

# Ovenbird



Photo: Peter Caulfield

**IDENTIFICATION AND SONG** Large warbler, olive-green above, white below, with dark streaked spots on lower throat, breast and sides, conspicuous eye ring, and orange-brown crown bordered with black stripes. Song a loud and distinct staccato song *pizza, pizza, pizza* (or teacher-teacher-teacher). Found statewide.

**NEST** Domed or oven-shaped nest of dead leaves and plant fibers, lined with grass, placed on the forest floor with a side entrance.

**FOOD** Forest invertebrates, captured in the leaf litter on the forest floor.

**TERRITORY SIZE** 1.0–3.5 acres.

**FOREST CONDITION** Older, larger contiguous tracts of hardwood or mixedwood forest with 60–90% canopy cover and canopy heights >50'. Prefers areas with less ground cover and deeper leaf litter. Prefers large mature forest patches >250 acres where breeding success is higher.

**FOREST HABITAT ASSOCIATION** Prefers *Northern Hardwood*, *Oak Pine*, and *Northern Mixedwood*, but will use Northern Softwood forest.

**HABITAT AGE CLASS** Prefers *older* forest (dominant trees 70-100 years old and 10-16" diameter), but will use *intermediate* forest (dominant trees 20-70 years old and 5-10" diameter).

## HABITAT FEATURES



Generalized graphic depicting forest type, age, layer, and any special features where the bird and nest are typically found.

**LAYERS** Light gray lines divide overstory (>30'), midstory (6–30'), and understory (<6'), and are not to scale

← **BIRD** Layer where bird typically seen and/or where male typically sings

← **NEST** Typical nest type and height

**MANAGEMENT NOTES** Maintain mature forest with med. to high canopy cover, within larger block of contiguous forest (>250 acres). Habitat affected 300' or more from edge of forest management activities. Prefers less ground cover, deeper leaf litter for domed ground nest.