

BIODIVERSITY ON CAMPUS

Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre

ABOUT US

For over 30 years, the Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre has been working on behalf of wildlife. We are committed to educating people about wildlife and helping to foster an appreciation for the natural world and the important role all species play in a healthy ecosystem.

If we are to succeed in responding to the significant environmental challenges we are facing as a society, humans have to recognize we are a part of nature and not simply an outside observer of it. Each of us has the opportunity to help conserve nature, starting in our own backyard.

LEARN MORE

www.wildlifeinfo.ca



Photo: Monica Seidel

MAMMALS



The **Eastern Chipmunk** is the largest Canadian chipmunk species, and is recognized because it has black and white stripes on its back.

Red Foxes get their name from their red fur! They have a great sense of smell, and have dark fur on their lower legs and a long tail with a white tip.



These are **White-tailed Deer** tracks! Deer are often seen in Ottawa! Babies have white spots on their back and adult males have antlers.

ARTHROPODS & INSECTS

Cylindroiulus caeruleocinctus is a red **Millipede** (a type of arthropod). It has many legs and body sections. Its body is rounded on top with 2 pairs of legs per section. They curl up when threatened.



Bees are known for pollinating and creating honey and beeswax. There are over 400 bee species in Ontario!

BIRDS



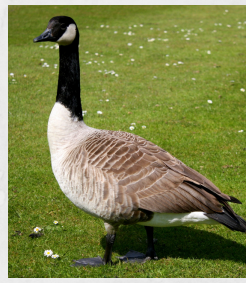
Red-winged blackbirds live in marshes, along small bodies of water, and along wet roads. Males are pictured (left), which females are brown and have a pale chest colour.

A very curious bird found throughout Ontario, the **Black-capped Chickadee**'s diet is half seeds, berries, and other plants, and half animal food (suet, insects, and sometimes fat and bits of dead meat).



The **Killdeer** gets its name from the sound of its call, a far-carrying, excited "kill-deer". They live along shorelines. They pretend to have a broken wing to pull predators away from their nest.

The male **Mallard Duck** has a green head, while females are largely brown in colour. Ducks live in ponds and marshes, and should not be fed bread as they cannot digest it.



The **Canada Goose** migrates south each winter. They live near water, and eat grass, seeds, and berries. They live in large groups, or "flocks".

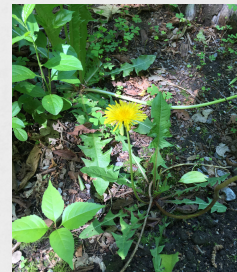
Downy Woodpeckers eat insects and plants. Woodpeckers don't sing songs, so they drum loudly against wood or metal to communicate.



The **Great Egret** lives in wetlands and eats mainly fish, but can eat almost anything found in or by the water! They can fly up to 25km/hour.

PLANTS

"Dandelion" comes from the French name "dent de lion", which means "lion's tooth". This refers to the tooth-like serrations on the plant's leaves.



Moss is a small plant without flowers. It grows in thick clumps, called mats, in damp or shady spots. There are over 430 moss species in Ontario.



A **Nursery Log** is a fallen tree which, as it decomposes (breaks down), provides ecological benefits to seedlings, insects, small mammals, and reptiles.

Milkweed grows in fields, thickets, and along roads. It attracts pollinators, hummingbirds, and adult butterflies and their eggs and young (larvae). Pollinators spread pollen grains which helps plants grow in other places.



Cattails are one of the most important and common foods found in the wild. They can also be used to make mats, baskets, packing material, and can even be used as torches!

WATCH OUT!

Poison ivy is a climbing vine that grows in thickets, clearings, and along the edges of woods and roads. If you touch a broken part of the plant, you may get a severe rash.

