

## Differences

### Loons



Typically one breeding pair on lakes < 250 acres

Feeds primarily on small fish and occasionally aquatic invertebrates

Build nest on or right next to shoreline; may be difficult to locate

Only lay one or two eggs

### Grebes



Lake can have multiple breeding pairs

Feeds on small fish, crustaceans, aquatic invertebrates, and amphibians

Build floating nests usually among aquatic vegetation and close to shoreline; very easy to see

Can lay up to 6 eggs

## Similarities

- **Summer Habitat:** clear, freshwater lakes
- **Winter Habitat:** coastal marine waters
- Arrive after ice-out in the spring
- Rely on eye-sight to catch fish
- Legs far back on body making it difficult to walk on land
- Both male and female look alike
- Both male and female incubate and raise chicks
- Young chicks ride on the back of adults
- Chicks near adult size at fledging in the fall
- Highly territorial
- Adults usually leave before chicks in fall migration
- Vulnerable to human disturbance

