

Bird Watching Resource Guide

Citizen Science Projects for the Bird Watching Enthusiast:

[Celebrate Urban Birds](#) – This project from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology supports urban bird watching by encouraging participants to send data from neighborhood observations to the Cornell lab. This project also emphasizes the connection between science and the arts. Participants can register to receive Celebrate Urban Birds kit. Additional information and printable resources available at <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/celebration/join-us/about>

[YardMap](#) – This beta project from the Cornell Ornithology Lab designed to cultivate a richer understanding of bird habitat, for both professional scientists and people concerned with their local environments. Participants can digitally map their yards and local bird habitats. These maps are available free online for the public to view. More information available at <http://content.yardmap.org/>

Bird Watching Resources:

[The Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#) – This extensive resource from Cornell University includes a searchable bird guide and an introduction to birding basics. The main page at <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/Page.aspx?pid=1478> contains information about the lab. Try the [All About Birds](#) section of the website at <http://www.allaboutbirds.org/Page.aspx?pid=1189> for information about attracting birds, bird photography, conservation, and an extensive bird guide and taxonomy.

[Comprehensive Review of Birding Binoculars from the Cornell lab of Ornithology](#) – this review article from *Living Bird* magazine (winter 2005: volume 24, number 1) is a complete overview of what to look for when purchasing binoculars as well as the best binoculars in several price categories. The article is several years old, but it remains the best purchasing guide for binoculars that is freely available online. http://www.birds.cornell.edu/Publications/LivingBird/Winter2005/Age_Binos.html

[Audubon Online Guide to North American Birds](#) - This online guide to North American Birds features 750 species of birds in 22 Orders and 74 families. The guide covers all of North America's regular breeding birds-approximately 580 species - as well as an additional 180 or so non-breeding species that regularly or occasionally visit North America north of Mexico. Each entry in the guide contains bird descriptions, photographs, range maps, nesting habits, and a “listen” button for a sample sound of the bird’s song. The Guide also includes a how-to section about birding. <http://www.audubonbirds.org/categories/Birds/landing.html>

[Nifty-Fifty Bird Guides](#) – Collection of online bird identification guides specific to each state from Birdzilla.com. The guide contains the 50 most observed birds in each state. Guide information includes photographs of each bird, a sound clip of the bird’s song, and a range map. Visit the [Kentucky Nifty-Fifty Guide](#) at <http://www.birdzilla.com/nifty-fifty/kentucky.html>

[Pocket Field Guide Common Birds of Kentucky](#) – A printable pocket guide to Kentucky’s most commonly observed birds from the Louisville Water Company. The pocket guide includes a list of landscape plants that will attract birds to your yard. Print the guide (a color printer is recommended) at <http://www.louisvilleky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/A108BACA-29ED-4A8D-8D73-7343C5694A4B/0/SRAG800LandscapingforWildlifeBirds.pdf>

[The Kentucky Ornithological Society](#) – Contains a selection of useful links for Kentucky birders as well as local-interest content. <http://biology.eku.edu/kos/default.htm>

[Xeno-Canto](#) – This resource contains bird song recordings from around the world. Listen to bird calls and songs from every continent at <http://www.xeno-canto.org/>

[Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources](#) – Find a pocket guide to animal tracks, ongoing conservation projects, Species information and more at <http://fw.ky.gov/>

[University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Services](#) – each county has a local extension office with an Agriculture and Natural Resources Specialist. To find your local office visit <http://ces.ca.uky.edu/ces/>