

## chestnut-sided warbler *Setophaga pensylvanica*

Kingdom: Animalia

Division/Phylum: Chordata

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Parulidae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

### FEATURES

A yellow crown and chestnut side feathers are identifying features for the male of this species in its breeding plumage. The female has similar coloration, but the chestnut is lighter and less prominent. In the nonbreeding condition, the birds are green above, white below, have a white eye ring, pale yellow wing bars and some chestnut coloration on the sides. This species is about five inches in length.

### BEHAVIORS

The chestnut-sided warbler is a common migrant statewide and a rare to locally uncommon summer resident in the state. It winters in Mexico and Central America. In Illinois, this species can be found in shrubby areas in old pastures, roadsides, fence rows and woods. The nest is constructed one to four feet above ground in a shrub and usually contains four eggs. Spring migrants begin arriving in Illinois in late April. Fall migration starts in August. It eats mainly insects, although fruits may become part of the diet in fall and winter.

### HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests; coniferous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

edge

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