

Harbor Island, Naturally

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A PERSONAL PROJECT OF JOHN ALBERT



BROWN THRASHERS

BEAUTIFUL SINGERS

The Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) is a fairly common bird in most of the east. It forages in groomed yards, but quickly



heads for dense cover when startled. Although these birds are on the ground the male will often sing its' beautiful melodic song that features repetitive phrases from a nearby

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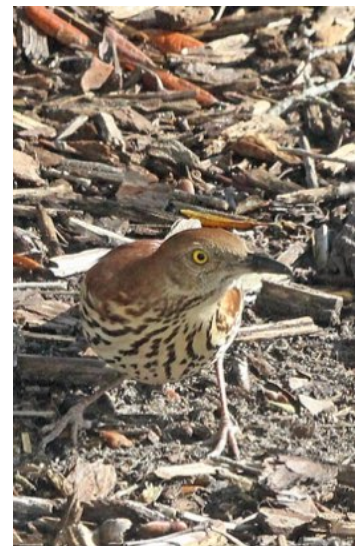
Brown Thrashers love to eat almost any kinds of insects which make up half of their intake. Berries and fruit along with worms, spider, crayfish and a few lizards make up thier diet.

The name Thrasher comes from their habit of tossing leaves and digging into the soil to discover hidden food.

Nests are built by both sexes in shrubs and trees 2 - 7 feet above ground in dense thickets. 3 to 6 pale blue spotted eggs are laid. Both sexes incubate the eggs for 11 - 14 days. The chicks are fed by both mom and dad and leave the nest in 9 13 days. Mating pairs will produce 2 and sometimes 3 broods a year.



In our area Brown Thrashers are permanent residents. While numbers have declined in some areas they remain common in most areas.



Sources
Lives of North American Birds
by Kenn Kaufman
South Carolina Bird Life
by Alexander Sprunt