Tommy Thompson Park/Leslie Street Spit BIRD CHECKLIST 5th edition, 2024





Tommy Thompson Park/Leslie Street Spit is Toronto's Urban Wilderness, and one of the best places in the city to enjoy bird watching. 334 bird species have been recorded to date, a significant increase from the 284 species recorded on the first checklist, Birds of the Leslie Street Spit, produced by Friends of the Spit in 1988.

Tommy Thompson Park is located on the Leslie Street Spit, a landform constructed from concrete, earth fill, and dredged sand. Natural succession and ecological enhancement efforts have resulted in diverse habitats that support native plant and animal communities. Tommy Thompson Park/Leslie Street Spit is designated as an Environmentally Significant Area and a Key Biodiversity Area.

Bird watching is a year-round activity, and a variety of species can be observed at any time. Tommy Thompson Park provides essential stopover habitat for thousands of migratory birds passing through Toronto in spring and fall. Breeding birds are active in spring and summer, including the largest colony of Double-crested Cormorants in North America, and the park is a great place to observe waterfowl from the fall through to the spring.

Songbird migration monitoring is conducted in spring and fall at the Tommy Thompson Park Bird Research Station (TTPBRS) on Peninsula D. As part of the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network, data informs population trends and guides local, regional, and continental bird conservation initiatives. Visitors are welcome in the morning (weather/wind permitting) April 1 to June 9 and August 5 to November 12.

Visitors are reminded to stay on designated trails to protect the important habitats within the park, and to respectfully observe wildlife, including birds. Owls are particularly sensitive and do not display signs of stress until it's too late. Please see the Ethical Wildlife Viewing Policy on p. 14.

Visitors should also note that Tommy Thompson Park/Leslie Street Spit is only accessible by foot or bicycle, and pets are not allowed.

Visitors are encouraged to report common species sightings on eBird (Tommy Thompson Park Hotspot). Regionally or provincially rare bird sightings should be documented and submitted to the Ontario Bird Records Committee (OBRC), with copies to TRCA and Friends of the Spit.

Tommy Thompson Park is managed by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and the City of Toronto. Donations to support bird research and conservation initiatives are accepted via the Tommy Thompson Park website.

www.tommythompsonpark.ca www.friendsofthespit.ca

General park questions or comments? Call 311

Cover Photo: Male Long-tailed Ducks photographed by Paul Prior. This duck nests as far north as the high Arctic and is easy to spot at Tommy Thompson Park/Leslie Street Spit during the winter months. Their plumage changes seasonally, they call constantly and their mussel eating behaviour is fascinating to watch.

Tommy Thompson Park/Leslie Street Spit BIRD CHECKLIST

Seasons (set according to migration patterns)

S	Spring (March 1 - May 31)
SU	Summer (June 1 - August 15)
F	Fall (August 16 - November 30)
w	Winter (December 1 - February 28)

Abundance Codes

vc	Very Common: Expected to be observed every day in suitable habitat.
с	Common: Likely to be observed most days in suitable habitat.
U	Uncommon: Not expected daily but observed occasionally, usually in low numbers, except flocking species which are sometimes numerous.
R	Rare: Present in very low numbers but observed most years.
VR	Very Rare: Only a few have been observed at Tommy Thompson Park/ Leslie Street Spit. Requires documentation.
A	Accidental: Status based on very few records. Often out of geographic range. Requires documentation. Date shown is the last record prior to 2024.
N	Species has nested at Tommy Thompson Park/Leslie Street Spit.
н	Historical Nest Record: Species previously nested at Tommy Thompson Park/Leslie Street Spit but not recorded since 2004.
I	Non-native species intentionally introduced with naturalized populations.
SAR	Species at Risk: Species officially identified on the Ontario Endangered Species Act (ESA) and/or the Canadian federal Species At Risk Act (SARA)

Notes

This checklist is based on confirmed observations made prior to 2024. Seasons may vary depending on annual weather patterns and summer breeding success. Occasionally spring can extend into the first week of summer and fall can start in the last week of summer. For example, if a bird has an unsuccessful nesting attempt it might start fall migration earlier than expected.

Migratory birds are only expected to be observed during their migratory period. Shorebird migration can start in early summer. Variations are to be expected.

Species			Last Seen	s	SU	F	w	Dates		
DUCKS, GEESE AND SWAN	s									
Snow Goose	SNGO			R		R				
Ross's Goose	ROGO	A	2016							
Greater White-fronted Goose	GWFG			R			R			
Brant	BRAN			R		R				
Cackling Goose	CACG			R		R				
Canada Goose	CANG	N		vc	vc	vc	vc			
Mute Swan (I)	MUSW	N		vc	vc	vc	٧C			
Trumpeter Swan	TRUS	N		vc	vc	vc	٧C			
Tundra Swan	TUSW			υ		R	R			
Wood Duck	WODU	N		vc	vc	vc	R			
Blue-winged Teal	BWTE	н		U		U				
Northern Shoveler	NSHO			с		с	R			
Gadwall	GADW	N		vc	vc	vc	vc			
Eurasian Wigeon	EUWI	A	2016							
American Wigeon	AMWI			vc	R	vc	U			
Mallard	MALL	N		vc	vc	vc	vc			
American Black Duck	ABDU	н		с	R	с	с			
Northern Pintail	NOPI			υ		R	R			
Green-winged Teal	GWTE	N		U		U	R			
Canvasback	CANV	N		с	R	с	R			
Redhead	REDH	н		vc		с	vc			
Ring-necked Duck	RNDU			с		U	R			
Greater Scaup	GRSC			vc	R	с	vc			
Lesser Scaup	LESC			υ		U	R			
King Eider	KIEI			R		R	R			
Common Eider	COEI	A	2021							
Harlequin Duck	HADU			R		R	R			
Surf Scoter	SUSC			R		υ	R			
White-winged Scoter	wwsc			с		с	с			
Black Scoter	BLSC			R		R	R			
Long-tailed Duck	LTDU			vc	R	с	vc			
Bufflehead	BUFF			vc		с	vc			
Common Goldeneye	COGO			vc	R	с	vc			
Barrow's Goldeneye	BAGO					VR	VR			
Hooded Merganser	HOME			с	υ	с	с			1
Common Merganser	COME			с		с	vc			
Red-breasted Merganser	RBME			vc		с	vc			
Ruddy Duck	RUDU			R		R				1

Species			Last Seen	s	SU	F	w	Dates	
PARTRIDGES, GROUSE & TU	RKEYS								
Wild Turkey	WITU	A	2020						
Ruffed Grouse	RUGR	A	2006						
Willow Ptarmigan	WIPT	A	2017						
Ring-necked Pheasant (I)	RNEP	н	2008						
GREBES									
Pied-billed Grebe	PBGR			R		U			
Horned Grebe (SAR)	HOGR			U		R	R		
Red-necked Grebe	RNGR	N		с		R	R		
Eared Grebe	EAGR	A	2023						
Western Grebe	WEGR	A	2019						
PIGEONS & DOVES									
Rock Pigeon (I)	ROPI	н		U	υ	U	U		
Common Ground-Dove	COGD	A	2019						
Mourning Dove	MODO	N		υ	υ	υ	U		
CUCKOOS & ANIS									
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	YBCU			R	R	R			
Black-billed Cuckoo	BBCU	N		U	R	υ			
GOATSUCKERS									
Common Nighthawk (SAR)	CONI			R	R	R			
Eastern Whip-poor-will (SAR)	EWPW			R					
SWIFTS									
Chimney Swift (SAR)	CHSW			с	с	R			
HUMMINGBIRDS									
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	RTHU			U		R			
RAILS, GALLINULES & COO	TS								
King Rail (SAR)	KIRA	A	2010						
Virginia Rail	VIRA	N		R	R	R			
Sora	SORA	н		R	R	R			
Common Gallinule	COGA			R		R			
American Coot	AMCO			υ	R	с	U		
Purple Gallinule	PUGA	A	2021						
Yellow Rail (SAR)	YERA	A	2019						
CRANES									
Sandhill Crane	SACR			R		R			

Species			Last Seen	s	SU	F	w	Dates	
STILTS & AVOCETS									
Black-necked Stilt	BNST	A	1998						
American Avocet	AMAV	A	2020						
PLOVERS									
Black-bellied Plover	BBPL			U	R	U			
American Golden-Plover	AMGP					R			
Killdeer	KILL	N		vc	vc	vc			
Common Ringed Plover	CRPL	A	2016						
Semipalmated Plover	SEPL			с	с	с			
Piping Plover (SAR)	PIPL			VR					
Snowy Plover	SNPL	A	2021						
SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPE	S								1
Upland Sandpiper	UPSA					VR			
Whimbrel	WHIM			U		R			
Hudsonian Godwit (SAR)	HUGO					VR			
Marbled Godwit	MAGO	A	2019						
Ruddy Turnstone	RUTU			U	R	υ			
Red Knot (SAR)	REKN			R					
Stilt Sandpiper	STSA				R	R			
Sanderling	SAND			R	R	υ			
Dunlin	DUNL			с	R	с			
Purple Sandpiper	PUSA					R	R		
Baird's Sandpiper	BASA				R	R			
Least Sandpiper	LESA			с	с	с			
White-rumped Sandpiper	WRSA			R	R	υ			
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	BBSA					R			
Pectoral Sandpiper	PESA			R	υ	υ			
Semipalmated Sandpiper	SESA			с	υ	с			
Western Sandpiper	WESA	A	2019						
Short-billed Dowitcher	SBDO			с	υ	υ			
Long-billed Dowitcher	LBDO					R			
American Woodcock	AMWO	Ν		с	с	R			
Wilson's Snipe	WISN			R	R	R			
Spotted Sandpiper	SPSA	N		vc	vc	с			
Solitary Sandpiper	SOSA			R	R	R			
Lesser Yellowlegs	LEYE			с	с	c			
Willet	WILL			R					
Greater Yellowlegs	GRYE			с	υ	υ			
Wilson's Phalarope	WIPH	н			R				
Red-necked Phalarope (SAR)	RNPH	A	2020						
Red Phalarope	REPH	A	2015						

Species			Last Seen	s	SU	F	w	Dates	
SKUAS & JAEGERS									
Pomarine Jaeger	POJA	A	2023						
Parasitic Jaeger	PAJA					R			
AUKS, MURRES & PUFFINS									
Razorbill	RAZO	A	2021						
GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS									
Black-legged Kittiwake	BLKI					VR	VR		
Ivory Gull	IVGU	A	2010						
Bonaparte's Gull	BOGU			U	R	R			
Black-headed Gull	BHGU	A	1978						
Little Gull	LIGU			VR		VR			
Laughing Gull	LAGU	A	2012						
Franklin's Gull	FRGU	A	1992						
Heermann's Gull	HEEG	A	2000						
Ring-billed Gull	RBGU	N		vc	vc	vc	vc		
California Gull	CAGU	н	1982						
Herring Gull	HERG	N		vc	с	vc	vc		
Iceland Gull	ICGU			U			U		
Lesser Black-backed Gull	LBBG			R			R		
Slaty-backed Gull	SBAG	A	2021						
Glaucous Gull	GLGU			R			R		
Great Black-backed Gull	GBBG	н		U		U	U		
Caspian Tern	CATE	N		с	vc	U			
Black Tern (SAR)	BLTE			VR					
Common Tern	COTE	N		vc	vc	U			
Arctic Tern	ARTE	A	2019						
Forster's Tern	FOTE			VR					
LOONS									
Red-throated Loon	RTLO			U		R			
Pacific Loon	PALO			VR		VR			
Common Loon	COLO			с	R	с	R		
BOOBIES & GANNETS									
Brown Booby	BRBO	A	2020						
Northern Gannet	NOGA	A	2000						
CORMORANTS									
Double-crested Cormorant	DCCO	N		vc	vc	vc	R		
PELICANS									
American White Pelican (SAR)	AWPE	A	2023						
Brown Pelican	BRPE	A	2017						

Species			Last Seen	s	SU	F	w	Dates	
HERONS & BITTERNS									
American Bittern	AMBI			R		R			
Least Bittern (SAR)	LEBI	N		R	R	R			
Great Blue Heron	GBHE	н		с	с	с	R		
Great Egret	GREG	N		vc	vc	с			
Snowy Egret	SNEG	A	2009						
Tricolored Heron	TRHE	A	2018						
Western Cattle Egret	WCEG	A	2022						
Green Heron	GRHE	н		R	R	R			
Black-crowned Night-Heron	BCNH	N		vc	vc	с	R		
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	YCNH	A	2004						
IBISES & SPOONBILLS									
Glossy Ibis	GLIB	A	1992						
VULTURES		·	-						
Black Vulture	BLVU	A	2023						
Turkey Vulture	τυνυ			U	R	U			
OSPREY								<u> </u>	
Osprey	OSPR			U	R	υ			
HAWKS, KITES & EAGLES								· · · ·	
Golden Eagle (SAR)	GOEA					VR			
Northern Harrier	NOHA			U		υ	U		
Sharp-shinned Hawk	SSHA			U	υ	с			
Cooper's Hawk	СОНА	N		U	υ	с	υ		
American Goshawk	AGOS					R	R		
Bald Eagle	BAEA			R	R	U	U		
Red-shouldered Hawk	RSHA					R			
Broad-winged Hawk	BWHA					R			
Red-tailed Hawk	RTHA			с	υ	с	с		
Rough-legged Hawk	RLHA					R	R		
TYPICAL OWLS									
Eastern Screech-Owl	EASO					VR			
Great Horned Owl	GHOW					R	R		
Snowy Owl	SNOW			R		R	U		
Northern Hawk Owl	NHOW	A	2008						
Burrowing Owl	BUOW	A	2022						
Barred Owl	BADO					R	R		
Great Gray Owl	GGOW	A	2005						
Long-eared Owl	LEOW			R		R	R		
Short-eared Owl (SAR)	SEOW			R		R	R		
Boreal Owl	BOOW	A	2012						
Northern Saw-whet Owl	NSWO			U		с	U		
KINGFISHERS								· · · ·	
Belted Kingfisher	BEKI	N		с	с	с			

Species			Last Seen	s	su	F	w	Dates	
WOODPECKERS									
Red-headed Woodpecker (SAR)	RHWO			R					
Red-bellied Woodpecker	RBWO			R	R	R			
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	YBSA			υ		υ			
Downy Woodpecker	DOWO	N		vc	с	vc	vc		
Hairy Woodpecker	HAWO	N		υ		υ	с		
Northern Flicker	NOFL	N		с	U	с	R		
Pileated Woodpecker	PIWO			VR		VR			
FALCONS									
American Kestrel	AMKE	н		R	R	U	R		
Merlin	MERL			с	R	с	R		
Gyrfalcon	GYRF	A	2017						
Peregrine Falcon (SAR)	PEFA			U	R	с	U		
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS									
Great Crested Flycatcher	GCFL			с	R	U			
Western Kingbird	WEKI	A	2019						
Eastern Kingbird	EAKI	N		vc	vc	с			
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	FTFL	A	2017						
Olive-sided Flycatcher (SAR)	OSFL			R					
Eastern Wood-Pewee (SAR)	EAWP	N		с	с	с			
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	YBFL			υ	R	υ			
Acadian Flycatcher (SAR)	ACFL			VR					
Alder Flycatcher	ALFL			U	R	υ			
Willow Flycatcher	WIFL	N		vc	vc	с			
Least Flycatcher	LEFL	N		vc	c	с			
Eastern Phoebe	EAPH	N		с	R	с			
VIREOS									
White-eyed Vireo	WEVI			VR					
Yellow-throated Vireo	ΥΤΥΙ			R		R			
Blue-headed Vireo	BHVI			с		U			
Philadelphia Vireo	PHVI			U		U			
Warbling Vireo	WAVI	N		vc	vc	c			
Red-eyed Vireo	REVI			c	U	c			
SHRIKES								 	
Loggerhead Shrike (SAR)	LOSH			VR					
Northern Shrike	NSHR			R		R	R		
JAYS & CROWS									
Blue Jay	BLJA			с	U	с	R		
American Crow	AMCR	н		с	υ	с	U		
Fish Crow	FICR			R					
Common Raven	CORA			с	с	с	с		

Species			Last Seen	s	su	F	w	Dates
CHICKADEES & TITMICE								
Black-capped Chickadee	BCCH	N		vc	vc	vc	vc	
Boreal Chickadee	восн	A	2018					
Tufted Titmouse	τυτι	A	2016					
LARKS							-	
Horned Lark	HOLA	н		с		c		
SWALLOWS								
Bank Swallow (SAR)	BANS	N		с	c	с		
Tree Swallow	TRES	N		vc	vc	с		
Norhern Rough-winged Swallow	NRWS	N		с	с	с		
Purple Martin	PUMA			U	υ	υ		
Barn Swallow (SAR)	BARS	N		vc	vc	с		
Cliff Swallow	CLSW	N		vc	vc	с		
Cave Swallow	CASW	A	2015					
KINGLETS								
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	RCKI			vc		vc		
Golden-crowned Kinglet	GCKI			vc		vc	R	
WAXWINGS								· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Bohemian Waxwing	BOWA	A	2012					
Cedar Waxwing	CEDW	N		с	vc	с		
NUTHATCHES								
Red-breasted Nuthatch	RBNU			с		с	R	
White-breasted Nuthatch	WBNU			U		υ		
CREEPERS								
Brown Creeper	BRCR			с		с	R	
GNATCATCHERS								
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	BGGN	N		с	c	U		
WRENS	•							
House Wren	HOWR	N		U	υ	U		
Winter Wren	WIWR			с		с	U	
Sedge Wren	SEWR			VR				
Marsh Wren	MAWR	N		U	R	υ		
Carolina Wren	CARW	N		U	υ	υ	U	
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHER	S							
Gray Catbird	GRCA	N		vc	vc	vc		
Brown Thrasher	BRTH	N		с	υ	υ		
Northern Mockingbird	NOMO	N		с	с	с	с	
STARLINGS								· · ·
European Starling (I)	EUST	N		vc	vc	vc	с	

Species			Last Seen	S	SU	F	w	Dates	
THRUSHES									
Eastern Bluebird	EABL			U		U			[
Townsend's Solitaire	тоѕо	A	2012						
Veery	VEER			с		υ			
Gray-cheeked Thrush	GCTH			υ		U			
Swainson's Thrush	SWTH			с		с			
Hermit Thrush	HETH			с		с	R		
Wood Thrush (SAR)	WOTH			υ		R			
American Robin	AMRO	N		vc	vc	vc	υ		
Varied Thrush	VATH	A	2007						
OLD WORLD SPARROWS			<u> </u>						
House Sparrow (I)	HOSP	н		с	с	с	U		
PIPITS									
American Pipit	AMPI			υ		с	R		
FINCHES							1	 1	
Evening Grosbeak (SAR)	EVGR					VR			
Pine Grosbeak	PIGR	A	2020						
House Finch	HOFI	N		с	с	υ	υ		
Purple Finch	PUFI			R		R			
Common Redpoll	CORE			R		R	υ		
Hoary Redpoll	HORE						R		
Red Crossbill	RECR					R			
White-winged Crossbill	WWCR					R			
Pine Siskin	PISI			R		υ	R		
Lesser Goldfinch	LEGO	A	1982						
American Goldfinch	AGOL	N		vc	vc	vc	с		
LONGSPURS & SNOW BUN	TINGS								
Lapland Longspur	LALO			R		R			
Snow Bunting	SNBU			υ		U	υ		
TOWHEES & SPARROWS	·								
Grasshopper Sparrow (SAR)	GRSP			R					
Lark Sparrow	LASP	A	1985						
Chipping Sparrow	СНЅР			с	R	υ			
Clay-colored Sparrow	CCSP			R					
Field Sparrow	FISP			с	R	υ			
Fox Sparrow	FOSP			υ		υ			
American Tree Sparrow	ATSP			vc		с	vc		
Dark-eyed Junco	DEJU			c		с	υ		
White-crowned Sparrow	WCSP			с		c	R		

Species			Last Seen	S	SU	F	w	Dates		
TOWHEES & SPARROWS CON	TINUED									
White-throated Sparrow	WTSP			vc		vc	υ			
Vesper Sparrow	VESP			R		R				
LeConte's Sparrow	LCSP			VR		VR				
Nelson's Sparrow	NESP					R				
Henslow's Sparrow (SAR)	HESP	A	1989							
Savannah Sparrow	SAVS	н		U	U	U				
Song Sparrow	SOSP	N		vc	vc	vc	с			
Lincoln's Sparrow	LISP			υ		U				
Swamp Sparrow	SWSP	N		с	R	с	R			
Eastern Towhee	EATO			с		U				
YELLOW-BREASTED CHATS										
Yellow-breasted Chat (SAR)	үвсн			VR		VR				
BLACKBIRDS			1	1				1		
Yellow-headed Blackbird	YHBL			VR						
Bobolink (SAR)	вово			υ		υ				
Eastern Meadowlark (SAR)	EAME	N		υ		R				
Western Meadowlark	WEME	A	2017							
Orchard Oriole	OROR	N		с	с					
Baltimore Oriole	BAOR	N		vc	vc	υ				
Red-winged Blackbird	RWBL	N		vc	vc	vc	R			
Brown-headed Cowbird	внсо	N		vc	с	U				
Rusty Blackbird (SAR)	RUBL			υ		υ				
Brewer's Blackbird	BRBL	A	2013							
Common Grackle	COGR	N		vc	vc	с				
WOOD-WARBLERS										
Ovenbird	OVEN			с		U				
Worm-eating Warbler	WEWA			VR						
Louisiana Waterthrush (SAR)	LOWA			VR						
Northern Waterthrush	NOWA			с	R	с				
Golden-winged Warbler (SAR)	GWWA			R						
Blue-winged Warbler	BWWA			υ						
Black-and-white Warbler	BAWW			с		с				
Prothonotary Warbler (SAR)	PROW			VR						
Swainson's Warbler	SWWA	A	2015							
Tennessee Warbler	TEWA			с		с				
Orange-crowned Warbler	OCWA			R		υ	R			
Nashville Warbler	NAWA			vc		с				
Connecticut Warbler	CONW			VR						
MacGillivray's Warbler	MGWA	A	2021							
Mourning Warbler	MOWA			U		U				
Kentucky Warbler	KEWA			VR						
Common Yellowthroat	COYE	н		с	υ	с				

Species			Last Seen	s	SU	F	w	Dates		
WOOD-WARBLERS (CONTIN	UED)									
Hooded Warbler	HOWA			VR						
American Redstart	AMRE	N		vc	υ	vc				
Kirtland's Warbler (SAR)	KIWA	A	1991							
Cape May Warbler	CMWA			с		с				
Cerulean Warbler (SAR)	CERW			VR						
Northern Parula	NOPA			с		с				
Magnolia Warbler	MAWA			vc	R	vc				
Bay-breasted Warbler	BBWA			с		с				
Blackburnian Warbler	BLBW			с		с				
Yellow Warbler	YEWA	N		vc	vc	U				
Chestnut-sided Warbler	CSWA			с		с				
Blackpoll Warbler	BLPW			с		с				
Black-throated Blue Warbler	BTBW			с		с				
Palm Warbler	PAWA			с		с				
Pine Warbler	PIWA			U		R				
Yellow-rumped Warbler	YRWA			vc		vc	R			
Yellow-throated Warbler	YTWA	A	2007							
Prairie Warbler	PRAW			VR		VR				
Townsend's Warbler	TOWA	A	2022							
Black-throated Green Warbler	BTNW			vc		с				
Canada Warbler (SAR)	CAWA			U		U				
Wilson's Warbler	WIWA			с		с				
CARDINALS & ALLIES										
Summer Tanager	SUTA	A	2016							
Scarlet Tanager	SCTA			с		U				
Northern Cardinal	NOCA	N		vc	vc	vc	vc			
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	RBGR			с		U				
Blue Grosbeak	BLGR	A	2013							
Indigo Bunting	INBU			U	R	υ				
Dickcissel	DICK	A	2022							

ETHICAL WILDLIFE VIEWING AND REPORTING

How To Ethically View Wildlife

- Give wildlife lots of space: stay at least 30 metres away.
- Pay attention to wildlife behaviour: leave the area and/or stop activities that cause wildlife to change their behaviour.
- Remain on official trails. Obey signage and stay out of restricted areas.
- · Limit viewing time to a few minutes.
- TTP has abundant food sources and wildlife need to hunt and forage for themselves: feeding wildlife can make them sick and unhealthy. Clean up any dropped food and litter, carry it out of the park with you, and/or dispose of it in designated garbage cans.
- Never use recordings or playbacks and speak quietly.
- Conserve wildlife habitats: avoid stepping on plants and/or breaking or trimming branches.
- Protect wildlife: keep sensitive species sightings, and nest/den/overwintering locations confidential. Do not post on public forums such as iNaturalist, eBird, or Facebook. See reporting information below.
- Owls are particularly sensitive and human disturbance can prevent them from hunting and resting. See below for signs of stress. If an owl flies away, do not follow it. Never use flash photography or bait owls for better views.
- · Respect monitoring and research operations.

Reporting Wildlife

- Do not approach animals that you believe to be sick or orphaned. Contact www.torontowildlifecentre.com for advice.
- Report rare species to ttp@trca.ca.
- Report regionally and provincially rare birds to the Ontario Bird Records Committee (www.ofo.ca) and TRCA and Friends of the Spit.
- If you see a person or group disturbing wildlife, report to TRCA Enforcement tips@trca.ca or MNRF Conservation Officers 1-877-TIPS-MNR.

SIGNS THAT AN OWL IS STRESSED

- Eyes wide open and staring directly at you.
- · Behaviour changes in response to your presence.
- · Ear tufts straight up, eyes reduced to slits.
- Rapid blinking and/or panting.
- Defense display (wings spread and body puffed up) or signs of aggression.

TOMMY THOMPSON PARK Urban Wilderness Principles

- All actions must be in accord with the <u>Tommy Thompson Park Revised</u> <u>Master Plan</u>, 1992.
- Park activities do not have an overall negative impact on the natural resources, and passive recreational activities are the focus.
- Ecological communities are formed through natural succession with strategic habitat enhancements.
- Appropriate adaptive management takes places to ensure habitat and species protection, while minimizing human disturbance.
- · General visitor experiences are natural and self-guided.
- Signage and amenities are minimal.
- What you carry in with you is also carried back out.
- · Unauthorized private motor vehicle access is prohibited.
- Pets are prohibited.
- · Admission is free.

Tommy Thompson Park/Leslie Street Spit Bird Checklist 5th Edition Committee Members: John Carley, Andrea Chreston, Don Johnston, Paul Prior, Garth Riley, Hillary Stead, and Ian Sturdee.



For park hours and visitor information, please scan QR code or visit www.tommythompsonpark.ca

