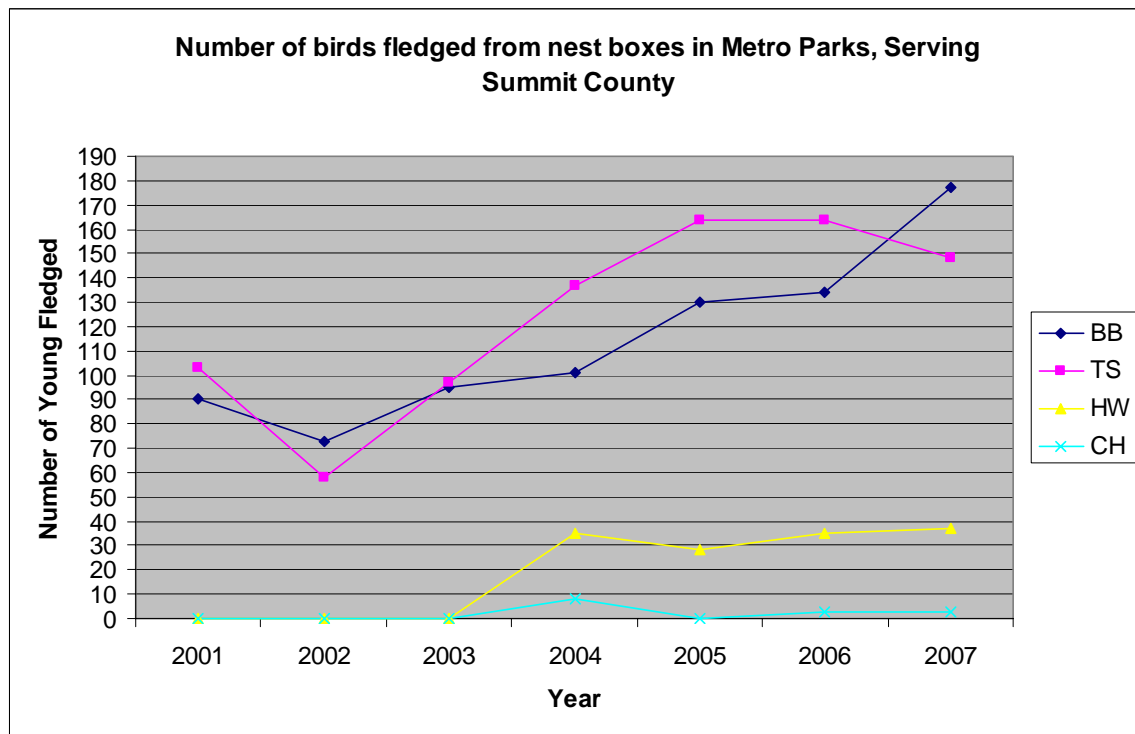


Bird House Monitoring Summary 2007

Volunteers continued to monitor bird houses this year in the Metro Parks, managing for native cavity nesting species. Quick Road Conservation Area, Clinton Towpath, Liberty Park, Nature Realm, Cascade Valley, Hampton Hills, O'Neil Woods, Firestone, Goodyear Heights, Silver Creek and Munroe Falls Metro Parks contain 116 bird boxes being maintained through this program. The boxes are checked once a week from late March through early August. Non-native cavity nesting species such as house sparrows are discouraged from nesting, while the nesting success of native species such as black-capped chickadees, eastern bluebirds, tree swallows, and house wrens is monitored.

There have been bird boxes in Liberty Park for a few years. This is the first year the data has been turned in and used for the program summary. The boxes are all in the meadow off of Liberty Road. The boxes were placed by the City of Twinsburg Naturalist. The boxes are different from others in the program in that they have no predator guards.

The graph below illustrates the total numbers of birds fledges in all the boxes from 2001-2007. Chickadee and house wren numbers remain stable. The number of eastern bluebirds that fledges rose 24%. Tree swallow numbers declined modestly by 10%.



The numbers of birds fledged of each species from each park are listed in Tables I through 4. The percent success of each species is demonstrated by the number of birds fledged divided by the number of eggs laid. The nesting success varies slightly from year to year. Various factors effect nesting success such as unexpected weather events or changes in food availability.

Although the number of bluebirds that fledged increased from 2006 to 2007, their nesting success decreased in over 40% of the parks. It appeared to be a tough year for bluebirds. This may be because they begin nesting early and have to deal with more frequent weather changes than other species that begin later in the season.

While the Nature Realm seems to have many chickadees, few are utilizing the artificial nesting structures. They seem to have little success, only fledging half the number of chicks hatched in recent years. This may be because they have adequate nesting locations in the forest surrounding the Nature Realm, and therefore no need for our artificial structures. Furthermore, their life history style favors producing a large brood once a year. It is often difficult for so many young to survive at one time if the weather or food availability falls off course.

The bird house monitoring program will continue in 2007, with no additional boxes added to the program. Several boxes in Silver Creek Metro Park will be repaired or replaced.

Table I. Eastern Bluebird reproductive success in Metro Parks, Serving Summit County, 2000-2007.

Bluebirds	F.A. Seiberling Naturealm		Firestone Metro Park		Hampton Hills Metro Park		O'Neil Woods Metro Park		Quick Rd Conservation Area		Silver Creek Metro Park		Cascade Valley Metro Park		Munroe Falls Metro Park		Goodyear Heights Metro Park		Clinton Towpath		Liberty Park	
	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success
2000	0	0%	N/A	N/A	9	69%	38	76%	9	90%	unk	unk	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2001	0	N/A	unk	unk	15	52%	39	61%	4	67%	32	unk	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2002	N/A	N/A	0	0%	5	31%	40	65%	5	19%	23	51%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2003	3	60%	0	0%	15	83%	35	80%	10	59%	32	76%	0	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	6	86%	5	100%	14	93%	30	88%	14	78%	29	74%	3	23%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005	9	100%	unk	unk	19	70%	39	64%	13	76%	27	66%	8	62%	14	82%	1	25%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2006	3	75%	4	80%	16	47%	46	71%	18	78%	10	100%	12	67%	7	100%	9	60%	9	100%	N/A	N/A
2007	21	100%	0	0%	20	56%	25	66%	10	56%	53	85%	8	73%	14	78%	8	57%	10	67%	8	100%

Table 2. Black-capped Chickadee reproductive success in Metro Parks, Serving Summit County, 2000-2007.

[illegible]

Table 3. Tree Swallow reproductive success in Metro Parks, Serving Summit County 2000-2007.

Tree Swallows	F.A. Seiberling Naturealm		Firestone Metro Park		Hampton Hills Metro Park		O'Neil Woods Metro Park		Quick Rd Conservation Area		Silver Creek Metro Park		Cascade Valley Metro Park		Munroe Falls Metro Park		Goodyear Heights Metro Park		Clinton Towpath		Liberty Park	
	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success
2000	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	16	100%	17	68%	10	77%	unk	unk	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2001	0	N/A	unk	unk	13	72%	38	60%	15	68%	37	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2002	N/A	N/A	3	50%	10	55%	27	56%	4	24%	14	70%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2003	0	0%	0	0%	15	71%	38	86%	12	67%	27	85%	5	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	11	100%	8	unk	21	88%	39	83%	13	76%	37	60%	8	73%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005	12	63%	unk	unk	23	82%	40	78%	15	94%	47	85%	13	93%	5	100%	9	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2006	16	73%	15	94%	15	75%	37	86%	12	71%	35	71%	15	79%	4	67%	6	75%	9	100%	N/A	N/A
2007	6	100%	14	78%	17	94%	22	48%	13	57%	38	100%	13	72%	6	100%	6	67%	3	100%	10	90%

Table 4. House Wren reproductive success in Metro Parks, Serving Summit County 2000-2007.

House wrens	F.A. Seiberling Naturealm		Firestone Metro Park		Hampton Hills Metro Park		O'Neil Woods Metro Park		Quick Rd Conservation Area		Silver Creek Metro Park		Cascade Valley Metro Park		Munroe Falls Metro Park		Goodyear Heights Metro Park		Clinton Towpath		Liberty Park	
	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success	# fledged	% success
2004	10	100%	15	unk	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	5	36%	5	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005	5	42%	unk	unk	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	23	96%	0	0%	0	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2006	20	95%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	12	100%	17	77%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%	N/A	N/A
2007	0	0%	11	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	22	88%	15	94%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%