

*The Weekly Wing*  
**By Brandon Jackson (The Birding Expert)**  
**and his go-to contributor Alex Hebeisen (The Typist)**

Howdy subscribers! We do apologize for our busy schedules and our not sending out an issue in a while. This issue we will be discussing Pigeons, Cowbirds, and Doves.

Pigeons and Doves are some of the most interesting birds around. There are three main species of these birds in Minnesota: Rock, Morning, and Eurasian Collared Doves.

The Rock Dove is the largest and most common species in Minnesota, often seen in cities. It is completely gray but has a patch of iridescent feathers on their heads.

The Morning Dove is most commonly known for it's call, which is similar to the call of the Great Horned Owl. This Dove is all brown with many black spots on the wings, it is about half the size of the Rock Dove (or Rock Pigeon, whichever you prefer).

The last Dove we have in Minnesota in is the Eurasian Collared Dove. It is just a little bit smaller than the Rock Dove. It is all brown except for the small black ring the spreads around it's neck and makes its way to it's cheek. By the way Pigeons are a type of Dove and they can produce their own milk to feed their young (weird right?).

Now we get to the Cowbird. The most common species in Minnesota is the Brown-headed Cowbird. The female is entirely brown and the male is all black with a brown head.

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Brandon the Brains and Alex the Typist