

Have you seen a...

Scarlet Tanager

What Does this Species Look Like?

Size: 7 inches

Weight: 23-38 grams

Color: Male is flaming scarlet with black wings and tail; Female is greenish above and yellow below with brown or black wings

General: Medium-sized songbird

Usually Found: Woodlands, backyards, parks



Male (females are yellowish with blackish wings)

Did You Know?

- The scarlet tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) arrives in the northern United States by May and begins its southern migration in late August.
- Females and males have a similar song during the breeding season, but the female's song tends to be shorter, softer, and smoother.
- The scarlet tanager is sensitive to forest fragmentation in parts of its range.
- When the scarlet tanager winters in South America, it shares nesting grounds with other species of birds including flycatchers, antbirds, and woodcreepers.

What am I Observing?

- The timing (date) of:
- The first appearance
- The first time the bird is heard singing (To hear the sound and calls go to <http://www.xeno-canto.org/>; search "scarlet tanager"; you will find the MP3 files for the scarlet tanager on page 3 of this search.)

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

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)