

## How To Use This Checklist

The information presented in this checklist reflects our current understanding of the status of mammals within Cleveland Metroparks. You can add to our understanding by being a knowledgeable observer. Record your observations and contact a naturalist if you find something that may be of interest.

Species are listed taxonomically. Each species is listed with a common name, a scientific name and a note about its occurrence within Cleveland Metroparks. Check off species that you identify in Cleveland Metroparks. Put an "S" if you find sign (tracks, etc.).

### Cleveland Metroparks Outdoor Experiences Division

Administration ..... (216)881-8141  
Brecksville Nature Center ..... (440)526-1012  
CanalWay Center ..... (216)206-1000  
Garfield Park Center ..... (216)341-3152  
North Chagrin Nature Center and  
Look About Lodge ..... (440)473-3370  
Rocky River Nature Center ..... (440)734-6660  
Watershed Stewardship Center ..... (440)887-1968

#### RELATIVE ABUNDANCE

**C = Common.** Widespread and often numerous in proper habitat and season.

**O = Occasional.** Found at scattered locations or widespread but in moderate numbers.

**R = Rare.** Represented by a few individuals or has a very restricted range within Cleveland Metroparks.

**h = Hypothetical.** Occurrence within Cleveland Metroparks possible but not confirmed.

**X = Extirpated.** Once occurred, but is no longer found in Cleveland Metroparks.

**\* = Exotic.** Place of origin given.

N = Primarily nocturnal/crepuscular  
H = Hibernates

**NOTICE:** Collecting any animal, plant, etc. within Cleveland Metroparks is strictly prohibited, as is releasing any animal into Cleveland Metroparks.

### Marsupials: Subclass Marsupialia

The marsupials, or pouched mammals, are represented by 272 species throughout the world, most living in Australia and surrounding islands. The Virginia opossum is the largest marsupial in the Americas, and is the only species found north of Mexico.

### NEW WORLD OPOSSUMS: ORDER DIDELPHIMORPHIA

#### Opossums: Family Didelphidae

\_\_\_ Virginia Opossum *Didelphis virginiana* **C**; N

#### Placentals: Subclass Metatheria

The placentals are the most diverse group of mammals, with over 4,350 species. They differ from marsupials in that the young develop in a complex placenta for a longer period of time. There is a third group of mammals, the monotremes, which lay eggs.

### SHREWS AND MOLES: ORDER SORICOMORPHA

#### Shrews: Family Soricidae

\_\_\_ Northern Short-tailed Shrew *Blarina brevicauda* **C**  
\_\_\_ Least Shrew *Cryptotis parva* **R**; no recent records  
\_\_\_ Cinereus or Masked Shrew *Sorex cinereus* **O**  
\_\_\_ Smoky Shrew *Sorex fumeus* **O**; rare west

#### Moles: Family Talpidae

\_\_\_ Eastern Mole *Scalopus aquaticus* **R**; more common west; edge of range  
\_\_\_ Hairy-tailed Mole *Parascalops breweri* **C**  
\_\_\_ Star-nosed Mole *Condylura cristata* **O**; species of concern; common east

### BATS: ORDER CHIROPTERA

#### Plain-nosed Bats: Family Vespertilionidae

\_\_\_ Little Brown Myotis *Myotis lucifugus* **C**; N, H; species of concern  
\_\_\_ Northern or Long-eared Myotis *Myotis septentrionalis* **C**; N, H; proposed as endangered, species of concern  
\_\_\_ Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis* **R**; N, H; **Federally endangered species**  
\_\_\_ Silver-haired Bat *Lasionycteris noctivagans* **O**; N, H; a solitary tree bat; found as a migrant; summer breeding status unknown  
\_\_\_ Eastern Pipistrelle *Perimyotis subflavus* **O**; N, H; species of concern  
\_\_\_ Big Brown Bat *Eptesicus fuscus* **C**; N, H; species of concern; often hibernates in buildings in northeast Ohio  
\_\_\_ Eastern Red Bat *Lasiurus borealis* **C**; N, H; species of concern; a solitary tree bat; migrant and summer resident  
\_\_\_ Hoary Bat *Lasiurus cinereus* **O**; N, H; species of concern; a solitary tree bat; migrant and summer resident  
\_\_\_ Evening Bat *Nycticeius humeralis* **R**; special interest; one Cuyahoga County record

### PRIMATES: ORDER PRIMATES

#### Humans and Great Apes: Family Hominidae

\_\_\_ Human *Homo sapiens* **C**; the only primate inhabiting North America

### CARNIVORES: ORDER CARNIVORA

\_\_\_ Red Fox *Vulpes vulpes* **O**; N  
\_\_\_ Gray Fox *Urocyon cinereoargenteus* **O**; N  
\_\_\_ Coyote *Canis latrans* **C**; N; Probably entered northeast Ohio in late 1940's

#### Bears: Family Ursidae

\_\_\_ Black Bear *Ursus americanus* **R**; Ohio endangered; first record in North Chagrin Reservation in 1995; increasing

#### Weasels: Family Mustelidae

\_\_\_ Short-tailed Weasel *Mustela erminea* **h**; one confirmed record for Cuyahoga County in 1937; rare in northeast Ohio; edge of range  
\_\_\_ Long-tailed Weasel *Mustela frenata* **O**  
\_\_\_ Least Weasel *Mustela nivalis* **h**; probable but unconfirmed  
\_\_\_ American Mink *Mustela vison* **C**; increasing  
\_\_\_ Northern River Otter *Lutra Canadensis* **R**; reintroduced in northeast Ohio; recent sight records in Cleveland Metroparks

#### Skunks: Family Mephitidae

\_\_\_ Striped Skunk *Mephitis mephitis* **C**; N

#### Raccoons: Family Procyonidae

\_\_\_ Raccoon *Procyon lotor* **C**; N

#### Cats: Family Felidae

\_\_\_ Bobcat *Lynx rugus* **h**; recent record for Lake County

### EVEN-TOED UNGULATES: ORDER ARTIODACTYLA

#### Deer: Family Cervidae

\_\_\_ White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus* **C**; N

### RODENTS: ORDER RODENTIA

#### Squirrels: Family Sciuridae

\_\_\_ Woodchuck *Marmota monax* **C**; H  
\_\_\_ Eastern Chipmunk *Tamias striatus* **C**  
\_\_\_ North American Red Squirrel *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus* **C**  
\_\_\_ Eastern Gray Squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis* **C**

**Special Note:** The "black squirrel" is a color variant of the eastern gray squirrel.

\_\_\_ Eastern Fox Squirrel *Sciurus niger* **C**  
\_\_\_ Southern Flying Squirrel *Glaucomys volans* **C**; N

#### Beavers: Family Castoridae

\_\_\_ American Beaver *Castor canadensis* **C**; N

#### Mice, Rats, Voles, and Lemmings: Family Muridae

\_\_\_ Common Muskrat *Ondatra zibethicus* **C**  
\_\_\_ North American Deermouse *Peromyscus maniculatus* **O**; N  
\_\_\_ White-footed Deermouse *Peromyscus leucopus* **C**; N  
\_\_\_ Meadow Vole *Microtus pennsylvanicus* **C**  
\_\_\_ Woodland Vole *Microtus pinetorum* **R**; species of concern; no recent records  
\_\_\_ Southern Bog Lemming *Synaptomys cooperi* **h**; species of concern; confirmed from old records; current status unknown

\*Brown or Norway Rat *Rattus norvegicus* **O**; Asia; N

\*House Mouse *Mus musculus* **O**; Asia; N

#### Jumping Mice: Family Dipodidae

\_\_\_ Meadow Jumping Mouse *Zapus hudsonius* **O**; N, H  
\_\_\_ Woodland Jumping Mouse *Napaeozapus insignis* **R**; species of concern; no recent records; N, H

## RABBITS AND HARES: ORDER LAGOMORPHA

### Rabbits: Family Leporidae

\_\_\_ Eastern Cottontail *Sylvilagus floridanus* C; N

#### Extirpated From Northeast Ohio Since Historic Times

**American Marten** *Martes americana*; probably gone before 1850

**Fisher** *Martes pennanti*; records from Ashtabula County in 1837; probably gone by 1850

**Wolverine** *Gulo luscus*; probably never common; gone by early 1800's

**Gray Wolf** *Canis lupus*; once common; probably gone from northeast Ohio by 1850

**Puma or Eastern Cougar** *Felis concolor*; probably gone by 1850

**Canadian Lynx** *Lynx canadensis*; probably gone by mid-1800's

**Bobcat** *Lynx rufus*; **Ohio endangered species**

**North American Porcupine** *Erethizon dorsatum*; once fairly common; last Ohio specimen from Columbiana County in 1952

**Southern Red-backed Vole** *Clethrionomys gapperi*; last recorded from Ashtabula County in 1940's

**Snowshoe Hare** *Lepus americanus*; found in Ashtabula County in 1800's; recently reintroduced;  
**Ohio endangered species**

**Elk** *Cervus elaphus*; once common; last reported around 1840 in Ashtabula County

**American Bison or Buffalo** *Bison bison*; probably once common; last recorded Ohio bison shot in 1803

## Notes

### Acknowledgments

Special thanks to Dr. Timothy Matson of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History for his valuable contributions to this checklist.

This checklist was compiled with the cooperation of Cleveland Metroparks Outdoor Education Division and Natural Resources Division.

## A Checklist of the

# Mammals

## of Cleveland Metroparks



Mammals are fascinating to study and watch. Most mammals of Cleveland Metroparks are nocturnal or very secretive, so it is helpful to learn about the clues or "sign" that they leave behind. With patience, you may be rewarded with the sight of a deer, a beaver or even a fox.

**Cleveland Metroparks: 44 species**

**North America: 400 species**

**World: 4,650 species**

Date/time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather: \_\_\_\_\_

