

Indiana Dunes National Park Volunteer Service Description



FeederWatch Virtual Volunteering

Position Overview

Project FeederWatch turns your love of birds into scientific discoveries. FeederWatch is a November-April survey of birds that visit backyards, nature centers, community areas, and other locales in North America.

When thousands of FeederWatchers in communities across North America count birds and send their tallies to the FeederWatch database, the result is a treasure trove of numbers, which FeederWatch scientists analyze to draw a picture of winter bird abundance and distribution.

FeederWatch data show which bird species visit feeders at thousands of locations across the continent every winter. The data also indicate how many individuals of each species are seen. This information can be used to measure changes in the winter ranges and abundances of bird species over time.

Minimum Commitment

The FeederWatch season runs November – April. Volunteers report on 2 consecutive days a week. However, the images are digitally stored, so you can contribute on a schedule of your own choosing!

Goal / Outcome of Job:

We're looking for volunteers interested in supporting our "FeederWatch" bird identification and enumeration program conducted in concert with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. This program operates entirely online, so it's a great opportunity to become an Indiana Dunes National Park virtual volunteer.

Description of Duties

- View images recorded on our digital capture system.
- Identify the bird(s) in the images
- Record the information in the Cornell online database
- Computer and internet access is required.
- Prior experience is NOT required
- We will train you on accessing the systems and recording the information.

Knowledge/ Skills Desired

- Basic Computer Knowledge
- Interest in birding

Difficulty Level

Not difficult

Working Conditions:

Indoor, temperature-controlled environment

Training / Preparation Required:

Training will be scheduled through the position supervisor.

Uniform

- No uniform required