

2008 VIRGINIA BLUEBIRD SOCIETY STATEWIDE BLUEBIRD BOX NESTING DATA¹

County	Trail Leader/County Coordinator	Number of Trails	Total Number of Boxes	Bluebirds			Chickadees			Tree Swallows			House Wrens			Other Species							
				Nest Attempts	Eggs	Hatched	BFledged	Nest Attempts	Eggs	Hatched	Fledged	Nest Attempts	Eggs	Hatched	Fledged	Nest Attempts	Eggs	Hatched	Fledged				
Albemarle	Kingston/Dunn	33	314	138	566	459	1038	6	33	17	43	22	120	92	206	7	1	5	4	7			
Arlington	Davis-Holland, A	3	12	1	5	2	2	4	26	20	18												
Augusta	King J	4	126	165	602	430	421	1	4	4		24	128	108	108	8	43	35	30	13			
Bedford	Groggins, F	2	30	37	157	149	149					8	31	31	23								
Botetourt	Evans, T	11	311	230	921	876	791	28	117	84	84	163	699	609	577	57	266	237	222	1			
Buchanan	Mayhorn, R	4	74	63	278	245	235	2	12	11	11	12	67	62	53					4			
Clarke	Lichtner, K	2	115	84	363	286	239	1	5	4		56	262	197	189	82	433	345	307	1			
Culpeper	Tracy, B&P	1	11	14	60	49	48					4	14	14	14	1	4	3	3	1			
Fairfax	Chambers/Bishop	44	569	482	1978	1609	1521	60	294	231	210	120	551	437	382	99	400	353	333	15			
Fauquier	Palm & others	3	50	30	135	116	110					3	16	11	11	6	26	26	26	1			
Frederick	Kickiter, K.	1	10	15	68	63	55					3	16	15	15								
Giles	Opengari, P	2	21	9	28	24	22	2	9	6	4	13	52	48	43								
Goochland	Rapalee, V.	1	9	10	43	36	26	2	6	6	6	2	10	10	10								
Henrico	Bradshaw, S	2	23	10	41	36	33	9	46	46	40					1	4	3		3			
Henry	Doyle, J.	3	119	183	769	691	678	2	14	14	6	4	19	17	17								
Highland	Bratton, S.	1	15		88	60	50						28	25	25								
James City Co.	Berg, A	1	30	29	118	87	78	1	7	6	5									7			
King George	Elkins, B	1	7	8	34	34	34					1	5	5	5	1	6	6	6	1			
Loudoun	Evans, E.	20	226	241	843	725	635	16	51	28	26	117	363	292	252	51	218	158	143	114			
Louisa	Tyler, F.	2	12	13	58	56	56	1	3	3	3												
Montgomery	Opengari, B.	4	69	18	200	69	146					16	173	54	120					2			
Northumberland	Adams, L.	6	67	95	430	363	348	2	11	11	11	2	9	9	9					10			
Nelson	Davis, P.	6	116	35	167	123	481	2	9	9	16	1	6	6	54	1				2			
Newport News	LaRue, N	1	35				92																
Patrick	Boran, C	1	14	6	20	18	14	4	16	14	8									35			
Pittsylvania	Fuquay, V	121	494	581	2485	2266	2187	37	194	170	165	35	158	150	145	27	134	134	134				
Prince Wm. No.	Swanson, B.	5	78	80	343	318	315	2	11	11	11	17	95	90	90	3	16	15	10	9			
Prince Wm. So.	Hindman, C.	6	93	107	477	432	407	2	13	12	10	14	54	47	47	1	6	5	5				
Rapahannock	Patterson, B	1	2	2	9	9	9	1	5	5	5												
Roanoke	Morris, E	17	327	331	1480	1281	1227	31	145	86	86	92	429	370	325	18	90	64	49	6			
Rockingham	Kahler, C	1	20	10	43	35	29		7	7	7	6	31	31	31								
Shenandoah	Morlan, S.	1	8	15	69	57	57					1	6	6	6								
Spotsylvania	Little, A	3	51	52	216	174	170	9	42	35	28	4	19	19	19	16	90	67	67	1			
Stafford	Elkins, B	3	35	21	95	81	81	3	19	16	14	3	19	16	14	11	62	62	62				
Warren	Swanson, B	3	49	56	250	182	138	3	23	9		14	51	26	25	4	24	13	10				
Westmorland	Daley, B.	1	55	83	315	233	214	2	11	11	11	8	51	41	36								
GRAND TOTALS		321	3597	3254	13754	11674	12136	233	1133	876	848	762	3463	2822	2837	398	1842	1546	1469	190	440	144	143

Notes:
 1. In a few instances, non-reporting or underreporting of some data makes for apparently inconsistent results, e.g. see total BB eggs vs hatched vs fledged. However, number of fledglings were always reported. Any VBS member who might want a data summary *excluding* the data sets containing underreported elements can email the compiler at ce.chambers@cox.net.
 2. A total of 17,461 birds of all species were fledged.

2008 Nest Box Results

The statewide data from the 2008 nesting season shows a significant increase in the number of bluebirds fledged in spite of a slight decrease in the total number of boxes monitored.

Nest boxes. The graph below summarizes the main elements of the data from 1996 through 2008 (13 years of data!). The first thing to notice is that the number of boxes is nearly level from the previous year (actually, down by about two percent). Vickie Fuquay of Pittsylvania County defied the trend this year by increasing her “stable” of boxes by 200 from an total of 293 in 2007.

Bluebirds. The second thing to notice is that the number of bluebirds fledged is up from 2007 by slightly over 1,000 birds, or about nine percent. And this is not a statistical fluke, but a significant increase.

Tree Swallows. The third thing to see is that the number of Tree Swallows fledged is down slightly. While probably not significant in a statistical sense, this result is consistent with past VBS results, which show that Tree Swallow fledgings increase when bluebird fledgings decrease and vice versa.

All in all, it was a good year for all of the species that use our nest boxes. VBS boxes fledged a total of over 17,400 birds of all species, compared to 16,700 in 2007.

– Charlie Chambers, Data Manager

Number of Bluebirds & Tree Swallows Fledged
1996 - 2008

