

## white-eyed vireo *Vireo griseus*

Kingdom: Animalia

Division/Phylum: Chordata

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Vireonidae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

### FEATURES

The white-eyed vireo is five inches long (tail tip to bill tip in preserved specimen). The yellow coloration at the top of the bill continues to form a ring around each eye. The throat feathers are white, and there are two, white wing bars. Yellow feathers are present on the sides of the belly. The eye is white in the adult and dark in immature white-eyed vireos.

### BEHAVIORS

Spring migrants begin arriving in Illinois in early April. Their nest is built in a cup shape and placed in a fork in a tree branch close to the ground. A typical clutch has four eggs. Nests are often parasitized by the brown-headed cowbird. The white-eyed vireo overwinters from the Gulf Coast states south to Central America and some of the Caribbean islands. It eats insects and fruits.

### HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests

Woodland Habitat

bottomland forests; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

edge

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