

nested at Deer Lake. Many lingering ducks can be found at Deer Lake and Red-Wing Slough well into May. If the slough is drawn down, this location can be a mecca for shorebirds. Eastern Phoebe's nest along the brown cabin on the west side of Deer Lake, and Vesper Sparrows probably nest here as well. Rarities recorded here have included overmigrant Summer Tanager and Worm-eating Warbler.

Grass Lake/Chain O' Lakes State Park/ Turner Lake

Return to Route 173 and retrace your route back west to Deep Lake Road. Turn south to Grass Lake Road; then west for 4.5 miles (You may wish to stop at the bridge by Stietz's Resort on the channel just past Bluff Drive, which connects Bluff and Petite Lake; there are often ducks in winter along this channel) until you reach Halings Road, opposite Grass Lake School. Turn west to the boat launch and promontory on the east side of Grass Lake. A good view of the expansive Grass Lake can be made from here as well as from the Mutiny Boat Club and pub trailer park and Grass Lake bridge at the south end of Grass Lake just past Lake Road. Huge rafts of ducks can be seen here in late winter and early spring including many Canvasback, Redhead, mergansers and Ruddy Duck; scaup also abound. Loons, grebes, and almost any duck can be seen here. The state's only nesting colony of Forster's Terns occurs on a small island in this lake, although in recent years boating activity has disturbed this species. In fall, loons and Tundra Swans occur. The entrance to Chain O' Lakes State Park is made by taking Grass Lake Road until it dead ends to the west; turn right on State Park Road until it becomes Main Street and intersects with Wilmot Road. Turn north to the park entrance (1.4 miles). Boat or canoe launching can be made in the Park, and **Turner Lake** is inside the park and sometimes has good waterfowl. A loon has even been recorded on this small lake, and Sedge Wrens nest near the northern edge of the

Lake as well as Yellow-breasted Chats farther north in the shrubby areas. The State Park deserves some exploring. The only reliable location for finding breeding Cerulean Warblers in the county is in the woods near Turner Lake and at the Oak Point boat launch off Route 173, just east of the Fox River.

Fox Lake, Nippersink Lake, Duck Lake, Mineola Bay, Columbia Bay, Stanton Bay and Point

Return to the intersection of State Park Road and Route 12, south of Chain O' Lakes State Park. From the intersection of Routes 132 and 12, turn east on 132 to Forest Avenue. Turn north and go up a steep hill until the road turns east and then north again and then down a hill. Just before Leisure Point and Korpan's Landing you'll see Lakeside Road. Turn east to a vacant lot with gravel parking. Look east into Mineola Bay and Fox Lake for loons and mergansers. 30+ Common Loons have been recorded in this bay. For some reason, loons like it in Mineola Bay and are often close to shore here. Look to the south in Mineola Bay, in April there's often a large concentration of Ruddy Ducks at the south end of the bay. If you can't see them from Lakeside Avenue, retrace your drive back to Route 132 and go east to Maple Avenue, then north until it dead-ends literally into Mineola Bay. You should be able to view the Ruddy Ducks and any other puddle ducks in the bay from this location. NOTE: there's only room for two cars at this location. Turn east again on Route 132 to Tweed Road. Drive north to Lippincott Lane, then west to a small park on the north side of the road. You can view loons and mergansers here, too. Another grand view of Fox Lake and Columbia Bay can be had by returning to Route 132 and driving east to Stanton Point Road. Drive north all the way to the "juke box" point where you can park in a large gravel lot just west of a tavern. This location gives the birder an expansive look at both Fox Lake and Columbia Bay, and to a lesser

degree Stanton Bay to the south. Loons, bay ducks, mergansers, and gulls can be seen here. An American White Pelican visited here one fall. This is also a good spot in fall for loons. Return south on Stanton Point Road to 132.

Eagle Point/ Pistakee Lake

Take 132 west to Route 12. Eagle Point is just south of this intersection. Turn west on Eagle Point Road and follow it through its many twists and turns until you come out on a causeway facing Pistakee Lake. Look for loons and diving ducks here. Meyers Bay is to the south and often has loons. This location has had the largest number of loons in spring, as many as 50! Listen for them calling during spring migration (their most frequent call is like a screaming Herring Gull, though the yodel and tremolo call can also be heard). A scope is essential for this large body of water. Look to the north from the causeway to a peninsula where Bald Eagles are occasionally seen in winter and early spring (March). Common and Red-breasted Mergansers are often in this location by the hundreds. A basic plumaged Red-throated Loon was observed from this point in spring 1999. Another good viewing location for Pistakee Lake is at the far west end of Route 132 next to Docker's, a fine eatery in Fox Lake. Puddle and bay ducks often congregate here along with Ring-billed Gulls.

Long Lake

Return to Route 12 via Eagle Point Road, taking it east across Route 12 to Sayton Road; jog north across the railroad tracks turning east on Rollins Road. Go east to Lake Shore Drive. One of the few remaining outdoor drive-in restaurants in the county, a Dog and Suds, is along the way in Ingleside at the intersection of Washington Avenue and Rollins Rd. Stop for a frosted root beer and hot dog on your spring "looney trip." This northerly shoreline drive gives a commanding view of this great lake for loons. Turn east on Lake Shore Drive, which will take you around the north end of