

Fall Warblers

Scott Albaugh



From Melodious Jewels to Silent
Green Enigmas that Never Sit Still

What's the Big Deal?

- They don't look the way they did in May!
- They're not singing!
- What's with these juveniles?
- They're the same color as the leaves!
- They don't sit still!
- My neck hurts from looking up!
- Arrghh!

CONFUSING FALL WARBLERS	
Most of these have streaks or wing bars.	
BLUE-CROWNED KINGLET <i>Tijonia cristolatus</i>	p. 315
(Not a warbler) Irides grey-brown; head dark; wing bar.	
CHRISTMAS ISLAND WARBLER <i>Dendroica parvirostris</i>	p. 336
Immature: Yellow-green above, whitish below; eye-ring.	
GRAY-BREASTED WARBLER <i>Dendroica castanea</i>	p. 336
Note dark legs, buff underbelly coverts. Fall adults may retain a wash of buff on flanks. See Blackpoll Warbler.	
BLACKPOLL WARBLER <i>Dendroica striata</i>	p. 332
Very similar to full-fledged adult, but different: (1) has (1) a greater eye-ring and (2) streaked (gray-brown) underbelly, streaks indistinct or lacking; (3) white (not buff) underbelly coverts; (4) pale yellowish legs (they have two dark legs, but do not show blackish).	
PIKE WARBLER <i>Dendroica pinus</i>	p. 338
Separate from the preceding. The underbelly buff, note white underbelly coverts (in fall-brown, buff, black legs (in Blackpoll, pale). Some immatures are very gray or brown.	
NORTHERN PARULA WARBLER <i>Parula americana</i>	p. 330
Immature: Combination of bluish and yellow; wing bars.	
MAGNOLIA WARBLER <i>Dendroica magnolia</i>	p. 334
Immature: White band at midtail.	
FRANK WARBLER <i>Dendroica striata</i>	p. 338
Immature: Jaw stripe, side stripes. Dots tail.	
YELLOW WARBLER <i>Dendroica palmarum</i>	p. 338
Yellow tail spots. Some females and immatures are so dusky that they may resemble Orange-crown (pp. 340, 341).	
BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER <i>Dendroica fusca</i>	p. 336
Immature: Yellow breast, dark cheek, pale back stripes.	
BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER <i>Dendroica cerisea</i>	p. 330
Immature: Dusky streaks below yellow streak.	
PALM WARBLER <i>Dendroica palmarum</i>	p. 338
Immature: buff, yellowish underbelly coverts. Dots tail.	
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER <i>Dendroica coronata</i>	p. 334
Immature: Bright yellow wing.	
CARE WAY WARBLER <i>Dendroica agrippa</i>	p. 336
Dusky breast, yellowish wing. Note the pale neck spot (some times absent in young birds).	



It's Really Not That Bad

- Only a few species look drastically different in fall as compared to what they look like in spring.
- You can use chip notes and activity to help locate the birds.
- Neck exercises help prevent “warbler neck.”

Break It Down!

- Three groups...
 1. Those that **look the same** in fall as they do in spring.
 2. Those that retain some of the important field marks and therefore look only **slightly different**.
 3. Those that look **totally different**.

When to Look for Fall Warblers

- Many of our nesting warblers begin to leave in late July and August.
- Northern arrivals as early as mid-August
- Late migrants depart mid to late October

Warblers That Look the Same

- **15 SPECIES**
- Ovenbird
- Louisiana Waterthrush
- Northern Waterthrush
- Worm-eating Warbler
- Yellow-breasted Chat
- Yellow-throated Warbler
- Black-and-white Warbler
- Black-throated Blue Warbler
- American Redstart
- Yellow Warbler
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Canada Warbler
- Blue-winged Warbler
- Hooded Warbler
- Kentucky Warbler

Beware the Tricksters...



Warblers That Look Slightly Different

- **16 SPECIES**
- Black-throated Green Warbler
- Blackburnian Warbler
- Mourning Warbler
- Connecticut Warbler
- Golden-winged Warbler
- Nashville Warbler
- Common Yellowthroat
- Northern Parula
- Wilson's Warbler
- Pine Warbler
- Palm Warbler
- Prairie Warbler
- Tennessee Warbler
- Orange-crowned Warbler
- Cape May Warbler
- Cerulean Warbler

Black-throated Green Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Mid September through early October



Blackburnian Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late August through September



Mourning Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late August through mid September



Mourning Warbler, first fall (6th documented fall CO record)
Barr Lake Banding Station, Adams County, Colorado
25 September 2001
photos: Christopher L. Wood, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
www.rmbo.org

Nashville Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - All of September and early October



Connecticut Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late August through September



Golden-winged Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late August to mid September



Common Yellowthroat

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late August through early October



Northern Parula

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late August through September

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©Peter G. May

Wilson's Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Early to mid September



Pine Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late August through mid October



Palm Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Mid September through early October



Prairie Warbler

- Leaves our area by late August through September



Tennessee Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late August through September



Orange-crowned Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late September through late October



Cape May Warbler

- Peak period of passage
 - All of September



©Harold Stiver



First Fall Cape May Warbler (*D. tigrina*)
Montrose Meadow 9/15/09 7:47am KLI

Cerulean Warbler

- Rarely detected after breeding season



Warblers That Look Very Different in the Fall

- **ONLY 5 SPECIES!**
- Chestnut-sided Warbler
- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- Magnolia Warbler
- Bay-breasted Warbler
- Blackpoll Warbler

Chestnut-sided Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late August through September



First Spring Female



First Fall Male



First Fall Female



BIRDS
Photo



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Yellow-rumped Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Mid September through October



Winter Birds



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Winter Birds



Magnolia Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Late August through September



Magnolia Warbler



Bay-breasted Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - Early to mid September



Fall Birds



Blackpoll Warbler

- Peak period of passage:
 - September through early October



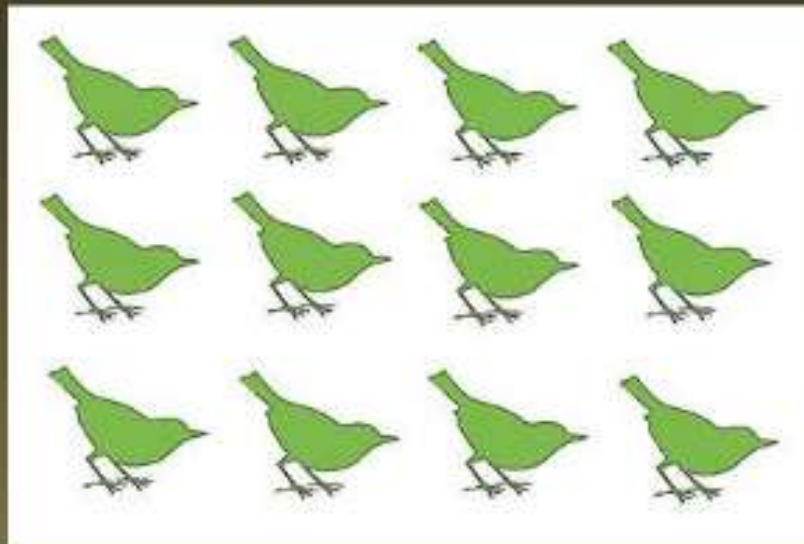
Fall Birds





Thanks For Coming!

- QUESTIONS?



CONFUSING FALL WARBLERS .