

Detroit Audubon
Winter Waterfowl Volunteer Training

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Recommended Supplies for volunteering:

- Water & Snacks (We'll be out for up to 6 hours)
- Name Tag/ID tag
- Cell phone (For navigating between sites and for communication in case you get lost)
- Binoculars
- Spotting scope (if you have one)
- Bird Id book or app
- Hand warmers
- Winter clothes (Gloves, multiple layers of pants and sweaters, thick winter coat, thick socks and winter boots, etc)

Additional Supplies provided by DA:

- Clip board for recording birds
- Spotting scope(s)
- Binoculars
- Winter Waterfowl ID Cards

Surveys

The Research Coordinator will communicate with Birds Canada to schedule the 3 different monitoring dates between January and March.

Tips for Searching/Surveying

When surveying an area for birds, you will start by looking left (north) and counting what birds are seen as you scan from left to right. When counting, if there are large numbers of birds, don't count each individual, learn to recognize groups of 5, 10 or 20 and estimate a large group starting from left to right.

Notify the team lead, likely the research coordinator of how many of each species you saw at the location. Be sure to include birds not only on the water but on land, flying overhead, in trees and anywhere nearby; including those you heard.

