

## barred owl

Diet: primarily small mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, fish, and invertebrates.

Water: requirements largely unknown. They likely obtain their water needs from the foods they consume.

Cover: mature forests with an abundance of relatively large trees and cavities, often near water. They also may use artificial cavities (nest boxes) when placed in mature forests where these birds are found.

## loggerhead shrike

Diet: insects and spiders, small mammals, small birds, reptiles, and amphibians

Water: water requirements are obtained through their diet

Cover: nest are in dense shrubs and trees; taller, thorny species are preferred; courtship and foraging sites are elevated, exposed perches over open areas with herbaceous vegetation and some bare ground; evergreens may be used in winter when available

## mourning dove

Diet: a variety of grass and forb seeds, as well as several agricultural grains; small areas of bare ground are beneficial for obtaining grit (small gravel) to help digest food

Water: freestanding water required daily

Cover: shrubs and trees are used for nesting and loafing; areas with open ground space required for foraging

## northern bobwhite

Diet: young quail eat insects and other invertebrates (such as spiders); adult quail eat a variety of seeds (especially legumes, ragweed, crotons, lespedeza, etc.), green vegetation (mostly forbs), invertebrates, various crops (corn, soybeans, wheat, grain sorghum), and mast (such as acorns and blackberries)

Water: necessary water is obtained through the diet

Cover: shrub cover for escape and thermoregulation throughout the year; forbs and grasses for nesting; native forbs for brood rearing

## **prothonotary warbler**

Diet: insects, especially ants, beetles, butterflies, moths, mayflies, aquatic larvae; snails and isopods; occasionally various seeds and fruits

Water: necessary water is obtained through the diet

Cover: mature bottomland hardwood forests; cypress swamps; dead standing timber help ensure presence of cavities

## **red-cockaded woodpecker**

Diet: ants, beetles, roaches, caterpillars, wood-boring insects, spiders, and occasionally fruits and berries

Water: necessary water is obtained through diet

Cover: mature stands of Southern yellow pines, especially longleaf and shortleaf; relatively open stands with very little midstory and a diverse herbaceous understory are most desirable for foraging; a cluster site is the stand of trees surrounding and containing cavity trees and should be at least 100 acres

## red-eyed vireo

Diet: mostly insects and spiders during spring and summer; more soft mast during winter

Water: necessary water is obtained from diet

Cover: midstory and overstory of mature mixed deciduous forest

## wild turkey

Diet: extremely varied; hard mast, especially acorns and beechnuts in the fall and winter; soft mast, such as blackberries, mulberries, and black cherry; insects and other invertebrates, including spiders and snails, are especially important for young poults and hens prior to nesting; miscellaneous seeds; leaves from forbs and grasses; grain from a variety of agricultural crops

Water: obtain water from diet, but may use free-standing water when available

Cover: mature forest, young regenerating forest, brushy areas, and old-fields for nesting; mature forest, woodlands, savannas, herbaceous openings, and grain fields for foraging; trees or tall shrubs for roosting

## wood duck

Diet: acorns are the primary diet item in fall and winter; other hard mast, miscellaneous seeds and soft mast, as well as waste grain (especially corn) also are eaten; insects and other invertebrates are most important for wood duck chicks and hens prior to and during the nesting season

Water: obtained through diet and drink free-standing water regularly

Cover: shallowly flooded bottomland hardwoods, emergent wetlands, swamps, and marshes are commonly used for loafing and foraging cover; tree cavities in forested areas and artificial cavities used for nesting

## coyote

Diet: rodents, rabbits, and other small mammals, insects, birds, eggs, deer, carrion, and soft mast; livestock and wild ungulates (deer, elk, pronghorn) usually are represented in coyote stomachs as carrion; however, in some cases, coyotes prey heavily on deer and pronghorn fawns, and can limit reproductive success in some situations

Water: requirements are not well documented; necessary water probably is obtained in diet

Cover: grasslands, shrublands, regenerating forest, mature forest; crevices and burrows along river banks, rock ledges, brushpiles, and holes under stumps or abandoned buildings are used as den sites for raising pups

## **eastern cottontail**

Diet: forbs and grasses, browse, and soft mast from spring through fall; in winter, bark of shrubs and trees, as well as buds and browse

Water: necessary water obtained from diet

Cover: shrub cover, brushpiles, native warm-season grasses and forbs for loafing and escape cover; burrows also are used for denning and escape

## **eastern fox squirrel**

Diet: a variety of hard mast, acorns, seeds, tree buds and flowers, mushrooms, soft mast, eggs, and corn

Water: necessary water generally is obtained through diet, but freestanding water may be used in late summer

Cover: mature hardwood and pine forest, small openings, woodlands, and savannas; nest in tree cavities or build a nest of twigs and leaves

## raccoon

Diet: crayfish, birds, eggs, small mammals, insects, lizards, snakes, worms, fish, carrion, grains, seeds, hard and soft mast, and foods prepared for human and pet consumption

Water: require water frequently during warm seasons

Cover: riparian areas, bottomland hardwoods, and along other wetlands; natural tree cavities are used for denning and daytime loafing; raccoons also den in ground burrows under stumps, brush piles, junk piles, old abandoned buildings, and rocky cliffs and ledges

## white-tailed deer

Diet: forbs, browse, acorns, beechnuts, soft mast (such as blackberry and persimmon), grains, and mushrooms; in the northern parts of the range, coniferous browse is important in winter; annual grains, such as wheat, oats, and rye, are eaten as well as young sprouts of a few perennial grasses in late winter

Water: obtain most of their water from diet, but drink free-standing water when available

Cover: dense woody vegetation as well as relatively tall early successional vegetation, including native grasses, forbs, and shrubs; at the northern edge of their range white-tailed deer use wintering areas, which are usually dense stands of spruce, fir, cedar, and hemlock to avoid deep snow and cold winds

## wild pig

Diet: wild pigs are the perfect example of an omnivore; approximately 85 percent of their diet is vegetation, but they also prey upon small animals and often scavenge animal carcasses; they especially prefer crops, such as corn and peanuts, and aggressively out compete native wildlife species for hard and soft mast whenever those food items are available

Water: must have access to free-standing water for drinking and thermoregulation

Cover: wild pigs seek dense cover, such as heavy understory or thick shrubs and grasslands, near or in riparian areas that reduce opportunity for human contact; pig family groups (called sounders) often use streams, rivers, streams, and associated wetlands as travel corridors to move as they seek food sources

## American alligator

Diet: invertebrates, such as insects, crustaceans, and snails, fish, frogs, snakes, turtles, crabs, birds, mammals, and carrion

Cover/Water: alligators are more aquatic than terrestrial; they occur in marshes, swamps, streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, impoundments, and canals. Although primarily a freshwater species, alligators occasionally move into both brackish and saltwater environments for periods of time.



## eastern indigo snake

Diet: small mammals, frogs, lizards, fish, eggs, birds, and other snakes

Water: requirements largely unknown; likely obtain water needs from the foods they consume

Cover: sandy soils with an abundance of animal burrows and stump holes in areas dominated by pine and hardwood forests, woodlands, and savanna; they also use hammocks, palmetto flats, and brushy areas near riparian areas and wetlands

## gopher tortoise

Diet: grasses, legumes, and fruits

Water: necessary water obtained from diet

Cover: burrows provide necessary cover

## channel catfish

Diet: young catfish feed mostly on aquatic insects; adults eat crawfish, aquatic insects, plant material including algae, snails, small fish, and even seeds; commercially prepared rations have been formulated and are used to feed channel catfish in aquaculture (fish farming) operations as well as in farm ponds and other impoundments

Water: obtained from their aquatic environment and food; reservoirs, lakes and ponds; moderately to swift-flowing streams and rivers with gravel, sand, or muddy bottoms; seldom inhabits water with abundant submerged aquatic vegetation

Cover: females typically lay eggs in dark holes or under logs or rocks

## largemouth bass

Diet: young bass eat insects and other invertebrates (worms, crayfish, and zooplankton); adults eat small fish, such as bluegill, and a variety of minnows, as well as tadpoles, crayfish, and even ducklings

Water: basic requirements include dissolved oxygen (minimum of 4 parts per million); pH should range between 6.5 and 9.0; water temperature should reach at least 70 F during summer (one foot below surface in shade)

Cover: aquatic environments with submerged rocks, woody debris, and aquatic vegetation where small fish (prey) hide

## **American bumble bee**

Diet: nectar and pollen from a variety of flowering plants

Water: require free-standing water and use it at the hive to regulate the temperature of the hive, feed young bees, and dilute stored honey

Cover: undisturbed early successional ecosystems rich in flowering plants

## **monarch butterfly**

Diet: larvae feed on various species of milkweed plants; adults feed on nectar from a variety of flowering plants and may also eat fruit, such as persimmon, pawpaw, and wild strawberry

Water: cannot land on water to drink, but may sip moisture from saturated soil

Cover: large, undisturbed early successional communities rich in flowering plants and especially an abundance of milkweeds; mountain forests for roosting during winter