



## Loudoun County Bird Atlas Checklist Legend: Evidence Codes and Definitions

Category	Code	Observed Behavior
Observed (○ OB)	E	Observed outside of safe dates*, not exhibiting breeding behavior (includes winter birds and migrants)
Observed (○ OB)	O	Observed within safe dates*, not in breeding habitat
Possible (⊗ PO)	X	Heard or seen in breeding habitat within safe dates*
Probable (⊙ PR)	A	Agitated behavior or anxiety calls
Probable (⊙ PR)	P	Pair seen within safe dates*
Probable (⊙ PR)	T	Bird holding territory (counter-singing, chasing, etc.)
Probable (⊙ PR)	C	Courtship or copulation
Probable (⊙ PR)	N	Bird visiting a probable nest site
Probable (⊙ PR)	B	Adult wren or woodpecker carrying nesting material or nest building
Confirmed (● CO)	NB	Adult carrying nesting material or nest building (except wrens and woodpeckers)
Confirmed (● CO)	DD	Distraction display
Confirmed (● CO)	UN	Used nest or eggshells found
Confirmed (● CO)	FL	Recently fledged young
Confirmed (● CO)	CF	Parent carrying food, feeding young, or removing fecal sac
Confirmed (● CO)	RC	Raptor performing a courting display or repeatedly carrying food to a specific area
Confirmed (● CO)	ON	Parent leaving/entering nest site or on nest
Confirmed (● CO)	NE	Nest with eggs
Confirmed (● CO)	NY	Nest with young

\*During migratory season, primarily May and September, it's easy to confuse a migrant with a possible breeder. To eliminate some confusion and maintain data accuracy, there is a list of "safe dates" for each breeding species in Loudoun County (refer to Daily Field Card or Atlas Handbook for list of dates). Safe dates indicate the dates during the breeding season that a species is no longer in migration and can be presumed to be on breeding territory. These dates are not nesting or egg dates.