

American Robin

Turdus migratorius

Description

The American robin is one of the most recognizable birds in Calgary. This large member of the thrush family has a distinct orange-red belly and are known for their cheery song and for aggressive territorial defense. While some American robins overwinter in Alberta, most migrate to the Southern US or Mexico where their food sources, such as earthworms and other invertebrates are plentiful. Most migrating robins will travel between 500 and 1200 km between their breeding grounds and their overwintering grounds. Robins are notorious as harbingers of spring, being one of the first of the migrating birds to arrive in Alberta. Robins are seen in Calgary between March and October. Robins are omnivores eating insects and fruits.

FUN FACTS

- Robins will raise multiple broods of young throughout the summer.
- Male robins will attack their reflection in windows in an attempt to drive this "rival" away.
- Robins are vulnerable to pesticide poisoning because they forage for good on lawns.
- Fledgling (juvenile) robins have a spotted breast.

If you find an injured or orphaned wild animal in distress, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society hotline at 403-214-1312 for tips, instructions and advice, or visit the website for more information www.calgarywildlife.org



















