## **Great Blue Heron**

Ardea herodias

Great blue herons breed from Southern Alaska, across Canada, south through the U.S. They winters from southern Canada south to South America. Located in marshes, by rivers, lakes, ponds and seacoasts. They are up to 4.5' tall with a long s-shaped neck. They are mostly gray with white on the top of the head, a black shoulder patch, a long, thick, yellow beak and yellow eyes. They fly with a crooked neck, and have a 7 ft. wingspan. They eat mainly fish, but will also take amphibians, reptiles, birds and small mammals. They sometimes nest in

big groups (colonies). They build a large nest of sticks high in the trees and line it with soft things, like grass and

moss. Females lay 2-6 pale,

blue eggs.

