



upland and bottomland forests, parks and cemeteries. Its song is composed of short phrases which are separated by pauses and repeated often. It eats insects and fruits.

HABITATS

- bottomland forests
- coniferous forest
- southern Illinois lowlands
- upland deciduous forest

ILLINOIS STATUS

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> common | <input type="checkbox"/> endangered | <input type="checkbox"/> threatened |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> native | <input type="checkbox"/> exotic | |

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident:

Summer resident: statewide.

Migrant: statewide.

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.

Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume 2: Woodland Habitats CD-ROM.

red-eyed vireo

Vireo olivaceus

Kingdom:	Animalia
Division/Phylum:	Chordata
Class:	Aves
Order:	Passeriformes
Family:	Vireonidae

FEATURES

The red-eyed vireo averages six inches in length. A white stripe bordered by black is present over each eye. This bird has a gray cap on its head. The back is olive-green, and the belly is light with a gray wash. The iris of the eye is red in adults and brown in immature birds of this species.

BEHAVIORS

The red-eyed vireo is an abundant migrant and summer resident statewide. It winters in South America in the Amazon basin. Spring migrants begin arriving in Illinois in mid-April. Nesting occurs in early spring. The nest is cup-shaped and suspended in the fork of a tree branch from two to 60 feet above the ground. The nest is built of bark, rootlets, paper, grasses and other plant materials and is covered on the outside with spider webs and lichens. The female builds the nest in about five days. Three to five speckled, white eggs are laid by the female, and she does most of the incubation over the 12- to 14-day incubation period. Usually one, but sometimes two, brood per year is raised. Nests are often parasitized by the brown-headed cowbird, which deposits an egg that the red-eyed vireo will hatch and raise, taking food and care away from its own young. Fall migration begins in August. This bird lives in