

Winter birds of Illinois



While winter may seem a dreary time, for birders, it can be exciting and rewarding. Birds like Harlequin Ducks and Northern Shrikes make their appearance in Illinois in the winter, with shrikes hanging around until March and an occasional Harlequin lingering through winter. Though most Tundra Swans migrate through Illinois, a few, even in small flocks, remain in some places such as Lake Chautauqua in the winter as well.

*Featured on this page,
Tundra Swan,
8 January 2006
on the Rock River in
Blackhawk Park, Rockford
(Winnebago County)
by Mary Kay Rubey.
Northern Shrike, with vole
winter 2006 at Rollins
Savanna (Lake County)
by Matt Fletcher.
Harlequin Duck,
26 January 2006 at Lake
Decatur (Macon County)
by Chris Young.*

