

# BIRD OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY 2022

## SPOTTED TOWHEE



This flashy year-round resident presents itself frequently at the ground level performing its “double-scratch” foraging technique as it hops quickly forward and backward searching for seeds and insects in the leaf litter. I’m most attracted by its large size, suddenly darting out of ground cover ahead of you on a footpath for an instant before diving back into the brush, momentarily flashing black, white and chestnut color...and yes, if you’re lucky, a bright red eye. Springtime singing males may perch openly atop shrubs singing its striking whistled, then buzzy song.

Look, listen and be astonished.

*A dedicated team of birders survey and tally all the birds and bird species each month producing a report viewable on the website. It’s accompanied by extraordinary photos that can be a useful learning tool when preparing for a visit to the Urban Forest. It’s great to know what birds can be expected each month, and a thrill to encounter them on your own.*

*To learn more about the fascinating range of distinctive birds appearing in the Urban Forest and along the Shipley to Shore Nature Trail, visit:*

[hbtrees.org/urban-forest-2/bird-watching-in-the-urban-forest](https://hbtrees.org/urban-forest-2/bird-watching-in-the-urban-forest)