

This year is the **118th National Audubon Society (NAS) Christmas Bird Count**.

- **What is a Christmas Bird Count (CBC) ?**

“It is an early-winter bird census, where thousands of volunteers across... many countries in the Western Hemisphere go out¹ over a 24-hour period on one calendar day to count birds.”

- **What is a Count Circle?**

It is a designated 15-mile (24-km) diameter circle in which birds are surveyed each year on count day. ASLC applied to NAS in 2013 and received permission to conduct a circle with its center in Lincoln City. Our circle encompasses Lincoln City, Cutler City, Gleneden Beach, and most of Lincoln Beach and Otis. A map of the circle is [here](#).

- **Where can I count?**

If your home is within the boundaries of our count circle (see above), you can stay at home and report the birds at your feeders, in your yard, or flying overhead on count day, *as long as you have made prior arrangements with the CBC coordinator* (see below).

- **When can I count?**

Any time from midnight to midnight on Sunday, December 17th.

- **What tools do I need?**

A pair of binoculars, a checklist of local birds, and a good bird book. Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Western North America is one example. ASLC has field guides and binoculars we can loan for the day. Checklists will be emailed to you prior to count day.

- **How do I report?**

It's easy! There are no complicated forms to fill out. Simply send an email to the CBC coordinator listing each species (e.g., Chestnut-backed Chickadee), how many you saw and your time (see “My count” and “My time” below).

- **My count:**

Look for the maximum number of each species visible (or within earshot) at any one time. For instance, if you see 5 chickadees on your feeder at once, and a few minutes later a single chickadee flies by after the 5 are gone, don't add another to your count.

- **My time:**

Report how long you spend counting birds. If you count on-and-off during the day, keep a tally of time spent so you have an accurate total at the end of the day.

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¹ Or, for those who live within a “count circle”, count birds in their backyard during the 24-hour count period.