



MAINE AUDUBON



Maine Birds Checklist

For young birders

Common Loon



winter plumage

Loons nest on lakes and move to open salt water in the winter.



Common Eider



Look for these large ducks in salt water, where they dive for mussels and crabs.



Double-crested Cormorant *



Cormorants dive for fish, then spread their wings in the sun to dry.



Red-Tailed Hawk



This common hawk often sits on fences and poles along roads.



Great Blue Heron



Like other herons and egrets, these birds have long necks and legs to help them catch fish and small animals.



Bald Eagle



Eagles catch fish, ducks, and other prey but are also scavengers that will eat dead animals.



Canada Goose



These geese are almost always in a flock.



GULLS

Gulls eat almost anything, which is why you can see them in many different habitats and often near people.



Herring



Great Black-backed



Mallard



Female

Male

These ducks “dabble” for food by tipping upside down with their heads in the water.



What birds like to eat:



invertebrates



seeds



small animals



fish



omnivore



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Mourning Dove



Doves look for seeds on the ground. Their wings whistle when they fly.



Eastern Phoebe*



Phoebes fly from their perch to catch insects in the air. When perched, they wag their tails.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird*



Hummingbirds use their long bills to reach flower nectar.



Red-eyed Vireo*



These small birds can be hard to see as they often sing from near the tops of trees.



WOODPECKERS

Hairy Woodpeckers are larger and have bigger bills than Downy Woodpeckers. Both drill for insects in wood and bark.



Downy



Hairy



These woodpeckers spend time on the ground looking for ants to eat.

Northern Flicker*



What birds like to eat:



invertebrates



seeds



nectar



omnivore

Blue Jay



Jays are related to crows and ravens. They can mimic, or copy, the calls of other birds such as hawks.



American Crow



Crows are social and smart. Groups of crows will "mob" predators to chase them away.



Tree Swallow*



Swallows fly in swooping movements, catching insects as they go.



* Only in Maine during the spring, summer and fall.



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Black-capped Chickadee



Chickadees often feed in mixed groups with other types of birds.

2

American Robin



Robins eat worms, but in the winter they flock together to find fruit and berries.

2

Tufted Titmouse



Listen for titmice loudly whistling "peter, peter" during spring and summer.

2

Gray Catbird*



Catbirds do make a meowing call, but also mimic other birds while singing.

2

NUTHATCHES

White-breasted **Red-breasted**

Nuthatches walk down trees head-first looking for insects.




2

Cedar Waxwing



The red and yellow color on a waxwing's feathers comes from the fruit it eats.



WARBLERS

Black-throated Green* **Yellow-rumped*** **Common Yellowthroat***

Different warblers are found in different habitats, but they all dart around looking for insects and use their long, thin beaks to eat them.





2

What birds like to eat:

2

invertebrates



fruit

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European Starling



This introduced species forms large, loud flocks and will take over nest sites of other birds.



Red-winged Blackbird*



Male



Female

Listen for males calling "konk-a-ree" in wet, marshy areas.



Northern Cardinal



Male



Female

Female cardinals are not as red as males, but do have some red on their wings and tail.



Common Grackle*



Grackles form large flocks, often with other blackbirds mixed in.



SPARROWS

Sparrows look for seeds on the ground or in brushy, grassy areas. Different species live in different habitats.



Chipping*



Song



White-throated*



Dark-eyed Junco



FINCHES

Finches use their thick bills to open the seeds they eat.



American Goldfinch



Male

Female



Winter Plumage

House Finch



Male

Female

What birds like to eat:



invertebrates

seeds

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COMMON LOON

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT

GREAT BLUE HERON

CANADA GOOSE

MALLARD

COMMON EIDER

RED-TAILED HAWK

BALD EAGLE

HERRING GULL

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL

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MOURNING DOVE

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD

DOWNY WOODPECKER

HAIRY WOODPECKER

NORTHERN FLICKER

EASTERN PHOEBE

RED-EYED VIREO

BLUE JAY

AMERICAN CROW

TREE SWALLOW

Date

Location

Notes



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TUFTED TITMOUSE			
WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH			
RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH			
AMERICAL ROBIN			
GRAY CATBIRD			
CEDAR WAXWING			
BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER			
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER			
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT			
EUROPEAN STARLING			
NORTHERN CARDINAL			
CHIPPING SPARROW			
SONG SPARROW			
WHITE-THROATED SPARROW			
DARK-EYED JUNCO			
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD			
COMMON GRACKLE			
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH			
HOUSE FINCH			