Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

An annotated checklist of the 314 species known to have occurred in Hancock County, Ohio.
It follows the nomenclature and taxonomic sequence of the American Birding Association's *Check-list of North American Birds, Version 7.9.0*.

A few terms that are used in this checklist: Hypothetical- No direct evidence exists, but present habitat in county and statewide patterns suggest that it could occur here.
Extirpated- No longer found in our county. Migrant- A species passing through our county on its way to or from breeding grounds.
Casual- Several years can go between records, but a pattern of occurrence still exists.

Legend	
Very rare, casual, or accidental; few records.	X
Rare; not necessarily seen every year.	R
Uncommon; not always seen but usually present.	U
Common,;normally seen and widespread.	C
Very common to abundant; found in numbers.	A
Hypothetical or unconfirmed records.	?

A species listed in **bold** has bred in Hancock County within the last ten years. A bird with an (hb) after its common name is a bird known to have bred at least once in the past century, but not in the past ten years.

In this checklist months are divided into four sections, each is roughly a week long.

Where a section is blank, there are no confirmed records of the species in Hancock County at that time. That doesn't necessarily mean it couldn't be present.

Greater White-fronted	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Goose	X				R	X	X	X					X	X		X	X	X																											R	R		
Anser albifrons																																																

With few exceptions, our records of this species are from one of our area's reservoirs.

Snow Goose	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Chen caerulescens	X	X					X	X	X	X	R	X																									X	X	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	R	R

Typically seen flying in flocks near one of our reservoirs.

Ross's Goose	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Chen rossii								?	?	?	X	R																																?	?	X	X	

Several Findlay Reservoir records and one from the Meijer's store retention pond.

Caution: Snow and Ross's Geese are known to hybridize, and it is possible that most Ross's reported in Ohio are actually hybrids. These hybrids have been seen in Hancock County.

Brant	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Branta bernicla																																								X		R	R		X			

Most records are from the Findlay Reservoirs.

Cackling Goose	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Branta hutchinsii	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	X	X	X																											X	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	R	R

Most records are from Lake Cascades, but look for this bird in any goose flock from fall through spring.

Canada Goose	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Branta canadensis	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C

The subspecies that breeds in Hancock County is of the largest variety(Giant).

There are many subspecies of Canada Geese. The smallest is nearly the same size as the Cackling Goose.

Mute Swan (hb)	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Cygnus olor	R	R	R	R			X		X			X		R	R	R	?	?	X																				X			X							

Highly erratic wanderer; may show up at almost any time. Has possibly bred in county. (records lost)

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Trumpeter Swan	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Cygnus buccinator	X		X	X												X			X								X	X															R				X	Most, maybe all, of our county records are of farm-raised birds that escaped.

Tundra Swan	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Cygnus columbianus	R	X	X	R	U	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	R	R																										R	U	C	R	R	U	U	U	C	Our most common swan. Reservoirs and bigger flooded fields.

Wood Duck	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Aix sponsa	X	X	X	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	C	C	C	C	C	A	C	A	C	C	U	U	C	U	U	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	U	C	U	U	U	U	R	R		R	X				Prefers our river, creeks, & smaller ponds. Will stay the winter if open water can be found in this county.

Gadwall	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Anas strepera	R	R	R	X	X	X	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R																					R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	Apparently increasing in numbers. Could be on almost any pond in migration; also on reservoirs.

Eurasian Wigeon	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Anas penelope														X																																				One record from the Vanlue Pits. When encountered in Ohio, it's usually seen with American Wigeons.

American Wigeon	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Anas americana							R	R	U	U	U	C	U	U	R	R	X	X																	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	C	R	R	R	R	R	Just as likely to be seen on the Findlay Reservoirs as it is on a smaller pond.

American Black Duck (hb)	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Anas rubripes	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	R									X	X	X	X					X	R	R	R	X	X	X	R	R	R	R	R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	Formerly bred in county (last in 1993). Most prevalent on our reservoirs and Lake Cascades.

Mallard	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Anas platyrhynchos	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	Can be found on virtually any body of water in our county.

Mallards and American Black Ducks frequently hybridize. These hybrids are occasionally seen in Hancock County, usually in the winter.

Blue-winged Teal	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Anas discors								X	X	R	R	R	R	U	U	C	C	U	U	U	U		R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	X										Usually on smaller ponds. Has recently bred in the Clay Pits and just south-east of Riverbend.

A Cinnamon Teal X Blue-winged Teal hybrid was seen on the Blanchard River east of the Findlay Reservoirs in April, 2012.

Northern Shoveler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Anas clypeata		R	R					X	U	U	U	C	C	C	U	U	U	R	R	X													R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	U	R	R		Fair numbers are seen on the Findlay Reservoirs in migration, as well as several of our bigger ponds.

Northern Pintail	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Anas acuta	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	R	R	R																			R	U	U	U	R	R	U	U	C	C	U	R		R	R	Has been known to over-winter at Lake Cascades.

Green-winged Teal	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Anas crecca	X						X	X	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R			X												X	X		R	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R		Prefers ponds in marshy areas, but will rarely be seen on our reservoirs.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Canvasback	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Aythya valisineria		X			X	X	X	R	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	R				X															U	U	C	C	U	U	U	U	R	R	R		R	

The Findlay Reservoirs are normally the only reliable location in Hancock County to get this species.

Redhead	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Aythya americana	R	R	R	R	R	X	R	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	R	R																		R	R	R	U	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	R

This diving duck seems to be just at home on small roadside ponds as it is on our reservoirs.

Ring-necked Duck	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Aythya collaris	R		R			R	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	R	R																		U	U	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	R

Will rarely form rafts of 100+ individuals on the Findlay Reservoirs.

Greater Scaup	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Aythya marila	X	X			X	X	R	R	R	R	U	U	R	U	R	R																				X	R	R	R	R	R			R	R	U	R	R

Increasing in this county. Still outnumbered by Lesser Scaup by roughly 1,000 to 1.

Lesser Scaup	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Aythya affinis	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	U	C	A	C	A	A	A	C	C	C	U	U	R	R		X													X	R	U	U	C	C	C	A	A	C	U	U	U

Probably our most common diving duck. Will occasionally be seen on small ponds, but normally observed on bigger ponds and reservoirs

Harlequin Duck	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Histrionicus histrionicus																																																X

One record: December 28, 1982 at the Findlay Reservoirs

Surf Scoter	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Melanitta perspicillata		X										R	U	R	R	R		X	X																					R	R	R		R	R	R	R	U

Majority of all records are from Findlay Reservoir #2.

White-winged Scoter	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Melanitta fusca								X	X		R	U	R	R					X																			X	X	R	R	R		R	R	U	U	U

As with all three scoter species, it is usually found at the Findlay Reservoirs.

Black Scoter	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Melanitta americana												X	R	R	X																								X	X	R	R	R	R	R	R		R

Least recorded of the scoters, but females may be easily overlooked as Ruddy Ducks.

Long-tailed Duck	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Clangula hyemalis					X			X	X	X	R	R	R	R	X	X																								X	X	R	R	X			X

Seldom encountered, almost always at the Findlay Reservoirs

Bufflehead	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Bucephala albeola	R	R	R	R	R			X	U	C	C	C	C	C	U	R	R																						R	U	C	C	C	C	U	C	U	U

Seen in a wide variety of ponds and reservoirs here, but shows a preference for the "point" on the center dike at the Findlay Reservoirs.

Common Goldeneye	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Bucephala clangula	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	X	X	X																										R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U

Most often seen at the Findlay or Fostoria Reservoirs. In winter, can be found along the Blanchard River.

Hooded Merganser	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Lophodytes cucullatus	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	C	C	C	U	U	R	R	R	R		X				X			?			R	R	R				R			R	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R

This bird prefers the river, smaller ponds, and the Clay Pits. Casually breeds in the county.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Common Merganser	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Mergus merganser	R	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	U	U		X																							U	U	U	C	C	U	U	U	U	Shows a strong preference for Findlay Reservoirs. Not as common here as the Red-breasted Merganser.

Red-breasted Merganser	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Mergus serrator	R		R		R	R	R	R	U	C	C	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	R	R		X												X		R	R	R	U	U	C	C	U	U	R	R	Findlay Reservoir #1 seems to be a favorite location for this species. Rafts of 100+ are not uncommon.

Ruddy Duck	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Oxyura jamaicensis	U	U	U	R				R	R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	R	R	R	R	R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	Very common at the Findlay Reservoirs, common at McComb and Fostoria Reservoirs.

Many species have escaped from captivity in our county. Some of these oddballs include: Black Swan, Swan Goose, Greylag Goose, Bar-headed Goose, Chinese Goose, Muscovy, Helmeted Guinea-Fowl, Peafowl, and Ringed Turtle-Dove. In addition to these species, domesticated varieties of Mallards are occasionally encountered.

Northern Bobwhite (hb)	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Colinus virginianus																	X	X			X							X						X																Extirpated. Subsequent sightings are probably private releases. Could become reestablished.

Ring-necked Pheasant (hb)	*Phasianus colchicus*	Extirpated as a wild breeding population. All recent sightings are of hunting birds or private releases

Ruffed Grouse	*Bonasa umbellus*	Extirpated. Historical records indicate it was present in per-setler days, but was eradicated by the mid-19th century.

Wild Turkey	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Meleagris gallopavo	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	First introduced in 1997, has since become well established in this county.

Besides Bobwhite, Pheasant, and Turkey, Chukars and Gray Partridges have been released for hunting purposes occasionally. Gray Partridges even bred here 60+ years ago.

Pied-billed Grebe	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Podilymbus podiceps	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R			R	R			R				R	R	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	Present on most bodies of water during migration, but typically only one or two individuals.

Horned Grebe	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Podiceps auritus	R	R	R	R	R			R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	R											R				R	U	U	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	Uncommon to rare at best away from the Findlay Reservoirs. There they can number 20+ at times.

Red-necked Grebe	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Podiceps grisegena												X		X	X	X			X	X	X																						X	R	R			X	All Hancock County records are from the Findlay Reservoirs

Eared Grebe	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Podiceps nigricollis											R	R	R	R	X																								R				X					Most records are from Findlay and Fostoria Reservoirs

Western Grebe	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Aechmophorus occidentalis																																											X					One record (Nov 25, 1984) at Findlay Reservoir #2.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Rock Pigeon	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Columba livia	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C

The common pigeon, found in towns and farms.

Eurasian Collared-Dove	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Streptopelia decaocto				X X	X	X X						

Two records in the county: June 14, 2009 and spring of 2015 in Vanlue.

White-winged Dove	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Zenaida asiatica					X	X						

Two records for this species: June 17, 2010 and May 23, 2015.

Mourning Dove	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Zenaida macroura	A A A A	A A A A	A A A A	A A A A	A A A A	A A A A	A A A A	A A A A	A A A A	A A A A	A A A A	A A A A

One of our most common birds, found in a variety of habitats. Frequently seen at feeders.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Coccyzus americanus				R	R U C U	R U U U	U C C C	U U R R	R R R R	R X X		

While seldom seen, this bird is probably present in every woodlot with any size. Appears to be leaving earlier in fall.

Black-billed Cuckoo	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Coccyzus erythropthalmus				X	R R R R	R R R R	R R R R	R R R R	R R	X ?		

Highly secretive. Recorded less often than Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Woodlots.

Common Nighthawk	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Chordeiles minor				X	R U U U	U U U U	U U U U	U C C C	U U U R	R R R		

Downtown Findlay in summer at dusk is a reliable place and time to look for this bird.

Eastern Whip-poor-will	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Antrostomus vociferus			X		R R ?				R R X			

Very few records, but may be a regular migrant. It's possible it may breed in this county at some point.

Chimney Swift	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Chaetura pelagica				X R R C	A A A A	C C C C	C C C C	C A A C	C C C C	U R R		

Most often seen around towns and buildings with chimneys, its preferred roosting spot.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Archilochus colubris			?		R R U U U	U C C C	U U U U	U U U U	U U R R	R R R		

Our breeding hummingbird, edges of woods and neighborhoods.

Rufous Hummingbird	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Selasphorus rufus											X X X X	X X X X

One record in late 2012 in the SE part of Findlay, and another for November of 2014 near the Clay Pits.

Yellow Rail	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Coturnicops noveboracensis					X							

One record (May 2012). One of North America's most secretive birds. Likes grasslands.

King Rail (hb)	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Rallus elegans					R ?	?	R R	X				

Has been seen most often along Corbin Ditch, SE of the Findlay Reservoirs. Possible casual breeder.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Virginia Rail														R	R	R				R	R	R		R		?				R								X	X											Marshes and wet grassy meadows. Breeds in the
Rallus limicola																																																	Clay Pits and possibly at the landfill. Secretive.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Sora													R				R	R	R	R			R		R	R	R	R		R				R															Marshes and wet grassy meadows. Probably breeds
Porzana carolina																																																	in the Clay Pits. Not as common as the Virginia Rail.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Common Gallinule															X	X			X																		X												Significant decline in reports, now a very rare to
Gallinula galeata																																																	casual migrant. Ponds.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
American Coot (hb)	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	R					X				X			R	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	Common on the Findlay Reservoirs, where it forms
Fulica americana																																																	small rafts that hug the shore.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Sandhill Crane	X					R	R					R	R	R	R					X																			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	X	X	Increasing in numbers, but still a rare bird and a
Grus canadensis																																																	spectacular sight. Most records are flocks seen
																																																	flying overhead during migration.

With several exceptions, plovers and sandpipers (collectively called shorebirds) are most often seen at our reservoirs and muddy areas by ponds (mudflats). On the reservoirs, check the rocks from the waterline to the top. For the mudflats, check water's edge.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Black-necked Stilt																									X																								A sighting by A. Clagus for July 6, 1985 was
Himantopus mexicanus																																																	submitted to Bruce Peterjohn.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
American Avocet																	X								X	R	R	R					R					X										Probably present most years. Every record is from
Recurvirostra americana																																																	either the Findlay Reservoirs or Fostoria Reservoir
																																																	#4 (Lake Mosier)

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X			R	R	R	R	X									R	U	U	R	R	U	U	R	R	R	R											Most records are from the Findlay Reservoirs.
Pluvialis squatarola																																																	

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
American																																																	Seen at our reservoirs and grassy fields. Seen with
Golden-Plover												X		R	R	R	R	R	R										R	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	U	R	R	X								regularity in fields west and south of Benton Ridge in
Pluvialis dominica																																																	the fall.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Semipalmated Plover												?					U	R	R	R							R	R	R	U	U	C	U	C	C	U	U	R											The Findlay Reservoirs and Fostoria's Lake Mosier
Charadrius semipalmatus																																																	are where most of our sightings of this species occur.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|X|																																										Federally endangered species.
Charadrius melodus																																																	

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Killdeer			R	R		R		R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	R				
Charadrius vociferus																																																	

Our noisiest and most common shorebird. Fields, lakes, yards, parking lots, anywhere it is open.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Upland Sandpiper (hb)																?		?								X			X		X	R	R					?											
Bartramia longicauda																																																	

Extirpated as a breeder, now a casual migrant at best. Historically most often seen at Findlay Airport.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Whimbrel																			X	X								X				X																	
Numenius phaeopus																																																	

Four records from the Findlay Reservoirs. (May 30, 1981; Jul 23, 1993; Aug 27, 1996; May 20, 2014)

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Hudsonian Godwit																															X					X													
Limosa haemastica																																																	

Our two records are from the Findlay Reservoirs (1994), and from a field just west of there (2013).

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Marbled Godwit													?				X												X					X															
Limosa fedoa																																																	

Three records (April 5, 1994, May 1, 2011, and Sept 2014), all from the Findlay Reservoirs.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	R	U	X									X	R	R	R	U	U	R				R																
Arenaria interpres																																																	

The center dike between the two Findlay Reservoirs is the best location to spot this bird in Hancock.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X				X			X	X		X															
Calidris canutus																																																	

Five records: one at Clay Pits, three around the Findlay Reservoirs, and one at Findlay Wastewater treatment plant.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	R	R	X																				
Calidris himantopus																																																	

Few records, all recent. Probably a rare, yearly fall migrant.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	R	R	R											U	U	U	U	R		X																			
Calidris alba																																																	

Usually recorded on the dike between the two Findlay Reservoirs.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	R														R	R	R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R	R																
Calidris alpina		X|																																															

Most records are from the Findlay and Fostoria Reservoirs, although it will rarely show up elsewhere.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	?	?											R	R	U	U	U	U	C	U	R	R	R																				
Calidris bairdii																																																	

Practically all records are from the dividing dike of the Findlay Reservoirs.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X	R	U	C	C	U	U			R	R	U	R	R	U	U	C	C	C	R	U	R	R	R	R	R	R		X													
Calidris minutilla																																																	

Either our 1st or 2nd most common sandpiper, depending on year. Reservoirs and flooded fields.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	R	U	R	X									R	U	U	R	R	R		X																				
Calidris fuscicollis																																																	

Most records in Hancock County are from the center dike of the Findlay Reservoirs.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Calidris subruficollis																						?									U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R											

The center dike of the Findlay Reservoirs is one of the best spots in the state to see this rare species.

Pectoral Sandpiper	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Calidris melanatos											X	R	R	U	U	R	R	R	R								U	U	U	C	C	U	R	R	U	R	R	R	R	R		X							

Seemingly more common in flooded fields than in any other location.

Semipalmated Sandpiper	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Calidris pusilla																R	C	U	U	U	X				R		R	R	U	U	C	C	U	U	R	R	R			R									

Either our 1st or 2nd most common sandpiper, depending on year. Reservoirs and flooded fields.

| Western Sandpiper | Jan. | | | | Feb. | | | | March | | | | April | | | | May | | | | June | | | | July | | | | August | | | | Sept. | | | | Oct. | | | | Nov. | | | | Dec. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|X | | | | | | | | | | R | R | R | R | | | R | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Check in mixed flocks of Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers for this species.

| Short-billed Dowitcher | Jan. | | | | Feb. | | | | March | | | | April | | | | May | | | | June | | | | July | | | | August | | | | Sept. | | | | Oct. | | | | Nov. | | | | Dec. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|X | R | | R | R | | | | | | | R | R | R | R | R | R | U | U | R | | | | | | ? | | ? | | | | | | | | |

Most frequently seen at the Findlay Reservoirs and at Fostoria Lake Mosier (Reservoir #4)

| Long-billed Dowitcher | Jan. | | | | Feb. | | | | March | | | | April | | | | May | | | | June | | | | July | | | | August | | | | Sept. | | | | Oct. | | | | Nov. | | | | Dec. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|R | | | | | | | | | | | | ? | | | R | R | R | X | | | | X | R | R | R | R | | ? | | | | | | | | |

Generally speaking, a more colder weather migrant than Short-billed.

Identification between the two dowtichers is difficult; some records may be erroneous.

Wilson's Snipe	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Gallinago delicata		X			X		X			R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R		X	X							X	X	R	R		R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	X							

Typically seen in flooded fields and wet grassy areas.

American Woodcock	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Scolopax minor						X	R		R	R	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R					?			R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	X							

Declining. Grasslands with nearby cover and fairly open woods. Starts breeding before many shorebirds even begin migration.

Spotted Sandpiper	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Actitis macularius											?					U	U	A	A	C	C	C	R	R	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	R	R		X				?				

In migration, often recorded on our reservoirs. During summer, it is recorded along our river, streams, and wooded ponds.

| Solitary Sandpiper | Jan. | | | | Feb. | | | | March | | | | April | | | | May | | | | June | | | | July | | | | August | | | | Sept. | | | | Oct. | | | | Nov. | | | | Dec. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|R | R | U | U | C | U | U | | | | | R | R | R | R | C | U | R | R | R | U | R | R | R | R | R | R | | | | | | | | | |

Reservoirs, flooded fields, CRP ponds.

| Greater Yellowlegs | Jan. | | | | Feb. | | | | March | | | | April | | | | May | | | | June | | | | July | | | | August | | | | Sept. | | | | Oct. | | | | Nov. | | | | Dec. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|R | R | U | U | U | U | R | R | | | | | | X | | | R | R | U | U | U | U | R | R | R | U | R | R | R | R | | | | | | | |

Shows a preference for flooded farm fields, even more so than Lesser Yellowlegs.

| Willet | Jan. | | | | Feb. | | | | March | | | | April | | | | May | | | | June | | | | July | | | | August | | | | Sept. | | | | Oct. | | | | Nov. | | | | Dec. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|R | R | R | R | | | | | | | | | | X | | | | R | | X | | | X | | | | X | | | | | | | | | | |

Most sightings come from the Findlay Reservoirs, although there is one record from the Clay Pits.

| Lesser Yellowlegs | Jan. | | | | Feb. | | | | March | | | | April | | | | May | | | | June | | | | July | | | | August | | | | Sept. | | | | Oct. | | | | Nov. | | | | Dec. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|X | R | R | R | U | U | R | R | | | | R | R | R | U | U | U | U | C | U | U | R | R | R | U | R | R | R | X | | | | | | | | |

Shows a preference for flooded farm fields, but also frequently seen at our reservoirs.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Wilson's Phalarope	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Phalaropus tricolor																													X	X	X		X		?		X											

Mr. Phillips reported this bird as a nearly yearly migrant at the Clay Pits; it may still be a regular migrant there. Also flooded fields.

Red-necked Phalarope	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Phalaropus lobatus																		X	X															R	R		X											

It appears all of our records of this bird come from around the Findlay Reservoirs.

Red Phalarope	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Phalaropus fulicarius																																		R	R			R	R		X							

Species has been recorded from the Findlay Reservoirs and the Vanlue Lagoons. May be a regular migrant in the open water of our reservoirs.

Black-legged Kittiwake	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Rissa tridactyla																																											X					

There is a November 21, 1981 record of an immature bird around the Blanchard River near the Osborne Avenue bridge.

Sabine's Gull	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Xema sabini																																					X											

An individual was seen at the Findlay Reseroirs on Oct 5 & 6, 2014.

Bonaparte's Gull	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Chroicocephalus philadelphia			X						R	R	C	C	C	U	U	U	R	R	R	X		X	R	R			R	R	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	U	U	R	R

Third most common gull in county, though rather rare away from our reservoirs.

Little Gull	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Hydrocoloeus minutus																																									X							

Two individuals of this species were seen on Nov 2, 2014 at the Findlay Reservoirs.

Laughing Gull	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Leucophaeus atricilla													?							X					X								X						X	X							X	

Look for the gull after strong storms from the east in the spring and fall.

Franklin's Gull	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Leucophaeus pipixcan														R	R					X				X											X	R	U	U	U	R	R	R		X				

The Findlay and Fostoria Reservoirs are where one is most likely to see this bird in the fall.

Ring-billed Gull	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Larus delawarensis	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C

Easily the most common gull in Hancock County. Summering individuals are non-breeders.

Herring Gull	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Larus argentatus	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	C	X		R	R	R		R			R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C

Second most common gull, will rarely outnumber Ring-billed Gulls. There is tremendous variation in plumage and size with this species.

Thayer's Gull	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Larus thayeri			?																																							?	?	X	X	X	X

Studies of the huge gull flocks at the Findlay Reservoirs in late fall will possibly yield more individuals of this species.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Iceland Gull	Jan.			Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Larus glaucoides			?								X																															X	X		X		

It appears we have had the Kumlein's variety of this species and it is probably a casual early winter wanderer to our county.

Lesser Black-backed Gull	Jan.			Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Larus fuscus	R	R	R				R			R	R	R		X																X	X	X		R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	R	R	U	U

Unrecorded in Hancock before 2004; probably our fourth most common gull now. Most records are from the Findlay Reservoirs.

Glaucous Gull	Jan.			Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Larus hyperboreus			X	X			R	R	R	R	X		X					X																					X			R	R		R	R

All records are from the Findlay Reservoirs. Is probably a very rare migrant and winter resident.

Great Black-backed Gull	Jan.			Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Larus marinus				R				R	R	X	R		X																		X				R	R			R	R			R	R		R	R

Most records are from the late fall and early winter at the Findlay Reservoirs. Size alone usually identifies this species. (Eagle-sized)

While we have only a few documented records, it is known many species of gulls hybridize frequently. Also, there is a great amount of plumage variations in most species, as well as size variation among the larger gulls. Some gulls may not be identifiable.

Least Tern	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Sternula antillarum																											X																						

We have a July 18, 2000 record from Fostoria's Lake Mosier.

Caspian Tern	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Hydroprogne caspia													R	R	R	R	R	R				R	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	U	R										

Increasing; small numbers are seen every migration at the Findlay Reservoirs and Lake Mosier.

Black Tern	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Chlidonias niger																X	R	R	R	U	R						X	X	R	U	U	R	R	R	R	R													

Decreasing. In Hancock County, it is usually only found at the Findlay and Fostoria Reservoirs.

Common Tern	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Sterna hirundo													X	X	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	X			X			X	R	R	U	U	R	R	R	R	X											

Most often recorded at the Findlay or Fostoria Reservoirs.

Forster's Tern	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Sterna forsteri													R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		X			X	R	R		R			U	R	R	R	R	R											

Usually more common in our county than the Common Tern.

Royal Tern	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Thalasseus maximus																																	X																

An individual of this species was seen on the center dike of the Findlay Reservoirs on September 3, 1985.

Red-throated Loon	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Gavia stellata												?	X	X																											X	X	X	X	X			

Five records, all from the Findlay Reservoirs. (Dec, 1982; Nov, 2012; Nov, 2013; Apr, 2014; Apr 2015)

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Pacific Loon	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Gavia pacifica														X		?	?			X																												

Two records from the Findlay Reservoirs: May 2012 and April 2015.

Common Loon	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Gavia immer	X	X	X			X			R	R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	R	R	R	R	U		R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	R	?	R	U	U	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	R	R

Can be seen virtually year round at the Findlay Reservoirs, if they don't freeze up. Summer birds are non-breeding juveniles.

Wood Stork	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X	X	X																						
Mycteria americana																																																

Two records: June 28- July 12, 1966 & July 14, 1998.

Double-crested	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Cormorant									R		U	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	?	?	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R		R	
Phalocrocorax auritus																																																

In the spring, usually seen at one of our reservoirs, while in the fall will spread out to smaller ponds. Casual breeder at Lake Mosier.

American White Pelican	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Pelecanus erythrorhynchos													X	X						X																												

Three records (May 2012, Apr 2014, April 2015) from the Findlay Reservoirs.

Brown Pelican	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Pelecanus occidentalis																				X																												

An individual was documented flying over the barrow pond along SR 15 at Vanlue.

American Bittern	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	R	R	U	R			R	X			R		R	R	R		R	R															
Botaurus lentiginosus																																																

Probably breeds every year in the Clay Pits area. Hypothetical in late winter there.

Least Bittern	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			X	X				X															
Ixobrychus exilis																																																

Probably more common; its small size and retiring nature help them to easily hide in cattail marshes.

Great Blue Heron	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Ardea herodias	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U

The common big heron in our county. There are at least six known heron nesting colonies in the county.

Great Egret	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R		X						R	R	U	U	U	U	C	U	U	U	R	R	X										
Ardea alba																																																

Riverside Park and the conservation areas east of Riverbend usually host this bird in migration.

Snowy Egret	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X																																		
Egretta thula																																																

A May 11, 1991 record exists of this bird. Should be a casual migrant.

Little Blue Heron	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X					X					X		X	X	X	X																			
Egretta caerulea																																																

Five separate records exists of this species in Hancock County: 1946, 1949, 1962, 2003, 2013

Tricolored Heron	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X																																		
Egretta tricolor																																																

Shane Myers observed and photographed an individual on May 31, 2013 on Lye Creek, from TR 205, west of the Findlay Reservoirs.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Cattle Egret													R		R	R	X			X															X	X						?	X							Six records (1968, 1973, 1989, 1992, 1996, 2007),
Bubulcus ibis																																																	may be a casual migrant. Look in flooded fields.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Green Heron																																																	Prefers rivers, streams, and woody ponds.
Butorides virescens														U	U	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	U	R	R	R	R				X									Easily overlooked.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Black-crowned																																																	Nocturnal, so easily overlooked. The Clay Pits area
Night-Heron							R					R	U	U	U	R	R	R			R	R	R	R			R	R		U	U	R	R	R		X	R					X							is a good location to look.
Nycticorax nycticorax																																																	

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Yellow-crowned																																																	One record at the Camp Berry spillway on Eagle
Night-Heron																								X	X	X																							Creek. Possible as a late summer wanderer from
Nyctanassa violacea																																																	breeding colony in Columbus.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Black Vulture																		X																					X										Only a few records, but carefully checking of
Coragyps atratus																																																	migrating flocks of vultures in spring and especially
																																																	fall may bring more sightings.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Turkey Vulture																																																	Soaring "V's" so frequently seen in our skies.
Cathartes aura	R	R		R	R	R	R	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	R					R	R		Occasionally over-winters, though not every year.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Osprey																																																	Reservoirs and Van Buren State Park seem to be
Pandion haliaetus									X	X				R	U	U	U	U	U	U			X	X	X	X	X		R	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R			X		X		X		good locations to find this species.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Swallow-tailed Kite																															X																		Jim Abrams saw an individual of this species soaring
Elanoides forficatus																																																	near the Mt. Blanchard Gun Club on August 17, 2013.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Bald Eagle																																																	As of 2016, eleven known nests in our county, maybe
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	more. Along the Blanchard River, the landfills and
																																																	reservoirs are its favorite haunts.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Northern Harrier (hb)																																																	Probably extirpated as a breeding bird. This species
Circus cyaneus	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R		X			X		X	X		X	R	R	R	R		R		R	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	prefers CRP grasslands.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Sharp-shinned Hawk																																																	In Hancock, never as common as the Cooper's Hawk.
Accipiter striatus	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	R			X	X							R	R	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	May casually breed in our larger pine groves. Will
																																																	hunt around bird feeders.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Cooper's Hawk																																																	The hawk most likely to hunt bird feeders. Probably
Accipiter cooperii	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	more common in towns than in woods.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Northern Goshawk	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Accipiter gentilis	X					R	X	R	R			X																															R	R	R	R	R	?

Probably present in less than half of our winters, in woodlots and at the edges of woods.

Red-shouldered Hawk	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Buteo lineatus	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R

Found usually in woods near water. Breeds in a few isolated areas throughout Hancock County.

Broad-winged Hawk	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Buteo platypterus										R	U	U	U	U	R				?				?				R							R	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	R		X	X					

A hawk of bigger woods, typically seen in migration soaring overhead. Hypothetical breeder.

Red-tailed Hawk	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Buteo jamaicensis	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C

Our most common large hawk, and the one usually seen perched in trees along the interstate.

Rough-legged Hawk	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Buteo lagopus	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R	X																													R	R	R	U	U	U	U	R

Typically seen soaring over open fields in the winter.

Golden Eagle	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Aquila chysaetos	X																																									X							

Two records: January 2012 and November 2013. Probably a casual migrant and accidental winter bird.

Barn Owl (hb)
Tyto alba

Formerly considered extirpated. An adult of this species was found dead on a county road in western Hancock County on May 23, 2016. Further searching is needed to determine this species' status in the county.

Eastern Screech-Owl	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Megascops asio	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C

The most common bird-of-prey in Hancock County, but seldom seen. Any tree with cavities could host this owl.

Great Horned Owl	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Bubo virginianus	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U

Found in most of our medium and larger woodlots, plus several suburban neighborhoods.

Snowy Owl	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Bubo scandiacus	R	R	R	X	X	X	R		R				R	R																									X					R	R	R	R	R

Farm fields, usually near reservoirs or livestock operations. Not present every winter.

Barred Owl	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Strix varia	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

Least common of the three breeding owls, but the most likely to be seen/ heard.

Long-eared Owl (hb?)	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Asio otus			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			X																										?					?	

Has usually been found in our larger pine plantings. May have bred in the county in early 20th century.

Short-eared Owl	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Asio flammeus	R	R	R	R				R		R								X																				R	R		R	R	R	R		R	R

Most commonly seen winter owl. Check our larger (40+ acres) grasslands towards sunset.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Northern Saw-whet Owl *Aegolius acadicus*	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
					R			R	R	R		R	R		R																							R						?				?	

Our smallest owl. Heavy brush and pine plantings are good places to look.

Belted Kingfisher ***Megaceryle alcyon***	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R

Found along most stream sides and many reservoirs and ponds in our area.

Red-headed Woodpecker ***Melanerpes erythrocephalus***	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
	R			R	R	R			R	R		R	R	R	U	U	U	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R		R	R		R	R				R	R	

Some stay over-winter. The countryside between Williamstown and Jenera usually seems to have a few of these birds around.

Red-bellied Woodpecker ***Melanerpes carolinus***	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C

This woodland woodpecker will frequently visit suet feeders. Also peanuts, sunflower and cracked corn.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius*	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
			R	R	R	R	R			R		U	U	U	U	U	R	R		X									R			R	R	R	U	U	U	R	R	R	R					R	R		

Woodlots, especially ones with Red Cedar or planted pines. Probably a casual winter resident.

Downy Woodpecker ***Picoides pubescens***	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C

The most common woodpecker; found wherever there are a few trees. Frequents suet feeders.

Hairy Woodpecker ***Picoides villosus***	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U

Not as common as the Downy. Prefers slightly more mature woods and suburbs with bigger trees.

Northern Flicker ***Colaptes auratus***	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R

While all woodpeckers spend time on the ground, this one does so the most. Dramatic decrease in numbers in the winter.

Pileated Woodpecker ***Dryocopus pileatus***	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

Our largest and rarest woodpecker. Litzenberg and Van Buren State Park have small populations.

American Kestrel ***Falco sparverius***	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C

Apparently decreasing in numbers. Driving county roads and looking on the wires for this bird is one's best bet to find it.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
				R			X		X	X	R	R		R	R															X			R	R	R	R	R		R	R		R	R	R				R	R

Increasing. Prefers more open areas to hunt, but will come into town (especially Maple Grove Cemetery).

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		X		X	X							X	X			X	X	X	R					R	R	R	R	R						R	R

Probably present every year during migration, often around our reservoirs. One bird stayed the winter at the Marathon Building. (2009)

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Prairie Falcon	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Falco mexicanus										X X		

One county record (Oct 2012) at the Findlay Reservoirs. Seen and photographed by many birders from around the state.

Olive-sided Flycatcher	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Contopus cooperi					R R R R	X		X X X	R R R R			

Seen in woody settings, perched on one of the most conspicuous and exposed branches. More likely seen in fall.

Eastern Wood-Pewee	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Contopus virens			?	R	U C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C U	R R X		

Woodlots, generally near water.

The following five species, of the genus *Empidonax,* are best identified by voice. They tend not to call in the fall and identification becomes quite difficult, impossible in many cases. Habitat is not a reliable identifying characteristic in migrating birds. Collectively *Empidonax* flycatchers are common in September.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Empidonax flaviventris				?	R U U			U	U U U	R		

Usually found low inside our woodlots.

Acadian Flycatcher	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Empidonax virescens				X	R R U U	U U U U	U U U U	R	R R R R	X		

Found in woodlots with larger trees. Appears to be increasing as a breeding species.

Alder Flycatcher	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Empidonax alnorum					R R R	R	R R	R	R			

The scarcest *Empidonax*. Only confirmed breeding location in this county is just east of Riverbend.

Willow Flycatcher	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Empidonax traillii				X R	U U C	C C C C	C C C C	R R R	R R X			

Our most common breeding *Empidonax.* Shrubby fields and railroad right-of-ways.

Least Flycatcher	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Empidonax minimus				R R	C A C R	R R R R	R R	R R R	R R R R			

Most common migrating *Empidonax* flycatcher, seen in woods. Very rare breeder in county.

Eastern Phoebe	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Sayornis phoebe			C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	C C C U	U U U U	U U U U	U U U U	R	

The earliest migrating flycatcher. Frequently builds its nest under bridges and on buildings.

Great Crested Flycatcher	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Myiarchus crinitus				X R R	U C C C	U U U U	U U U U	R R R R	R R R R			

A large flycatcher of woods and woodland edges.

Eastern Kingbird	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Tyrannus tyrannus				R R	U U C C	C U U U	U U U U	U C U U	R R R R			

Farm country fence rows are its favorite location.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Tyrannus forficatus					X							

There is one May 18, 1962 record from around Arlington, plus a few other unconfirmed records.

Loggerhead Shrike (hb)	*Lanius ludovicianus*	Extirpated. An accidental migrating stray is very unlikely, but possible.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Northern Shrike																																																	Small numbers are present most winters. Grassy
Lanius excubitor	R	R	R		R		R	R				X																											R					?		R	R		fields with isolated trees bordering is ideal habitat.

Any Shrike seen in this county, at any time of year, is more likely to be a Northern Shrike than a Loggerhead.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
White-eyed Vireo																																																	Never common, loves heavy brush. Breeds near
Vireo griseus													R		R	R	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R		R	R					R	R	R	R	R			X	X										Aurand Run on the south end of Oakwoods.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Bell's Vireo																																																	Two pairs were discovered in the SW field of
Vireo bellii																				X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																			Oakwoods on June 28, 2016. First breeding records and just second record overall.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Yellow-throated Vireo																																																	Most often seen near the tops of trees in our
Vireo flavifrons															R	R	U	C	C	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U				R	U	R	R	R	R	X												woodlots. Increasing as a breeding bird.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Blue-headed Vireo														R	R	U	U	U	R	X													X	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R									Woods, from a few feet off the ground almost to the
Vireo solitarius																																																	tops. Usually our first vireo in spring migration.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Philadelphia Vireo																																																	Woodlots and woody neighborhoods. Possibly under
Vireo philadelphicus																R	U	U	U	R	R								?				R	U	R	R	R	R	R	R									reported; sounds similar to Red-eyed Vireo.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Warbling Vireo															R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	U	R													Common along forest/ field edges. Also where
Vireo gilvus																																																	woodlots meet county roads. Many breed along the Blanchard River.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Red-eyed Vireo																																																	Woodlots are this species' home. Frequently the only
Vireo olivaceus																	R	U	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	C	U	R	R		X											bird singing midday in summer.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Blue Jay																																																	Typically in small family groups in our woods and
Cyanocitta cristata	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	suburban areas.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
American Crow																																																	While not rare, this bird doesn't seem as common in
Corvus brachyrhynchos	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	Hancock as it is in surrounding counties.

Common Raven	*Corvus corax*	Extirpated. Historical records indicate that this species was found in the county in the early 19th century.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Horned Lark																																																	Open farm country is where this bird is found. Flocks
Eremophila alpestris	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	of 5,000+ have been recorded in late winter here.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Purple Martin										X		R		R	R	U	U	R	R	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R																
Progne subis																																																	

Nearly completely dependent upon martin boxes for breeding.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Tree Swallow											R	U	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U			R	X							
Tachycineta bicolor																																																	

First Hancock breeding record: 1979 at Camp Mosshart. It's favorite nesting location is bluebird boxes. Hypothetical in early winter.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Northern																																																	
Rough-winged Swallow									X				U	U	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	X												
Stelgidopteryx serripennis																																																	

Never seen in large numbers, this swallow is none-the-less seen in a wider variety of areas than any other swallow.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Bank Swallow													R	R	R	R	R	U	U	R				R	R			R			R	U	U	R	R														
Riparia riparia																																																	

Most often seen in migration, but has bred along the Blanchard River in small colonies in areas with dirt bluffs.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Cliff Swallow (hb)																	R	R	R	R				X			R		R	U	U	U	R	R	R	R													
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota																																																	

Most often seen at the Findlay Reservoirs during migration.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Barn Swallow													R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	U	U	R	R												
Hirundo rustica																																																	

A common sight around barns in the summer. Can be seen in large flocks in the fall at our reservoirs.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Carolina Chickadee																																																	
Poecile carolinensis	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
Black-capped Chickadee	***Poecile atricapillus***																																																

Collectively, found in most woodlots in our county, plus some suburban areas. Will occasionally visit feeders.

As a rule in Hancock County, there are more Carolina Chickadees further south than north, and Black-capped Chickadees are more common in winter. We are in the “integrade zone”, meaning both species can be found here. Most chickadees in Hancock County are probably a mixture of both species, so positive identification is not always possible.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Tufted Titmouse																																																	
Baeolophus bicolor	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U

Locally common in some woods, but noticeably absent in others.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Red-breasted Nuthatch																																																	
Sitta canadensis	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	X					X		X	X					R	R	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U

Most often seen in pine plantings in winter. Attempted nesting in county in 2008.

Many winter-visiting species have wildly fluctuating numbers from year to year. Winters when they are numerous are considered invasion years. A few of those species, such as Red-breasted Nuthatch, Pine Siskin, and Purple Finch could attempt to breed here after such a winter.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
White-breasted Nuthatch																																																	
Sitta carolinensis	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C

Seemingly present in every woodlot and suburban neighborhood in our county.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Brown Creeper	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Certhia americana	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	X	X															X	R	R	U	U	U	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	C	U	

Hugs tree trunks where it nearly always goes up.

House Wren	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Troglodytes aedon										X			R	R	U	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	R												

Found in woods, backyards, bluebird boxes. Something of a pest. Winter records are probably misidentified birds. (See next)

Winter Wren	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Troglodytes hiemalis	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		X					X										R	R	R	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	

Almost always lurking around logs on the forest floor near water. Difficult to locate. Possibly a common winter resident.

Sedge Wren	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X	R			X						X					X																			
Cistothorus platensis																																																	

Few records, but possibly increasing. Late May of 2016 found the first confirmed breeding in the Clay Pits area. Wet grassy areas.

Marsh Wren	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|R		R		R			R	R	R		R	R				R			R	R	R		R	R																				
Cistothorus palustris																																																	

Breeds at the landfill wetlands; it may also breed in other marshes in our county.

Carolina Wren	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Thryothorus ludovicianus	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U

Brushy areas in woods & suburban neighborhoods. Numbers can drastically decline in harsh winters.

Bewick's Wren (hb)	*Thryomanes bewickii*

There are no confirmed records of this bird in Hancock County in almost 50 years. Extirpated from this county and Ohio.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|R	R	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R																			
Polioptila caerulea																																																	

A small, hyperactive bird of the woods.

Golden-crowned Kinglet	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|C	C	U	R		X														R	R	R	U	U	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R								
Regulus satrapa																																																	

Small, active, woodland species. Typically less common than following species. Probably present every winter.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	U	C	C	A	C	C	R												X	R	C	C	C	C	U	U	R												X		
Regulus calendula																																																	

A woodland species. May be most common bird in a woodlot in late April. Accidental winter resident.

Eastern Bluebird	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Sialia sialis	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	

In our county, mostly dependent upon bluebird boxes for breeding.

Veery	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|X		R	R	U	C	U	R				R								R	U	R	R	R																			
Catharus fuscescens																																																	

Not a frequently recorded migrant. Known to breed in the Clay Pits area.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Gray-cheeked Thrush	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Catharus minimus															R	R	U	U	U	U												X	R	U	U	U	R	R	R	X								

Found on forest floors, seldom as common as the Swainson's Thrush.

Swainson's Thrush	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Catharus ustulatus													X	R	R	U	C	C	C	R												R	U	C	C	C	U	R	R		X								

Our most common migrating brown thrush.

Hermit Thrush	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Catharus guttatus	R	R		R			R	R		R	R	R	U	U	U	C	U	U	R																R	R	U	U	C	U	U	R					R	R

Earliest migratory thrush, probably present most mild winters.

Wood Thrush	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Hylocichla mustelina												X			R	U	C	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U		?		R	U	U	R	R			X											

Declining as a breeder. Easily found in the woods by listening for its beautiful song.

American Robin	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Turdus migratorius	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	U	U	U

Woods, lawns, parks. Does not leave in the winter, but goes to areas of heavy brush with many berries, like Riverbend or Camp Berry.

Varied Thrush	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Ixoreus naevius	X			X		X	X	X		X			X																																X	X	X	X

At least four confirmed records (latest 2001), coming from the Findlay Country Club and south Findlay.

Gray Catbird	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Dumetella carolinensis								X					R	R	R	C	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	U	R	R		R	R	X				X	

Found anywhere there is extensive underbrush.

Brown Thrasher	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Toxostoma rufum			X				R				R		U	U	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R			R	R	R	U	R	R	R		X					X			X

Heavy brush, either in woods of fields. Some may stay the winter.

Northern Mockingbird	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Mimus polyglottos	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

Increasing. More common in southern Hancock County. Cemeteries and backyards are its favorite locations.

European Starling	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Sturnus vulgaris	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A

Found in almost every type of habitat. Can form huge flocks in the fall.

Bohemian Waxwing	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Bombycilla garrulus											X																																				X	

Two records; from south Findlay and from Camp Berry. In Ohio, usually seen with Cedar Waxwings.

Cedar Waxwing	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Bombycilla cedrorum	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

Nomadic; may be absent from county for weeks, then suddenly appear in large numbers. Eats fruit.

House Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Passer domesticus	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C

Almost always near human habitation. Seemingly reliant upon bird feeders.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

American Pipit	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Anthus rubescens										R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	R	X	X													X	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R		R	R

A water-loving songbird. Most sight records are from our reservoirs.

Pine Grosbeak	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Pinicola enucleator			X																																	X							X							

Very few records of this bird, none recent. Look in hemlocks and ornamental trees that still hold fruit in winter for this species.

House Finch	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Haemorhous mexicanus	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U

First confirmed county record: 1980, now well established. Scarce away from houses and feeders.

Purple Finch (hb)	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Haemorhous purpureus	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R					X			X								X			R		R	R	U	U	U	R	U	U	U	U	R	R

Will visit feeders, but generally is found in wilder habitats than the House Finch.

Red Crossbill	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Loxia curvirostra			R	R	R							X					X			X																	R	R	R	R	R							X

May be up to six different species. Less common in Hancock County than White-winged Crossbill. Found in basically the same habitat.

White-winged Crossbill	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Loxia leucoptera	X		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	X	X	X	X	X	X																							R	R			R	R	R	R

Prefers spruces and White Pines laden with cones. Not present every year.

Common Redpoll	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Acanthis flammea		R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R			X				X		X																					R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	

Most records are of birds visiting feeders in winter. Sometimes seen with American Goldfinches.

Pine Siskin	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Spinus pinus	R	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R	R	R			X													R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	U

Usually our most common winter-visiting finch. Often seen with American Goldfinches. Frequents thistle feeders and Sweetgum trees.

American Goldfinch	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Spinus tristis	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C

Present in almost any habitat except for deep woods. Frequently visits thistle feeders.

Evening Grosbeak	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Coccothraustes vespertinus	X	X	X	X	X	R	R	X		?		X	X			X	X																			X			X	X	X	R	R	X	X	X	X	X

Declining. When present in winter, it is usually seen at bird feeders with sunflower seeds.

Lapland Longspur	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Calcarius lapponicus	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R		R																						X								R	R		R	R

Not as common as the Snow Bunting or Horned Lark, the two species it is typically seen with.

Snow Bunting	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Plectrophenax nivalis	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R					X																							U	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U

Often seen in mixed flocks with Horned Larks and Lapland Longspurs in winter. Also in small flocks along a reservoir's rocks.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Ovenbird	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
Seiurus aurocapilla															R	U	U	C	U	U			R	R				?					U	U	U	R	R	R										

Significant decline in breeding population; in danger of being extirpated in county as such. Look for Ovenbirds on forest floors.

Worm-eating Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	R	U		X												R		R														
Helmitheros vermivorum																																																

The outlet stream just north of the prairie at Oakwoods has been the best location to find this rare migrant.

Louisiana Waterthrush	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	R		R	R	U	R	X															?														
Parkesia motacilla																																																

Wooded swamps and wooded streams, generally in more open areas than following species.

Northern Waterthrush	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	U	U	U	U	R														R	U	R		R												
Parkesia noveboracensis																																																

Brushy areas adjacent to streams or standing water. Far more common of the two waterthrushes.

Golden-winged Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X	R	X															X															
Vermivora chrysoptera																																																

Declining, may be almost considered casual/ accidental in occurrence.

Blue-winged Warbler (hb)	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	R	R	C	C	U															R															
Vermivora cyanoptera																																																

Seen in young woods. Oakwoods and Riverbend are usually good locations.

Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers hybridize (Brewster's & Lawrence's Warblers). Both are very rare, but may be more common in our county than the Golden-winged Warbler.

Black-and-white Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	U	C	C	U	R			?		X							U	C	C	U	R	R													
Mniotilta varia																																																

Found in woods, almost always hugging tree trunks and branches.

Prothonotary Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	X	R	R	U		R				R				R				R																	
Protonotaria citrea																																																

Prefers swampy areas with many dead trees. The Clay Pits area is the best location in the county to see this bird.

Tennessee Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	U	U	C	C	R													R	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R													
Oreothlypis peregrina																																																

A rather common, but not often seen, migrant of the woods.

Orange-crowned Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R							R	R													R				R	R	R	R								
Oreothlypis celata																																																

Typically found in weedy brush. At least one or two records every year.

Nashville Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	R	U	C	C	C														R		R	U	U	U	U	U	R	R												
Oreothlypis ruficapilla																																																

A common migrant of the woods. More often heard than seen.

Connecticut Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.			
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---		X	R	R																	R	R		X												
Oporornis agilis																																																

One of the latest and scarcest migratory warblers. Almost always on forest floors. Beware of misidentifying Mourning Warbler as this species.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Mourning Warbler	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Geothlypis philadelphia					R U U R			R	R R R R			

Nearly always at or near ground level in woods, often close to water. Probably more common than reported.

Kentucky Warbler	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Geothlypis formosa				R	R U U	X			?			

Not often recorded. Favors thick underbrush in woody areas.

Common Yellowthroat	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Geothlypis trichas				R U	C C C C	C C C C	C C C C	U U U U	U U U U	R R R		

Our most common breeding warbler, found in brushy fields, marshy areas, railroad tracks, etc.

Hooded Warbler	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Setophaga citrina				R R	U U R R	R R	R		R			

Declining. Woodland understories are where one finds this bird. Has bred in the recent past at Litzenberg Memorial Woods.

American Redstart	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Setophaga ruticilla					U C C U	U U U U	R U	R R R	C C C C	U R		

An active and conspicuous warbler of the woods. Possibly increasing as a breeding species.

Kirtland's Warbler	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Setophaga kirtlandii					X							

One record (north of McComb, May 23, 2012). Possibly this is a yearly migrant. Look mid-May around pine plantings with thick brush.

Cape May Warbler	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Setophaga tigrina					U U U				R R R R	R R		

Most often encountered near the tops of tall spruce and pine trees, will also visit flowering trees to feed on nectar.

Cerulean Warbler	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Setophaga cerulea					U R R	R			R R			

Declining. Probably still breeds in southern part of Hancock County along the river.

Northern Parula	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Setophaga americana				R	U C U R	R R R	R R		R U U R	R		

Found in woods near water. Breeds in Camp Berry and to the immediate north of the camp.

Magnolia Warbler	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Setophaga magnolia				R	U C C U			R	C C C C	U R		

Common in wooded understories during migration.

Bay-breasted Warbler	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Setophaga castanea					R U R R			X	U U R R	R R R		

Found in a wide variety of wooded habitats, usually midway up in trees.

Blackburnian Warbler	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Setophaga fusca				R	U U U R			R	R U R R			

Found near the tops of the larger trees in a woodlot. The male is one of the most striking birds in North America to see.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Yellow Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Setophaga petechia															R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	R	R			R		X															Found in fields, wetlands, near woodland edges. One of the first birds to depart in the fall.

Chestnut-sided Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Setophaga pensylvanica															R	R	U	C	U	X						R						R	R	R	U	R													Found in a wide variety of wooded habitats, though usually near edges. Hypothetical breeder.

Blackpoll Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Setophaga striata																R	R	U	U	X													R	U	R	R	R	R												Small numbers are found in a wide variety of wooded habitats. Does not hug trunks like the similar Black-and-white Warbler.

Black-throated Blue Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Setophaga caerulescens																R	R	U	U													R	U	U	U	U	R	R												Almost always found in the woods, active in the under-story.

Palm Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Setophaga palmarum													R	R	U	C	C	C	U															R	R	U	R	R								X				Often near the ground along woodland edges.

We have recorded two subspecies of Palm Warbler in the county: a western one and a more yellow eastern. The western subspecies is far more common here.

Pine Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Setophaga pinus											R	R	R	R	U	R	R	R															R	R	R	R	R	R								X			Early migrant, seen in pine trees as well as deciduous trees.

Yellow-rumped Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Setophaga coronata	R	R		R	R		R	R	R	R	R	U	U	C	A	A	A	A	C													R	R	U	U	C	A	A	A	A	C	C	U	U	R	R	U	R	By far the most common warbler in migration.

Yellow-throated Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Setophaga dominica															R	R	U	U	R	R	R	X		R		R	R							R															Often seen on Sycamore trees during migration. Breeds in small numbers at Camp Berry.

Prairie Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Setophaga discolor															R	R	R	X																?															Typically not found in prairies; its preferred habitat is very young tree stands in former grassy areas.

Black-throated Green Warbler (hb)	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Setophaga virens															R	U	C	C	U	R			?										R	U	U	U	R	R	R										A warbler that is often seen at the edges of tree branches, about mid-level of the trees.

Canada Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Cardellina canadensis																	R	U	U	R												R	R	R	R	R													Wooded understories near water is usually the best place to look for this bird.

Wilson's Warbler	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Cardellina pusilla																	R	U	U	R													U	U	R	R	R												Most records are of birds not far off the ground, usually near the edges of woods.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

Yellow-breasted Chat	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Declining, scarce. It's preferred habitat is old fields.
Icteria virens																R	R	R			R	R	R	R	R								R	R	R	R	R												

Eastern Towhee	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Woods with thick brush for understories. Rarely visits bird feeders.
Pipilo erythrophthalmus		R			R		R			R	R	R	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R			R	

American Tree Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Very common visitor to bird feeders in the winter.
Spizella arborea	C	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	R	R																						R	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	

Chipping Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Our most common sparrow in summer. Present at least some winters.
Spizella passerina		X	X	X	X			X	X	X		U	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	R	R	R				X	X	X	R	

Clay-colored Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				A northern species of grassy areas with scattered trees. Hypothetical casual breeding species.
Spizella pallida												X																									X	X												

Field Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Contrary to its name, it actually prefers edges of fields, close to trees. Possibly declining.
Spizella pusilla	R		R	R		R	R	R		R	R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R					R	R		

Vesper Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Possible in winter. Highly under-reported species. In fact, one of our more common sparrows. Found in open fields.
Pooecetes gramineus		?										R	R	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R						?		

Lark Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				One 2007 record for this species. Breeds in the oak savannahs of Oak Openings Metropark near Toledo.
Chondestes grammacus																																	X																

Savannah Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Common out in the country; grassy roadsides will often host this species. Will rarely visit feeders.
Passerculus sandwichensis	R		X	X	X	X				R	R	R	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R									

Grasshopper Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Declining. Scarce everywhere, except at Hancock County Sanitary Landfill where it can be abundant.
Ammodramus savannarum															R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R												

Henslow's Sparrow (hb)	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Few records of this highly secretive bird. Formerly bred, may still do so. Prefers older pasture land.
Ammodramus henslowii															?		X				X	X			X						?						R	R											

Le Conte's Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				May be more common than reported. The landfill may be the best location to search for this and the next species.
Ammodramus leconteii																																					R												

Nelson's Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Ammodramus nelsoni																	X																			X	R	X												

May be more common than reported. Fields with water.

Our four *Ammodramus* sparrows are notoriously secretive, and can be very difficult to get a clean look at one. Focus on the head for coloration and plumage pattern, which are usually good clues to species identity. They are collectively uncommon from the last week of September through the second week of October. All prefer grasslands.

Fox Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Passerella iliaca	R			R	R		R	R	R	U	U	U	C	U	R	R																					R		R	R	R		R	R	R		R	R	

Woods with thick understories. Will rarely visit feeders.

Song Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Melospiza melodia	U	U	U	C	C	U	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U

Found in woods, fields, backyards, fence rows; most areas have a few members of this species. Visits feeders.

Lincoln's Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Melospiza lincolnii														U	U	C	C	C	R								X								U	U	C	C	U	U	U	R								

Not frequently recorded. Anywhere one can find thick cover, this species may be lurking.

Swamp Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Melospiza georgiana	R		R	R			R			R	R	R	U	U	C	U	U	R					R		R	R	R						R			U	U	U	U	U	U	U			R	R	R	

Found in wetlands. Litzenberg and the Hancock County Sanitary Landfill are good locations.

White-throated Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Zonotrichia albicollis	R	R	U	U	U	U	U	R	U	U	U	U	U	C	A	A	A	A	C																U	C	A	A	A	A	C	C	U	R	R	U	U	U

Thick brush is its favorite habitat, but is often seen at bird feeders. Probably some over-winter every year.

White-crowned Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Zonotrichia leucophrys	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			R	R	R	R	R	R	C	A	A	C														R	R			C	C	C	C	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	

In our county generally not as common as the White-throated Sparrow. Frequently seen at feeders.

Golden-crowned Sparrow	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Zonotrichia atricapilla	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																								X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

One bird has returned to the same Biglick Twp yard for five winters (as of 2013-14). Only Ohio record.

Dark-eyed Junco	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Junco hyemalis	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	U	R																			R	R	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A

Our most common sparrow in winter, found at feeders and the edges of woods.

Many races and subspecies of juncos exist, three have been recorded in Hancock County: "Slate-colored" (most common), "Oregon", and "Cassiar's".

Summer Tanager	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Piranga rubra																X	R	R	R	R		X		X			X																							

A southern bird of wooded treetops. It is a possible casual breeder.

Scarlet Tanager	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Piranga olivacea																R	C	C	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			R		R	U	R	R	R													

A bird of the wooded treetops.

Northern Cardinal	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Cardinalis cardinalis	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C

Found in a wide variety of locations: towns, farms, woods, marshes, brushland.

Birds of Hancock County, Ohio

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Rose-breasted Grosbeak																U	C	C	C	U	R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R			?		U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R									Seen in the woods, usually near the tops of the trees.
Pheucticus ludovicianus																																																	Uncommon visitor to feeders.
Blue Grosbeak																X		R		X						X	X	X	X	X	X																			Probably a yearly migrant. Look in grassy field with
Passerina caerulea																																																	bushes interspersed. Bred at Lake Mosier in 2014.
Indigo Bunting																U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	R	R											Found at the edges of woods. Rather common in the
Passerina cyanea																																																	fall, but easily overlooked.
Dickcissel																				R	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R																					Numbers fluctuate greatly from year-to-year.
Spiza americana																																																	grasslands with bushes present.
Bobolink													X			R	R	R	R	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R				R	R	R																Found in extensive grasslands. Can also be found in
Dolichonyx oryzivorus																																																	larger wheat fields with grasslands adjacent.
Red-winged Blackbird		R			R	R	R	U	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	U					R	Any ditch or pond that has cattails is a possible
Agelaius phoeniceus																																																	location for this very common bird. Locally abundant
																																																	in fall around the Clay Pits.
Eastern Meadowlark	R									R	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			?				?		Declining. Grasslands and roadsides are where to
Sturnella magna																																																	find this bird.
Western Meadowlark															R		R		R		X															R														Probably a rare but regular resident. Recent reports
Sturnella neglecta																																																	have been around the Findlay Reservoirs.

While there are subtle plumage differences between our two meadowlarks, they are typically identifiable only by their vocalizations by all but the most experienced birders.

	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				
Yellow-headed Blackbird																X					X	X		X									?																	Few confirmed records, but should be looked for in
Xanthocephalus																																																	the large blackbird flocks of spring and fall.
xanthocephalus																																																	
Rusty Blackbird								X		R	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R																			R	R	U	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	U		Tends to like woods more than most other
Euphagus carolinus																																																	blackbirds. Fond of wet areas, too.
Brewer's Blackbird																																						R									R	R	A handful of records, almost always found in mixed
Euphagus cyanocephalus																																																	flocks of various blackbirds.
Common Grackle	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	A	A	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	R		R	R			Possibly our most common bird from spring through
Quiscalus quiscula																																																	fall. Found in almost any habitat.

Brown-headed Cowbird	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Brood parasite; lays its eggs in other species' nests.
Molothrus ater	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	C	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	Found in most open habitats. Frequently visits bird feeders.

Orchard Oriole	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Never as common as the Baltimore Oriole. Found in areas that have fairly mature trees, with mostly clear understories.
Icterus spurius															R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	U	U	R	R	R	R																

Baltimore Oriole	Jan.				Feb.				March				April				May				June				July				August				Sept.				Oct.				Nov.				Dec.				Found in many suburban neighborhoods and most woodlots in Hancock County.
Icterus galbula														X	R	U	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	U	U	U	U	R	U	C	U	R	R	X																

Thanks and sources used in this checklist: www.eBird.org - For base chart data. Kaufman's Field Guide to Birds of North America.
Richard S. Phillips's book The Birds of the Hancock County, Ohio Area, 1980. The field notes of Mr. Phillips, housed at the Center for Archival Collections at BGSU.
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