1. Stay quiet and calm.
2. Be discreet — wear muted clothing and limit fragrances.
3. Use your ears! Listen for bird songs and calls.
4. Use binoculars to get a closer look, always keep a respectful distance from wildlife.
5. Be patient.
6. Go to where the habitat is — visit state parks and other public lands.
7. Do your homework — learn what species of birds live in the area.

American Tree Sparrow  
*Spizelloides arborea*  
Size: L: 5.5 - 6.3 in., WS: 9.4 in.  
Description: Streaky brown back, pale gray chest with single dark spot. Rusty cap and eye streak and bicolorued bill.  
Diet: Seeds  
Habitat: Open woodlands  
Viewing: Fall-spring, statewide

Eastern Whip-poor-will  
*Antrostomus vociferus*  
Size: L: 8.7 - 10 in., WS: 17.7 - 19 in.  
Description: Mottled brown and top heavy appearance, long pointed wings, large dark eye, seemingly small, whiskered beak.  
Diet: Insects  
Habitat: Open woodlands  
Viewing: Spring-fall, east

Bald Eagle  
*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*  
Size: L: 27.9 - 37.8 in., WS: 80.3 in.  
Description: Dark body, white head and tail, yellow legs and hooked beak.  
Diet: Fish and other prey  
Habitat: Grasslands  
Viewing: Winter, statewide; spring/fall, statewide except southwest

Barred Owl  
*Strix varia*  
Size: L: 17 - 20 in., WS: 40 - 46.5 in.  
Description: Round head, large eyes, mottled brown back and neck. White chest with vertical brown streaks.  
Diet: Small animals  
Habitat: Wooded areas, usually near water  
Viewing: Year-round, eastern quarter

The Missouri River Corridor includes the river channel, the associated floodplain, wetlands, and bluffs. This region consists of a mixture of riparian and upland deciduous forests, and tall- and mixedgrass prairies. The Missouri River runs approximately 2,320 miles from the headwaters in Montana to where it converges with the Mississippi River in St. Louis, Missouri. A 400-mile stretch of the Missouri River borders eastern Nebraska, running from the South Dakota boarder to the Kansas border, separating the state of Nebraska from Iowa.

The Missouri River has undergone many changes throughout the 20th century. Where the river once freely meandered across a vast floodplain, channelization, dams, conversion of wetlands, and development of structures and agriculture fields have transformed this region. Even so, the Missouri River corridor provides habitat not readily found throughout the rest of the state and allows for the success of some species in Nebraska whose geographic ranges are limited to this region.

**Beaks as Tools**

- Nectar Feeder
- Insectivore
- Granivore
- Specialist Seed Eater
- Fishing
- Nectar Taker
- Ab食
c- Surface Probing
- Probing
- Chiseler
- Raptor

**Birds of the Missouri River Corridor**

- Eastern Whip-poor-will
- American Tree Sparrow
- Bald Eagle
- Barred Owl

OutdoorNebraska.org
**Northern Pintail**
*Anas acuta*
- **Size:** L: 20.0 - 29.9 in., WS: 34 in.
- **Description:** Duck with long neck and tail. Males: brown head, white chest and stripe on neck, and gray back. Females: mottled brown.
- **Diet:** Seeds and aquatic insects
- **Habitat:** Wetlands
- **Viewing:** Spring-fall, statewide

**Great Blue Heron**
*Ardea herodias*
- **Size:** L: 38 - 54 in., WS: 65.8 - 78 in.
- **Description:** Tall with long legs and neck, dagger-like bill, gray body, lighter face with black stripe above eye.
- **Diet:** Fish, frogs, small birds
- **Habitat:** Wetlands
- **Viewing:** Spring/fall, statewide; summer, northeast

**Baltimore Oriole**
*Icterus galbula*
- **Size:** L: 6.7 - 7.5 in., WS: 9. - 11.8 in.
- **Description:** Pointed bill and two white wing bars. Males: bright orange and black, females: dull yellow/orange and brown.
- **Diet:** Insects and fruit
- **Habitat:** Rural to urban
- **Viewing:** Spring-fall, statewide though uncommon in west

**Mallard**
*Anas platyrhynchos*
- **Size:** L: 19.7 - 26 in., WS: 30 - 27.4 in.
- **Description:** Duck with long neck.
- **Diet:** Seeds and aquatic insects
- **Habitat:** Rural to urban
- **Viewing:** Year-round, statewide

**Killdeer**
*Charadrius vociferus*
- **Size:** L: 8 - 11 in., WS: 18 - 19 in.
- **Description:** Brown shorebird with white belly, chin, and face markings. Two black chest bars and long legs.
- **Diet:** Insects
- **Habitat:** Woodlands
- **Viewing:** Spring-fall, east

**Eastern Wood-pewee**
*Contopus virens*
- **Size:** L: 5.9 - 6.25 in., WS: 9 - 10.2 in.
- **Description:** Overall olive-gray with dark back. White ring above eye.
- **Diet:** Insects
- **Habitat:** Rural to urban
- **Viewing:** Year-round, southeast

**Common Goldeneye**
*Bucephala clangula*
- **Size:** L: 15.8 - 20 in., WS: 30 - 32.7 in.
- **Description:** Sloping forehead and brown head. Females: gray body and brown head.
- **Diet:** Aquatic insects
- **Habitat:** Large lakes and rivers
- **Viewing:** Fall-spring, statewide

**Belted Kingfisher**
*Megaceryle alcyon*
- **Size:** L: 11 - 13.8 in., WS: 19 - 22.8 in.
- **Description:** Top-heavy appearance with large crested head and dagger-like bill. Gray head and back, white belly and neck. Females: rusty-red bellyband and flanks.
- **Diet:** Fish
- **Habitat:** Riparian zones along waterways
- **Viewing:** Spring-fall, statewide

**Carolina Wren**
*Thryothorus ludovicianus*
- **Size:** L: 4.7 - 5.5 in., WS: 9.8 - 12.2 in.
- **Description:** Songbird with signature crest or “mohawk,” and an orange, cone-shaped bill. Feathers form crest on head. Black patch above beak. Males are bright red and females are tan with red hues.
- **Diet:** Seeds and fruit
- **Habitat:** Rural to urban
- **Viewing:** Year-round, southeast

**Wood Duck**
*Aix sponsa*
- **Size:** L: 18.5 - 21.3 in., WS: 26 - 29 in.
- **Description:** Elegantly-dressed duck with sleeked back crest. Males: red eye, green head, white outlines, chestnut chest and tan sides. Female: browns with white eye-ring.
- **Diet:** Seeds, fruit and insects
- **Habitat:** Riparian zones, wetlands and waterways
- **Viewing:** Spring-fall, statewide

**Hairy Woodpecker**
*Leuconotopicus villosus*
- **Size:** L: 7.1 - 10.2 in., WS: 13 - 16 in.
- **Description:** White below, black and white checked wings, black and white tail, and chisel beak. Males: red patch on back of head.
- **Diet:** Insects
- **Habitat:** Rural to urban
- **Viewing:** Year-round, statewide

**Yellow Warbler**
*Setophaga petechia*
- **Size:** L: 4.7 - 5.0 in., WS: 6.3 - 7.9 in.
- **Description:** Small bright yellow bird with a large black eye. Males have red streaking on chest.
- **Diet:** Insects
- **Habitat:** Open woodland
- **Viewing:** Spring-fall, statewide

**Yellowlegs**
*Rallus longirostris*
- **Size:** L: 10 - 12 in., WS: 17 - 18 in.
- **Description:** Large wading bird with long legs. Males: black legs, white belly, and black stripe above eye. Females: brownish legs, white belly.
- **Diet:** Insects and fruit
- **Habitat:** Wetlands
- **Viewing:** Fall-spring

**Red-eyed Vireo**
*Icterus phasinus*
- **Size:** L: 4.7 - 5 in., WS: 9 - 9.8 in.
- **Description:** Olive above, pale below. Long, thin bill. Males: red eye, pale brow lined in darker gray.  Females: dull orange.
- **Diet:** Insects
- **Habitat:** Forests
- **Viewing:** Spring-fall, statewide though uncommon in east

**Tufted Titmouse**
*Baeolophus bicolor*
- **Size:** L: 5.5 - 6.3 in., WS: 8 - 10.2 in.
- **Description:** Gray above, white below with rusty wash on flanks. Feathers form crest on head. Black patch above beak.
- **Diet:** Insects and seeds
- **Habitat:** Rural to urban
- **Viewing:** Year-round

**Eastern Wood-pewee**
*Contopus virens*
- **Size:** L: 5.9 - 6.25 in., WS: 9 - 10.2 in.
- **Description:** Overall olive-gray with dark back and face. Flat, bicolored bill, long tail and wings.
- **Diet:** Insects
- **Habitat:** Woodlands
- **Viewing:** Spring-fall, east

**Black-capped Chickadee**
*Poecile atricapillus*
- **Size:** L: 4.7 - 6 in., WS: 6.3 - 8 in.
- **Description:** Compact with short bill, black on top of head and neck, white cheeks, gray back, and pale belly.
- **Diet:** Seeds and fruit
- **Habitat:** Rural to urban
- **Viewing:** Year-round, statewide

**Northern Cardinal**
*Cardinalis cardinalis*
- **Size:** L: 8.3 - 9 in., WS: 9.8 - 12.2 in.
- **Description:** Songbird with signature crest or “mohawk,” and an orange, cone-shaped bill. Feathers form crest on head. Black patch above beak. Males are bright red and females are tan with red hues.
- **Diet:** Seeds and fruit
- **Habitat:** Rural to urban
- **Viewing:** Year-round, east

**Common Grackle**
*Quiscalus quiscula*
- **Size:** L: 10.5 - 15 in., WS: 18 - 19.5 in.
- **Description:** Grackle with black gloss. Males: brown head, black back, white belly, yellow tail.
- **Diet:** Insects and fruit
- **Habitat:** Wetlands
- **Viewing:** Spring/fall, statewide