

## ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY CHAPTER BIG DAY

May 1, 2021 from 12:00 am to 4:00 pm

- The Illinois Audubon Society Spring Gathering Chapter Big Day will be a competition between the chapters of the Illinois Audubon Society for the most species observed in a 16-hour period in Illinois.
- There will be two champions awarded; Chapter and Individual.
- The competition is open to members and non-members.
- All competitors must register online at [illinoisaudubon.org](http://illinoisaudubon.org) and select a Chapter “team” that will receive, tally and report the competitors’ lists.
- Competitors may bird alone or with others and do not need to be within the geographical area of the chapter they are birding with as long as their count is within the boundaries of the State of Illinois.

### CHAPTER BIG DAY COMPETITION RULES

#### Counting

Count only full species as indicated by the current ABA Checklist and Supplements, or for non-ABA species outside the ABA Area, by James F. Clements Birds of the World: A Checklist or Morony, et al., Reference List of the Birds of the World, or a recognized local guide.

Count only birds personally and unquestionably identified. Birds must be conclusively identified by sight or sound. If in doubt about the bird’s identity, don’t count it. Identification may be confirmed after the original observation if that identification is based solely on field notes made while the bird was living and unrestrained. A bird identified to one of a species group (i.e., scaup, small alcid, western/semipalmated sandpiper, common/Aactic tern) may be counted as a species if no other in that group is counted.

If traveling in a group, each participant must be registered and make every reasonable effort to identify personally and to help other team members identify every species counted by the team.

An introduced species may be counted if its status meets the criteria for the ABA Checklist.

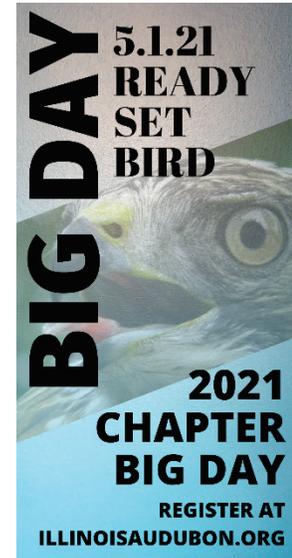
Birds counted must be alive, wild, and unrestrained. Birds attracted to tape-recorders (in compliance with ABA Code of Birding Ethics) or feeders may be counted. Injured birds may be counted if wild and unrestrained. Eggs do not count as birds.

#### Date/Times

Saturday, May 1, 2021 from 12:00 am to 4:00 pm. All lists must be turned in no later than May 4, 2021, by 5:00 pm to the chapter (contact information will be provided to registered participants.)

#### Area

Any geographic area may be covered within Illinois.



### Travel

Travel may be by any means.

### Outside Information

During the competition, teams must make every reasonable effort to avoid receiving bird-finding help from nonparticipants. When other birders are encountered accidentally, participants may not solicit bird-finding information and should avoid receiving any information from them, to the extent that common courtesy allows. If despite all precautions, information is received during an accidental encounter, the team may use it.

Any information received prior to the competition may be used during the competition.

### Ethics

Each participant should strive to maintain proper birding ethics at all times.