



# Birds of Morgan Lake



Sandhill Crane  
*Antigone canadensis*  
loud, rattling bugle calls

Whether perching along the bank, wading in the water, or flying overhead, there are many bird species to observe at Morgan Lake. Use this brochure to see how many birds you can find on your hike today.

TRACK your hike at [kidsinparks.com](http://kidsinparks.com) and get **FREE** prizes!



Thanks for joining us today!

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Kids in Parks is a program of the

TRACK Trail Community Partners:



## Field Marks

In addition to size, shape, location, call, and behavior, field marks can be used to help identify birds. If you can't identify a bird on your hike, remembering what certain parts of the bird looked like can help you identify it when you get home. On your birding adventure, try to find a bird you don't know and make notes of any identifying field marks:

- tail bars**  
Are there any stripes across the bird's tail?
- wing bars**  
Does the bird have bars or patches of color on the wing?
- side**  
What color are the bird's sides?
- nape**  
Is the back of the neck another color?
- eye features**  
What colors are around the eye?
- crown**  
Does the bird have a crest or different color on top of the head?
- tail markings**  
Is the tail tip a different color, such as white?
- belly**  
What color is the bird's belly?
- breast**  
Are there any spots or coloration on the chest?
- throat**  
Is the bird's throat a different color?
- beak or bill**  
What shape and color is the beak?
- Black-billed Magpie**  
*Pica hudsonia*  
raspy "wock wock wock" or shrill "weer!"

# What kind of bird is that?

When identifying birds, start by observing their location and behavior. Is the bird up high making noise? Is it on the ground digging in leaves? Or is it in the water swimming?

Next, observe its appearance. Is it big like a raven or small like a chickadee? Does it have pointy wings or a long tail? What color is it, and what types of markings does it have?

The answers to these questions can help you identify the birds you observe at Morgan Lake!

Check off the birds you find on your hike today!



**American Kestrel**  
*Falco sparverius*  
"klee klee klee"



**Osprey**  
*Pandion haliaetus*  
high-pitched screech, sometimes strung together in a series



**Red-winged Blackbird**  
*Agelaius phoeniceus*  
trills "conk-la-ree"



**Black-capped Chickadee**  
*Poecile atricapillus*  
fast "chickadee-dee-dee" or high-pitched "hey sweetie"

**Cliff Swallow**  
*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*  
grating squeaks or purr-like "chur"



**Western Meadowlark**  
*Sturnella neglecta*  
series of whistles and warbles or a bell-like "pluk"



**American Robin**  
*Turdus migratorius*  
whistles a string of "cheerily, cheer up, cheer up"



**Steller's Jay**  
*Cyanocitta stelleri*  
raspy and repetitive "shook shook shook"



**Common Raven**  
*Corvus corax*  
deep, gurgling "caw"-like croak but can make 30+ unique sounds



**Pied-billed Grebe**  
*Podilymbus podiceps*  
rapid whoops, coos, or a "kuk-kuk-kuk" call



**Canada Goose**  
*Branta canadensis*  
honks "h-ronk"



**Double-crested Cormorant**  
*Nannopterum auritum*  
deep, guttural croaks



**American Coot**  
*Fulica americana*  
clucks "krrrp" or "pri-KI"

