

REGION 9 – HUDSON-DELAWARE

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The summer season was much warmer than normal, despite Poughkeepsie never reaching 100°F. The city did have highs of 97° or higher for five summer days. Monthly average temperatures were well above normal. June came in 5.8° hotter, July 3.2° and August 4.9° degrees above the norm.

Rain was plentiful in June and the first part of July. The Region then went into a dry spell for the rest of the summer, which continued into the fall. June precipitation was 1-1.5" above normal. Poughkeepsie was dry in July, but White Plains was an inch wetter due to locally heavy thunderstorms that dumped 2.6" of rain on 18 July, causing severe local flooding. August was very dry, with only 2" of precipitation, half that of normal, for both cities.

Highlights of the season were a **MANX SHEARWATER** found by Tom Burke off Milton Point in Rye on 15 June, along with 15 **WILSON'S STORM-PETRELS**. A Northern Gannet was also observed that day. This is the third year in a row in which a Manx Shearwater has appeared in this part of Long Island Sound and the fourth Westchester County report. In 2003 one was found 26 May and the next year on 7 August. It is the second report for Wilson's Storm-Petrel, with the previous one in the Hudson River off Irvington in 1933. The shearwater and gannet made it as count week birds for the Greenwich- Stamford (CT) Summer Bird Count, which partially falls into Westchester County and which was held on 11 and 12 June. Three storm-petrels were reported on the count, but they were found off Greenwich, not in NY waters. Interestingly, a Manx Shearwater was also found off Greenwich prior to the count on 5 June. An out-of-season

White-winged Scoter was off Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary in Rye 7 August. Sullivan County has never been known for its shorebirds, but low water at Swinging Bridge Reservoir exposed mudflats and changed that this season. The reservoir is located on the Mongaup River, upstream of its confluence with the Delaware River, in Forestburgh. It drew in shorebirds, and constant monitoring by John Haas resulted in three county records. Firsts for Sullivan County included a Sanderling on 28 August, then a Stilt Sandpiper and four Buff-breasted Sandpipers on the 29th. Impressive numbers of other shorebirds were found. Fifty Killdeer, 105 Lesser Yellowlegs, 150 Least Sandpiper, 6 Pectoral Sandpipers and 8 Short-billed Dowitchers were all at the reservoir on 28 August. To round off the list, an American Golden-Plover and Baird's Sandpiper also appeared at this location. An additional Stilt Sandpiper was found at Morningside Park on 31 August. In all, 18 species of shorebirds were recorded.

A Willet was found in Yonkers on 4 July along the Hudson River on a county-built demonstration tidal marsh at the Beczak Environmental Education Center. This is a first report for the city. Another Willet was at the Edith G. Read Preserve on 26 July. Bonaparte's Gulls were found off Rye on 16 June and at Neversink Reservoir on 4 August.

Inland, a Common Tern visited Neversink Reservoir on 1 June and two Caspian Terns were at Piermont Pier 21 August. In the sound, Forster's Terns appeared in June and August and two Black Terns were off Rye 15 June.

A Northern Parula was found feeding young in Narrowsburg 22 June. This is the first confirmed breeding for Sullivan County. A Northern Parula was also found at Denning Point 3 August. Red Hook Farm in Dutchess County produced both Vesper and Grasshopper sparrows from the beginning of June into July.

Other notable species included: White-rumped Sandpiper, Red-Headed Woodpecker, Kentucky Warbler and Evening Grosbeak.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Point P; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; MRG – Mianus Ri Gorge; PNR – Pawling Nature Preserve; RNC – Rye Nature Center.

WHISTLING-DUCKS — VULTURES

Snow Goose: Wurtsboro 1-23 Jun (AB).

Blue-winged Teal: 3 Swinging Bridge Res 25 Aug.

White-winged Scoter: EGR 7 Aug (TB).

Hooded Merganser: f & 5 y

Poughkeepsie 25 Jun; 5 Nuclear L

Pawling 7 Jul.

Com. Merganser: 16 y Callicoon Center 2 Jun; ad w 15 y Beaverkill 28 Jun; L Carvel Pine Plains 13 Jul.

Com. Loon: MC 2 Jun; EGR 7 Jun; Rye 15 Jun.

Pied-billed Grebe: swamp Rt 99 & Sherwood Rd 23 Jun; L Carvel Pine Plains 13 Jul.

MANX SHEARWATER: Rye 15 Jun (TB).

WILSON'S STORM-PETREL: 15 Rye 16 Jun (TB); 5 EGR 16 Jun (TB,AG).

N. Gannet: MC 15 Jun; 2 EGR 17 Jun.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Rye 15 Jun.

Black Vulture: several Beacon Landing 14 Jun; 1 Stormville 31 Jul.

HAWKS—ALCIDS

Bald Eagle: Rhinebeck 16 Jun; fledged from nest s DUTC16 Jun; ad Gidley Rd 6 Jul; imm Bowdoin Pk 12 Jul; ad, imm Tivoli South Bay 22 Jul; 2 Norrie Pt 27 Jul; 2 Poughkeepsie 2 Aug; imm New Hamburg 2 Aug; ad Crugers 1 5 Aug; Tivoli Bay 20 Aug.

N. Harrier: m Monticello Airport 18 Jun.

Clapper Rail: MC 2, 9 Jun, 26 Jul; 2 MC 22 Aug.

Sora: swamp Rt 99 and Sherwood Rd 15 Jul; MC 22 Aug.

Black-bellied Plover: 3 MC 6, 8, 14 Aug; 10 MC 23 Aug.

Am. Golden-Plover: Swinging Bridge Res 31 Aug; Morningside P 31 Aug.

Semipalmated Plover: 9 MC 5 Jun; 3 Bronx Ri 7 Aug; 16 MC 8 Aug; 25 Swinging Bridge Res 14, 20 Aug.

Killdeer: 16 Bronx Ri 7 Aug; 50 Swinging Bridge Res 28 Aug.

Am. Oystercatcher: MC 1 Jun;

2 Rye 15 Jun; 2 EGR 5 Jul; 2 MC

25 Jul; 9 EGR 26 Jul; 7 MC 5, 8 Aug; 4 EGR 5 Aug.

Greater Yellowlegs: 70 L Tappan 28 Aug.

Lesser Yellowlegs: 105 Swinging Bridge Res 28 Aug.

Solitary Sandpiper: Ten Mile Ri Wassaic 20 Jul; 5 Bronx Ri 7 Aug.

Willet: MC 6 Jun; Yonkers 4 Jul; EGR 26 Jul.

Spotted Sandpiper: Van Wagner Rd 6 Jun; 4 Bronx Ri 7 Aug; 18 Haverstraw Bay P 24 Aug.

Ruddy Turnstone: 4 Rye 16 Jun; EGR 26 Jul; 2 EGR 7 Aug; 60 Rye 24 Aug; Piermont Pier 28 Aug.

Sanderling: Swinging Bridge Res 28, 31 Aug (JHa, AB, RD, VF), 1st SULL report; 2 Piermont Pier 28 Aug.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 450 MC 25 Jul; 61 Bronx Ri 7 Aug; 700 MC 5 Aug (TB).

Western Sandpiper: MC 8 Aug; 3 MC 22 Aug; MC 23 Aug.

Least Sandpiper: 21 Bronx Ri 7 Aug; 150 Swinging Bridge Res 16, 28 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: MC 6 Jun; MC 5 Aug.

Baird's Sandpiper: 2 Swinging Bridge Res 15-28 Aug (JHa).

Pectoral Sandpiper: 7 East Fishkill 14 Aug; 9 Swinging Bridge Res 16 Aug; 6 Swinging Bridge Res 28 Aug.

Stilt Sandpiper: Goshen 24 Aug; Swinging Bridge Res 29 Aug, 1st SULL report (JHa); Morningside P 31 Aug.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Pine Island 24 Aug (JHa); 3-4 Swinging Bridge Res 29-30 Aug (JHa, AB, RD), 1st SULL report.

Short-billed Dowitcher: 2 MC 25 Jul; 3 MC 8 Aug; 8 Swinging Bridge Res 28 Aug.

Bonaparte's Gull: Rye 16 Jun; Neversink Res 4 Aug (RD).

Caspian Tern: 2 Piermont Pier 21 Aug.

Com. Tern: Neversink Res 1 Jun; 160 Rye 7 Aug.
Forster's Tern: MC 2 Jun; EGR 22 Jun; 2 Rye 14 Aug; EGR 15 Aug.
Black Tern: 2-3 Rye 15 Jun (TB).

PIGEONS — WOODPECKERS

Com. Nighthawk: 80 Stony Pt 20 Aug; 32 Youngsville 20 Aug; 33 Stony Pt 21 Aug; 24 MC 22 Aug; 20 Mt Vernon 22 Aug.
Whip-poor-will: Hyde Park 13-14 Jun; Clinton Corners 20 Jun.
Red-headed Woodpecker: Hastings-on-Hudson 28 Jun.

FLYCATCHERS — WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Claryville 7 Jun.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: RNC 1 Jun.
Acadian Flycatcher: PNR 5 Jun; 2 MRG 12 Jun; 4 locations SULL Jun; Amenia 13 Jul; Hardenburgh 23 Jul.
Alder Flycatcher: Nellie Hill Preserve 1 Jun; Amenia 8 Jun; MC 9 Jun.
Blue-headed Vireo: Pine Plains 16 Jun; 12 Amenia 16 Jul.
Horned Lark: 2 Red Hook 16 Jun; sev Red Hook 21 Jun; 12, 2 y Red Hook 2 Jul.
Purple Martin: 8 EGR 7 Jun.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: 20 Thompson Pd 31 Aug.
Bank Swallow: 7 gravel pit Rt 199 & Mt Ross Rd 23 Jun; Union Vale 19 Aug.
Cliff Swallow: 30 Cross River Res 19 Jun.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: arr migrants southern part of Reg 23 Aug.
Winter Wren: 2 ad feeding 2 y MC 14 Jun.
Marsh Wren: 8 MC 6 Jun; 5 MC 25 Jul; 5 MC 6 Aug; 8 MC 12 Aug.
Swainson's Thrush: Shandaken 11 Jun; Hardenburgh 23 Jul.
Hermit Thrush: Amenia 13 Jul.
Cedar Waxwing: 55 Swan L 29 Jul.

WARBLERS

Golden-winged Warbler: Nellie Hill Preserve 1 Jun; 1-3 Summitville thru Jun; Grooville 30 Jun.
"Brewster's Warbler": 2 Tivoli Bays WMA 2 Jun (BB,C&KF,TM).
Nashville Warbler: Shandaken 10 Jul; 3 Tusten 12 Aug; Wethersfield 17 Aug.
N. Parula: ad feeding y Narrowsburg 22 Jun (RD,VF, MG), 1st confirmed breeding SULL; Denning Point 3 Aug.
Magnolia Warbler: Tivoli Bays WMA 2 Jun; 2 Nellie Hill Preserve 1 Jun; Shandaken 10 Jul ; Amenia 16 Jul; Hardenburgh 23 Jul.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: 2 PNR 5 Jun; Locust Grove 10 Aug.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 2 Pine Plains 23 Jun.
Black-throated Green Warbler: 6 MRG 12 Jun.
Blackburnian Warbler: Pine Plains 23 Jun; 3 PNR 5 Jun; Amenia 13 Jul; RNC 17 Aug; Poughquag 20 Aug.
Blackpoll Warbler: MC 6 Jun; PNR 5 Jun; Shandaken 11 Jun.
Worm-eating Warbler: 7 MRG 12 Jun.
Ovenbird: 18 Pound Ridge Reservation 11 Jun; 10 MRG 12 Jun.
Louisiana Waterthrush: 9 Pound Ridge Reservation 11 Jun; 9 MRG 12 Jun.
Kentucky Warbler: Wolf Brook MUA 20 Aug (SB,MD).
Mourning Warbler: Hornbeck's Basin Wurtsboro 1 Jun; MC 2 Jun; singing Callicoon Center 2-13 Jun (RD); Amenia 8 Jun; Cape Pond 6 Aug.
Hooded Warbler: 2 Nellie Hill Preserve 1 Jun; 3 PNR 5 Jun; Neversink Unique Area 11, 16 Jun; 2 Union Vale 29 Jun; Nellie Hill Preserve 4 Jul; Cary Arboretum Pleasant Valley 9 Jul.
Wilson's Warbler: MC 23 Aug.
Canada Warbler: MC 1 Jun; Callicoon Center 2 Jun; 3 L Paradise 15 Jun; Woodridge 19 Jun; 3 RNC 23 Aug; Cary Arboretum 24 Aug.

Yellow-breasted Chat: 2-3 Wurtsboro
1-28 Jun (JHa); 2 New Paltz 23 Jun.

TANAGERS — WEAVERS

Vesper Sparrow: 3 Red Hook Farm
1-30 Jun (BB, KCF, A&BM, BCa);
3, 1yg Red Hook 2 Jul (BB, A&BM).

Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 Red Hook
Farm 1-30 Jun (mob); 6 Red Hook
2 Jul (BB, A&BM).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow: MC 6,
9, 12 Jun.

Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow:
2 MC 6 Jun, 25 Jul, 6, 29 Aug.

Bobolink: 6 Rhinebeck 2 Aug;
5 Wethersfield 17 Aug; 6 Rhinebeck
20 Aug.

E. Meadowlark: LaGrangeville
6 Jul; 9 Rhinebeck 6 Jul; Millbrook
20 Jul; 14 Rhinebeck 2 Aug.

Orchard Oriole: 2 ad, 4 y MC
21 Jun.

Purple Finch: 2 Poughquag 27-28 Aug.

Pine Siskin: Cape Pond 11 Jun
(VF, MC); Roscoe 24 Jun (MG).

Evening Grosbeak: Claryville
26 Aug (JW).