

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2014-05-18 13:28:56
Observer's Name	Carl Engstrom
E-mail	carlengstrom@ymail.com
Observer's Address	Street Address: 161 Legion Lane City: State College State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 16801 Country: United States
Names of additional observers	Carolyn Mahan, Linda Greble, David McNaughton
Species (Common Name)	Purple Gallinule
Species (Scientific Name)	Porphyrio martinica
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Adult bird
Observation Date and Time	05-16-2014 1:40 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S18422226
County	Cumberland
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Mount Holly Springs
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Tichy Park
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.1193, -77.1832
Habitat	Pond
Distance to bird	30 feet
Viewing conditions	Partly sunny, warm
Description	Unmistakably coot-like bird. Bright yellow legs and huge feet. Red bill with yellow tip and light blue frontal shield. Deep purple head, breast, and belly. Green back. Short tail, with two bright white undertail patches.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was	First saw the bird when it flushed and noticed the huge dangling yellow feet in flight. When it landed we watched it

doing)

walking around in the water picking food off the surface and flicking its stubby tail often. When two Canada Geese got into a fight, the gallinule froze where it was and stood stock still for close to 10 minutes.

**Separation from similar species
(How you eliminated others)**

The bright coloration on this bird made it easy to separate it from the related American Coot and Common Gallinule found in PA.

Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:

Not sure if other people have submitted this bird to the committee. I submitted this just in case no one else has.

Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)

Yes

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings

[IMG_2914.JPG](#)

[IMG_2918.JPG](#)

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