



Bald Eagle

Haliaeetus leucocephalus

The Bald Eagle is our national bird and is the only eagle unique to North America.

Vermont is currently re-introducing the Bald Eagle back into the state by raising and releasing chicks each year to establish a breeding population.

Bald Eagles eat primarily fish when living near lakes, but will also scavenge carrion.

Eagles can get lead poisoning from eating a fish that contains a hook and sinker that broke from an angler's line.

Help Vermont's new eagles!

Follow the new law: **in 2007, it will be illegal to use a lead sinker ½ oz. or less.**



Great Blue Heron

Ardea herodias

Great Blue Herons are between 39"-54" tall with a wingspan up to 6 feet!

They live near water but eat a variety of prey, including fish, frogs, small birds, insects and even mice.

Blue Herons nest in colonies in the tops of tall trees.

They can live up to 20 years in age but 69% of young die within their first year.

Hérons can get lead poisoning from eating a fish that contains a hook and sinker that broke from an angler's line.

Help them live to their old age...

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Common Loon

Gavia immer

Loons are ancient birds that have come to symbolize grace, beauty, and wildness. Loon sounds and behaviors provide an enriching experience for many people.

The loon was placed on the Vermont endangered species list in an effort to protect the species and increase the population.

Loon recovery was deemed a success when on April 23, 2005 the common loon was removed from Vermont's endangered species list.

You can help ensure that the loon doesn't become listed again. Loons can die from lead poisoning by ingesting only ONE lead sinker!

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Canada Goose

Branta canadensis

Most people can recognize this bird, especially when they fly in a "V" formation. By flying in this position, geese can use 50% to 70% less energy.

The lead bird breaks the air and creates an updraft, which reduces air resistance for the rest of the flock.

Geese have a varied diet of vegetation on land and in water. Geese are often seen with heads underwater and tails in the air. When feeding in this manner, a goose may swallow a lead sinker and die by lead poisoning.

Geese also intentionally eat small stones to aid in digestion. Lead sinkers have been mistaken as small stones.

Please dispose of your lead sinkers: **In 2007, it will be illegal to use a lead sinker ½ oz. or less.**