier

Falcons
- ❑ Merlin

Turkeys
- ❑ Wild Turkey*

Gulls
- ❑ Ring-billed Gull

Doves
- ❑ Mourning Dove*

Hummingbirds
- ❑ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*

Woodpeckers
- ❑ Downy Woodpecker
- ❑ Northern Flicker*

Tyrant Flycatchers
- ❑ Eastern Wood Pewee*
- ❑ Eastern Phoebe*
- ❑ Great-crested Flycatcher*
- ❑ Eastern Kingbird

Crows and Jays
- ❑ Blue Jay*
- ❑ American Crow*

Vireos
- ❑ Red-eyed Vireo*

Waxwings
- ❑ Cedar Waxwing*

Thrushes
- ❑ Eastern Bluebird*
- ❑ Veery*
- ❑ Hermit Thrush*
- ❑ Wood Thrush*
- ❑ American Robin*

Mockingbirds
- ❑ Gray Catbird*
- ❑ Northern Mockingbird*

Starlings
- ❑ European Starling*

Nuthatches
- ❑ White-breasted Nuthatch *

Creepers
- ❑ Brown Creeper*

Wrens
- ❑ House Wren*

Gnatcatchers
- ❑ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*

Swallows
- ❑ Tree Swallow*
- ❑ Northern Rough-winged Swallow*
- ❑ Barn Swallow*

Chickadees and Tits
- ❑ Black-capped Chickadee*
- ❑ Tufted Titmouse*

Old World Sparrows
- ❑ House Sparrow*

Siskins, Crossbills, and Allies
- ❑ American Goldfinch*
- ❑ Purple Finch*
- ❑ House Finch*
- ❑ Rose-breasted Grosbeak*

New World Warblers
- ❑ Yellow Warbler*
- ❑ Black-throated Green Warbler*
- ❑ Yellow-rumped Warbler*
- ❑ Pine Warbler*
- ❑ American Redstart*
- ❑ Ovenbird*
- ❑ Common Yellowthroat*
- ❑ Magnolia Warbler*

Buntings, Sparrows, Tanagers, and Allies
- ❑ Song Sparrow *
- ❑ White-throated Sparrow
- ❑ Dark-eyed Junco
- ❑ Chipping Sparrow*
- ❑ Field Sparrow
- ❑ Eastern Towhee*
- ❑ Scarlet Tanager*
- ❑ Northern Cardinal*
- ❑ Indigo Bunting
- ❑ American Tree Sparrow

Blackbirds, Grackles, Orioles
- ❑ Baltimore Oriole*
- ❑ Red-winged Blackbird*
- ❑ Common Grackle*
- ❑ Brown-headed Cowbird*

* Denotes Tower Hill breeder