

SEASONAL CHECKLIST

|   |        |   |        |   |        |  |        |
|---|--------|---|--------|---|--------|--|--------|
| <div><div></div><div>Black-bellied Whistling-Duck</div></div> | Ru     | <div><div></div><div>Common Gallinule</div></div>         | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Common Tern</div></div>                | Mu     | <div><div></div><div>Crested Caracara</div></div>              | Rf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Fulvous Whistling-Duck</div></div>       | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>American Coot</div></div>            | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Forster's Tern</div></div>             | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>American Kestrel</div></div>              | Wc     |
| <div><div></div><div>Snow Goose</div></div>                   | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Sandhill Crane</div></div>           | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Royal Tern</div></div>                 | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Merlin</div></div>                        | Wf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Greater White-fronted Goose</div></div>  | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Whooping Crane</div></div>           | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Sandwich Tern</div></div>              | Sc, Wu | <div><div></div><div>Peregrine Falcon</div></div>              | Wf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Canada Goose</div></div>                 | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Black-necked Stilt</div></div>       | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Black Skimmer</div></div>              | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Great Crested Flycatcher</div></div>      | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Blue-winged Teal</div></div>             | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>American Avocet</div></div>          | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Common Loon</div></div>                | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Brown-crested Flycatcher</div></div>      | Mr     |
| <div><div></div><div>Cinnamon Teal</div></div>                | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>American Oystercatcher</div></div>   | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Magnificent Frigatebird</div></div>    | Su     | <div><div></div><div>Great Kiskadee</div></div>                | Ru     |
| <div><div></div><div>Northern Shoveler</div></div>            | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Black-bellied Plover</div></div>     | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Masked Booby*</div></div>              | Su     | <div><div></div><div>Tropical Kingbird</div></div>             | Rr     |
| <div><div></div><div>Gadwall</div></div>                      | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>American Golden-Plover</div></div>   | Mu     | <div><div></div><div>Brown Booby*</div></div>               | Su     | <div><div></div><div>Couch's Kingbird</div></div>              | Ru     |
| <div><div></div><div>American Wigeon</div></div>              | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Killdeer</div></div>                 | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Northern Gannet*</div></div>           | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Western Kingbird</div></div>              | Mu     |
| <div><div></div><div>Mottled Duck</div></div>                 | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Semipalmated Plover</div></div>      | Mf, Wu | <div><div></div><div>Anhinga</div></div>                    | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>Eastern Kingbird</div></div>              | Mc     |
| <div><div></div><div>Northern Pintail</div></div>             | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Piping Plover</div></div>            | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Double-crested Cormorant</div></div>   | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Scissor-tailed Flycatcher</div></div>     | Mc     |
| <div><div></div><div>Green-winged Teal</div></div>            | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Snowy Plover</div></div>             | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Neotropical Cormorant</div></div>      | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Olive-sided Flycatcher</div></div>        | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Canvasback</div></div>                   | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Wilson's Plover</div></div>          | Sf     | <div><div></div><div>American White Pelican</div></div>     | Su, Wc | <div><div></div><div>Eastern Wood Pewee</div></div>            | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Redhead</div></div>                      | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Upland Sandpiper</div></div>         | Mu     | <div><div></div><div>Brown Pelican</div></div>              | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Yellow-bellied Flycatcher</div></div>     | Mu     |
| <div><div></div><div>Ring-necked Duck</div></div>             | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Whimbrel</div></div>                 | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>American Bittern</div></div>           | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Acadian Flycatcher</div></div>            | Mu     |
| <div><div></div><div>Greater Scaup</div></div>                | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Long-billed Curlew</div></div>       | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Least Bittern</div></div>              | Sf, Wu | <div><div></div><div>Alder Flycatcher</div></div>              | Mu     |
| <div><div></div><div>Lesser Scaup</div></div>                 | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Hudsonian Godwit</div></div>         | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>Great Blue Heron</div></div>           | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Willow Flycatcher</div></div>             | Mu     |
| <div><div></div><div>Bufflehead</div></div>                   | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Marbled Godwit</div></div>           | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Great Egret</div></div>                | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Least Flycatcher</div></div>              | Mu     |
| <div><div></div><div>Common Goldeneye</div></div>             | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Ruddy Turnstone</div></div>          | Su, Wc | <div><div></div><div>Snowy Egret</div></div>                | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Eastern Phoebe</div></div>                | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Red-breasted Merganser</div></div>       | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Red Knot</div></div>                 | Mu, Wr | <div><div></div><div>Little Blue Heron</div></div>          | Su, Wf | <div><div></div><div>Vermillion Flycatcher</div></div>         | Mu     |
| <div><div></div><div>Ruddy Duck</div></div>                   | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Stilt Sandpiper</div></div>          | Mf, Wr | <div><div></div><div>Tricolored Heron</div></div>           | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Ash-throated Flycatcher</div></div>       | Mr     |
| <div><div></div><div>Northern Bobwhite</div></div>            | Rr     | <div><div></div><div>Sanderling</div></div>               | Su, Wc | <div><div></div><div>Reddish Egret</div></div>              | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Loggerhead Shrike</div></div>             | Rf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Least Grebe</div></div>                  | Ru     | <div><div></div><div>Dunlin</div></div>                   | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Cattle Egret</div></div>               | Mc     | <div><div></div><div>White-eyed Vireo</div></div>              | Mf, Wu |
| <div><div></div><div>Pied-Billed Grebe</div></div>            | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Baird's Sandpiper</div></div>        | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>Green Heron</div></div>                | Mf, Wr | <div><div></div><div>Yellow-throated Vireo</div></div>         | Mu     |
| <div><div></div><div>Eared Grebe</div></div>                  | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Least Sandpiper</div></div>          | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Black-crowned Night-Heron</div></div>  | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Blue-headed Vireo</div></div>             | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Rock Pigeon</div></div>                  | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>White-rumped Sandpiper</div></div>   | Mf     | <div><div></div><div>Yellow-crowned Night-Heron</div></div> | Mu     | <div><div></div><div>Philadelphia Vireo</div></div>            | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Eurasian Collared Dove</div></div>       | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Buff-breasted Sandpiper</div></div>  | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>White Ibis</div></div>                 | Ru     | <div><div></div><div>Warbling Vireo</div></div>                | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Inca Dove</div></div>                    | Ru     | <div><div></div><div>Pectoral Sandpiper</div></div>       | Mf     | <div><div></div><div>White-faced Ibis</div></div>           | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Red-eyed Vireo</div></div>                | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Common Ground-Dove</div></div>           | Rr     | <div><div></div><div>Semipalmated Sandpiper</div></div>   | Mf     | <div><div></div><div>Roseate Spoonbill</div></div>          | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Horned Lark</div></div>                   | Rf     |
| <div><div></div><div>White-winged Dove</div></div>            | Ru     | <div><div></div><div>Western Sandpiper</div></div>        | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Black Vulture</div></div>              | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Bank Swallow</div></div>                  | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Mourning Dove</div></div>                | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Short-billed Dowitcher</div></div>   | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Turkey Vulture</div></div>             | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Tree Swallow</div></div>                  | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Groove-billed Ani</div></div>            | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>Long-billed Dowitcher</div></div>    | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Osprey</div></div>                     | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</div></div> | Mc     |
| <div><div></div><div>Yellow-billed Cuckoo</div></div>         | Mc     | <div><div></div><div>Wilson's snipe</div></div>           | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>White-tailed Kite</div></div>          | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Purple Martin</div></div>                 | Sc     |
| <div><div></div><div>Black-billed Cuckoo</div></div>          | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>Spotted Sandpiper</div></div>        | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Swallow-tailed Kite</div></div>        | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>Barn Swallow</div></div>                  | Sc     |
| <div><div></div><div>Lesser Nighthawk</div></div>             | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>Solitary Sandpiper</div></div>       | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Mississippi Kite</div></div>           | Mu     | <div><div></div><div>Cliff Swallow</div></div>                 | Mc     |
| <div><div></div><div>Common Nighthawk</div></div>             | Sc     | <div><div></div><div>Lesser Yellowlegs</div></div>        | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Northern Harrier</div></div>           | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Cave Swallow</div></div>                  | Mu     |
| <div><div></div><div>Chuck-Will's Widow</div></div>           | Mu     | <div><div></div><div>Willet</div></div>                   | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Sharp-shinned Hawk</div></div>         | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>House Wren</div></div>                    | Wf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Eastern Whip-Poor-Will</div></div>       | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>Greater Yellowlegs</div></div>       | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Cooper's Hawk</div></div>              | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Sedge Wren</div></div>                    | Wc     |
| <div><div></div><div>Chimney Swift</div></div>                | Sc     | <div><div></div><div>Wilson's Phalarope</div></div>       | Mf     | <div><div></div><div>White-tailed Hawk</div></div>          | Ru     | <div><div></div><div>Marsh Wren</div></div>                    | Wc     |
| <div><div></div><div>Ruby-throated Hummingbird</div></div>    | Mc     | <div><div></div><div>Pomarine Jaeger*</div></div>         | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Broad-winged Hawk</div></div>          | Mu     | <div><div></div><div>Bewick's Wren</div></div>                 | Rr     |
| <div><div></div><div>Black-chinned Hummingbird</div></div>    | Mu, Wr | <div><div></div><div>Parasitic Jaeger*</div></div>        | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Swainson's Hawk</div></div>            | Mu     | <div><div></div><div>Blue-gray Gnatcatcher</div></div>         | Mc, Wu |
| <div><div></div><div>Anna's Hummingbird</div></div>           | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Bonaparte's Gull</div></div>         | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Red-tailed Hawk</div></div>            | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Golden-crowned Kinglet</div></div>        | Mr     |
| <div><div></div><div>Rufous Hummingbird</div></div>           | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Laughing Gull</div></div>            | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Ferruginous Hawk</div></div>           | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</div></div>          | Mc, Wf |
| <div><div></div><div>Buff-bellied Hummingbird</div></div>     | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Franklin's Gull</div></div>          | Mf     | <div><div></div><div>Barn Owl</div></div>                   | Ru     | <div><div></div><div>Veery</div></div>                         | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Black Rail</div></div>                   | Mr     | <div><div></div><div>Ring-billed Gull</div></div>         | Wc     | <div><div></div><div>Great Horned Owl</div></div>           | Ru     | <div><div></div><div>Gray-cheeked Thrush</div></div>           | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Clapper Rail</div></div>                 | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Herring Gull</div></div>             | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Short-eared Owl</div></div>            | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>Swainson's Thrush</div></div>             | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>King Rail</div></div>                    | Rr     | <div><div></div><div>Lesser Black-backed Gull</div></div> | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Belted Kingfisher</div></div>          | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Hermit Thrush</div></div>                 | Mf, Wu |
| <div><div></div><div>Virginia Rail</div></div>                | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Least Tern</div></div>               | Sc     | <div><div></div><div>Yellow-bellied Sapsucker</div></div>   | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Wood Thrush</div></div>                   | Mf     |
| <div><div></div><div>Sora</div></div>                         | Wf     | <div><div></div><div>Gull-billed Tern</div></div>         | Rf     | <div><div></div><div>Downy Woodpecker</div></div>           | Wr     | <div><div></div><div>American Robin</div></div>                | Wu     |
| <div><div></div><div>Purple Gallinule</div></div>             | Mu     | <div><div></div><div>Caspian Tern</div></div>             | Rc     | <div><div></div><div>Ladder-backed Woodpecker</div></div>   | Ru     | <div><div></div><div>Gray Catbird</div></div>                  | Mc, Wf |
|   |        | <div><div></div><div>Black Tern</div></div>               | Mc     | <div><div></div><div>Northern Flicker</div></div>           | Wu     | <div><div></div><div>Brown Thrasher</div></div>                | Wr     |

Long-billed Thrasher  
Northern Mockingbird  
European Starling  
Cedar Waxwing  
House Sparrow  
American Pipit  
Sprague’s Pipit  
American Goldfinch  
Grasshopper Sparrow  
Lark Sparrow  
Chipping Sparrow  
Clay-colored Sparrow  
Field Sparrow  
White-crowned Sparrow  
White-throated Sparrow  
Vesper Sparrow  
LeConte’s Sparrow  
Seaside Sparrow  
Nelson’s Sparrow  
Savannah Sparrow  
Song Sparrow  
Lincoln’s Sparrow  
Swamp Sparrow  
Yellow-breasted Chat  
Yellow-headed Blackbird  
Bobolink  
Eastern Meadowlark  
Western Meadowlark  
Orchard Oriole  
Bullock’s Oriole  
Baltimore Oriole  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Bronzed Cowbird  
Brown-headed Cowbird  
Great-tailed Grackle  
Ovenbird  
Worm-eating Warbler  
Louisiana Waterthrush  
Northern Waterthrush  
Golden-winged Warbler  
Blue-winged Warbler  
Black-and-White Warbler  
Prothonotary Warbler  
Swainson’s Warbler  
Tennessee Warbler  
Orange-crowned Warbler  
Nashville Warbler  
Mourning Warbler  
Kentucky Warbler  
Common Yellowthroat  
Hooded Warbler  
American Redstart  
Cape May Warbler  
Cerulean Warbler  
Northern Parula

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Magnolia Warbler  
Bay-breasted Warbler  
Blackburnian Warbler  
Yellow Warbler  
Chestnut-sided Warbler  
Blackpoll Warbler  
Black-throated Blue Warbler  
Palm Warbler  
Pine Warbler  
Yellow-rumped Warbler  
Yellow-throated Warbler  
Prairie Warbler  
Townsend’s Warbler  
Black-throated Green Warbler  
Canada Warbler  
Wilson’s Warbler  
Summer Tanager  
Scarlet Tanager  
Western Tanager  
Northern Cardinal  
Pyrrhuloxia  
Rose-breasted Grosbeak  
Blue Grosbeak  
Lazuli Bunting  
Indigo Bunting  
Painted Bunting  
Dickcissel

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Mf  
Mf  
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Mc  
Mf, Sr  
Mu

LEGEND

R-Resident year-round birds  
M-Birds that migrate through the area in spring and fall  
S-Summer resident-birds present during breeding season from March through October  
W-Winter resident-birds present during the winter months from October through April  
c-Common-likely to be found in proper habitat most trips  
f-Fairly common-found in proper habitat on one out of two trips  
u-Uncommon-infrequently found even in proper habitat, or erratic  
r-Rare-unlikely to be found; less than five reports per year  
\*Pelagic

Follows the 57th Supplement to AOU Checklist 2016

SPECIALTY BIRDS

The following are the frequently sought local specialties with information on how to find them.  
Black-bellied Whistling Duck-uncommon resident, nests on freshwater ponds (1, 10, 12)  
Mottled Duck-common resident, nests on freshwater ponds (1, 10, 12)  
Least Grebe-irregular resident, nests in freshwater ponds (1, 12)  
Northern Gannet-uncommon in winter (4)  
Brown Booby-uncommon year-round (4, 11)  
Neotropical Cormorant-common resident (1)

Magnificent Frigatebird-common in late summer and fall (1, 3,7,8)  
Reddish Egret-common resident, nests on spoil islands (3, 7, 11)  
Roseate Spoonbill-fairly common resident, nests on Shamrock Island (1, 7, 11)  
White-tailed Hawk-resident, more common fall through winter (1, 8, 10)  
Crested Caracara-fairly common resident, nest on Mustang Island (1, 2, 8)  
Lesser Black-backed Gull-irregular in winter (primarily on the beach)  
Groove-billed Ani-irregular vagrant (1,6,12)  
Buff-bellied Hummingbird-rare at feeders in late summer, fall and winter (in town)  
Long-billed Thrasher- irregular resident (6, 11)  
Seaside Sparrow- rare resident, breeds on islands (6, 7,11)  
LeConte’s Sparrow-uncommon in winter (2, 5, 6, 7, 8)  
Nelson’s Sparrow-uncommon in winter (6, 8, 11)

Compiled By Joan Holt and Scott Holt

Updated February 2024

PORT ARANSAS BIRDING SITES



CODES

- (1) Leonabelle Turnbull Birding Center
- (2) Community Park Trail
- (3) Wetland Birding Site, Hwy.361 South
- (4) Jetty and Offshore
- (5) University of Texas Marine Science Institute
- (6) Port Aransas Nature Preserve at Charlie’s Pasture
- (7) Harbor Island and causeway to Aransas Pass
- (8) San Jose Island
- (9) Ferry
- (10) State Hwy 361 South
- (11) Shamrock Island and spoil islands in Aransas Bay and Redfish Bay
- (12) Joan and Scott Holt Paradise Pond

