



Mute Swan (non-native)
Cygnus olor

Black-capped Chickadee
Poecile atricapillus

Laughing Gull
Larus atricilla

Over 300 species of birds have been documented in Rhode Island, many of them dependent on a healthy Bay to provide the habitat necessary for resting, foraging and breeding. In addition, the Bay is situated along the Atlantic Flyway, the equivalent of a 'bird highway' that hundreds of species of birds use during their spring and fall migrations. Many of the most recognizable birds around the Bay do not migrate and have special adaptations to deal with the freezing temperatures in the winter. An example of this is the black-capped chickadee, which can lower its body temperature by up to 20 degrees to save energy on the coldest winter nights!

Mute Swan (non-native): Drawing by Ella Holden, Photo Credit: Gene Nieminen/USFWS; Black-capped Chickadee: Drawing by Taylor Rego, Photo Credit: Donna Dewhurst/USFWS; Laughing Gull: Drawing by Alexander Davis, Photo Credit: Robert Dewire

