

# Black Throated Blue Warbler

*Dendroica caerulescens*

## General Information:

-Easily identified by its deep blue-gray back, white under-parts, and white wing patch, this common migratory bird can be seen across eastern North America every spring and fall.

## Song:

-A breathy buzzy *zwee-zwee-zwee-zweeee*, that sounds like “I am lazy”.

## Behavior:

-Solitary or in pairs, this tame and trusting bird forages in low and middle level trees and underbrush. It sometimes hawks insects in flight. Its diet is made up primarily of insects and their larvae.



## Breeding:

-Monogamous and a solitary nester.

## Nesting:

-Incubation of 12-13 days by the female. The 1 brood per year of altricial young are brooded by the female, fed by both sexes, and stay in the nest for 11-12 days.

## Population:

-Common in deciduous and mixed coniferous forests with dense undergrowth, rhododendron thickets, and bogs.

## Conservation:

-A neo-tropical migrant that is vulnerable to habitat loss due to deforestation.

## Shoreline Restoration Issues:

-If you would like to create an environment friendly to the Black-throated Blue Warbler on your shoreland property you are going to have to concentrate your efforts on trees and shrubs. I would recommend a nice mix of deciduous and coniferous trees with heavy plantings of shade tolerant shrubs underneath. Some shrubs to consider are Black Chokeberry, New Jersey Tea, Meadowsweet, Steeplebush, Downy Arrowwood, Pagoda Dogwood, Red Osier Dogwood, Nannyberry, Juneberry, and Elderberry. On the lot lines I would concentrate your efforts on planting Hawthorn, Buttonbush, and ferns.