

Blue Jay

The blue jay is a part of the crow family, a group of larger aggressive birds. They are omnivores and will eat acorns fruit, nuts, insects small birds, caterpillars, eggs, seeds, mice, frogs, and beechnuts. The blue jay's feather color is not from pigment but from light interference in the feather structure. If a feather is crushed, it is no longer blue.

Lightning Bug

There are many different species of lightning bugs or fireflies. The most common in Ohio is known as Photinus or the big dipper firefly. Fireflies are just one of many creature that are bioluminescent and let off the most efficient light in the world.

House Finch

The house finch is a moderately sized bird with a short beak and a long tail with a small notch in it. House finches nest in parks, backyards, farms, and in wooded areas. Their nests are cups shaped and made with twigs and debris. They primarily eat grains, seeds, and berries.



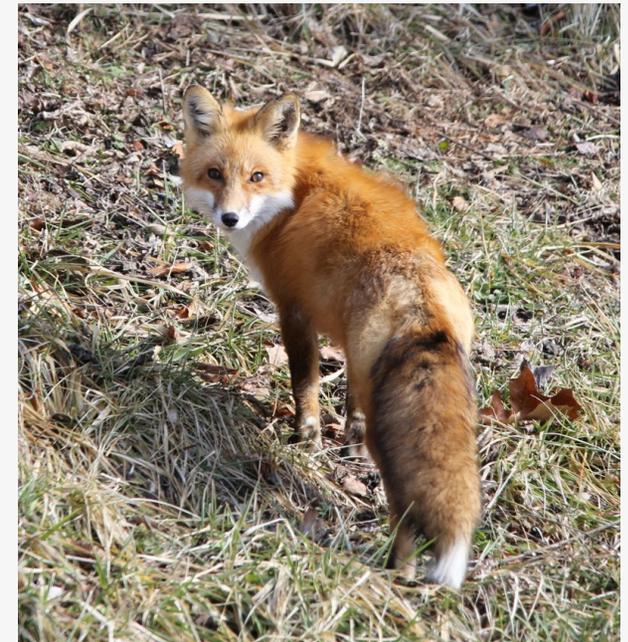
House Finch photo courtesy of ODNR



Photo courtesy of Lori E. Switaj

This brochure is a part of a Gold Award project for an 11th grade Girl Scout from Amherst. The Gold Award is the highest and most prestigious award that Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors can earn.

The information contained in this brochure is a sample of facts that will be put on an informational sign in Bradley Nature Park in Westlake in 2017. The sign's purpose is to inform visitors of the animals that live in the park.



Red Fox photo courtesy of Ohio Department of Natural Resources

WILDLIFE OF BRADLEY NATURE PARK



Striped Skunk photo courtesy of Laszlo Lengyel

Striped Skunk

Striped skunks are omnivores, eating both plants and animals. Their diet varies depending on the season. They are partial hibernators, going into a dormant, semi-active state in colder months. Striped skunks prefer to live in dens in open areas in a variety of habitats.

Red Fox

Red foxes are easily identified by the rusty red or reddish-yellow color that runs from their face down their back. Their diet consists mostly of meat but sometimes they will consume grasses, berries, and fruits. Red foxes do not hibernate but will reduce activity levels and take shelter for a day or two.

Owl

Owls are birds of prey and accomplished predators. Owls have excellent hearing and extraordinary vision which allows them to see at night. This combination of characteristics make them ferocious hunters. The Eastern screech owl, great horned owl, and barred owl are more of the most

Northern Raccoon

Raccoons are very adaptable and can be found in every county of Ohio. They are omnivores and eat invertebrates, vertebrates, plants, garden crops, sweet corn in the milky stage, baby birds, frogs, fish, and garbage. They live in dens or wooded areas with large trees and lots of water.

Dragonfly

Dragonflies can be blue, green yellow or red. Believe it or not they can even fly forwards, backwards, sideways, straight up, and straight down. Dragonflies are carnivores and eat mosquitos, gnats, cicadas, flies, and smaller dragonflies. They depend on water and can be found near it.



12 Spotted Skimmer photo courtesy of Jen Brumfield.



Midland Painted Turtle photo courtesy of ODNR

Midland Painted Turtle

Painted turtles are one of the most common turtles in Ohio. Painted turtles can be found in quiet and shallow freshwater. Painted turtles hibernate in winter, usually in mud at the bottom of a body of water. They are omnivores and eat plants, fish, and aquatic insects.

Green Frog

Green frogs are one of only fifteen frogs in Ohio. They are commonly mistaken for the bullfrog though green frogs have two ridges on their back and are smaller than bullfrogs. They will eat invertebrates, spiders, shrimp, smaller snakes, tadpoles, snails, fish, and smaller frogs.

Bull frog

The bullfrog is the largest frog in North America. Bullfrogs prefer to live in warm, shallow, still water. They will normally eat crayfish, insects, mice, and other frogs.