



# Colony Farm Birds in the Spring



Tips to find these birds...



## Find these birds by...



listening to their songs and calls...

Spotted Towhee: [https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Spotted\\_Towhee](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Spotted_Towhee)

Red-winged Blackbird: [https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Red-winged\\_Blackbird](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Red-winged_Blackbird)

Song Sparrow: [https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Song\\_Sparrow](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Song_Sparrow)



looking for where they hang out...

In the sky or tree: Anna's Hummingbird (look for a tiny dot high at the tip of a tree branch), American Crow

In the tree: Song Sparrow, Spotted Towhee

In marshes: Red-winged Blackbird, Great Blue Heron, Tree Swallow

Swimming in the lake: Mallard, Wood Duck



watching when they fly...

Male Red-winged Blackbird: a bright red spot on its shoulder

Tree Swallow: chase after flying insects with acrobatic twists and turns, with their blue-green back and clean white front flashing in the sunlight

## Fun facts...

Questions:

1. What animal does a spotted towhee sound like? a. dog b. mouse c. cat
2. How many pound(s) of fish can a 6-pound heron swallow? a. 1 b. 2 c. 3
3. Why are crows among the most intelligent birds? They...  
a. can recognize us by our faces b. make and use tools c. Both a & b

Answers:

1. c. Spotted Towhees make a catlike mew call. It may be used for scolding as well as by perched or foraging birds.
2. a. It is like a 100-pound person swallowing a 17-pound fish whole.
3. c. Crows associate each person with good or bad experiences...so be nice to crows.

Reference

Sibley, D. A. (2020). *What it's like to be a bird* (1st ed.). Knopf.

All About Birds. *The Cornell Lab*. <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/>

## Calling all young birders...

Send your Como Lake bird photos or drawings to [burkemtnnats@gmail.com](mailto:burkemtnnats@gmail.com). They may be selected for the next newsletter or scavenger hunt! By submitting your photo(s)/drawing(s), you give permission to Burke Mountain Naturalists Society to use the photograph/drawing.