

CAROLINA WRENS

Common Name: Carolina wren

Other Names: mocking wren, great Carolina wren, Louisiana wren

Scientific Name: Thyrothorus ludovicianus

Appearance: size - 5.5 inches long
color - rusty brown above, buffy white below
distinguishing features - dark stripe through eye, white stripe above eye, downcurved bill; short rounded wings

Range: - statewide resident

Habitat: - almost any habitat that has brush piles, dense understory vegetation, hollow logs, bird houses, buildings

Diet: - ants, flies, millipedes, and other insects
- only 10% of diet is plant food such as poison ivy, bayberry, pine, oak, and sweetgum

Reproduction: - 2-3 clutches per year from March to August
- 3-6 eggs per clutch

Behavior: - very active
- switches tail back and forth
- often sings year around
- songs are variable

Problems: - may nest just about anywhere that can support a nest of twigs such as interiors of sheds, eaves, shelves, tin cans, hanging plants. ...

Solutions: - keep shed doors closed
- prevent access to eaves or other areas that can support a nest
- provide suitable nest box or gord.

Legal Aspects: - permits from the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are required to destroy or move nests