

REGION 9 - HUDSON - DELAWARE

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The summer season was wet and warm. Over 6 inches of rain fell in June in White Plains and in Poughkeepsie. The normal is 3.7 inches. Poughkeepsie came in 1.6° warmer than normal. Heavy rain fell on 24 and 25 June and then again on the 28th – 29th, which put the Bashakill under water. John Haas reported that the masses of pickerel weed which once stood nearly 20 inches above the water level were submerged. July was very warm, with temperatures 1.5° to 3.3° higher than normal. The most notable weather event was an F2 Tornado on 12 July that ripped through central Westchester County starting on the Hudson River and ending in Greenwich, Connecticut. The tornado was born near the shore of Rockland County as a water spout, crossed the Hudson, then touched down in Sleepy Hollow, and crossed through Hawthorne and Mount Pleasant. Fortunately the Great Blue Heron nest on Tarrytown Reservoir was narrowly missed and spared. The herons successfully raised four young. A heat wave in mid July sent the high in Poughkeepsie to 98° on the 17th. This was followed by another warm spell starting on the 26th and ending with a brutal heat wave in the first three days of August. White Plains saw highs of 95°, 97°, and 96° while Poughkeepsie broiled with highs of 98°, 99° and 97°. The low for 2 August was an uncomfortable 80°. Relief came to Poughkeepsie 11 days later with the low on 13 August of only 46°. August was also wet, with 5-6 inches of rain through the area.

Anne and Paddy French found two dozen Northern Bobwhites under their bird feeder, in New City on 28 August. The origin of the birds is unknown.

A Horned Grebe made an unusual appearance in Morningside on 2 June.

I received no reports of Little Blue Heron, but Marshlands Conservancy did have a Tricolored Heron on 1 July. The county park also hosted two Glossy Ibis in mid June.

Small kettles of Broad-winged Hawk were moving by 13 August.

Shorebirds first arrived in very small numbers at the Swinging Bridge Reservoir on 14 July. Numbers fluctuated, with nothing too notable for July. A Sanderling appeared on 4 August for Sullivan County's 3rd record. Two

White-rumped Sandpipers were seen on and off from 12 to 23 August. Then on 14 August John Haas doing his daily census noticed shorebird numbers were up. After an hour of searching he located a juvenile **RED-NECKED PHALAROPE**, a new Sullivan County record. After a few photographs were taken and phone calls were made, Lance Verderame and Renee Davis arrived. When they returned to the spot, there were two Red-necked Phalaropes! One was still there the next day. Other highlights near the end of August included an American Golden-Plover, one to three Baird's Sandpipers, a Stilt Sandpiper, and a Wilson's Phalarope on 23 August. Marshlands Conservancy also hosted a Wilson's Phalarope. There was also a Baird's Sandpiper on the adjacent golf course in August.

Tom Burke had a pair of Forster's Terns tending to two juvenile birds off Marshlands Conservancy in late July. Eight Forster's Terns were at Piermont Pier 3 August.

Dutchess County did well on warblers this summer, with both "Brewster's" and "Lawrence's" Warblers reported as well as a Kentucky Warbler in Pawling.

Valerie Freer had a Pine Siskin at a feeder in Cape Pond in June.

CONTRIBUTORS

John Askildsen, Linda Atkins, Paula & Scott Baldinger, Billie Bartosik, Gail Benson, Ardith Bondi, Arlene Borko, Tom Burke, Binnie Chase, Mary Collier, Bill Croissant, Renee Davis, Alice Deutsch, Tom Fiore, Valerie Freer, Anne & Paddy French, Dick Gerson, Arie Gilbert, Sibyll Gilbert, John Haas, Rodney Johnson, Veronika Krause, Evan Mark, Barbara and Allan Michelin, Bob Shriber, Lance Verderame, Bill Wallace, Sally Weiner, Carol Weiss.

ABBREVIATIONS

EGR-Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; MC - Marshlands Conservancy; SBR - Swing Bridge Reservoir, SULL.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Wood Duck: 20 Bashakill 19 Jun; 33 East Fishkill 20 Aug.

Blue-winged Teal: MC 29 Aug.

Long-tailed Duck: MC 1 Jul (TB), unusual in mid summer.

Ring-necked Pheasant: Bashakill 9 Jul.

N. Bobwhite: Wappinger 1 Jun; 5 Pawling 17 Jun; 24 New City 28 Aug (A&PF), origins unknown.

Com. Loon: EGR 1 Jun.

Pied-billed Grebe: 2 Bashakill 27 Jun.

Horned Grebe: Morningside 2 Jun (VF,MC).

Least Bittern: Bashakill 13,14 Jul.

Great Blue Heron: successfully bred in Westchester for 1st time (EM), *intro*.

Great Egret: 7 SBR 25 Jul; 8 SBR 18 Aug; 12 MC 29 Aug.

Snowy Egret: 2 Strever's Pond DUTC 28 Jul (DG).

Tricolored Heron: MC 1 Jul (TB).

Glossy Ibis: 2 MC 13 Jun (TB).

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: 8 MC 1 Jul.
Broad-winged Hawk: small kettles moving by 13 Aug.
Merlin: Brewster 18 Jun (JA).
Clapper Rail: 4 MC Jun 6.
Virginia Rail: 4 Bashakill 19 Jun.
Sora: Union Vale 29-30 Jun (BCh).
Com. Moorhen: 12 Bashakill 27 Jun.
Black-bellied Plover: 9 SBR 3 Jun; 5 MC 12, 14 Aug.
Am. Golden-Plover: SBR 23, 25-29 Aug
Semipalmated Plover: MC 7 Jun; 2 SBR
21 July, 4 Aug; 9 SBR 8 Aug; 60 MC 12 Aug; 16 SBR 19 Aug.
Killdeer: 30 SBR 21 July; 35 SBR 4, 8 Aug; 25 SBR 19 Aug.
Am. Oystercatcher: 10 Rye 8 Jun.
Greater Yellowlegs: 3 SBR 4 Aug; 7 SBR 23 Aug; 12 MC 29 Aug.
Lesser Yellowlegs: 2 SBR 21 July; 8 SBR 14, 16 Aug.
Solitary Sandpiper: 17 SBR 4 Aug; 23 SBR 8 Aug.
Willet: EGR 21 Jun.
Spotted Sandpiper: 10 SBR 21 July, 15 Aug.
Ruddy Turnstone: 3 Rye 11 Jun.
Sanderling: SBR 4 Aug, 3rd SULL record.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 2 SBR 21 July; 85 MC 24 Jul; 30 SBR 23 Aug.
Least Sandpiper: 45 SBR 21 July; 57 SBR 4 Aug; 150 SBR 8 Aug; 180 SBR 12 Aug; 250 SBR 14 Aug; 350 SBR 16 Aug; 250 SBR 19 Aug.
White-rumped Sandpiper: Rye 11 Jun; 2 SBR 12-17 Aug; SBR 18, 19, 23 Aug.
Baird's Sandpiper: Rye Country Club 23-25 Aug (TB); 1-3 SBR 27-29 Aug (LV,JH).
Pectoral Sandpiper: 5 SBR 21 July; 5 SBR 8 Aug; 7 SBR 12,14 Aug; 10 SBR 16 Aug.
Stilt Sandpiper: SBR 24 Aug (JH).
Short-billed Dowitcher: 3 Rye 11 Jun; SBR 6 Jun, 20 July; 4 MC 21 Jun; 2 SBR 21-24 Aug.
Red-necked Phalarope: 2 SBR 14 Aug,

1 on the 15th, first record for SULL (JH,RD,LV).
Wilson's Phalarope: MC 20 Aug (TB, GB, BS); SBR 23 Aug (JH,RD,VF,MC).
Laughing Gull: 12 EGR 5 Jun.
Com. Tern: 80 Rye 8 Jun; 80 MC 1 Jul.
Forster's Tern: 2 ad tending to 2 juv MC 24 Jul, 1 Aug; 8 Piermont Pier 3 Aug (CW).
Least Tern: 3 MC 1 Jul.
Black Skimmer: Rye 8 Jun.

DOVES - WOODPECKERS

No noteworthy records.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Bashakill 3 Jun; Doodletown 9 Jun; MC 21, 22 Aug.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: MC 22 Aug.
Acadian Flycatcher: 2 Neversink Res UA 17 Jun, 3 Jul; 2 Pawling Nature Preserve 18 Jun (SG); 2 LaGrange 5 Jul; 2 Amenia 12 Jul.
Alder Flycatcher: Ward Pound Ridge 12 Jun; Willowemoc 14 Jun; 5 Fir Brook, Willowemoc 30 Jul.
Horned Lark: 5 Red Hook 8 Jul.
Bank Swallow: 12 MC 5 Aug.
Cliff Swallow: 30 Cross River Res 18 Jun.
Marsh Wren: 8 MC 9 Jun, 3 Aug.
Bicknell's Thrush: Slide Mt 1 Jul (AG).

WARBLERS

"Brewster's" Warbler: 2 Union Vale 14 Jun (Waterman bird trip).
"Lawrence's" Warbler: Norrie Point 26 Jul (Waterman bird trip)
Blackburnian Warbler: 3 Fir Brook, Willowemoc 14 Jun.
Prairie Warbler: 10 Wolf Brook MUA 17 Jun, 1 Jul.
N. Waterthrush: 10 Pawling 17 Jun.
Kentucky Warbler: Pawling 18 Jun (SG).
Mourning Warbler: MC 17 Aug.
Hooded Warbler: Wolf Brook Unique Area 17 Jun.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Vesper Sparrow: 5 Red Hook 8 Jul.
Grasshopper Sparrow: 10 Red Hook
8 Jul.
Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow:
2 MC 1, 9 Jun.
White-throated Sparrow: Pawling
17 Jun; Rhinebeck 24 Jun.
Bobolink: 24 Pawling 17 Jun.
E. Meadowlark: 6 Pawling 17-18 Jun.

Purple Finch: Pound Ridge 10 Jun.
Pine Siskin: Cape Pond 10 Jun (VF).
House Sparrow: albino Ellenville
23 Aug (BBa).

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