



Birdathon Rules

I. Competition Date and Deadline

- A. Birdathon Competition Date: Saturday, May 1, 2021 with a rain date of Saturday, May 15, 2021.
- B. Teams may register as a Group Birdathon Team (\$250/team fundraising minimum) or Backyard Birdathon Team (individual or household only; \$100/team fundraising minimum). Turn in your team's official birder roster and fundraising goal to the Birdathon Coordinator by March 31, 2021. This gives Audubon time to build your team's webpage. The sooner you submit your information, the sooner your webpage will be ready for action.
- C. Pledge sheets for your team must be in by 5pm on Friday April 30, 2020.
- D. Teams may bird for a 24-hr period (12am-11:59pm) on the day of the Birdathon.
- E. Checklists are due by 12pm on Sunday, May 2 or Sunday, May 16 (rain date). Team reports are due Saturday, May 15 or Saturday, May 29 (rain date). Checklists and team reports should be emailed to dan.scheiman@audubon.org.
- F. Due to COVID-19, the BirdLR Bird Bash will be held virtually on Sunday, May 16, time TBD. Prizes will be awarded for Most Species (Group Team), Most Species (Backyard Team), and Most Money Raised.

II. Competition Objectives

Audubon Arkansas's BirdLR Birdathon is a team effort with the following objectives:

- A. Raise money for Audubon Arkansas. Funds raised this year will support Audubon Arkansas's bird conservation and environmental education work at the Little Rock Audubon Center.
- B. Identify as many bird species as possible during the count period.
- C. Expand community involvement and increase public awareness of birds and birding.

III. Competition Rules

Participating teams must abide by the following rules in order to be eligible for prizes:

- A. Two to five participants constitute a Group Birdathon Team. An individual or household constitutes a Backyard Birdathon Team. An individual cannot bird for more than one team.
- B. With COVID-19 limited social interactions, team members may bird individually, in social pods, or in physically distanced caravans. Total species counted by team members should be compiled for one team list. Members are encouraged to be conservative in their IDs and counts when birding individually.

C. To accommodate team members that cannot travel to central Arkansas, birds counted for the Birdathon may be counted anywhere, wherever members feel safe and comfortable.

D. Birds can be identified either by sight or by sound.

E. Birds must be alive, wild, and unrestrained, including those attracted by audio recordings or feeders. Injured birds may be counted if wild and unrestrained. Eggs do not count as birds. Neither ornamental waterfowl nor escaped cage birds can be counted.

F. Count only full species; no slash or spuh taxa. Enter your team's compiled species list on the spreadsheet provided upon registration. Use an X to indicate species detected. Write-ins are added at the bottom. Enter your team name at the top. Email to dan.scheiman@audubon.org. Please also email Dan a brief summary of your birding for him incorporate into a news article. If you are going to write a longer summary of your day to your donors, which we encourage, share this with Dan and he'll extract highlights.

G. You are encouraged to use social media to share your sightings during the event. Use #BIRDLR to tag your posts.

H. Each team must raise or contribute a minimum of \$250 (Group) or \$100 (Backyard) to be eligible for prizes. Supporters can contribute prior to the Birdathon (online on the team's web page, check/cash via mail to 4500 Springer Blvd., Little Rock, AR 72206) or pledge to contribute after the Birdathon by filling out a team's pledge sheet. Online donations are preferred. Teams will periodically be informed of donations received via mail. Teams should note all donations and pledges on their pledgesheet(s).

I. Each participant should strive to maintain proper birding ethics at all times. Follow the American Birding Association's Code of Birding Ethics. Abide by all endangered or threatened species laws and regulations. Obey posted property rules.

Birdathon Coordinator: Contact Dan Scheiman at dan.scheiman@audubon.org or 501-244-2229.