

CANADA WARBLER

Cardellina canadensis

SARA STATUS: THREATENED

IDENTIFICATION TIPS:

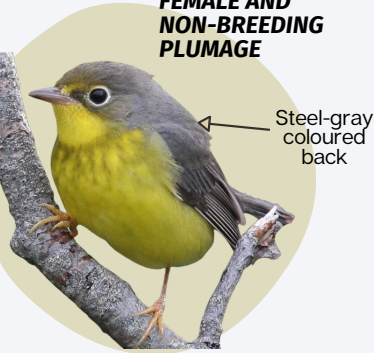
Females have more muted colouring than males.
Juveniles are more muted than females

Weight: 9-13g

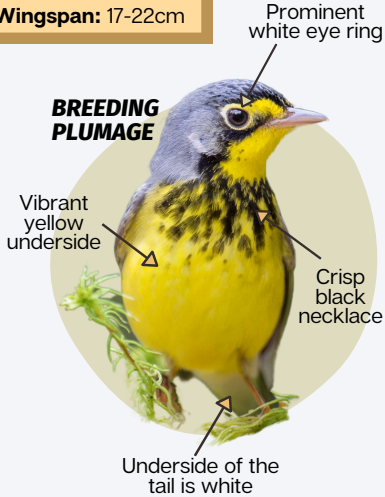
Length: 12-15cm

Wingspan: 17-22cm

FEMALE AND NON-BREEDING PLUMAGE



BREEDING PLUMAGE



Call is a **single sharp chip** note followed by a **series of jumbled** warbled notes

HABITAT

Canada warblers occupy wet forest types that tend to have a well-developed shrub layer. Dead standing trees (i.e. snags) act as song perches and are a key habitat feature for the species. Canada warblers use areas with more coniferous and mixed forest in the surrounding landscape, and areas further away from agricultural development.



Research confirms that forested wetlands are hotspots for avian species of conservation concern (such as the Canada warbler), and yet, despite their ecological value, these areas are at risk. Due to their dominant canopies, they are often mistaken for forests and not wetlands, and are therefore often left vulnerable to land development.



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NEST AND EGGS

Arriving in late May, females build the **nest on or very close to the ground** in dense cover. The female lays 2-6 eggs, and incubates them for about 12 days. The chicks take only 8 days to fledge, after which they remain **dependent** on their **parents for 2-3 weeks**.



THREATS

Threats to the Canada warbler are numerous, complex, and occur on their breeding and wintering grounds, and migration routes.

- **Loss of habitat** as a result of increased forest harvesting and silviculture, residential and commercial development.
- **A change in food supply** due to exposure to pesticides, invasive species, climate change and environmental contaminants.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Limit forest management activities during critical periods (May-August) when Canada warbler and other forest birds are nesting and rearing young.
- Refrain from disturbing or altering understory shrubs.
- Leave snags and dead trees where they stand.
- Avoid the use of insecticides whenever possible.
- Plant trees, shrubs and flowers that are native to PEI. Non-native plants can threaten ecosystems (such as wetlands, forests, and riparian zones) by outcompeting native plants, and do not provide the same habitat benefits as native vegetation.
- Help to maintain healthy buffer zones by following regulations regarding wetland buffer zone width.
- Report any sightings of Canada warbler using [iNaturalist.org](https://www.inaturalist.org) or to Julie-Lynn Zahavich using the contact information below!

Julie-Lynn Zahavich

Environment, Energy and Climate Action

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This project was undertaken with the financial support of:
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

