

## REGION 9 – HUDSON-DELAWARE

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After a very warm winter, an early spring was expected. There were no significant snowfalls in March, and the temperatures were 1.5°F above average. Precipitation was near normal. An unusually warm spell arrived mid April, with temperatures 20° above average. White Plains reached 92° on 17 April, and Poughkeepsie and Yorktown reached 95° on 18 April. It was not so surprising that a few pairs of Mute Swan, Canada Goose and Mallard had young by 29 April. The first hatchlings for these species get earlier every year. Some flora were reportedly flowering very early. The end of April saw temperatures well below normal and seemed to put spring back on the right schedule. May was cooler and wetter than average, thanks to a cold spell that saw freezing temperatures 19–22 May, with Poughkeepsie cooling to 30° and Liberty to 26° on 20 May.

Lisa Cutten and Mark DeDea found a Tricolored Heron in Kingston on 4 May, a very unusual record for Ulster County.

Hook Mt. had two 1000+ Broad-winged Hawk days in the spring, on 23 and 24 April, for the first time ever, according to Steve Walter. Albino Red-tailed Hawks were found in Orange, Dutchess and Rockland counties.

A Dunlin was found 5 May in Sullivan, for the county's second record.

John Haas had four different Iceland Gulls in Sullivan County on a single day on 9 March. Tom Burke had an impressive 10 Black Terns on the scoter watch off Edith G. Read Sanctuary in Rye on the evening of 20 April. The watch also featured 13 Red-necked Grebes on 14 April and all three scoter species on 20 April. Black Terns and Red-necked Grebes were also reported from Sullivan County, with six grebes on Black Lake on 15 April and two more at the Bashakill Marsh 3 May. Three Black Terns were at the Bashakill on 18 May.

Tree Swallows arrived in large numbers quite early this year, with 50 seen at Piermont on 18 March. Meredith Hudes and Bruce Lowder found a partial albino Eastern Phoebe on territory with a normally colored mate in Newburgh on 18 April.

A Clay-colored Sparrow was observed by four members of the Edgar A. Mearns Bird Club of Orange County in a field off Route 209 in Westbrookville on 18 May. Another Clay-colored was heard in Sullivan County in Ellenville 19–20 May.

Renee Davis and Lois Head found an adult male **Yellow-headed Blackbird** at the Bashakill Marsh on 10 March.

Evening Grosbeaks and Common Redpolls were well reported in Sullivan County in March. There were single reports for both in Dutchess County but no reports further south. Sullivan County had the only White-winged Crossbill report.

Other notable species included: Black-headed Gull, Northern Shrike, Prothonotary Warbler and Snow Bunting

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; NSW – Nature Study Woods New Rochelle WEST; RNC – Rye Nature Center; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR; TLP – Twin Lakes P Eastchester WEST; WBCMC – Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club May Census DUTC; WRNWR – Wallkill Ri NWR.

### LOONS – DUCKS

**Red-throated Loon:** 40 EGR 24 Mar.

**Com. Loon:** 4 EGR 21, 24 Mar.

**Horned Grebe:** 7 EGR 24 Mar; 5

Kiamesha L 25 Mar.

**Red-necked Grebe:** 3 ERG 8, 14, 24 Mar; 2 Bashakill 15 Apr (JH); 6 Black L SULL 15 Apr; 13 EGR 14 Apr (TB); 7 EGR 20 Apr; 2 Bashakill 3 May (JH).

**N. Gannet:** 18 EGR 28 Mar; 8 EGR 14 Apr.

**Great Cormorant:** 10 EGR 4 Mar.

**Am. Bittern:** arr Bashakill 15 Apr; max 4

Bashakill 25 Apr (JH).

**Least Bittern:** Oscawana Nature Preserve 3 May (MB); WBCMC 11 May; 1-2 Bashakill 16, 18 May (MB, JH); MC 21 May (TB).

**Great Blue Heron:** 25 nests Hurleyville 25 Apr; 40 nests Red Hook May.

**Great Egret:** arr Rye 20 Mar.

**Snowy Egret:** arr MC 5 Apr.

**Tricolored Heron:** Kingston 4 May (LC, MD).

**Green Heron:** arr 8 May.

**Black Vulture:** 3 Pawling 1 Mar; Stissing

Mt 4 Apr; Tamarack DUTC 23 Apr; 14 Warwick 15 May.  
**Snow Goose:** 200 Horseshoe L SULL 15 Mar; 30 Poughkeepsie 22 Mar; 75 Bashakill 18 Apr; 3 Millbrook 5 May.  
**Mute Swan:** 18 Wappingers L 1-31 Mar; 40 WBCMC 11 May.  
**Wood Duck:** 20 Wappingers L 19-21 Mar.  
**Gadwall:** max 24 Neversink Res 26 Mar.  
**Am. Wigeon:** 26 Kiamesha L 21 Mar.  
**Blue-winged Teal:** 6 Bashakill 5 Apr.  
**N. Pintail:** max 16 Bashakill 23 Mar.  
**Green-winged Teal:** max 24 Bashakill 11 Mar.  
**Canvasback:** last 2 EGR 24 Mar.  
**Ring-necked Duck:** 125 Round Pd DUTC 7 Mar; 34 Bashakill 7 Mar; 20 Kiamesha L 21 Mar; 150 Swan L SULL 24 Mar; 230 Round Pd 5 Apr; 238 Yankee L SULL 18 Apr.  
**Greater Scaup:** 210 Rye 11 Mar; Stissing L 5 Apr.  
**Lesser Scaup:** 160 EGR 4 Mar; 5 EGR 14 Apr.  
**Surf Scoter:** 3 EGR 20 Apr (TB).  
**White-winged Scoter:** Kiamesha L 25-31 Mar (JH); 18 EGR 14 Apr (TB); 7 Black L SULL 18 Apr; 37 EGR 20 Apr (TB); SULL 11 May.  
**Black Scoter:** 2 EGR 20 Apr (TB)  
**Long-tailed Duck:** 330 EGR 24 Mar; 530 EGR 2 Apr.  
**Bufflehead:** 25 EGR 14 Mar.  
**Com. Goldeneye:** last 2 EGR 13 Mar.  
**Com. Merganser:** 150 Round Pd DUTC 7 Mar; 218 Kiamesha L 21 Mar.  
**Red-breasted Merganser:** 40 EGR 14 Apr.  
**Ruddy Duck:** 120 EGR 24 Mar; 60 EGR 6 Apr.

#### HAWKS – ALCIDS

**Osprey:** MC 24 Mar; Bashakill 29 Mar; 4 Hook Mt 21 Apr; 18 Hook Mt 23 Apr; 14 Hook Mt 24 Apr.  
**Bald Eagle:** scattered reports of 1-2 thru; 2 on nest at Bashakill.

**N. Harrier:** 4-7 SGNWR 3 Mar-11 Apr; 1-3 SGNWR 12 Apr thru; 3-10 WRNWR 1 Mar-5 Apr; 1-3 WRNWR 6 Apr thru.  
**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 23 Hook Mt 21 Apr; 21 Hook Mt 23 Apr; 27 Hook Mt 14 Apr.  
**Cooper's Hawk:** 2 in courtship display flight Katonah 5 Apr (JA).  
**N. Goshawk:** WRNWR 6 Mar; Hook Mt 30 Mar; Hook Mt 14 Apr; Doodletown 18 Apr; Bashakill 11 May.  
**Broad-winged Hawk:** Piermont 3 Mar; Lenoir Nature Preserve 17 Mar; 304 Hook Mt 21 Apr; 1026 Hook Mt 23 Apr; 1227 Hook Mt 24 Apr.  
**Red-tailed Hawk:** albino Clinton DUTC 10, 28 Mar (JD, BM); albino South Mt P ROCK 30 Mar (TF, BG); albino Rosendale ULST 31 Mar (AC); 10 Hook Mt 21 Apr (SW).  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** WRNWR 1 Mar-26 Apr (SK, KH); Bloomingburg early Mar (M&SM).  
**Golden Eagle:** Stissing Mt 14 Mar (CV); Cohecton mid Mar (MG, RG); Bashakill 18 May.  
**Merlin:** 2 Hook Mt 14 Apr; 3 Hook Mt 23 Apr.  
**Peregrine Falcon:** nest on Mid Hudson Bridge, hatched mid May.  
**Wild Turkey:** 60 Green Haven DUTC 5 Mar.  
**N. Bobwhite:** 5 DUTC 11 May.  
**Virginia Rail:** 4 Bashakill 27 Apr.  
**King Rail:** MC 10, 30 May.  
**Sora:** 2 Bashakill 30 Apr; Sharon Station Rd DUTC 27 May.  
**Com. Moorhen:** arr Bashakill 30 Apr.  
**Am. Coot:** 20 Abels Pd DUTC thru Mar; 125 Sylvan L 24 Mar.  
**Black-bellied Plover:** 2 MC 20, 30 May.  
**Semipalmated Plover:** 2 MC 20, 21 May.  
**Am. Oystercatcher:** 2 EGR 2, 14, 20 Apr; 2 New Rochelle 4 May; 2 EGR 4 May.  
**Greater Yellowlegs:** 6 EGR 13 Mar; 17 MC 1 May.  
**Lesser Yellowlegs:** EGR 13, 16, 24, 28

Mar; MC 1 May.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** Bronx Ri 27 Apr; 2 Bashakill 30 Apr; 5 Marcy P WEST 10 May; 6 Bronx Ri Yonkers 10 May; 26 WBCMC 11 May.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr Bashakill 28 Apr; 3 Bronx Ri Yonkers 10 May.

**Upland Sandpiper:** arr SGNWR 25 Apr.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** 3 MC 20 May.

**Least Sandpiper:** 14 Bronx Ri 10 May; 3 Pulvers Corners 18 May; 100 MC 20 May.

**Purple Sandpiper:** 24 EGR 28 Mar; 4 EGR 21 Apr, 7 May.

**Dunlin:** SULL 5 May (JH) 2nd county record; 15 MC 20 May.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** 2 MC 21 May; MC 30 May.

**Com. Snipe:** arr WRNWR 7 Mar; 3 Harlem Valley Rail Trail 21 Mar.

**Laughing Gull:** Hook Mt 30 Mar, early (TF, BG).

**Black-headed Gull:** Sullivan Co Landfill 13, 25 Mar (JH).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** 35 EGR 26 Mar; 5 Rondout Res 11 Apr; Bashakill 5 May.

**Iceland Gull:** 1-2 Sullivan Co Landfill 9-30 Mar (JH); ad & imm Woodbourne Flats 9 Mar (JH); ad Woodbourne Flats 10, 23 Mar.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** Piermont 3 Mar; Sullivan Co Landfill 23-30 Mar (JH).

**Glaucous Gull:** Sullivan Co Landfill 7, 13 Mar (JH).

**Com. Tern:** arr EGR 20 Apr; SULL 11 May.

**Least Tern:** 2 New Rochelle 4 May; 4 MC 10 May; 3 MC 30 May.

**Black Tern:** 10 EGR 20 Apr (TB); 3 Bashakill 18 May (JH).

#### DOVES – WOODPECKERS

**Monk Parakeet:** few Bloomingburg thru.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr Bashakill 11 May; 5 Doodletown 22 May.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr Bashakill 6 May.

**Barn Owl:** m rescued from chimney near SRNWR 2 Apr, was banded as a fledgling near Thornville Ohio 7 Jun 2000 (SK, KH).

**Short-eared Owl:** 8 SGNWR 1-28 Mar; 2-7 WRNWR 1 Mar-5 Apr (SK, KH).

**N. Saw-whet Owl:** calling Horseshoe L SULL 3 Mar.

**Com. Nighthawk:** 20 MC 19 May.

**Whip-poor-will:** Bashakill 27 Apr; 2 WBCMC 11 May.

**Chimney Swift:** arr Kakiat P 20 Apr.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr Verbank 26 Apr.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** Milan 12 Apr (BB); Red Hook 23 May (BB, A&BM).

**N. Flicker:** 50 Hook Mt 30 Mar.

#### FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** DUTC 11 May; Doodletown 13, 19, 22 May; Bashakill 16-18 May; Buttercup Sanctuary 25 May; Pleasant Valley DUTC 27 May.

**E. Wood-Pewee:** arr 11 May.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** Amenia 16 May; Pawling Nature Reserve 25 May..

**Willow Flycatcher:** arr 4 May.

**Least Flycatcher:** arr 6 May.

**E. Phoebe:** Bashakill 7 Mar, overwintered; arr TLP 12 Mar; partial albino on territory with mate Newburgh 18 Apr (MH, BL).

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr 19 Apr.

**E. Kingbird:** arr Mt Kisco 21 Apr.

**N. Shrike:** 4 SULL reports: Beechwood Rd mid Mar (MG); Geiger Rd 15 Mar (PM); Old Tracy Rd 24 Mar (KC); Hunter Rd 28 Mar, 3 Apr (JW).

**White-eyed Vireo:** arr Rye 17 Apr.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr Kakiat P 20 Apr.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr Black L SULL 16 Apr; Doodletown 17 Apr; Rye 17 Apr.

**Warbling Vireo:** 5 Larchmont Res 25 Apr.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** 2 Doodletown 18 May; Bashakill 19 May (JH).

**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr Sprain Ridge 27 Apr.

**Com. Raven:** 3 Stissing Mt 14 Mar; Hook Mt 14 Mar, 2 Apr; many other scattered sightings.

**Horned Lark:** WBCMC 11 May

**Purple Martin:** Verbank 17 Apr; TLP 29 Apr; 6 DUTC 11 May.

**Tree Swallow:** 50 Piermont Marsh 16 Mar (DC); 30 Forrest L White Plains 24 Mar; 7 Lenoir Nature Preserve 28 Mar.

**N. Rough-winged Swallow:** arr NSW 7 Apr.

**Bank Swallow:** arr Bashakill 26 Apr; 80 Bashakill 16 May.

**Cliff Swallow:** 12 Bashakill 26 Apr; 36 Bashakill 16 May.

**Barn Swallow:** arr Bashakill 15 Apr.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** at feeders Mar, few still Apr; at traditional spots May.

**House Wren:** arr 17 Apr.

**Marsh Wren:** 2 MC 24 Mar; 2 Cruger I 4 May; 2 Madem Bretts P 5 May; 2 EGR 24 May; 8 MC 30 May.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** Norrie Pt 6 Mar.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** 2 Tree Tops DUTC 30 Mar (MK), early; NSW 7 Apr; 6 Bashakill 17 Apr.

**Veery:** arr TLP 29 Apr.

**Bicknell's Thrush:** Mt Kisco 21 May (GD).

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr RNC 10 May.

**Wood Thrush:** arr 2 NSW 26 Apr.

**Am. Robin:** 1000 Hook Mt 30 Apr.

**Gray Catbird:** arr n part of Reg 17 Apr.

**Brown Thrasher:** arr Poughkeepsie 18 Apr.

**Am. Pipit:** Bashakill 22 Mar (JH).

**Cedar Waxwing:** 100+ Doodletown 22 May.

#### WARBLERS

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr Kakiat P 20 Apr.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** Bashakill 5-6 May; Vassar Farms 11 May; New Paltz 25-31 May.

**"Lawrences's" Warbler:** Harriman SP early May (AL).

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr 8 May.

**Nashville Warbler:** arr Sprain Ridge P Yonkers 5 May.

**N. Parula:** arr Rye 19 Apr.

**Yellow Warbler:** arr TLP 18 Apr.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr Hastings-on-Hudson 4 May.

**Magnolia Warbler:** Bashakill 27 Apr.

**Cape May Warbler:** no reports!

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** at suet feeder Piermont late Feb thru March (CW); arr 4 May.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr TLP 29 Apr.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr Hastings-on-Hudson 4 May.

**Pine Warbler:** arr Hook Mt 30 Mar.

**Prairie Warbler:** arr Sprain Ridge P 26 Apr.

**Palm Warbler:** 2 Horseshoe L SULL 30 Mar; Tamarack 3 Apr; 2 Bashakill 5 Apr.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr Doodletown 13 May.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr 7 May.

**Cerulean Warbler:** 4 Doodletown 3 May; 10 Doodletown 11 May (GD); 3 WBCMC 11 May; 2 Bashakill 16 May.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** early reports: Wappinger Falls 17 Apr; Black L 17 Apr; 2 Kakiat P 20 Apr; Rye 20 Apr.

**Am. Redstart:** arr TLP 29 Apr.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** Sprain Ridge P Yonkers 24 Apr (MB).

**Worm-eating Warbler:** 5 Teatown L Reservation 17 May.

**Ovenbird:** arr Rye 18 Apr; Sprain Ridge 27 Apr.

**N. Waterthrush:** arr MC 17 Apr.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr Katonah 5 Apr; 5 Kakiat P 20 Apr.

**Kentucky Warbler:** Teatown L Reservation 17 May (AB); Vassar Farms 22, 24, 30 May (PR, BM).

**Mourning Warbler:** RNC 14 May; 2 Bashakill 16, 17 May; Buttercup Sanctuary 19 May; MC 28 May.

**Com. Yellowthroat:** 2 Tarrytown 11 Mar, overwintered (LB); arr Millbrook 13 Apr;

Rye 18 Apr.

**Hooded Warbler:** 4 Doodletown 3 May;  
15 Doodletown 5, 11 May (GD).

**Wilson's Warbler:** arr 8 May.

**Canada Warbler:** arr 10 May.

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** Salt Pt 19 May  
(BMa).

#### **TANAGERS – WEAVERS**

**Scarlet Tanager:** Black L SULL 19 Apr  
(LD), early; Bashakill 3 May.

**Am. Tree Sparrow:** last 25 Apr.

**Chipping Sparrow:** Poughquag 1, 5 Mar  
(CPo). overwintered; Mt Kisco 18 Mar.

#### **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:**

Westbrookville ORAN 18 May (AMe);  
White L 19-20 Apr (LD).

**Field Sparrow:** arr 3 Apr.

**Vesper Sparrow:** Poughkeepsie 21 Apr  
(CV).

**Savannah Sparrow:** 20 MC 18 Mar; 2  
Vassar Farm 21 Apr.

**Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow:** MC 1  
May (TB); 2 MC 10 May.

**Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow:** arr  
MC 1 May (TB); 4 MC 30 May.

**Seaside Sparrow:** 1 MC 10 May; 2 MC  
30 May.

**Fox Sparrow:** WBCMC 11 May.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** Horseshoe L SULL  
24 Apr; Bashakill 6 May; Lenoir Nature  
Preserve 12 May; Teatown L Reservation  
17 May.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** 1-3 Red Hook  
4-22 May; Bashakill 6, 16 May;  
Doodletown 11 May.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** last wintering/migrant  
4 May.

**Lapland Longspur:** Poughkeepsie 2 Apr  
(CV).

**Snow Bunting:** 2 EGR 2 Mar (TB).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr Sprain  
Ridge P Yonkers 5 May.

**Indigo Bunting:** arr 3 May.

**Bobolink:** arr SGNWR 2 May; 13  
Warwick 15 May.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** 1000 Hook Mt  
30 Apr.

**E. Meadowlark:** arr SGNWR 14 Mar;  
Clove Valley thru Apr; Hook Mt 30 Apr.

#### **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD:**

Bashakill 10 Mar (RD ,LH).

**Rusty Blackbird:** 6 Kakiat P 14 Mar; 120  
Bashakill 16 Mar; 60 Buttercup Sanc 31  
Mar; 12 Poughkeepsie 2 Apr; 3 Buttercup  
Sanc 20 Apr; Bashakill 27 Apr.

**Com. Grackle:** 1000 Rye 18 Mar; 1000  
Hook Mt 30 Apr.

**Orchard Oriole:** 2 TLP 29 Apr; 4  
Woodlands L Ardsley 4 May; few  
Bashakill 6 May; Bronx Ri Yonkers 10  
May; 3 Iona I 11 May; 6 DUTC 11 May.

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr Hilldale Rd SULL  
25 Apr; several Sprain Ridge 27 Apr.

**Purple Finch:** 4 Hook Mt 30 Apr; 2 NSW  
7 Apr.

**White-winged Crossbill:** Horseshoe L  
SULL 15 Mar (KC).

**Com. Redpoll:** 40 Bashakill 7 Mar (JH);  
Verbank 7-31 Mar (BB); 61 Ellenville 18  
Mar (PM).

**Pine Siskin:** few at feeder Mt Kisco 1-18  
Mar; 2 Verbank 29 Mar, 3-7Apr; 17  
Hilldale Rd SULL 12 Mar; 42 Horseshoe  
L early Apr; 2 Mt Kisco 21 Apr; Pound  
Ridge 27 Apr; 6 Poughquag 2 May; 3  
Irvington 3-12 May; 4 Salt Pt 4 May; 2 Mt  
Kisco 4 May; 2 DUTC 11 May.

**Evening Grosbeak:** 64 Liberty 1 Mar; 48  
Claryville early Mar; 68 Horseshoe L  
early Apr; 2 Salt Pt DUTC 18 Apr (BM).

#### **ADDENDUM**

**N. Parula:** at feeder Ellenville 5-9 Jan  
(PB, RD, FH, PD).