

# Yellow-throated Vireo

*Vireo flavifrons*

## General Information:

-The Yellow-throated Vireo is considered to be the most brilliantly colored of all the vireos, and this bird is most often observed in deciduous forests. Its characteristic song is a series of short phrases similar in pattern to several other vireos in its range but with long pauses between phrases and of a course quality.

## Song:

-A burry series of 2-note or sometimes 3-note phrases with hesitantly long pauses between them sounding like *three-EIGHT, three-EIGHT.....three EIGHT*.

## Behavior:

-Solitary or in pairs. In autumn migration may form mixed foraging flocks. Generally forages in treetops, eating mostly insects. Also eats some small fruits and berries. In courtship the male performs the nest-building display, singing and crouching before the female. He often begins several nests in his territory before pairing.



## Breeding:

-Monogamous and a solitary nester.

## Nesting:

-Incubation 14 days by both sexes. The 1 brood per year of altricial young stay in the nest of 14 days and are fed by both sexes.

## Population:

-Fairly common and stable overall but declining in the Northeast (particularly in areas with insecticide spraying of shade trees) and increasing in the upper Midwest.

## Conservation:

-A neo-tropical migrant that is a common brood parasite host for the Brown-headed Cowbird; sometimes builds a second floor to cover its own eggs as well as the eggs of the cowbird.

## Shoreline Restoration Issues:

-If you would like to create an environment friendly to the Yellow-throated Vireo on your shoreland property plant a wide array of deciduous trees with shade tolerant berry producing shrubs underneath, such as the Elderberry, Nannyberry, and June-berry. The planting of emergent aquatic vegetation is also encouraged, such as Yellow Water Buttercup, Lily Pads, 3-Way Sedge, Rushes, Water Shield, Sweet Flag, and Sago Pondweed.