

What Does this Species Look Like?

Size: 21 – 24 inches

Weight: 1400 – 2000 grams

Color: Brownish-black above;
White and black below

General: Head mostly white;
Broad black patch through the eye

Usually Found: Rivers, lakes, coasts



Did You Know?

- The osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) is one of the largest birds of prey in North America with a wingspan that can reach 6 feet!
- The osprey is found on every continent, except Antarctica.
- 99% of the osprey's diet is comprised of fish.
- When hunting fish, an osprey dives into the water feet first and grabs the fish with its talons.
- Ospreys can lay up to four eggs at a time but they do not all hatch at once. The last chick can hatch up to five days after the first one.

What am I Observing?

The timing (date) of:

- The first time an osprey is seen
- Evidence of nest building
- Observation of fledglings (young birds leaving the nest; date and numbers).

Want to Find Out More?

Contact Diane Husic, Audubon *TogetherGreen* Fellow,
phenology@lgnc.org

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

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.”

(www.usanpn.org)