

Notes for Area Leaders

- 1) **Please note that as of the 2012-2013 CBC season there is no longer a fee to participate in the count.**
 - Do continue to record participants' names and (email) addresses for statistical purposes and to be able to send out an email notifying them that the CBC data has been posted to the National Audubon Society's website, although I will also make that announcement via the WAS newsletter.
 - Keep in mind that NAS still welcomes any and all donations from participants to run the event.

- 2) **Please note that the American Birds magazine will no longer be printed – data will instead be posted on the NAS website in an as of yet undisclosed format.**

- 3) **Please keep track of the following as accurately as possible (and make sure your group leaders are aware of this as well):**
 - The maximum and minimum number of parties. If you start out with two parties and one of these splits part of the day into two parties, the number of parties is a minimum of two and a maximum of three.
 - The number of party hours in the field. If four individuals bird together for eight hours, that represents 8 party hours. If two parties of two individuals each bird separately, each for eight hours, that represents 16 party hours. If in the last example one of the two parties breaks up into single individuals birding separately for four hours each, the total party hours are now 20 (one party of two for eight hours, one party of two for four hours, and two parties of one each for four hours each).
 - Starting and ending times. Please record these to the nearest quarter hour.
 - The number of miles traveled, both on foot and by car. Calculate miles as you do party hours. For example, four individuals in a car for 20 miles represents 20 party miles. If each person drives separately in different areas, the distance is 80 miles.
 - Owling party hours and party miles. Owling is tracked separately by the CBC folks at NAS, so please provide this information separately.
 - Make sure that there is no overlapping effort if you have multiple parties covering your area.
 - If anybody contacts you about feeder watching, please refer them to Kurt Hagemeister. Should they provide you directly with the results of their feeder watch efforts, please make sure that they report the time spent watching their feeder(s).

- 4) **Record the birds seen as you wish, but list your final totals on the bird list provided and hand this in to the compiler.**
 - In case of a report of an unusual species or an unusual number of a certain species, I may be asked by the State compiler to provide for additional detail to substantiate it. Most often, it will be sufficient to write up a paragraph with details on the sighting, but in case of a true rarity (like the Varied Thrush a few years ago), please make sure to get as much detail of the observation as possible. I may end up asking you and/or the observer for a more official write-up to ensure the

record is captured in the annals of the CBC. I would hate to see a valid record rejected for lack of documentation. Of course, a photo would be great!

- Please make separate note of birds seen during the **count week** (CW, three days before and three days after count day), not seen during the count day.

Please review all CBC forms before the count begins so it can be filled out accurately and completely.

If you have any questions about the count, please contact compiler Jacco Gelderloos at (734) 973-9422 (home) or (734) 757-0596 (cell), or at JJGelderloos@yahoo.com.