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a navigational guide to everyday recreation

Presented by the Golden Valley Parks & Recreation Department

SPRING BIRD WATCHING

Blue Jay

Characteristics: The bodies are blue above and white below, with a pronounced blue crest on the head and a bold black necklace

Sounds: The call isa whining "jaay" or high pitched "jaay-jaay."
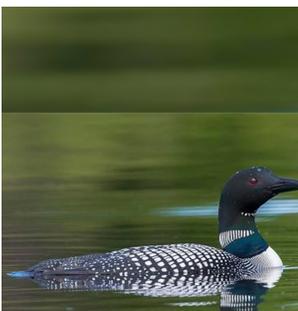
Cardinal

Characteristics: Males are brilliant red all over with a reddish bill and black face immediately around the bill. Females are pale brown overall with warm reddish tinges in the wings, tail, and head. Both have the same black face and red-orange bill.

Sounds: The loud and clear 2-3 second song is a slurred or two-parted whistle. It can sound like the bird is singing "cheer, cheer, cheer" or "birdie, birdie, birdie."

Loon

Characteristics: These large birds have long bodies patterned in black and white, short tails, and sharp bills. They are usually found in or around the water. In flight, they look stretched out with long, flat bodies and long necks and bills.

Sounds: Loons are famous for their eerie, beautiful wavering calls or a yodels.

city of golden valley

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SPRING BIRD WATCHING

Robin

Characteristics: These gray-brown birds with dark heads are famous for their orange bellies. Some believe they are the first sign of spring.

Sounds: The robin has several distinguishing calls—a "tut" repeated two or three times or a sound like a high-pitched horse call.

Trumpeter Swan

Characteristics: These very large white birds have black bills with the black color extending to their eyes.

Sounds: Some sound like the call of a Canadian goose, but if you listen closely you can hear a sound that is much more like this bird's namesake of a trumpet in the tone of a "oh-OH" or a "Hoo."

What else can you find?