

JOIN THE GREAT

BACKYARD BIRD COUNT!

FEBRUARY 13 - 16

From February 13 through the 16th, you can take part in a home and community event, and be part of an important annual global and community citizens' count of wild birds: the Great Backyard Bird Count! You can even participate from your own yard! Just watch for, identify and count the birds you see in at least a 15-minute period during those days, and submit your sightings from your smartphone.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is for everyone: youngsters, seniors and families, as well as community members in group bird watches. True Citizen Science!

To start, either get the free Merlin app; see www.merlin.allaboutbirds.org for details; or set up an account at www.ebird.org. On ebird, you can even watch as wild bird sightings are reported from around the world! (But if you don't get access to an account by February 13, you can write down your observations on paper, and then submit them to ebird by March 1.) Joining the Backyard Count is a great way for us all to learn about wildlife, and to join our community and others in this fascinating and important effort!

For more information, go to www.birdcount.org.