

NUMBER OF BIRDS:

Record the highest number seen at one time for each species during **two** consecutive days.

Day 1	Day 2	
___	___	Bobwhite (Northern) Quail
___	___	Rock Dove (Common Pigeon)
___	___	Mourning Dove
___	___	Redheaded Woodpecker
___	___	Red-bellied Woodpecker
___	___	Downy Woodpecker
___	___	Hairy Woodpecker
___	___	Flicker (all races)
___	___	Blue Jay
___	___	Crow (American)
___	___	Black-capped Chickadee
___	___	Tufted Titmouse
___	___	Red-breasted Nuthatch
___	___	Brown Creeper
___	___	Robin (American)
___	___	Cedar Waxwing
___	___	Starling (European)
___	___	Cardinal (Northern)
___	___	Tree Sparrow (American)
___	___	Song Sparrow
___	___	White-throated Sparrow
___	___	White-crowned Sparrow
___	___	Harris' Sparrow
___	___	Dark-eyed Junco (all races)
___	___	Meadowlark (East & West)
___	___	Red-winged Blackbird
___	___	Grackle (Common)
___	___	Brown-headed Cowbird
___	___	Purple Finch
___	___	House Finch
___	___	Pine Siskin
___	___	Goldfinch (American)
___	___	Evening Grosbeak
___	___	House (English) Sparrow

Day 1	Day 2	
___	___	Other _____
___	___	Other _____
___	___	Other _____
___	___	Other _____
___	___	Other _____
___	___	Other _____

___ ___ **Total number of birds seen**

___ ___ **Total number of species**

How many of the birds listed above can you identify? (**check one**)

___ Less than 25%	___ 75% to 95%
___ 25% to 50%	___ 100%
___ 50% to 75%	

Watch for results in "The Field Glass" (The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks non-game newsletter) and the Kansas Ornithological Society Newsletter, "The Horned Lark."

___ **Check** here if you want more information on the Kansas Ornithological Society.

Feel free to copy this form for other participants and **THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF THIS SPECIAL SURVEY.** Please mail the completed form, no later than February 1, to:

**BIRD FEEDER SURVEY
C/O DR. ELMER FINCK
BOX 50, EMPORIA STATE
UNIVERSITY
EMPORIA KS 66801**

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs described herein is available to all individuals without regard of their race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to the Office of the Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 900 Jackson St., Suite 502, Topeka, KS 66612, or to the Department of Interior, 1849 C St., NW, Washington DC 20240

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KANSAS

1999 WINTER BIRD FEEDER SURVEY

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KANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF
WILDLIFE & PARKS

AND

KANSAS
ORNITHOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

WINTER BIRDD FEEDER SURVEY

INSTRUCTIONS:

Observe your feeder two consecutive days during January 14-17, 1999. Use this form to describe your feeder and record the birds you see. In the space provided, list the highest number of each species that you see together at any one time. For example, if you see 10 Juncos at 9:00, 11 at 12:00, and 7 at 4:00, the number you should record is 11. When males and females can be distinguished (cardinals, downy woodpeckers, etc.), record the combined total. This means if you see 3 male cardinals at 11:00, then 1 male and 2 females at 2:00, record 5 cardinals — *the highest count for the males and highest count for the females combined.*

Count only during the two consecutive days and **record only the birds** that you see **at your feeders, under your feeder, or in the trees around your feeders.** **Do not** count birds which fly past your house and do not use your feeding area. **We want information only about birds influenced by your feeders.** If you cannot get an exact count, record your best estimate. An honest estimate is more useful than “too many to count”. Please fill out this form completely.

DATA:

1. Name: _____
2. Address: _____
3. City: _____
4. County: _____ 5. Zip: _____
6. Phone: _____

7. The feeder survey period will run from Thursday, January 14, through Saturday, January 17. Count birds on two consecutive days only. Please record which days you counted birds for us in the space below.

Only Check one:

- ____ Thursday (1/14) & Friday (1/15)
- ____ Friday (1/15) & Saturday (1/16)
- ____ Saturday (1/16) & Sunday (1/17)

8. Is your feeder in **Town** (including suburbs) or in the **Country**? *Circle T or C*

9. **Check** which best describes the area within a 2-block circle around your feeder:

- ____ Residential, houses with shrubs and small trees with few tree diameters larger than 18 inches.
- ____ Residential bordered by (**circle one**): timber, grass field, or row crop.
- ____ Commercial area with buildings, parking lots, and major roads.
- ____ Pasture or rangeland (**circle one**).
- ____ Row crop (corn, milo, beans, etc.)
- ____ Timber (**circle one**) upland or bottom-land.
- ____ Farmstead with trees greater than 18 inches in diameter.

10. Type and **number** of feeders in your yard:

- ____ sunflower (only) ____ thistle
- ____ fruits ____ millet (only)
- ____ peanuts ____ mixed seed
- ____ peanut butter ____ suet
- ____ cracked sunflower ____ corn
- ____ unfrozen water ____ safflower
- ____ other (explain) _____

11. On **what date** did you start feeding during 1998-1999: Approximate date: _____

12. Comments or additional descriptions of your feeder or yard: _____

Brief History of the KWBFS

The first KWBFS occurred in Jan. of 1987. Since then, nearly 1,000 folks participate annually. The most common bird identified in the early years of the survey was the House sparrow. Typically, juncos, goldfinches, cardinals, starlings and chickadees comprised the next most common. House finches did not command an elevated status in numbers until recent years as reflected by their expanding populations from both the east and west coasts. In 1997, the American goldfinch replaced the House sparrow as the most common and the House finch became the third most identified species coming to feeders. The pre-eminence of House finches on the Kansas landscape primarily stemmed from original escapees from caged birds on the east coast in the 40's. These birds were originally taken from the west coast of the United States.

House Finch Conjunctivitis

House finches have succumbed to a disease called MG (Mycoplasma gallisepticum) or conjunctivitis which has been spreading from the east coast since 1994. It first showed in Kansas in 1997. Experts believe that the epidemic is leveling out in the east although in Kansas, it seems to still be on the increase. Crusty and swollen eyes are the most noticeable symptoms. There is not an effective treatment known in the wild and it is not recommended to take infected birds to rehabilitation facilities due to the high transmission capabilities of the disease to other species and domestic fowl from which it is suspected was the original source. If you discover infected birds near your feeders, it is recommended that you use a mild (10%) bleach solution to clean feeders prior to drying and refilling along with curtailing feeding for a few days to allow for dispersal and death of sick birds. Platform feeders are recommended over tube feeders to reduce the spread of MG. Sick birds should be left alone. Dead birds may be buried. This bacterial disease does not affect humans. The Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks is interested in tracking this disease and is particularly interested in possible occurrences in other species. So if you notice these symptoms in House finches or other species near your feeders, please make a note of this in the comment section of your report. For an excellent report on the subject, contact the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology at this web site: birds.cornell.edu.