

Birds

Cook Forest State Park

The Fire Tower is a nice spot for fall migratory raptors. Take advantage of seeing many birds from their level. Parula warblers like to hang out in the emergent pines here.

Parula warblers should easily be found at the park office, as well as Baltimore orioles and American goldfinch. Rose-breasted grosbeaks sometimes show up for free seed.

Don't forget winter at Cook Forest. White-winged and red crossbills have been known to make an appearance in the pine forests. Pine siskins sometimes drop in at the park office feeder.



#	Name	Habitat	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Thrushes														
1	Eastern Bluebird	☼												
2	Veery	☼												
3	Gray-cheeked Thrush	☼												
4	Swainson's Thrush	☼												
5	Hermit Thrush	☼												
6	Wood Thrush	☼												
7	American Robin	★												
Mockingbirds & Thrashers														
8	Gray Catbird	☼☼												
9	Northern Mockingbird	☼												
10	Brown Thrasher	☼												
Starlings														
11	European Starling	★												
Pipits														
12	American Pipit	☼												
Waxwings														
13	Cedar Waxwing	☼☼												
Warblers & Chats														
14	Blue-winged Warbler	☼												
15	Golden-winged Warbler	☼												
16	Tennessee Warbler	☼												
17	Orange-crowned Warbler	☼												
18	Nashville Warbler	☼												
19	Northern Parula	☼												
20	Yellow Warbler	☼												
21	Chestnut-sided Warbler	☼												
22	Magnolia Warbler	☼												
23	Cape May Warbler	☼												
24	Black-throated Blue	☼												
25	Yellow-rumped Warbler	☼												
26	Black-throated Green Wbr	☼												
27	Blackburnian Warbler	☼												
28	Yellow-throated Warbler	☼												
29	Pine Warbler	☼												
30	Prairie Warbler	☼												
31	Palm Warbler	☼												
32	Bay-breasted Warbler	☼												
33	Blackpoll Warbler	☼												
34	Cerulean Warbler	☼												
35	Black-and-white Warbler	☼												
36	American Redstart	☼												
37	Prothonotary Warbler	☼												
38	Worm-eating Warbler	☼												
39	Ovenbird	☼												
40	Northern Waterthrush	☼☼												
41	Louisiana Waterthrush	☼☼												
42	Kentucky Warbler	☼												
43	Connecticut Warbler	☼												
44	Mourning Warbler	☼												
45	Common Yellowthroat	☼☼☼												
46	Hooded Warbler	☼												
47	Wilson's Warbler	☼												
48	Canada Warbler	☼												
49	Yellow-breasted Chat	☼												
Tanagers														
50	Summer Tanager	☼												
51	Scarlet Tanager	☼												
Emberizids														
52	Eastern Towhee	☼☼												
53	American Tree Sparrow	☼☼												
54	Chipping Sparrow	☼												
55	Clay-colored Sparrow	☼												
56	Field Sparrow	☼												
57	Vesper Sparrow	☼												
58	Savannah Sparrow	☼												
59	Grasshopper Sparrow	☼												
60	Henslow's Sparrow	☼												
61	Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sprw	☼												
62	Fox Sparrow	☼												
63	Song Sparrow	☼☼												
64	Lincoln's Sparrow	☼												
65	Swamp Sparrow	☼												
66	White-throated Sparrow	☼☼												
67	White-crowned Sparrow	☼☼												
68	Dark-eyed Junco	☼☼												
69	Lapland Longspur	☼												
70	Snow Bunting	☼												

#	Name	Habitat	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Cardinals & Allies														
1	Northern Cardinal	☼☼												
2	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	☼												
3	Blue Grosbeak	☼												
4	Indigo Bunting	☼												
5	Dickcissel	☼												
Blackbirds														
6	Bobolink	☼												
7	Red-winged Blackbird	☼☼												
8	Eastern Meadowlark	☼												
9	Rusty Blackbird	☼												
10	Common Grackle	★												
11	Brown-headed Cowbird	☼												
12	Orchard Oriole	☼												
13	Baltimore Oriole	☼												
Finches & Allies														
14	Pine Grosbeak	☼												
15	Purple Finch	☼☼												
16	House Finch	★												
17	Red Crossbill	☼												
18	White-winged Crossbill	☼												
19	Common Redpoll	☼												
20	Pine Siskin	☼												
21	American Goldfinch	☼												
22	Evening Grosbeak	☼												
23	Old World Sparrow	☼												
24	House Sparrow	☼												

■ Probably will find ■ Might find ■ Lucky to find □ Never seen
 * Irruptive Visitor **Breeding** ☼ Water ☼ Forest ☼ Scrub - Field ★ Anywhere

Unusual Birds with a Few Sightings in the Park

Double crested cormorants - 4/15/02

White winged crossbills - Winter of 2009

Key Birding Areas and Information

"Birding by Ear" is key when among the tall, ancient pines and hemlocks of Cook Forest State Park. The park is listed as an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society with many key species located within 2,000 acres of old growth forest.

Birders should find Blackburnian warblers along the Longfellow Trail within the Forest Cathedral, a registered National Natural Landmark, along with scarlet tanagers, chestnut-sided and black-throated green warblers. The threatened Swainson's thrush has also been noted here as well as the old growth forest surrounding Ridge Camp and along Fire Tower Rd.

See chimney swifts in the Forest Cathedral utilize their natural habitat, dead standing trees, not your neighbor's chimney. If you still can't find them in the woods, it's guaranteed to see them using the Ranger Station's chimney.

Woodpeckers thrive in the park. On an exceptional day a birder can see downy, hairy, red-bellied, and pileated woodpeckers, as well as common flickers, and yellow-bellied sapsuckers.

Black-throated blue warblers are often found near the Seneca Point Overlook and Fire Tower #9.

Louisiana waterthrush have been noted along Toms Run on the Liggett Trail and on Browns Run just upstream from Toms Run Road.

The Toms Run Valley is excellent for wood and hermit thrushes.

Veerys can sometimes be heard along the Clarion River at dusk and dawn. Screech-owls and sometimes saw-whet owls take over the river watch at night. Great horned and barred owls have been known to keep folks up all night at Ridge Camp.

Watch for rare spring migratory waterfowl along the Clarion River. Double-crested cormorants, common terns, and common loons have been known to make a rare appearance in late March and early April. Common mergansers are truly "common" along the river, but watching them drive minnows to the shallows in echelon is quite a site. Keep an eye out for wood ducks and nest boxes along the south bank. Listen for the chatter of the belted kingfisher as they hunt from short perches along the river bank. Bufflehead show up like clockwork every spring on the river in the exact same eddies as in years past.

Cliff and barn swallows nest under the PA 36 Cooksburg Bridge. Some have noted rough-winged swallows here as well.

Bald eagles are becoming more common along the river. Osprey are much more difficult to find. Keep an eye out for nests!

Date _____ Time _____

Weather _____

Observer _____

♿ Access for People with Disabilities

If you need an accommodation to participate in park activities due to a disability, please contact the park you plan to visit.

Cook Forest State Park

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