

The Sweet Sounds of TGO

Photos by Chad Avian

With our towering pines, shady oaks, gardens, lakes and wide-open spaces, The Great Outdoors provides an inviting home and seasonal stopover for an amazing variety of songbirds. While these are certainly not the only songbirds you might spot around TGO, we've selected ten familiar favorites worth watching and listening for. Some are colorful, some are tiny, and a few have voices much bigger than their bodies. How many of these feathered neighbors have you spotted?



Northern Cardinal

Probably the most recognizable backyard songbird. Males are brilliant red; females are warm brown with reddish accents. Cardinals are common Florida feeder visitors year-round.



Northern Mockingbird

Florida's state bird and one we certainly see around TGO. Famous for copying the songs and calls of other birds. Common throughout the year.



Carolina Wren

Tiny bird with an enormous voice. They love shrubs, porches, wooded edges and gardens and have that very recognizable repeated "tea-kettle" type song.



Tufted Titmouse

The cute little gray bird with the pointed crest, big dark eyes and rusty coloring along its sides. Its repeated "peter-peter-peter" whistle is often heard before the bird is spotted.



Eastern Bluebird

A beautiful choice for the article because residents will recognize the brilliant blue males with rusty-orange breasts. They like open areas with nearby trees, making golf-course environments particularly suitable. Eastern Bluebirds are recorded year-round in Brevard.



Carolina Chickadee

Small, active black-and-white songbird with a black cap and throat. It isn't as abundant here as the cardinal or mockingbird, but it is a year-round Brevard species.



Pine Warbler

A particularly appropriate TGO bird because of our mature pines. Look for yellowish coloring and listen for its musical trill. Pine Warblers are no strangers in North Brevard and is a familiar Florida songbird.



Gray Catbird

A slate-gray bird with a black cap whose raspy call really does sound a little like a cat. They're especially noticeable in Florida during the cooler months; Common in fall and winter.



Yellow-rumped Warbler

One of our classic winter visitors. They're small, constantly moving birds with flashes of yellow, including the distinctive yellow rump that gives them their name. They're among Florida's frequently observed backyard birds.

Painted Bunting

If you have seen one of these birds, you are fortunate. Adult males are almost unbelievable in color with a blue head, red underparts and patches of green. They have been documented right here at TGO - and around the Titusville, Merritt Island area, and northern Brevard within their Florida breeding range.