

London Osprey Monitoring – Spring Report 2024

At the midpoint of the Osprey breeding season, London has 15 active nests reported compared to 15 last year and 12 in 2022. The 15 nests active this year appeared even though six of last year’s nests were destroyed (presumably by the tower operators) and one nest was lost to a silly goose. It is a measure of Osprey's persistence that they rebuilt four nests, re-occupied one vacant nest from last year, and constructed a new nest on the Rotary Trail platform south of Gainsborough. This year, London’s first Osprey chick was reported at the Labatt nest on June 7th. Our prospects for a healthy crop of young Ospreys in 2024 are very good.

Location/Name	Active	Notes
Hudson Boatworks	Yes	Osprey sitting low in nest centre
Clarke Rd & Fanshawe Pk. Rd.	Yes	Osprey sitting low in nest centre
Airport – Dakota Pl.	Yes	Nest destroyed, new towers, new nest occupied
Sovereign & Belleisle Crt.	Yes	Osprey sitting low in nest centre
River Road Tower	Yes	Nest destroyed, new nest built and occupied
London Gospel Tower	Yes	Osprey sitting low in nest centre
Stoney Creek Baptist	Yes	Osprey sitting low in nest centre
Kilally ESA platform	No	Goose occupied early – vacant
Stoneybrook Ball Park	Yes	Goose occupied old site, new nest built on pole nearby, occupied by Osprey
Windermere Soccer Field	Yes	Osprey sitting low in nest centre
Western Alumni Stadium	Yes	Osprey sitting low in nest centre
Labatt Stadium	Yes	Nest removed, new nest built and occupied
Greenway Treatment Platform	Yes	Nest occupied – empty past two years
Dingman & White Oak	Yes	Nest improved and occupied despite “defeater”
Millar Berry Tower	No	Nest destroyed and “defeater” installed
Gainsborough & Hyde Pk. Rd.	No	Nest destroyed and “defeater” installed
Rotary Trail Platform	Yes	NEW platform and nest occupied by Ospreys
Adelaide at S. Thames Chimney	Yes	Osprey sitting low in nest centre

TOTAL ACTIVE NESTS JUNE	15	
<p>“Active” describes a nest where Ospreys are present consistently, and in late May usually refers to an adult Osprey sitting low in the nest with another nearby or delivering fish.</p>		

City Osprey Platform on Rotary Trail an Early Success

The active Osprey nest on the communications tower on Gainsborough Rd, just west of Hyde Park Road, was removed this past winter, and a structure (“defeater”) was added to discourage nesting. Fortunately, the City of London included a well-designed pole and platform as part of the park reconstruction on the Rotary Trail just south of Gainsborough. Osprey monitors reported Ospreys circling the stormwater ponds in April, and most recently, the female was sitting low in the centre of a nest on the new platform. Based on the City’s experience with the Osprey platform they installed at Greenway Park, trail walkers and visitors to the Rotary Trail this summer will have an Osprey family to watch. An excellent Osprey information plaque will be added later this year.

An Osprey Information and photo page was recently added to the Nature London Website at: [Osprey Reports](#). There may be more Osprey nests in London, and updates on nest activity are always welcome and can be submitted to info@naturelondon.ca

Prepared by Ric and Sandy Symmes