Habitats
Mississippi River; bottomland forests; interior rivers and streams; constructed lakes, ponds, and reservoirs; natural lakes and prairie marshes

Iowa Status
uncommon; native

Iowa Range
summer and migrant: scattered throughout Iowa in suitable habitats

Bibliography
Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001. *Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats* CD-ROM.

prothonotary warbler
Protonotaria citrea

Kingdom:	Animalia
Division/Phylum:	Chordata - vertebrates
Class:	Aves
Order:	Passeriformes
Family:	Parulidae

Features
An adult prothonotary warbler is five to 5 1/2 inches long. There are no bars on the blue-gray wings. The black bill is extremely small and thin. The tail is gray. There is a white circle around each black eye. The male has a bright golden-yellow head and chest, while the female is a duller version of the male.

Natural History
The prothonotary warbler winters from Mexico south to northern South America. It lives in swampy riparian woodlands. This bird eats mainly insects. It forages low, usually in trees that overhang water or on logs in the water. The song is “zweet zweet zweet zweet zweet zweet” while the call is “chink.” Spring migrants begin to appear in Iowa in late April or early May. Nesting occurs from May through June. This bird nests in holes in trees, nest boxes, or under bridges. It generally lays four to six cream-colored eggs with red-brown markings.