

Facts at a Glance

TYPE OF ANIMAL

Avian/Bird

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Turdus migratorius

FOUND WHERE

Almost all of North America

HEIGHT/LENGTH

9 - 11 in. (23 - 28 cm)

WEIGHT

Averages 75 - 77 g

CONSERVATION STATUS

Least Concern



The warbling calls of the robin are often the first bird sounds heard on an early spring morning. A small to medium-sized songbird, the males are only slightly larger than the females. Robins are a common but beautiful sight, covered in a dark blackish-brown plumage with a characteristic autumnal, amber chest. Robins have a distinct white crescent marking above their eyes, and white streaking on their throats, lower bellies, and undertails. Their rich yellow beaks stand in contrast to their dark, almost black, head.

HABITAT

American robins are one of the most commonly known and widespread North American birds. They are native to Nearctic zones and prefer woodlands, forests, fields, and even lawns or yards with plentiful trees or shrubs. Dense shrubs, small trees, and other dense foliage are required for nest building. They are fairly common around urban environments and humans. A lack of robins could pose environmental concerns in that area.

DIET

The classic saying “the early bird gets the worm” often evokes the image of a robin. These birds are omnivores and somewhat flexible eaters. Robins will eat a variety of small fruits, berries, earthworms, spiders, snails, and insects - such as beetles, grubs, and grasshoppers. They will feed heavily on fruit, especially in winter.

LIFE & BEHAVIOUR

American robins are fairly social birds, often gathering in a large flock and concentrating at sources of plentiful food, with the exception of summer months when they are slightly more territorial. These birds generally breed in the spring, typically from April through July. Males and females will form a pair and stay in that couple during the breeding season, raising young together. Females will lay and incubate about 3 to 5 eggs that the pair will watch over for two or more weeks until young robins are capable of sustained flight.

ATTRACTING BIRDS

Unlike other birds that prefer nesting cavities, robins are what's known as “platform nesters”. They prefer to nest on more open platforms, all that is needed is rain protection. Open nests more reminiscent of a window or shadowbox are more likely to attract these birds.