One Day Workshop on Great Backyard Bird Count

The Great Backyard Bird Count, an annual bird counting event that engages birdwatchers of all ages to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations across the globe, is organized by Cornell University USA in association with Bird Count India every year for four days in the month of February. This year it was organized from 16-19 February, 2024. These annual snapshots of bird population help in answering the variety of questions, including how birds are distributed across country, their migration & how they are affected by changes in habitat, weather etc. It also helps in assessing the population and distribution

changes from year to year.



Poster of GBBC

Faculty and students of department of Zoology of RKMV in association with Eco Club of the college also participated in this worldwide ornithological activity. The Department organized a one day workshop on Campus Bird Count 2024 on 17th February, 2024 to train the staff and students as citizen scientists.

The Campus Bird Count is a sub-event of the larger GBBC. It is a coordinated effort to document the birdlife in multiple campuses across India. By campus we mean

campuses of educational and training institutions, Govt. institutions, and research institutions etc.

In this workshop the Convener of Eco Club and HOD of Zoology department Ms. Kartik S.M. Chauhan presented a power point presentation about the GBBC event. She explained and gave hands on training to the students about the eBird and Merlin mobile apps and methods of observing and identifying birds by using these apps. She also gave a deep insight into the formation and uploading of the eBird checklists on and off campus. Principal Dr. Anurita Saxena was the chief guest for the day. She shared her experiences with avid birders and expressed interest in birding. Mr. Rajesh Kumar Azad, Ms. Kavita Dhiman & Dr. Meena Kumari assisted in the conducting the workshop.



Ms. Kartik S.M. Chauhan demonstrating the eBird & Merlin mobile apps



Chief guest Dr. Anurita Saxena sharing her experience and encouraging the students for birding



Participants attending the Workshop

The workshop was followed by a bird walk in the surrounding area of college which was flagged off by the chief guest Dr. Anurita Saxena. This bird walk was accompanied by Ms. Kartik S.M. Chauhan, Mr. Rajesh Kumar Azad, Ms. Kavita Dhiman and Dr. Meena Sankhyan. During this bird walk students and faculty observe and reported number of birds and uploaded 31 eBird checklists.



Principal Dr. Anurita Saxena Flagging off the Bird Walk



Newspaper reporting of event





Preparation of eBird checklists by faculty and students during the Bird Walk. The GBBC is not just an event it is a celebration of birds and the people who love them. By coming together each year to count birds, citizen scientists are not only generating valuable data for science but also deepening their connection with the natural world and inspiring future generations of birdwatchers.



eBird India poster with the volunteers of ECO Club
RKMV Shimla





Bird walk at Pong Dam, Himachal Pradesh

Home Birding · Events · Monitoring · Citizen Science · Exploration · eBird · About ·

Mahavidyalaya, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh



Bird walk in Uttarakhand

Great Backyard Bird Count 2024— Preliminary Results

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Campus Bird Count at Rajkiya Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

RKMV on Bird Count India website

(https://birdcount.in/gbbc24-prelim-results/)

<u>Annexures</u>



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Checklists on eBird India