

The National Zoo's Community Garden Bird Project - 2026

Tracking Color-banded Birds Breeding in Your Garden

Do gardens help sustain breeding bird populations in Washington, DC?

Follow the steps below to find out how **you** can help

- Refer to the chart below to determine which birds were banded at Glover Archbold Garden.
- Note the colors used to mark their legs. Only one color was used for each individual bird to make it a bit easier: two color-bands on the bird's left leg, and one color-band above a metal band on the right leg. To give you some idea, color-banded images are shown below.
- Please report any re-sightings of birds to **CGbirds@si.edu** indicating the species, date, and colors on the legs. Any other information welcomed, e.g., if seen in the garden or elsewhere.



Species	Number Banded	Single colors used on individual birds
House Wren	5	R, W, Y, B, P
Gray Catbird	2	R, W
Cardinal (Male)	1	P
Cardinal (Female)	5	O, W, Y, B, M
Carolina Wren	4	R, O, Y, B
Song Sparrow	2	R, Y

Color Key: R=Red, O=Orange, Y=Yellow, W=White, G=Green, B=Blue, M=Mauve (Purple), P=Pink, K=Black