

Submission Date	2013-02-03 19:12:37
Observer's Name	Robert Snyder
E-mail	rhs2@psu.edu
Phone	814-753-2629
Observer's Address	Street Address: 158 Black Street/P.O. Box 603 City: Howard State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 16841 Country: United States
Names of additional observers	see Discussion below
Species (Common Name)	Harris' Sparrow
Species (Scientific Name)	Zonotrichia querula
Number of individuals	1
Have you submitted this to eBird?	Yes
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	non-breeding adult, molting to breeding adult
Observation Date and Time	04-16-2012 8:15 AM
County	Centre
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Howard Boro
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	158 Black Street, Howard, PA 16841
GPS coordinates of sighting	41.012337, -77659725
Habitat	backyard: gray birch, other deciduous trees and shrubs, lawn and flower gardens
Distance to bird	30 ft for first observation, 60ft average for subsequent observations
Viewing conditions	Excellent, early morning with sun
Optical equipment used	naked eye but photographed with Olympus EP-1 and 40-150mm lens: later observations with Pentax DCF NV 8/36 binoculars and Nikon D200 camera with Nikon 300mm f4 lens
Description	Size of House Sparrow, body resembled White-throated Sparrow, a plump body look, 2 white wing

bars, black on crown, black chin, pinkish conical sparrow like-bill, grayish white cheeks/side and supercillium, grayish white belly.

Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)

First saw the bird at my sunflower feeder. It was feeding from the tray on the feeder. Bird subsequently would come to the feeder every hour or so, and feed for 10-15 minutes then leave. It would come high into the tree, then work its way down to the feeder.
Bird observed from 4/16/12 - 4/20/12, then it was gone, but seen one last time at 158 Black Street on 5/02/12.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Black crown, black chin and pink bill separated this bird from White-throated and White-crowned sparrows, and House Sparrow.

Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:

The bird was observed by approximately 30 observers over 4/17 - 4/20/12. Alex Lamoreaux and Drew Weber saw the bird on 4/17/12, and wrote this article in Nemesis Bird;
<http://www.nemesisbird.com/2012/04/harriss-sparrow-centre-county-pa/>, which includes a photograph taken by Lamoreaux. between 4/17 - 4/21/12; Alex Lamoreaux, Drew Weber, Aden Troyer, Nick Thomas, Joe Verica, Wayne Laubscher, Jason Gleditsch and several others observed the bird

Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)

Yes. The bird I observed and photographed, matched the Harris's Sparrow in The Sibley Guide to Birds, and I had photographed an adult Harris's Sparrow in Clinton County, PA in winter of 2009

During

Sibley's Guide to Birds, one of photos from 2009

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings

[Harris_SparrowP4160766.jpg](#)
[Harris_sSparrow2157.jpg](#)
[HarrissSparrow.4.28.12.2912.jpg](#)
[HarrissSparrow_Howard_2164.jpg](#)
[Harris_sSparrow.jpg](#)

Click to edit

PORC-webform00106