

2016 WESTERN MACOMB COUNTY CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT RESULTS

Macomb Audubon Society's participation in the 117th Annual Christmas Bird Count was held on December 17, 2016 with 33 people in the field and 6 at feeders.

Thankfully, the weather was not as bad as forecasted, however the threat of freezing rain caused several participants to cancel. The temperature ranged from 24 to 29 degrees with snow in the morning and light rain in the afternoon. It was cloudy with a mild wind most of the day. There was a base of 8-10" of snow, making walking difficult in some areas. We recorded 63 species and 10,812 individual birds. Chipping Sparrow was seen on the Count for the first time. New high counts were set for four species: 3 for Merlin, 3 for Lapland Longspur, 23 for White-crowned Sparrow and 32 for Common Grackle. A high count was tied for three species: 2 for Barred Owl, 2 for Pileated Woodpecker and 4 for Winter Wren.

The complete results can be found on our Macomb Audubon Website or the National Audubon website: <http://birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count>. Go to *Results, Data & Research*, continue to *Results: Current & Historical*. Next choose *Current Year* then *Results by Count* and enter Western Macomb County, County Code *MIWM*. Click *enter* and click the circle under the # sign.

If you would like to make a donation to the National Audubon Society to help support the maintaining of a master database of all Christmas Bird Count data as well as bird conservation efforts go to: www.christmasbirdcount.org

We would like to thank all of the citizen science participants for the time and effort you volunteer each year to make this count a success. Thank you to the people who set up the room and hot beverages, contributed soups, chili, snacks and desserts. We would also like Julie Champion, Karen Blake and the rest of the staff at Stony Creek Nature Center to know how much we appreciate them hosting the Tally. This year's count will be on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Please mark your calendar now and plan to help out.

Thanks again,
Barb Baldinger, Compiler
Tom Heatley, Co-compiler