

**ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY  
SECOND ANNUAL CHAPTER BIG DAY  
May 14, 2022, midnight – 11:59 p.m.  
INFORMATION & RULES**



- The 2022 Chapter Big Day will be a competition between Chapters/Affiliates of the Illinois Audubon Society for the most species observed in a 24-hour period in Illinois, with other special awards to recognize participant efforts.
- The competition is open to members and non-members.
- All competitors must register online and select a “team” (Chapter or Affiliate) that will receive, tally and report the competitors’ lists. The team with the highest species counted and the runner-up will be announced on May 19, with the special awards announced on May 25, 2022.
- Each Chapter/Affiliate team must designate a coordinator who will receive, tally and report the team’s count at the end of the event. Participant lists must be turned into their designated coordinator by May 17, 2022.
- FREE registration will be online only on the Illinois Audubon Society’s website. Teams will receive a weekly update with an up-to-date list of their team roster.
- 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. Rules will be downloadable from the website.



**2022 CHAPTER BIG DAY AWARD CATEGORIES**

**To be announced on May 19, 2022**

- ★ Team with the highest species count
- ★ Runner-up

**To be announced on May 25, 2022**

- ★ Individual with the highest species count
- ★ Individual aged 18 years and under with the highest species count\*
- ★ Individual aged 80 years and over with the highest species count\*
- ★ Toughest chase (based on stories submitted to the team coordinator)
- ★ Most surprising bird (as reported by a team)
- ★ Team with most species per birder
- ★ Biggest team roster

\*Participants will be asked if they are under 18 or over 80 when registering.  
Questions? Information? Contact Jo Fessett, [jfessett@illinoisaudubon.org](mailto:jfessett@illinoisaudubon.org).

## **ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY CHAPTER BIG DAY INFORMATION**

### **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.

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 14, 2022 from midnight to 11:59 p.m. All lists must be turned in no later than May 17, 2022.

**Area:** Any geographic area may be covered within Illinois.

**Travel:** Travel may be by any means.

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