

# Have you seen a...

## House Wren

### What Does this Species Look Like?

**Size:** 4 1/2 -5 inches

**Weight:** 10-12 grams

**Color:** Brownish above, white-grey belly

**General:** Dark bars on wings and tail

**Usually Found:** Wooded clearings, parks, gardens, farms, orchards, backyards



### Did You Know?

- The house wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) nests inside holes in trees and nest boxes and often reuses its nest cavity from year to year.
- The male wren builds several “nests” out of sticks in various cavities. His mate selects one of these and completes a grass nest on top of the sticks.
- They can be aggressive if competing for nest holes and may even attack larger birds if they are interested in taking over their nest.
- House wrens have one of the largest ranges of any songbird, breeding from Canada through the West Indies and Central America, to the southernmost point of South America.
- House wrens have a loud, complex song, which is surprising coming from such a small bird!

### What am I Observing?

The timing (date) of:

- The first time the bird is seen
- The first time the bird is heard singing

### 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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