

## **Birds of Cummington Nature Park, Tenhave Woods, and the Royal Oak Arboretum**

Compiled by Donald C. Drife (Copyright Royal Oak Nature Society 2019)

This list compiles the known bird records from the two nature parks and the Arboretum. It uses several sources: 1) The 1990 bird list compiled by Carl Drife. This covers records from 1972-1990 and includes Bob Gasiorowski's bird banding records. It did not indicate which park the record came from. 2) Carl and Don Drife's field notes. 3) Reports from EBird.org. Both Cummington Park and Tenhave Woods are "hotspots."

Our current list records 136 species plus one hybrid. Many of the older records are from our banding activities. We have never conducted a comprehensive bird survey. I believe that most species occurring on the 1990 list are still found in the parks in the proper season. The exceptions are: Rusty Blackbirds that migrated through the parks in the 1970s are now a rare bird in Michigan and we have no recent records. Species that occur in open meadows: Lincoln Sparrow, Field Sparrow, and Eastern Meadowlark are no longer seen because the woods are filling in the meadow edges of the parks.

Additional species can be reported on EBird.org. Sighting can be emailed to [naturesociety@romi.gov](mailto:naturesociety@romi.gov) or regular mail to: 1600 N. Campbell Rd, Royal Oak, MI 48067. A photo of the bird would be nice. Names used on the list are taken from <http://mibirdrecords.com/michigan-checklist/>

### **Species Accounts**

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

On 1990 list as "seen flying over park." Tenhave: nested on island in Dragonfly Pond in 2008.

Wood Duck *Aix sponsa*

Tenhave: April 26, 2014, EBird May 23, 2018, nests most years.

Gadwall *Anas strepera*

Tenhave: One seen by D. Drife and R. Muller in Dragonfly Pond with female Mallard April 26, 2014.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: nests most years in northern end of park.

Ring-necked Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*

On 1990 list.

Rock Pigeon *Columba livia*

On 1990 list. Still seen in both parks. Tenhave: EBird May 25, 2010.

Mourning Dove *Zenaida macroura*

On 1990 list. Still seen in both parks. Nested in Tenhave 2010 and probably other years.

Common Nighthawk *Chordeiles minor*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Carl Drife found one roosting along what we now call the Goodwin Trail in 1977.

Chimney Swift *Chaetura pelagic*

On 1990 list. Still seen in flight over both parks. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Archilochus colubris*

On 1990 list. Seen in both parks in 2017. Tenhave: Ebird August 16, 2017.

Killdeer *Charadrius vociferous*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 28, 2010.

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*

On 1990 list. Cummingston: along flooded trails in spring 1973-1975.

Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria*

On 1990 list. Cummingston: along flooded trails in spring 1973-1975. Tenhave: Ebird May 8, 2018.

Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca*

On 1990 list. Cummingston: along flooded trails in spring 1978.

Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: common in soccer field western side of park.

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: seen occasionally near Dragonfly Pond. Cummingston: Seen flying over park.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: seen once in the 1980s at the pond.

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: seen at Dragonfly Pond each year from 2000-2007. Ebird May 25, 2010.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*

On 1990 list as "seen flying over park." Tenhave: seen roosting in trees near west exit. April 26, 2014.

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

Tenhave: Immature bird (second year?) seen April 26, 2014. Immature bird seen November 7, 2015 by T. Vickers and D. Drife. A Golden Eagle was reported in the fall of 2017 but the description did not rule out the more likely immature Bald Eagle.

Northern Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Tenhave: April 21, 2013, Seen on bird walk April 26, 2014. Both birds were seen in early evening. They might have been migrating birds looking for a place to rest.

Sharp-shinned Hawk *Accipiter striatus*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: seen during migration. April 26, 2014 Cummingston: seen during migration.

Cooper's Hawk *Accipiter cooperii*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Juvenile birds are seen in late summer and fall. Built nests in 2011 & 2012 but did not appear to occupy them. Nested successfully in 2017 raising one young and 2018 raising two young. Seen in migration. April 26, 2014. Ebird May 8, 2018 Cummingston: seen in migration.

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*

Tenhave: April 26, 2014 Ebird May 8, 2018. Cummingston: July 17, 2018

Rough-legged Hawk *Buteo lagopus*

Tenhave: Seen on bird walk April 26, 2014 and one seen by Bob Muller and Don Drife in April 2016.

Eastern Screech-Owl *Megascops asio*

On 1990 list and still present in both parks. Cummingston has as many as six nesting pairs and Tenhave can support four pairs.

Great Horned Owl *Bubo virginianus*

On 1990 list and still present in both parks. We have never found a nest in either park. However, on April 16, 2017 on the eastern side of Cummingston we found a dead Great Horned Owl that was too young to fly. We could not locate a nest.

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: seen December 1974 and February 1979.

Belted Kingfisher *Megaceryle alcyon*

On 1990 list.

Red-headed Woodpecker *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*

On 1990 list.

Red-bellied Woodpecker *Melanerpes carolinus*

On 1990 list. Currently nests in both parks.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius*

On 1990 list. Migrates through both parks.

Downy Woodpecker *Picoides pubescens*

On 1990 list. Currently found in both parks. Tenhave: nest found in 2015.

Hairy Woodpecker *Picoides villosus*

On 1990 list. Currently found in both parks.

Northern Flicker *Colaptes auratus*

On 1990 list. Currently nests in both parks and the Arboretum. Tenhave: Ebird May 25, 2010.

Pileated Woodpecker *Dryocopus pileatus*  
Tenhave: Ebird April 2, 2017.

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*  
On 1990 list.

Eastern Wood-Pewee *Contopus virens*  
Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher *Empidonax flaviventris*  
On 1990 list.

Willow Flycatcher *Empidonax traillii*  
Cunnington: Nested on edge of meadow 1974-1976.

Least Flycatcher *Empidonax minimus*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 5, 2017 Ebird May 6, 2018.

Eastern Phoebe *Sayornis phoebe*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 5, 2017

Great Crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus crinitus*  
On 1990 list.

Eastern Kingbird *Tyrannus tyrannus*  
On 1990 list.

Yellow-throated Vireo *Vireo flavifrons*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 23, 2018.

Blue-headed Vireo *Vireo solitaries*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 26, 2014, Ebird May 23, 2018.

Philadelphia Vireo *Vireo philadelphicus*  
On 1990 list.

Warbling Vireo *Vireo gilvus*  
On 1990 list.

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 26, 2014, Ebird August 16, 2017.

Blue Jay *Cyanocitta cristata*  
On 1990 list. Still in both parks. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

American Crow *Corvus brachyrhynchos*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Nested 2001-2003. Ebird May 25, 2010. Cummingston: Still found in park.

Horned Lark *Eremophila alpestris*

On 1990 list.

Tree Swallow *Tachycineta bicolor*

On 1990 list.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 25, 2010.

Black-capped Chickadee *Poecile atricapillus*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird April 2, 2017. Cummingston: Oct. 20, 2018.

Tufted Titmouse *Baeolophus bicolor*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 26, 2014, Ebird May 25, 2010. Cummingston: Nested in meadow 1974-1976. Seen Oct. 20, 2018.

Red-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta canadensis*

On 1990 list.

White-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta carolinensis*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird April 26, 2014, May 23, 2018 Cummingston: Oct. 20, 2018.

Brown Creeper *Certhia americana*

On 1990 list.

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*

On 1990 list.

Winter Wren *Troglodytes hiemalis*

On 1990 list.

Carolina Wren *Thryothorus ludovicianus*

Tenhave: January 10, 2015 at feeder. Seen in Arboretum May 2013.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher *Poliophtila caerulea*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Golden-crowned Kinglet *Regulus satrapa*

On 1990 list. Seen in spring in both parks and at Arboretum. Tenhave: April 26, 2014, Ebird April 2, 2017.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet *Regulus calendula*

On 1990 list. Seen in spring in both parks and at Arboretum. Tenhave: April 26, 2014, Ebird May 6, 2018.

Eastern Bluebird *Sialia sialis*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 8, 2018. June 5, 2018

Veery *Catharus fuscescens*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 26, 2014, Ebird May 6, 2018.

Gray-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus*

On 1990 list.

Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus*

On 1990 list.

Hermit Thrush *Catharus guttatus*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: One wintered 2010-11, April 26, 2014.

Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 26, 2014, Ebird May 6, 2018.

American Robin *Turdus migratorius*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 23, 2018.

Gray Catbird *Dumetella carolinensis*

On 1990 list. Nest found in Cummingston 2014 and in Tenhave 2015.

Brown Thrasher *Toxostoma rufum*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 26, 2014.

European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* (Introduced)

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Cedar Waxwing *Bombycilla cedrorum*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 25, 2010.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* (Introduced)

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Evening Grosbeak *Coccothraustes vespertinus*

On 1990 list.

House Finch *Haemorhous mexicanus*

On 1990 list.

Purple Finch *Haemorhous purpureus*  
On 1990 list.

Common Redpoll *Acanthis flammea*  
On 1990 list.

Pine Siskin *Spinus pinus*  
On 1990 list.

American Goldfinch *Spinus tristis*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018. Cummingston: Nested in meadow 1974-1976. Seen Oct. 20, 2018.

Eastern Towhee *Pipilo erythrophthalmus*  
On 1990 list.

American Tree Sparrow *Spizelloides arborea*  
On 1990 list.

Chipping Sparrow *Spizella passerine*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 26, 2014. Arboretum: April 26, 2014.

Field Sparrow *Spizella pusilla*  
On 1990 list.

Vesper Sparrow *Pooecetes gramineus*  
On 1990 list.

Savannah Sparrow *Passerculus sandwichensis*  
On 1990 list.

Fox Sparrow *Passerella iliaca*  
On 1990 list.

Song Sparrow *Melospiza melodia*  
On 1990 list.

Lincoln's Sparrow *Melospiza lincolnii*  
On 1990 list.

White-throated Sparrow *Zonotrichia albicollis*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 26, 2014.

White-crowned Sparrow *Zonotrichia leucophrys*  
On 1990 list.

Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*

On 1990 list. Cummingston: Seen Oct. 20, 2018. Arboretum: Seen Feb. 20, 2019.

Yellow-breasted Chat *Icteria virens*

On 1990 list.

Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna*

On 1990 list.

Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula*

On 1990 list. Nested in Arboretum 2014 and 2015.

Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 26, 2014, Ebird May 23, 2018.

Brown-headed Cowbird *Molothrus ater*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 1, 2018.

Rusty Blackbird *Euphagus carolinus*

On 1990 list.

Common Grackle *Quiscalus quiscula*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: April 26, 2014, Ebird May 6, 2018.

Ovenbird *Seiurus aurocapilla*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Worm-eating Warbler *Helmitheros vermivorum*

Carl Drife saw one in Cummingston.

Louisiana Waterthrush *Parkesia motacilla*

On 1990 list.

Northern Waterthrush *Parkesia noveboracensis*

On 1990 list.

Golden-winged Warbler *Vermivora chrysoptera*

On 1990 list.

Blue-winged Warbler *Vermivora cyanoptera*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Brewster's Warbler is a hybrid between Golden-winged and Blue-winged Warbler. One bird was seen in 1975 in Tenhave. In 1976 one was banded in Tenhave.

Black-and-white Warbler *Mniotilta varia*

On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 5, 2018.



Tennessee Warbler *Oreothlypis peregrine*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Orange-crowned Warbler *Oreothlypis celata*  
Tenhave: April 26, 2014, Ebird May 6, 2018.

Nashville Warbler *Oreothlypis ruficapilla*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Connecticut Warbler *Oporornis agilis*  
On 1990 list.

Mourning Warbler *Geothlypis philadelphia*  
On 1990 list.

Kentucky Warbler *Geothlypis formosa*  
On 1990 list.

Hooded Warbler *Setophaga citrine*  
On 1990 list.

American Redstart *Setophaga ruticilla*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Cape May Warbler *Setophaga tigrina*  
On 1990 list.

Cerulean Warbler *Setophaga cerulean*  
On 1990 list.

Northern Parula *Setophaga americana*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Magnolia Warbler *Setophaga magnolia*  
On 1990 list.

Bay-breasted Warbler *Setophaga castanea*  
On 1990 list.

Blackburnian Warbler *Setophaga fusca*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Yellow Warbler *Setophaga petechia*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Chestnut-sided Warbler *Setophaga pensylvanica*  
On 1990 list.

Blackpoll Warbler *Setophaga striata*  
On 1990 list.

Black-throated Blue Warbler *Setophaga caerulescens*  
On 1990 list.

Palm Warbler *Setophaga palmarum*  
On 1990 list.

Yellow-rumped Warbler *Setophaga coronate*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Black-throated Green Warbler *Setophaga virens*  
On 1990 list.

Canada Warbler *Cardellina canadensis*  
On 1990 list.

Wilson's Warbler *Cardellina pusilla*  
On 1990 list.

Scarlet Tanager *Piranga olivacea*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Northern Cardinal *Cardinalis cardinalis*  
On 1990 list. Cummingston: July 17, 2018 nest at edge of meadow. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus*  
On 1990 list. Tenhave: Ebird May 6, 2018.

Indigo Bunting *Passerina cyanea*  
On 1990 list.

Revised April 5, 2019