

# Blackburnian Warbler

*Dendroica fusca*

## General Information:

-Head and throat glowing like embers, the males are unmistakable. Juveniles and fall males are similar. It frequents coniferous or mixed deciduous-conifer forests in most of its breeding range; in the Appalachians, it is also found in lower drier forest of pine-oak-hickory.

## Song:

-This high-pitched ascending trill in 2-3 parts, ending with up-slurred note that some people cannot hear: *seep seep seep seep titi zeeeeee*.

## Behavior:

-Solitary on in pairs, it little warbler may joining mixed foraging flocks after breeding. Gleans prey from branches, twigs, and foliage in treetops. Sometimes catches insects in flight. Eats insects, caterpillars, and some berries.

## Breeding:

-Monogamous and a solitary nester.

## Nesting:

-Incubation 11-12 days by the female. The 1 brood per year of altricial young are brooded by the female, stay in the nest an estimated 9-12 days, and are fed by both sexes.



## Population:

-Fairly common in coniferous and mixed deciduous-coniferous forest; stable.

## Conservation:

-A neo-tropical migrant that is vulnerable to loss of habitat due to land clearing.

## Shoreline Restoration Issues:

-If you want to create an environment friendly to the Blackburnian Warbler on your shoreland property, there are many things that you can do. First, plant about ½ of the buffer zone with a mixture of deciduous and coniferous trees. Secondly, plant the other ½ of the buffer zone in berry producing shrubs. Along your filtered viewing corridor and access to the lake, plant wildflowers that will attract butterflies. Along the shoreline, plant heavily with flowering plants such as Blue Flag Iris, Sweet Flag, Marsh Marigold, and Swamp Rose, interspersed with some Sweet Gale, Ninebark, or June-berry. In the lakebed, I would concentrate on Lily Pads, Rushes, Sedges, White and Yellow Water Buttercup, Pickerel Weed, Water Smartweed, Sago Pondweed, Large-leaf Pondweed, and Elodea. This mix will give you all of the essentials for this, and many other birds and butterflies.