

# Have you seen a...

## Killdeer

### What Does this Species Look Like?

**Size:** 9 – 11 inches

**Weight:** 75 – 128 grams

**Color:** Brown above; White below; Two black lines on the breast; Golden orange rump; White stripe on wings

**General:** Long bill

**Usually Found:** Fields, airports, lawns, river banks, shores, golf courses



### Did You Know?

- The killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) is a very vocal bird that is also known as the “Chattering Plover” and the “Noisy Plover”.
- The name “killdeer” derives from their shrill and repetitive call which sounds like “kill-deeah”.
- Killdeer can be seen on the ground walking or running in quick spurts, stopping for a bit to look around and eat, and then walking or running again.
- While the killdeer lives on dry land, it is a capable swimmer.

### What am I Observing?

The timing (date) of:

- The first time a killdeer is seen.
- Nestling (eggs)
- Fledglings

### Why Collect this Data?

This species is being monitored as a part of the Eastern PA Phenology Program to determine if this bird 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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