

REGION 9 – HUDSON-DELAWARE

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June was quite wet, with days of clouds, rain and drizzle outnumbering dry sunny days. The Region experienced heavy rains on 6 June, with 5" in Orange County. All areas had at least 4" of cumulative rain by 15 June. That's quite a bit considering that the entire June average is about 3.6". July was cool and even wetter, with over 6" of rain. The normal average is 4.1". There were no 90°F days from mid-June through July, a blessing for those who participated in the Breeding Bird Atlas. August was closer to normal, but still cooler than average.

Two good birds were found due to the efforts of Breeding Bird Atlas observers. The first was a **Clay-colored Sparrow** along Mt. Cliff Road in Sullivan County, found by Valerie Freer 3 July and observed by many others until at least 22 July. This is the same area where one was seen two years ago. The second was a **Sedge Wren** in nearby Woodburne, Sullivan County, on 14 July by Ed Debellevue. It was seen carrying nesting material on 25 and 26 July and with a possible second bird on 9 August.

Little Blue Heron sightings at Edith G. Read Sanctuary in Rye, Westchester County in June and July are to be expected, but one on the Delaware River in Sullivan County 10 August is exceptional.

As usual, a few notable ducks were seen during the summer including Brant, Greater Scaup and Red-breasted Merganser at Read Sanctuary in late June. A Ruddy Duck was in Dutchess County on 24 July, followed by another in Rye, Westchester County on 19-20 August. Both Common and Hooded mergansers were found in Sullivan County.

A Lesser Black-backed Gull observed by Tom Burke in Rye on 27 August

marks the earliest appearance and first August record in Westchester. On the same day Lawrence Brinker also found three Roseate Terns in Rye. This is the first sighting in Westchester since 1975 and only the third record I'm able to find for the county.

A most unusual report was of two Ruby-crowned Kinglets at Sams Point Dwarf Pine Ridge Preserve in Ulster County 7 July, with one singing. Efforts to relocate these birds failed. The preserve sits atop the Shawangunk Ridge at nearly 2300' and one wonders if it is possible for them to be breeding so far from their known range in the Adirondacks.

A male Yellow-throated Warbler was found by Andy Guthrie at Mongaup, Sullivan County, the site where two males were seen in 1997. There were a few reports of Pine Siskins from both Dutchess and Sullivan counties in June and August. It is unusual to see this many reports in summer. Other notable birds for the season included a Blue Grosbeak at a Dutchess feeder 13 and 14 July (no details) and a "Lawrence's" Warbler in Rye 17 August.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye WEST; MC – Marshlands Conservancy, Rye WEST; MRG – Mianus River Gorge WEST; PNR – Pawling Nature Preserve DUTC; PP – Piermont Pier ROCK; SG – Shawangunk Grassland NWR (formerly Galeville Airport) ULST; TP – Tamarack Preserve, Amenia DUTC; WPR – Ward Pound Ridge Reservation WEST.

LOONS – DUCKS

Pied-billed Grebe: 2 Bashakill 3 Jun;

EGR 24 Jun; 2 with y Wawarsing Jul.

Least Bittern: MC 25, 27 Jun; 2 Tivoli Bay 30 Jul; PP 4 Aug.

Great Blue Heron: 16 nests Hurleyville Cemetery Jun; 4 nests Wawarsing late Jul.

Great Egret: 26 MC 30 Jul.

Snowy Egret: 14 MC 30 Jul.

Little Blue Heron: EGR 24 Jun; 2 EGR 30 Jul; Delaware River SULL 10 Aug (PJ).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 16 EGR 30 Jul; 12 New Hamburg 18 Aug.

Black Vulture: 2 Doodletown 4 Jun; Ellenville 24 Jun; 2 Ellenville 16 Jul; TP 9 Aug.

Brant: 8 EGR 24 Jun; EGR 27 Jun.
Greater Scaup: 2 EGR 30 Jul (TB).
Hooded Merganser: Hildale Rd SULL 4 Jun (RS); Beaverkill campground 29 Jun (MC, VF).
Com. Merganser: f + 4 y Cliff L SULL 17 Jun (KM); f + 6 y Roscoe 27 Jul (VF).
Red-breasted Merganser: EGR 24 Jun (TB).
Ruddy Duck: DUTC 24 Jul (RN); MC 19-20 Aug (TB).

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Osprey: 2 nests Bashakill; EGR 24 Jun; Stissing L 6 Aug.
Bald Eagle: 2 y in nest Swan L 10 Jul; nesting Bashakill and Roundout Res.
N. Harrier: MC 24 Jun; SG 26 Jun.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: Wurtsboro 17 Jun; Swan L 11-20 Jun; Callicoon Center SULL 28 Jun; DUTC all Jul; DUTC 1 Jul.
Cooper's Hawk: WPR 28 Jun.
Broad-winged Hawk: 2 MRG 25 Jun; ad + FL Horseshoe L Rd SULL 15 Jul.
Red-shouldered Hawk: Wappinger Falls 6, 11 Jul.
Am. Kestrel: MC 17 Aug.
Peregrine Falcon: Newburgh-Beacon Bridge 25 Aug.
N. Bobwhite: Bashakill 10 Jun.
Black-bellied Plover: 8 MC 17 Aug.
Semipalmated Plover: Rye 20 Jun; 5 MC 30 Jul.
Am. Oystercatcher: 4 Rye 20 Jun.
Greater Yellowlegs: 3 MC 20 Jul; 6 MC 30 Jul; 10 MC 17 Aug.
Spotted Sandpiper: 7 Cross River Res 4 Jul; 3 Jul reports from DUTC.
Upland Sandpiper: SG 4 Jun; 5 Blue Chip Farm 26 Jun.
Ruddy Turnstone: 2 EGR 30 Jul.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 25 MC 30 Jul; 134 MC 17 Aug.
Least Sandpiper: 5 MC 30 Jul.
Short-billed Dowitcher: 3 MC 17, 19 Aug.

Laughing Gull: 4 Rye 20 Jun; 75 Rye 27 Aug.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: Rye 27 Aug (TB).
Roseate Tern: 3 (2 ad, 1 imm) Rye 27 Aug (LB, TB).
Com. Tern: 30 pairs EGR 20 Jun; pair Hen I 20 Jun; 25 EGR 30 Jul; 80 Rye 27 Aug.
Forster's Tern: 4 Rye 27 Aug.

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Mourning Dove: summit of Balsam L Mt at 3723' 4 Jun.
Monk Parakeet: 4 Bloomingburg SULL 13 Aug (KC, RD).
Black-billed Cuckoo: Cliff L SULL 17 Jun; WPR 28 Jun; Buttercup Sanc 31 Jul; 2 Horseshoe L Rd SULL 10-15 Aug.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Doodletown 4 Jun; Yankee L SULL 16 Jun; WPR 25, 28 Jun.
Barred Owl: 5 MRG 25 Jun; WPR 28 Jun.
Com. Nighthawk: 40 MC 19 Aug; 50 Freedom P 25 Aug; 60 Wurtsboro 27 Aug; 70 Yonkers 30 Aug.
Whip-poor-will: 2 Wurtsboro 18 Jun.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: MC 24, 27 Jun.
Red-headed Woodpecker: Yonkers 9 Jun; FY Hyde Park 19 Jul.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: nest with y Woodbourne 20 Jun; Poquag 29 Jul.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Pawling 6 Aug (BP), early; WPR 26 Aug.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 Cliff L 17 Jun; 2 banded Cape Pd 17, 20 Aug; MC 20 Aug.
Acadian Flycatcher: Doodletown 4 Jun; 2 Westbrookville 18, 27 Jun; 3 MRG 25 Jun; 2 PNR 5 Jul; TP 12 Jul; banded Cape Pd 24 Aug.
Alder Flycatcher: Bashakill 4 Jun; Liberty 16 Jun.

Willow Flycatcher: 3 MC 27 Jun.
White-eyed Vireo: ad + 2 imm DUTC 9 Jul.
Yellow-throated Vireo: 3 MRG 25 Jun; 6 WPR 2 Jul.
Blue-headed Vireo: 2 Cliff L SULL 17 Jun; Pine Kill Rd SULL 30 Jun; WPR 2 Jul; 2 PNR 5 Jul; TP 12 Jul..
Warbling Vireo: 3 WPR 2 Jul.
Com. Raven: PNR 5 Jul; Clove Valley 24 Jul.
Purple Martin: 4 DUTC 25 Jul.
Bank Swallow: 2 MC 20 Jul.
Cliff Swallow: 40 WPR 17 Jul.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: 2 Kensico Res WEST 15 Jun; Rye 25 Jul.
Brown Creeper: Kensico Res WEST 15 Jun; WPR 2 Jul.
SEDGE WREN: Budd Rd, Woodburne 24-26 Jul; 2nd bird 9 Aug (ED, VF, RD, KC, PM et al).
Marsh Wren: 8 MC 27 Jun; few PP 4 Aug.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: feeding cowbird Kensico Res WEST 15 Jun.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 2 Sams Pt Dwarf Pine Ridge Preserve ULST 7 Jul (CJ).
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 6 WPR 2 Jul.
Swainson's Thrush: few Balsam L Mt 4 Jun; Roscoe 30 Jun; Horseshoe L Rd SULL 8-14 Aug.
Hermit Thrush: 5 WPR 28 Jun; 3 PNR 6 Jul.
Cedar Waxwing: 12 WPR 2 Jul.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: 5 WPR 28 Jun.
Golden-winged Warbler: nesting near Mongaup.
"Lawrence's" Warbler: MC 17 Aug (TB).
N. Parula: WPR 28 Jun.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: PNR 5 Jul; WPR 28 Jun.
Magnolia Warbler: Roscoe 1 Jul; Nellie Rd DUTC 19 Jul; MC 20 Aug.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: common Balsam L Mt 4 Jun; Sterling Forest 25 Jun; 3 PNR 6 Jul.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: few Balsam L Mt 4 Jun; 2 Shandee 28 Jun; several Sams Pt Dwarf Pine Ridge Preserve ULST 17 Jul.
Black-throated Green Warbler: 10 MRG 25 Jun; 6 WPR 28 Jun; 3 PNR 5 Jul; TP 12 Jul.
Blackburnian Warbler: 3 y TP 12 Jul; Liberty 16 Jul; 2 Cliff L SULL 17 Jun.
Yellow-throated Warbler: Mongaup 4 June (AG); Sterling Forest 25 Jun (MV).
Pine Warbler: 9 WPR 28 Jun; Rye 1 Jul; 26 WPR 2 Jul.
Prairie Warbler: 6 WPR 28 Jun; 5 + 9 y Nellie Hill DUTC.
Bay-breasted Warbler: Flint Hill 30 Aug.
Blackpoll Warbler: Balsam L Mt 4 Jun; MC 18 Aug.
Cerulean Warbler: 19 Doodletown 24 Jun.
Black-and-white Warbler: 10 WPR 28 Jun.
Am. Redstart: 4 EGR 24 Jun; 4 WPR 28 Jun; 5 TP 12 Jul.
Worm-eating Warbler: 12 MRG 25 Jun; 3 PNR 5 Jul.
Ovenbird: 20 WPR 28 Jun.
Louisiana Waterthrush: 5 MRG 25 Jun; 6 WPR 28 Jun.
Kentucky Warbler: 2 bring food to a nest Tarrytown 1 Jun-5 Jul; Doodletown 4 Jun; Vassar Farm 8-12 Jul.
Mourning Warbler: Balsam L Mt 4 Jun; Bashakill 4 Jun; MC 20 Aug.
Com. Yellowthroat: 22 Wappinger Falls 6 Jul.
Hooded Warbler: WPR 28 Jun; 4 PNR 5 Jul; 2 TP 12 Jul.
Canada Warbler: FY Dietz Rd SULL 17 Jun; MC 18 Aug.

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: 12 MRG 25 Jun; 20

WPR 28 Jun; 15 WPR 2 Jul.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: Mt Cliff Rd near Fallsburg SULL 3-22 Jul (VF, mob).

Field Sparrow: WPR 28 Jun.

Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 10 Hen I 20 Jun (TB); 5 MC 27 Jun (TB).

Swamp Sparrow: 2 MC 24 Jun.

Dark-eyed Junco: few Balsam L Mt 4 Jun; 5 TP 12 Jul; several y Sams Pt Dwarf Pine Ridge Preserve ULST 9, 17 Jul.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 6 WPR 28 Jun.

Blue Grosbeak: DUTC feeder 13-14 Jul

(ZM) [no details].

Bobolink: WPR 28 Jun.

Orchard Oriole: MC 24 Jun; 5 WPR 28 Jun.

Pine Siskin: SULL feeder 22 Jun (RD); 2 y Roscoe feeders 25 Jun (MG); Horseshoe L Rd SULL 8 Aug (KC); several Old Camby Rd DUTC 20 Aug (JW); unusual to see this many reports in summer.

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