

original name in the Abenaki language. Adults weigh between 4-15 lbs and are between 29- 47 inches in length. Males are usually about twice the size of females. Their coats are darkish brown, with a black tail and legs; some individuals have a cream-colored patch on the chest. All four feet have five toes with retractable claws. Because they can rotate their hind paws 180 degrees, they can grasp limbs and climb down trees head first. Fishers are also known for one of their calls, which is often said to sound like a child screaming, and can be mistaken for someone in need of dire help.

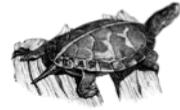


**Tree Frog (Spring Peeper)** (*Pseudacris crucifer*, synonym *Hyla crucifer*) the Spring Peeper is a small frog, attaining an adult size between .75 and 1.5 inches long. They have a dark cross on their backs roughly in the shape of an “X”, though sometimes the marking may be indistinct. The color variations of the spring peeper are mostly tan, brown, olive green, or gray. Females are lighter-colored, while males are slightly smaller and usually have dark throats. It eats small insects such as small spiders, ants, and water bugs. They breed from March to June when warm rain starts, and typically lay around 900 eggs per clutch, but up to 1000 is possible. In very cold weather they hibernate under logs and loose bark. Spring peepers are nocturnal frogs, so they are mostly heard but not seen. And they are especially easy to hear due to their extremely loud mating call which gives them the name “peeper”.



**Red-spotted Newt** (*N. v. viridescens*) is the most widespread subspecies, with a row of small red-orange spots

outlined in black along each side of the body. Eastern newts dwell in wet forests with small lakes or ponds. They may coexist in an aquatic environment with fish, because their skin secretes a poisonous substance when the newt is threatened or injured. They have a lifespan of 12 to 15 years in the wild, and may grow to 5 inches in length. The newts are a common aquarium pet, being either collected from the wild or purchased.



**Painted Turtle** (*Chrysemys picta*) This turtle lives in ponds, lakes, marshes, and in slow-moving rivers that have soft, muddy bottoms. Its shell is used to protect it from its predators. The bottom of the Painted turtle's shell has a beautiful design like it is painted. In the wild, this turtle may live for twenty to thirty years. The painted turtle spends most of its time in the water, but often lies on floating logs in the sun, as well as on rocks or by the shore. During very cold weather, painted turtles hibernate, burying themselves for months in the mud beneath streams and ponds.



**Red Squirrel** (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) In the summer, the red squirrel may have a black stripe on its sides. Its curved front claws and powerful hind legs make it a very good climber and jumper! The red squirrel eats a wide-variety of foods including insects, seeds, bark, nuts, fruits, mushrooms and pine seeds or cones. Sometimes it eats insects, young birds, mice and rabbits. A large part of its diet is made up of pine seeds. It also stores nuts and seeds in piles or middens under logs, at the base of trees and underground. It doesn't always find or eat

all of the seeds and nuts it has stored. Because of this, the red squirrel fills an important niche in spreading seeds in the forest.



**Chipmunk** (*Tamias striatus*) They have reddish-brown fur on their upper parts with 5 dark brown stripes and contrasting light brown stripes along their backs and light underparts. They have a tawny stripe that goes from their whiskers to below their ears and light stripes over their eyes. They have a dark tail. They transport food in pouches in their cheeks. They live in deciduous woods and urban parks and prefer locations with rocky areas and shrubs to provide cover. They climb trees well but construct underground nests with extensive tunnel systems, often with several entrances. They store food in their burrows. During winter, these animals enter long periods of torpor, but do not truly hibernate. They are mainly active during the day, spending most of their day foraging for food. They eat bulbs, seeds, fruits, nuts, green plants, mushrooms, insects, worms, bird eggs and smaller mammals. They have several bird-like chipping calls that give them their name.

\* Please note that this is just a sampling of the wildlife you will find in our area. The Adirondack Park is full of animals, big and small, who should all be treated with respect and left unharmed. Remember that these animals are wild and no one can not predict how they will behave in your presence.

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# Forest Animals in the Inlet Area



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The **American Black Bear** (*Ursus americanus*) is the most common bear species native to North America. The American Black Bear is about 6 feet long. Females weigh between 90 and 400 pounds; males weigh between 150 and 500 pounds. Cubs usually weigh between seven ounces and one pound at birth. The adult has small eyes, rounded ears, a long snout, a large body, and a short tail. It has an excellent sense of smell. They generally have shaggy black hair.



**Beaver** (*Chordata/Castor fiber-Canadensis*) Beavers are best known for their natural trait of building dams in rivers and streams, and building their homes (known as beaver lodges) in the eventual pond. They are the second-largest rodent in the world (after the capybara). Beavers continue to grow throughout life. Adult specimens weighing over 55 lb are not uncommon. Females are as large as or larger than males of the same age, which is uncommon among mammals.



**Musk Rat or Musquash** (*Ondatra zibethicus*, the only species in genus *Ondatra*) is a large aquatic rodent native to North America. Adult body length is usually between 8-16 inches long, with a strong, laterally compressed tail 8-10 inches long. The body is covered in thick, brown waterproof fur; the underparts are paler. They have partially webbed hind feet and small able hand-like front feet. The weight is over 3.5 pounds, about four times the weight of a Brown Rat. These animals are most active at night or near dawn and dusk. They feed on cattails and other aquatic vegetation, freshwater mussels, frogs, crayfish and small turtles.



**White-tailed Deer** (*Odocoileinae*) The white-tailed deer's coat is reddish-brown in the spring & summer and grayish-brown throughout the fall & winter. It has white on its throat, around its eyes and nose, on its stomach and on the underside of its tail. The male has antlers which they shed during the winter months. Males weigh between 130 and 220 pounds (rare cases have recorded up to 350 pounds) and females weigh between 90 and 130 pounds (with some as heavy as 175). Females give birth to one, two or sometimes three spotted fawns in late spring (May- June). Fawns lose their spots during the first summer and will weigh 44-77 pounds by the first winter. The white-tailed deer is an herbivore or plant eater. It follows well-used trails to its feeding areas. It feeds in the early morning hours and in the late afternoon. A deer's diet changes depending on its habitat and the season. It eats green plants in the spring and summer. In the fall, it eats corn, acorns and other nuts. In the winter, it eats the buds and twigs of woody plants.



**Moose** (*Alces alces americanus*) The moose (so named in North America, derived from Eastern *Abenaki mox*) is the largest member of the deer family *Cervidae*, distinguished from the others by the palmate antlers of its males. Moose eat saplings and shrubs in and around low marshy areas. Male moose normally weighs 1200-1600 pounds and females usually weigh about 880 pounds. A typical moose stands 6.2 ft at the shoulder. Only the male have antlers, often 62 inches across and 44 pounds in weight with up to 30 tines.



**Bobcat** (*Lynx rufus*) The Bobcat is a carnivorous animal which will hunt any- thing from insects and small rodents to large deer, but often shows a preference for rabbits and hares. What it hunts will depend on location and habitat, season, and scarcity of prey. The Bobcat breeds from winter into the spring and has a gestation period of about two months. The kittens will stay with the mother until about a year old. The Bobcat is twice as large as a house cat but typically smaller than the related Canadian Lynx. The adult male, averaging 36 inches in length, and weighing from 16 to 30 pounds, is generally 30-40% larger than the female.



**Otter** (*lutrinae*) is a carnivorous aquatic or marine mammal part of the family *Mustelidae*. Otters have a dense layer (650,000 hairs per sq. in) of very soft underfur which, protected by their outer layer of long guard hairs, keeps them dry under water and traps a layer of air to keep them warm. All otters have long, slim, streamlined bodies of extraordinary grace and flexibility, and short limbs; in most cases they have webbed paws. Most have sharp claws to grasp prey of fish as the primary item in their diet, supplemented by frogs, and crayfish.



**Bullfrog** (*Lithobates catesbeianus*, previously *Rana catesbeiana*) is an aquatic frog, a member of the family *Ranidae*, or "true frogs", native to much of North America. The bullfrog is a large species of the *Ranidae* family and can grow to a length of 6 inches with a weight of up to 1.5 lb. Females are typically larger than males. They are generally vary- ing shades of green or brown,



with dark brown, dark green, or black blotching and a yellow or white under- side. The American Bullfrog uses its skin, buccal cavity, and lungs for respiration. Cutaneous ("skin") gas exchange is very important in all amphibians. They are aptly named since their call is a loud, guttural bellow that carries a long distance, giving the impression that the frog is much larger than it actually is, which is an advantage in keeping predators away. Bullfrogs are carnivorous and will consume almost anything that fits into their mouth which they can overpower, including insects, small mammals, fish, snakes, and even other frogs.

**Raccoon** is a nocturnal mammal in the genus *Procyon* of the *Procyonidae* family. Raccoons are unusual for their thumbs, which are opposable and allows them to open garbage cans and doors. They are omnivores with a reputation for being clever and mischievous; their intelligence and dexterity equip them to survive in a wide range of environments. Raccoons range from 20 to 40 inches in length (including the tail) and weigh between 10 and 35 lb. The raccoon's tail ranges from 8 to 16 inches in length. Male raccoons are generally larger than females. A baby raccoon is called a kit. Raccoon hind feet are plantigrade similar to a human's.



**Fisher** (*Martes pennanti*) is a North American mar- ten. Despite its name, this animal seldom eats fish, but is a typical marten; a medium sized mustelid, agile in trees and slender enough of body to pursue prey into hollow trees or burrows in the ground. Their name is thought to originate from the French word *fichet*. In some re- gions the fisher is known as a pekan which is derived from its