

## **eBird for Beginners**— *A Workshop by Neil Hayward*

eBird has revolutionized how we go birding today. The web site, created by Cornell University, allows you to record all your bird sightings, either from home or in the field. You can keep track of your life and year lists: world, continent, country, state, county, or just your yard. You can even set up an alert to tell you when there are birds nearby that you need. eBird is helpful when planning trips to unfamiliar places, allowing you to check out birding hotspots and recent sightings. As an eBird user you're also contributing to citizen science, where bird sightings are used to model changes in status and distribution of species.

This workshop will teach you how to enter your own sightings into eBird, how to generate reports, and how to use the site to search for historical sightings. We'll also discuss the use of eBird-related apps while in the field. No prior experience with eBird is necessary. This workshop is ideal for eBird beginners and existing users wishing to get more out of the web site.

Bio: Neil Hayward grew up near Oxford, England, where, at a young age, he became obsessed with birds. He currently sits on the board of the American Birding Association and the board of the Brookline Bird Club, for which he is a past president. Neil teaches birding at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education, is the Bird Sightings editor for the journal, *Bird Observer*, and leads birding trips around the country. He is the author of *Lost Among the Birds* (Bloomsbury, June 2016), a memoir of his accidental big year. He lives in Cambridge, MA with his wife Gerri, sons Henry and Alexander, and two cats, Sally and Khiva.