

What Does this Species Look Like?

Size: 2.8-3.5 inches

Weight: 2-6 grams

Color: Bright emerald or golden green above, white with black and grey below; Males have a vibrant and iridescent red throat

General: Slender, but long bill; the vibrant colors of the body glitter in the sunlight

Usually Found: Open fields, forest edges, meadows, orchards, stream borders, backyards



Did You Know?

- Ruby-throated hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*) are the only breeding hummingbird found in eastern North America.
- They are fast moving and flap their wings approximately 53 times every second!
- They migrate to Central America in the early fall and many cross the Gulf of Mexico in a single flight.
- They have excellent color vision. In fact, they can see into the ultraviolet spectrum, which humans aren't capable of doing.
- They are drawn to red and orange flowers, such as honey suckle, jewelweed, and trumpet creeper, and feed on their nectar.
- The oldest known hummingbird lived to be 9 years and 1 month old!

What am I Observing?

The timing (date) of:

- The first appearance



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)