

# Migration



Spring and Fall are seasons of change, and for many species one of those changes is migration. Migration is the seasonal movement of a population of animals from one area to another. Many fall migrants are also spring migrants, but migration has numerous patterns and varies by species. It may occur as a response to changes in temperature, food supply or the amount of daylight but can be accomplished for reproductive purposes, too. Mammals, birds, fishes and insects are groups of animals in Illinois that include migrant species.

More than one-third of the world's birds migrate. Birds migrate during the day or night. Daytime, or diurnal, migrators are generally large (geese) or are predators (hawks). These birds navigate by sight and have few, if any, predators. Songbirds migrate in darkness (nocturnal). Their daylight hours are spent searching for food and resting for the next leg of their trip. Some birds are short-distance migrants. Birds that live in one type of habitat during the nesting season may not require the same habitat when they are in their winter habitat.

Illinois wood-warbler species show several types of migratory patterns. Look at the banners in this tent to see where and when you might find your favorite Illinois wood-warbler species!

