



Red-breasted Merganser



**I Am NOT Having a Bad Hair Day!
It's Just the Wind in My Hair....**

I am a bold world traveler, hanging out in icy waters where usually only [scoters](#) and [eiders](#) dare to tread. While all mergansers are swift fliers, my species holds the avian record for fastest level flight at 100 mph (80mph is the average)!

I am sometimes called a 'sawbill' because my long, narrow bill is serrated and has a little hook at the tip – perfect for catching fish, my favorite meal. I'm a skilled diver and can catch not only fish, but tadpoles and aquatic insects too (dessert!). [Watch me in action.](#)

I'm a fast and powerful swimmer but a bit of an awkward walker on land. To get airborne, I flap my wings and run across the water. Woohoo! [More on the Jr. Duck Stamp story....](#)