



Woodlands Nature Station Amenities:





Backyard Wildlife Habitat & Gardens - Sit back, relax, and watch the busy flights and movements of butterflies and scores of hummingbirds attracted to our colorful blooms. We planted our gardens with native plants, which tend to be hearty and resilient compared to cultivated varieties.



Bald Eagle - Found only in North America, you can spot a mature bald eagle by its brown body, white head, and tail. Currently over 10,000 nesting pairs live in the lower 48 states, due to national conservation efforts. In 2007, the bald eagle came off the Federal Endangered Species List — a true conservation success story!



Bat Roosting Boxes - Bats can significantly reduce insect pests in your backyard. Our bat roosting boxes on display provide valuable shelter for local bat species. Look and listen closely as they may be sleeping in there right now. Ask us about white-nose syndrome that is killing bats in our region.



Bird Feeders - Observe the garden additions and plantings that provide food, water, space, and shelter for a variety of wildlife.



Bobcat - While bobcats are quite common in Land Between the Lakes, we rarely see them in the wild. These secretive and nocturnal predators try to avoid humans. The bobcat is our region's only remaining native cat.



Coyotes - Take a minute to watch this common nocturnal hunter and scavenger. We estimate about 400 coyotes roam Land Between the Lakes. You'll rarely see them — only hear them. Coyotes eat almost anything and can survive in just about every habitat in North America.



Deer - White-tailed deer populations peaked with over 24 million deer when settlers first came to America. Due to the popularity of hides and meat, deer numbers declined to 12 million by the mid 1800s and down to 500,000 by the turn of the century. Because of this decline, residents brought fallow deer from Europe to Land Between the Lakes in the early 1900s. A small herd of fallow deer still roam the area.



Groundhog - A member of the squirrel family, the groundhog (as known as the woodchuck or whistle-pig) will drop its body temperature nearly sixty degrees, may breathe only once every six minutes, and slow its heart rate for a long winter nap — hibernation.



Hawk, Red-tailed - With a body shaped like an arrow, red-tailed hawks hunt and dive at great speeds to catch their prey. With excellent vision, they can see a mouse from a mile!



Kestrel - Once nicknamed "sparrow-hawk," this small but swift falcon preys mainly on insects and mice. Although common in farm country, people often mistake them for doves or blue jays, due to their small size.



Opossum - America's only native marsupials, opossums have babies that develop in a pouch like kangaroos. At birth they're the size of a jelly bean!



Owl, Barn - Nicknamed "ghost owl," barn owls fly silently due to special feathers on their wings. They nest in barns and prefer to live and hunt in open fields, prairies, and even farmlands.



Owl, Barred - If you hear "who cooks for you?" on a calm night at Land Between the Lakes, you probably hear the Barred Owl — the most common owl in the area. Though they look big, these owls weigh only 2 to 2 1/2 pounds due to hollow bones and lots of feathers.



Owl, Screech - The pint-sized screech owl preys on mice and insects. You can easily attract them to your own backyard since they often use artificial nest boxes.



Owl, Great Horned - The great horned owl earned the nickname "tiger of the sky" by being a fierce predator. Powerful feet enable this bird to catch prey three times its own size. Like many birds, great horned owls have a poor sense of smell and as a result, have a unique favorite food — skunks!



Turtle Pond - Look closely to find the common and alligator snapping turtles. By eating a variety of plants, fish, and other aquatic animals, these turtles help maintain our lakes and streams.



Vultures - Black vultures and turkey vultures provide a tremendous service to humans. By way of a powerful immune system and other amazing abilities, vultures help keep our environment clean by feeding on dead animals.



Wild Turkey - Originally abundant in the region, by 1950 the wild turkey population had plummeted. Reintroduction efforts restored them to the area.



Wolves, Red - Take a look — this is the endangered red wolf brought to near extinction by humans. Fueled by stories of "the big bad wolf," humans have become afraid of these misunderstood animals. The red wolf is naturally shy and avoids people.



Woodland Pond - Many animals call this mud hole "home." In a place like this with plenty of food, water, shelter, and space, a frog might carry out its entire life cycle here. You might spot spiders, praying mantises, and other creatures in the vegetation.



Volunteer with the Woodlands Nature Station

E-mail: volunteer@friendsofbl.org

Become a member of the Friends of Land Between the Lakes

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