

# Citizen Osprey Monitoring Project

## Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife

OBSERVER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**Nest Information:**

Nest ID (CCB) \_\_\_\_\_

Nest Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

NEST Substrate (circle one): Channel Marker Live Tree Dead Tree Osprey Nest Platform Utility Pole Duck Blind Other \_\_\_\_\_

Nest Location Description (e.g. County, Closest Intersection, Landmarks): \_\_\_\_\_

**Nesting Diaries:** \*\*Utilize the below table as a guide to writing your online Nesting Diaries at [www.osprey-watch.org](http://www.osprey-watch.org)\*\*

PAGE \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

SURVEY DATE	Start/Stop Time	sky % overcast	Visibility*	No. ADULTS	No. CHICKS	FISH LINE	ADULT ON NEST	ADULT BRINGING FOOD	# ADULTS TENDING NEST	DISTURBANCE TYPE**	BIRDS FLUSHED?	COMMENTS
	/			0 1 2 3	1 2 3	Y N	Y N	Y N			Y N	
	/			0 1 2 3	1 2 3	Y N	Y N	Y N			Y N	
	/			0 1 2 3	1 2 3	Y N	Y N	Y N			Y N	
	/			0 1 2 3	1 2 3	Y N	Y N	Y N			Y N	
	/			0 1 2 3	1 2 3	Y N	Y N	Y N			Y N	
	/			0 1 2 3	1 2 3	Y N	Y N	Y N			Y N	
	/			0 1 2 3	1 2 3	Y N	Y N	Y N			Y N	
	/			0 1 2 3	1 2 3	Y N	Y N	Y N			Y N	
	/			0 1 2 3	1 2 3	Y N	Y N	Y N			Y N	

\* Please indicate visibility as low medium or high

\*\* Note type of disturbance (boat, plane, human walking, other birds, etc).

*Nests should be monitored at least once every other week for a minimum of ten minutes from March until the ospreys leave in late summer for migration.*

Throughout the season, please **enter data online at [www.osprey-watch.org](http://www.osprey-watch.org)** under Delaware Fish and Wildlife Monitoring Group

At the end of the season, please return to the following address for storage:

Citizen Osprey Monitoring Project, Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife, 6180 Hay Point Landing Road, Smyrna DE 19977



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Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/DelawareFishWildlife>

## Activity Reports

Stay alert for the following behaviors and “first time” events during all surveys as well as casual observation. Use the space below to note the date and relevant observations.

- 1. Date of pair arrival:** Beginning in early March, observe for the arrival of adults and their staking claim to nests. Look for nest-building, guarding and nest repair behaviors.  
**Date:**
- 2. Is the nest occupied?** (Have you seen two adult osprey together at the nest during the breeding season?)
- 3. Date of egg laying:** *It is unlikely that volunteers will be able to observe eggs in the nest. Do not approach the nest.*  
**Date:**
- 4. Date of incubation initiation:** Record the first day that incubation behavior is observed. Look for birds sitting in the nest bowl for extended periods (note a flat back if possible)  
**Date:**
- 5. Date of Clutch Hatching:** *It is unlikely that volunteers will be able to observe chicks when they first hatch. Do not approach the nest. Look for signs of chicks (e.g. adults may span wings to shade chicks; you may see an adult bringing food to the nest).*  
**Date:**
- 6. Date of Nest Failure:** The date of failure may be clear if the entire nest is lost. However, adult behavior is often key to a determination. If during the incubation or brooding period adults abandon the nest or do not exhibit further incubation behavior or feeding for more than a day, the nest has failed.  
**Date:**                      **Reason for nest failure, if known:**
- 7. Number of nestlings observed:** Record the maximum number of chicks observed in the nest.
- 8. Date of first chick fledging:** Record the date when the first chick is observed to fly from the nest. During the last days of the nestling period, chicks can be observed exercising their wings while perched on the side of the nest. Although the first flight may not be observed directly, birds are typically observed flying back to the nest or perching away from the nest.  
**Date:**                      **Number of chicks fledged:**
- 9. Date chicks last observed at nest (migration Date):** Record the last day that a fledgling is observed on or near the nest site. Even after fledging, chicks typically return to the nest to roost, feed, or loaf and do so for an extended period until dispersal.  
**Date:**