

Have you seen a...

Eastern Phoebe

What Does this Species Look Like?

Size: 6 1/2 - 7 inches

Weight: 16 - 21 grams

Color: Dark grayish brown above;
Lighter below; Black bill

General: Small songbird

Usually Found: Woodland clearings,
backyards, parks, along streams,
bridges, farms



Did You Know?

- The Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) gets its name from its repetitive and sharp call which sounds like “phee-bee”.
- The bird can be recognized by its repetitive habit of pumping its tail up and down.
- In 1804, the Eastern Phoebe became the first bird to be banded and tracked in North America when John James Audubon tied colored threads around a phoebe’s leg.
- The phoebe is an independent and solitary bird that nests in buildings and bridges.

What am I Observing?

The timing (date) of:

- First time the bird is seen
- First time the bird is heard singing
- First time bird is seen nest-building
- First time young is seen being fed
- First young fledged



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

Want to Find Out More?

Contact Diane Husic, Audubon *TogetherGreen* Fellow,
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)