

Birdathon Checklist

Before your Birdathon

Register

Gather some friends, form a team then register. Please register online at www.loudounwildlife.org, or call us at 540-554-2542. Registering allows Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy to plan for thank you gifts and prizes and list your team on the online pledge form.

Pick a date and location

The Birdathon is set for when spring migration is in full swing and those dates are communicated on our website. In selecting a day, note that prize eligibility is based on contributions turned in to Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy by June 15, to allow time to collect donations from your sponsors.

There are many ways to do a Birdathon count. You can join expert birders on one of our organized bird walks, go with friends, count birds in your back yard... it's up to you. If you would like to do your count while on one of our walks, contact Joe Coleman to sign up: jcoleman@loudounwildlife.org or 540-554-2542 or sign up via our website.

Gather pledges

Ask your friends, family, neighbors, and colleagues to sponsor your Birdathon. Materials on our website include a sponsor pledge sheet to log your sponsors' pledges and a sample letter for requesting donations. If your sponsors pledge a flat amount, you can collect that money ahead of time. Otherwise, they can pay you after your Birdathon count day.

Preparing for and doing your Birdathon

Print copies of the bird list. Gather up binoculars, water, snacks and your bird id guide. Plan the locations that you want to visit during your 24 hour period. You may even want to plan a route to get a diversity of species. Have fun!

After your Birdathon

Collect contributions from your sponsors

Collect checks (payable to "Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy") from your sponsors. Also collect matching gift forms if a sponsor indicates that their employer matches their contribution. This is a great time to tell them a little about your Birdathon experiences; where you went, how many birds you counted, exciting events, etc.

Turn in contributions and forms to Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy by June 15

After you have collected contributions, turn them in to Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy along with your Team Report, Sponsor Pledge Sheets, and Species Checklist by June 15. Eligibility for prizes is based on total payment received by Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy by June 15 so that we can order prizes and thank you gifts. Please submit your contributions, by mail, to: Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, Bird Survey Coordinator, PO Box 2088, Purcellville, VA 20134. *Please do not send cash; write a check for the collected cash amount. Please indicate on the check the donors' names covered by the check.*

Pick up incentives or prizes (if applicable)

After we've received the contributions and tallied the results we'll plan an event to get us all together, celebrate the great IMBD and hand out the prizes and thank you gifts.

Thank your sponsors for their pledge payment

Let your sponsors know how you did on the day of the count. A note, an email or a phone call is often appreciated.

Thank you very much for your support in this important fundraising effort. If you have any questions, please call the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy at 540-554-2542.