



Guide to common wetland birds of Southern Michigan



Belted kingfisher
Commonly found along streams and shorelines, these crested, powder blue-grayish birds have a loud, rattling call that is often heard before they are seen.

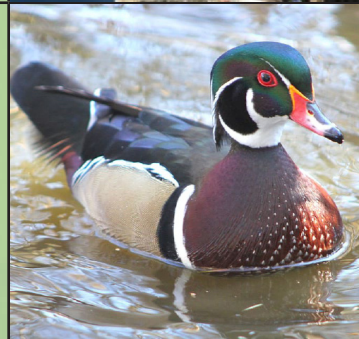


Canada goose
These large, honking geese are common in suburban areas.

Mallard duck
Males have brilliant green heads. Females call "quack, quack."



Great blue heron
Often seen wading in rivers and ponds, hunting for fish, frogs and rodents.



Wood duck
Found near edges of shallow water. They nest in tree cavities, sometimes using old woodpecker holes.



Yellow warbler
A friendly wetland warbler. Males are bright, buttery yellow and commonly heard calling "sweet sweet sweet, I'm so sweet."



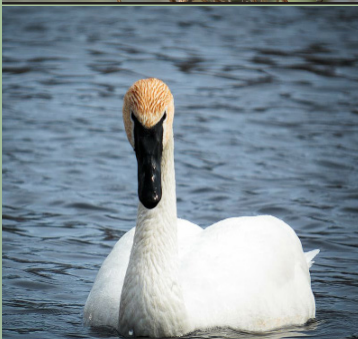
Song sparrow
One of the most familiar sparrows in North America, and the first sparrow to suspect in open, shrubby or wet areas. Males perch at eye level, singing often.



Red-winged blackbird
An early spring migrant with a loud, musical "o-k-aree" call often heard in wetlands.



Sandhill crane
Their loud, rolling, trumpeting call is heard miles away. Known for their dancing skills during mating season, they nest in wetlands and forage in fields.



Trumpeter swan
Majestic native swan seen in wetlands and lakes. Competition with invasive mute swans keeps them on our state's threatened species list.



Mute swan
Not native to North America, these invasive birds are recognized by orange beaks and aggressive behavior.