

BirdWalk Newsletter 10.30.16



Lighting in Fall Foliage
Photo by Chuck Fuhrman

“Autumn birds
speak cheerful
poetry from their
berry-stained beaks”

Terri Guillemets

Magnolia Plantation and Gardens

Walk conducted by: Perry Nugent

Newsletter written by: Jayne J Matney



Great Blue Heron on a fall morning by Chuck Fuhrman

This week’s bird walk “captured” 46 species of birds by sight or by sound. There was only one participant with Perry this time, but they were very successful! These days, we are waking up to cool, hazy mornings with temperatures eventually warming up as the day progresses. This one was no exception.

The Wood Ducks reappeared this week, and the Blue-winged Teal continue to dominate the duck ponds with at least 70 counted. 8 Pied-billed Grebe were

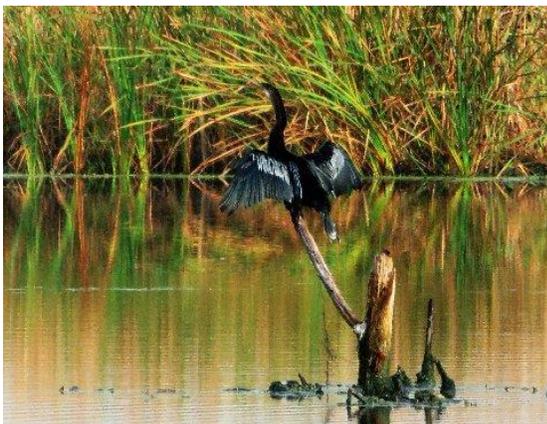


Our two sandpipers on the mud flat
Photo by Jennifer Goddard

accounted for, while 1 cormorant and 6 Anhinga were seen. Our shorebird count included 3 Great Blue Heron, 6 Great Egret, 20 Snowy Egret, 3 Little Blue Heron, 1 Tri-colored Heron, and 8 White Ibis. On the backside of the property near the river dike, a Clapper Rail and a Sora were both heard. 75 Moorhen took over the rice field while

commiserating with only 1 cormorant. We are going to have to be especially patient to see the cormorants

this year, I suppose. A pleasant sight was the two sandpipers that have been seen on the back of the old rice field walking along the new mud flat. Once again, they have been seen there and we are hoping it becomes a regular sight. 6 Black Vultures and 10 Turkey Vultures were seen periodically in the day. 2 Adult, 1 third year, and 1 first year Bald Eagles flew around high in the air between the tower and the house near the river but were viewed from the picnic tables!



A Red-shouldered Hawk was seen on the exit road area. A Cooper's Hawk was observed in the forest between the Tower and Perry Field. A single Laughing Gull glazed across the top of the river. An entire flock of approximately 60 Tree Swallow darted about over the old rice field.

Anhinga in the fall photo by Jo Frkovich

The Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and Pileated Woodpecker were either seen or heard, but the Downy was not detected this time around.

Two species of sparrow were seen- the Song Sparrow and the Swamp Sparrow. 20 Carolina Wren were observed, but not the usual Carolina Chickadee or the Tufted Titmouse. 6 Hermit Thrush- 4 in the forest, 1 by the office, and 1 in the front parking lot- were counted. A large number of Fish Crow was accumulating around the property and seen in the air from many locations. The Belted Kingfisher, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, American Crow, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Brown Thrasher, Northern Cardinal, Red-winged Blackbird, and Boat-tailed Grackle round out the rest of the 46 species.



October in the swamp

by Jo Frkovich