



yellow-throated vireo

Vireo flavifrons

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

FEATURES

The yellow-throated vireo averages five inches in length. It has a yellow throat and a yellow line in front of each eye that continues around to encircle the eye. White bars are present on each wing. The back is green-blue.

BEHAVIORS

The yellow-throated vireo is a common migrant and summer resident statewide. Spring migrants begin arriving in Illinois in April. Nesting takes place from May through July. The nest is shaped like a cup and is placed in the fork of a branch from three to 60 feet above the ground. It is made of grasses, bark and spider silk, lined with grasses and covered on the outside with mosses and lichens. The female does most of the nest construction over a period of about seven days. Three to five white eggs with dark spots are laid by the female. Both the male and female take turns incubating over a 14 day incubation period. Fall migration begins in September. The yellow-throated vireo lives in open woodlands and orchards. It stays high in trees and doesn't move around much. Its song is similar to that of the American robin with short phrases separated by pauses and repeated many times. This bird eats insects.

HABITATS

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

ILLINOIS STATUS

- common
- endangered
- threatened
- native
- 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.