

## What Does this Species Look Like?

**Size:** Head and body is 5-7 inches;  
Tail is 3-4 inches

**Weight:** 80-92 grams

**Color:** Reddish-brown with a black stripe down the middle, white stripe above and below each eye, and 2 black stripes surrounding a white stripe on each side

**General:** Long bushy tail; high, cropped ears

**Usually Found:** Woodlands, scrubs, parks, gardens, backyards



## Did You Know?

- The eastern chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*) can carry nine nuts at a time- four in each cheek pouch, and one between its teeth!
- Chipmunks are active from late April to December. During the winter months, they stay in their burrows in a state of temporary hibernation where they sometimes rouse to eat food that they stored in the fall.
- Chipmunks dig burrows 12-30 feet long and 2 inches wide.
- A chipmunk may store up to 8 pounds of food in its burrow!
- They have two breeding periods: one in late winter or early spring and one in the summer.

## What am I Observing?

The timing (date) of:

- The first appearance of chipmunks
- The first appearance of young chipmunks
- The first time the animal is seen consuming nuts and seeds
- The first time the animal is seen collecting and storing food

## Why Collect this Data?

This species is being monitored as a part of the Eastern PA Phenology Program to determine if this animal is impacted by environmental changes.

## How Do I Report this Data?

Observations can be reported as comments to the Eastern PA Phenology Blog:  
<http://watchingtheseasons.blogspot.com/>  
or sent to [phenology@lgnc.org](mailto:phenology@lgnc.org)

## Want to Find Out More?

Contact Diane Husic, Audubon *TogetherGreen* Fellow,  
[phenology@lgnc.org](mailto:phenology@lgnc.org)

**What is Phenology?** According to the National Phenology Network, phenology refers to the study of “recurring plant and animal life cycle stages, or phenophases, such as leafing and flowering, maturation of agricultural plants, emergence of insects, and migration of birds.”

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