



Illinois ENDANGERED & THREATENED SPECIES



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piping plover *Charadrius melodus* [state and federally endangered]

Migrating piping plovers begin arriving in Illinois in April. Fall migrants start arriving in July. It winters along the coasts of the southern United States and Central America. This species is a rare migrant statewide and a very rare summer resident along Lake Michigan. This species eats small aquatic macroinvertebrates and some plant materials.

Reasons for Concern

- loss of migrating and breeding habitat
- increased human recreational use of beaches
- industrialization along shorelines

