

Hotline: Voice of the Naturalist  
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Coverage: MD/DC/N. VA/C. & S. DE/WV panhandle  
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This is the Voice of the Naturalist, a service of the Audubon Naturalist Society. This report covers the week starting Tuesday, April 3, and was completed on Tuesday, April 10 at about 9:00 a.m.

Information on noteworthy birds during this week is presented below in taxonomic order, as set forth in the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist for North and Middle American birds, as revised through the 57th Supplement (July 2016).

TOP BIRD THIS WEEK: BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER in MD

OTHER BIRDS OF INTEREST: RED-NECKED GREBE, BROAD-WINGED HAWK, SORA, SANDHILL CRANE, migrants, UPLAND SANDPIPER, SOLITARY SANDPIPER, EASTERN WHIP-POOR-WILL, WHITE-EYED VIREO, COMMON RAVEN, CLIFF SWALLOW

TOP BIRD

The BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER continued all week in Havre de Grace MD, Harford Co. It was most often seen around Lewis & Market Streets.

OTHER BIRDS OF INTEREST

A few late RED-NECKED GREBEs were seen, at widely separated locations: one April 3 at Fisherman's Inlet, just off the extreme southern tip of Eastern Shore VA (Northampton Co), another April 5 in Jefferson Co WV near the Shenandoah River

along WV115 (Bloomey Rd), and two April 7 at Indian River Inlet, Sussex Co DE.

Although BROAD-WINGED HAWKS apparently weren't seen from any of the hawk watches, 15 were reported April 6 over Alexandria VA, near Edsall Rd @ Yoakum Pkwy.

In addition to the early migrants reported below, migration of shorebirds and songbirds is starting pretty much on schedule.

Two early SORAs were reported on April 6. One was at Bombay Hook NWR (along the Saltmarsh Boardwalk Trail), Kent Co DE, and the other was seen April 6-9 at Swan Harbor Farm Park, Harford Co MD. One Sandhill Crane was spotted April 3, in Accomack Co VA at VA605 & VA647, near Locustville.

An early UPLAND SANDPIPER was seen April 7 near Swan Harbor in Harford Co MD. Four truly solitary SOLITARY SANDPIPERS were seen in MD: on April 3 in Baltimore Co at the Long Green Creek Wetland Restoration Site (Hydes; private), on April 7 in Prince George's Co at the Patuxent NWR S. Tract, on April 8 in Montgomery Co at Violette's Lock along the C&O Canal, the last April 9 in Prince George's Co at Schoolhouse Pond in Upper Marlboro.

An early WHIP-POOR-WILL was heard April 6 along Breckinridge Rd in Prince William Co VA.

A few single WHITE-EYED VIREOs seem to be starting to arrive a bit early. The first was reported April 5 at Scientists' Cliffs Gate E (Calvert Co MD). The next day one was reported in Pokomoke City MD (Worcester Co) around 5388-5396 Fleming Mill Rd. On April 7 one was at Prime Hook NWR, Sussex Co DE. In NW DC, another was spotted April 8 in Rock Creek Park along Beach Drive east of Kensington Pkwy. Finally, one WHITE-EYED VIREO was reported in the Julie J. Metz Wetlands Bank, Sussex Co DE.

COMMON RAVENS showed up in and just outside of Baltimore City. On April 3, two were seen in SW Baltimore near Carroll Park, and a single was reported April 8 at Cromwell Valley Park, Baltimore Co MD.

CLIFF SWALLOWS showed up a bit early also. On April 7 in Jefferson Co WV, a single was spotted over the Shenandoah River at WV115, and not far away in Frederick Co VA, up to 8 were reported on April 7 & 9 at Lake Holiday (restricted access). On April 8, one CLIFF SWALLOW was seen at Violette's Lock, and the

next day, two were reported in C.M. Crockett Park, Fauquier Co VA.

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This report was based on reports on the DE, MD, VA, and WV list servers via the ABA Internet links, and on eBird records.

The Audubon Sanctuary Shop (301-652-3606, <http://anshome.org/naturalist-shop>) is an excellent source for guidebooks and many other nature-related titles.

To report bird sightings, e-mail your report to [voice@anshome.org](mailto:voice@anshome.org). Please post reports before midnight Monday, identify the county as well as the state, and include your name and a Tuesday morning contact, either e-mail or phone.

Thank you for your interest, and enjoy the birds.

\*Of interest to the applicable records committee