



Potomac Valley Audubon Society

www.potomacaudubon.org • P.O. Box 578, Shepherdstown, WV 25443 • 681-252-1387

Official 2019 PVAS Birdathon Rules

Official Birdathon period: Participants may bird in any continuous 24-hour period on the weekend of May 11-12, 2019.

Participants shall follow the “Big Day Count Rules” of the American Birding Association, except as provided herein.

Participants of the “Big Sit” shall follow the 2019 PVAS Big Sit Rules.

Participants shall follow the “Birding Ethics” Rules of the American Birding Association.

Audio may be used judiciously and only to attract owls or rails. Audio may not be used to attract songbirds as this is the start of the breeding season and audio can stress the birds. Audio verification may be used at low volume to confirm the identification of birds seen or heard by the team. The volume should be low enough so as not to elicit a response from birds in the area. In all cases, as soon as the identification is made, the audio should be turned off. Pishing is allowed.

Teams shall consist of two to five members; all members must stay within direct voice contact distance during the count period. (i.e., you cannot split up your team and send it in several directions and then add the total species seen)

There is no minimum number of participants for a Big Sit.

Birds may be identified by a single team member. (However, birds that are unlikely to be in the area of the Birdathon shall not be counted.)

Birders are encouraged to note the location of unusual bird sightings.

Checklists should be sent to Krista Hawley, Birdathon Coordinator, no later than May 15, 2019. Checklists can be sent in one of three ways: participants are encouraged to report via e-bird (<http://ebird.org/content/ebird/>) with a copy to Krista Hawley at adultprograms@potomacaudubon.org; participants can scan their list and email it to Krista Hawley; or participants can snail mail their list to Krista Hawley at PO Box 578, Shepherdstown, WV 25443. Good Luck and Good Birding!