

trumpeter swan *Cygnus buccinator*

Kingdom: Animalia

Division/Phylum: Chordata

Class: Aves

Order: Anseriformes

Family: Anatidae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

The trumpeter swan is 58-60" long (tail tip to bill tip in preserved specimen) with a wingspan of seven feet. Its bill is entirely black and forms a "V" shape where it meets the feathers of the forehead. All feathers of the adult trumpeter swan are white. The young birds have pale, gray-brown feathers.

BEHAVIORS

Trumpeter swans migrate in a line or in a v-shaped flock. They are statewide migrants and winter residents in the state. They eat aquatic plants and seeds and feed by tipping up their body into the water, immersing the upper portion or just the head and neck. They can be found at lakes, ponds, large rivers, marshes and grain fields.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

marshes; rivers and streams; lakes, ponds and reservoirs

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

none

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