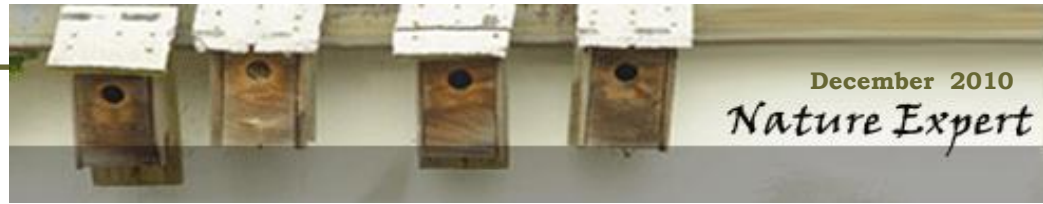




Centre de conservation de la faune ailée



In this issue :

- Birding Hot Spots
- Winter bird forecast
- Bird quiz with a price
- Our new products and suggestions

Hours of operation:

Tue. / Wed. 9:30 – 18:00
Thurs. / Fri. 9:30 – 19:00
Sat. 9:30 – 17:00
Sun. / Mon. Closed

Holiday hours:

For the month of December, we will be exceptionally open on Sundays and Mondays from 9h30 to 17h.

We will be closed December 25, 26, 27 and January 1-2-3.

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Dear birders,

With the winter season rapidly approaching, we wanted to suggest a few birding hot spots in the Montreal area. We would also like share some predictions as to which boreal species will be visiting us in larger numbers this winter. Make sure you give our birding quiz a try and if you send us a correct answer, you could win a prize which will be drawn from all correct answers (details on page 3). For your convenience, please note our extended holiday hours for the month of December.

We want to take time to wish you a Merry Christmas and happy holidays.

Your CCFA team; Alain, Dara, Simon and François.

Birding Hot Spots

Bird watching in the winter can sometimes be limited but several sites in the Montreal area offer great viewing opportunities.

First, the Marguerite D'Youville wildlife refuge that includes Ile Saint-Bernard is a great place for bird watching in winter. The different access to open water on the St. Lawrence River and Lake St. Louis give you the opportunity to see several species of ducks and water birds. In winter, bird feeders are installed and you can observe many species coming to feed. The star of the area is certainly the Tufted Titmouse, which can be seen fairly easily. The Boisé Papineau in Laval also offers a nice assortment of feeders that attract many species.

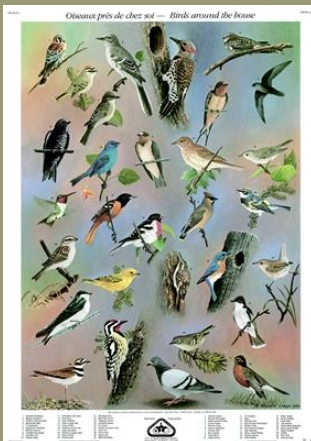
Walking around the many trails, you'll find a pair of Pileated woodpecker living there year round. One can also observe several species of owls including; screech owls; Barred Owl; or a small, well camouflaged Saw-whet owl.

If you are in the west of Montreal, make a trip to the Morgan Arboretum, which offers over 25 km of trails and several winter species such as Pine Siskin, Bohemian Waxwing, Common Redpoll, and White-winged Crossbill. Though hard to see, the Red-bellied Woodpecker sometimes makes really short appearances at the feeders. For people who want to see Quebec's provincial bird this

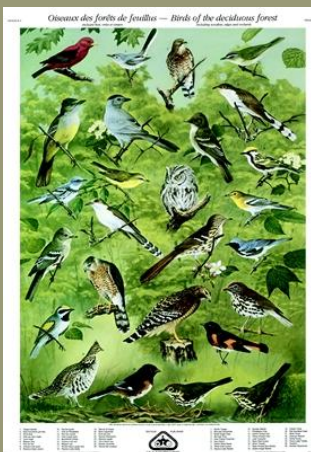
Fund Raiser

Purchase our full series of 6 paper posters of the birds of Quebec for 30\$ and help support Observatoire d'Oiseaux de Tadoussac and McGill Bird Observatory.

For each series sold, 10\$ will go to OOT and 10\$ to MBO.



30\$



winter, the Snowy Owl, the regions of Mirabel, St-Hubert and St-Clet provide suitable habitats for this species. You will

also find many other species in these fields including Snow Bunting, Lapland longspur and Horned Lark.

Winter Bird Forecast

Every fall, Ron Pittaway, a member of the Ontario Field Ornithologists, makes a winter finch forecast and tries to predict how many finches, redpolls and siskins will be present in Southern Ontario. These predictions also apply to neighbouring provinces such as Quebec. Here are some of his predictions.

Purple Finch

This species winters in the north when conifer seed production is abundant. This is not the case this year. Therefore, most of the Purple Finch population should migrate to southern Quebec this fall and it is quite possible that some will visit your feeders during the winter. The Purple Finch population has declined in recent decades due to a decrease in the amount of spruce budworm.

Bohemian Waxwing

Most Bohemian Waxwings will stay close to the boreal forest where the fruits of Mountain Ash are abundant. Some will still move down to southern Quebec, where the fruits of ornamental shrubs such as Mountain Ash are in good quantity.

Blue Jay

It should be a year of low dispersal for Blue Jays. The fruits of the American beech are rare but Blue Jays will find a greater quantity of acorns than last year.

Pine Siskin

The Pine Siskin is a nomadic species that moves across Canada in search of conifer seeds. Siskins were not present this summer in Ontario and Eastern Canada so it is likely that few individuals will show up in southern Quebec.

Common Redpoll

Redpolls should be present in southern Quebec this winter season. During the cold months, they feed on birch seeds and are dependent on their abundance. Birch seed production has been lower this year and redpolls had a very good breeding season with two and even three broods in northern Quebec. They should therefore be common in southern Quebec this year. At the feeder, they prefer thistle seeds and sunflower seeds.



Photo: Karl Egressy Common Redpoll

Hoary Redpoll

Careful observations of redpoll flocks sometimes reveal a Hoary Redpoll. The Hoary Redpoll differs from the Common Redpoll with its white rump, white unmarked under tail coverts (feathers under the tail) and a smaller bill.

Quiz

What is the most common Quebec breeding Bird for which a nest has never been found?

Think you know the answer? Send us an email. A book on the Snowy Owl, a cardinal feeder and a Peterson field guide will be drawn among all correct answers

The answer will be in our next newsletter.

Previous Quiz

What bird can fly but cannot walk, crawl or climb?

Answer: The hummingbird

Friends

Join us on Facebook! It's a great way to ask us questions.

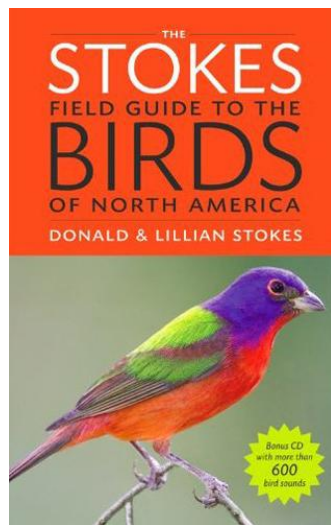
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Préférez vous recevoir une version française de notre bulletin? Avisez-nous par courriel :
ccfa@videotron.ca

Our new products and suggestions

Stokes Field Guide to Birds of North America



The culmination of many years of research!

The guide features 853 North American bird species and more than 3,400 stunning color photographs which cover all significant plumages (male, female, summer, winter, immature, morphs, subspecies, and birds in flight). Also included:

- The newest scientific and common names and phylogenetic order
- Help for identifying birds in flight through behaviour, plumage, and shape
- Detailed descriptions of songs and calls
- Key habitat preferences of each species
- The newest range maps, detailing species' winter, summer, year-round ranges, and migration routes.
- A special downloadable CD with more than 600 bird sounds and 150 photographs, calls and songs of 150 common species.

Junior Holiday Thistle Sack Red



Now with the holiday Nyjer socks you can make your yard feel like Christmas all year around or just put them up over the holidays. These holiday themed socks will really have your yard glistening in the dead of winter and will keep your local birds fed.

The socks feature a Velcro seal at the top for easy access and serves as a reliable seal to prevent spillage. They are made of nylon and measure 6.5 inches long x 11.25 inches wide.

Duncraft Cattail Feeder



This irresistible Cattail Feeder will decorate any garden and feed the birds at the same time. This feeder can stand alone or group a few together to create more opportunities to watch your favourite birds. Chickadees, Nuthatches and Finches will find this mesh feeder irresistible.

Holds 0.5 lbs of sunflower seed or peanuts and measures 36" Tall. This feeder is crafted of metal and can easily be planted in the ground with its pointed stake.