

Wildlife of Edmonds

The City of Edmonds, on the shore of Puget Sound, is home to hundreds of species of birds, mammals, fish, and other vertebrate wildlife, and countless numbers of invertebrates. Whether they live in a wildlife sanctuary, park, or backyard, these wild animals depend on a clean environment to survive and thrive. Your actions can make a difference in protecting wildlife and watershed health.

Ten ways you can help protect our wildlife and watersheds

- > Use as many native plants as possible in your landscaping. They provide the best food and cover for wildlife and don't need fertilizers or pesticides.
- > Leave dead trees (snags) on your property for cavity-nesting birds if they pose no safety hazard. If natural cavities are not available, provide nest boxes designed to discourage use by non-native species like House Sparrows and Starlings.
- > Create brush piles for amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals to use as shelter and nesting habitat.
- > Keep bird feeders clean and safe, if you choose to feed for your own viewing pleasure.
- > Add a birdbath, garden pond, or other source of water for wildlife to bathe and drink.
- > Control cats on your property. They can be especially harmful to birds that feed or nest on the ground. Cats themselves are healthier and live longer when they don't roam.
- > Minimize pavement and impervious surfaces on your property. Leave vegetation wherever possible and substitute gravel or interlocking pavers for concrete or asphalt.
- > Have your vehicles regularly maintained. Fix all leaks immediately and do not wash your car in the driveway, allowing soap and pollutants to run into nearby storm drains.
- > Keep litter, grass clippings, and pet waste from contaminating streams. Pet waste should be double-bagged in plastic, tied tightly and placed in the garbage.
- > Teach children to respect the watersheds and wildlife we all share a responsibility for protecting, and set a good example for others in the community by having your yard certified as a Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary. Learn about the Edmonds Wildlife Habitat Project at www.edmondswa.gov.



CITY OF EDMONDS
PARKS, RECREATION AND
CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
700 Main Street | Edmonds WA 98020
www.edmondswa.gov

A partial list of species found in and around Edmonds



BIRDS

Bald Eagle
Brant
Canada Goose
Wood Duck
Gadwall
American Wigeon
Mallard
Blue-winged Teal
Cinnamon Teal
Northern Shoveler
Northern Pintail
Green-winged Teal
Canvasback
Ring-necked Duck
Greater Scaup
Lesser Scaup
Harlequin Duck
Surf Scoter
White-winged Scoter
Black Scoter
Bufflehead
Common Goldeneye
Barrow's Goldeneye
Hooded Merganser
Common Merganser
Red-breasted Merganser
Ruddy Duck
California Quail
Red-throated Loon
Pacific Loon
Common Loon
Pied-billed Grebe
Horned Grebe
Red-necked Grebe
Western Grebe
Brandt's Cormorant
Double-crested Cormorant
Pelagic Cormorant
Great Blue Heron
Green Heron
Turkey Vulture
Osprey
Northern Harrier
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Cooper's Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Virginia Rail
American Coot
Black-bellied Plover
Semipalmated Plover
Killdeer
Greater Yellowlegs
Lesser Yellowlegs
Spotted Sandpiper
Black Turnstone
Sanderling
Semipalmated Sandpiper
Western Sandpiper
Least Sandpiper
Baird's Sandpiper
Pectoral Sandpiper
Dunlin
Short-billed Dowitcher
Long-billed Dowitcher
Wilson's Snipe
Red-necked Phalarope
Bonaparte's Gull
Heerman's Gull
Mew Gull
Ring-billed Gull
Western Gull
California Gull
Herring Gull
Glaucous-winged Gull
Caspian Tern
Common Tern
Parasitic Jaeger
Common Murre
Pigeon Guillemot
Marbled Murrelet
Ancient Murrelet
Rhinceros Auklet
Rock Pigeon (I)
Band-tailed Pigeon
Eurasian Collared-Dove (I)
Great-horned Owl
Barred Owl
Vaux's Swift
Anna's Hummingbird
Rufous Hummingbird
Belted Kingfisher
Red-breasted Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Merlin
Peregrine Falcon
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Western Wood-Pewee
Willow Flycatcher
Hammond's Flycatcher
Pacific-slope Flycatcher
Cassin's Vireo
Hutton's Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Steller's Jay
American Crow
Common Raven
Purple Martin
Tree Swallow

Violet-green Swallow
Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Black-capped Chickadee
Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Bushtit
Red-breasted Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Pacific Wren
Marsh Wren
Bewick's Wren
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Swainson's Thrush
Hermit Thrush
American Robin
Varied Thrush
European Starling (I)
American Pipit
Cedar Waxwing
Orange-crowned Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Yellow Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Townsend's Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Spotted Towhee
Savannah Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Western Tanager
Black-headed Grosbeak
Red-winged Blackbird
Brewer's Blackbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Bullock's Oriole
House Finch
Red Crossbill
Pine Siskin
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow (I)



MAMMALS

Townsend's Chipmunk
Common Opossum (I)
Vagrant Shrew
Shrew-mole
Pacific Mole
Townsend's Mole
Townsend's Big-eared Bat
Big Brown Bat
Silver-haired Bat
Hoary Bat
California Myotis
Little Brown Myotis
Yuma Myotis
Eastern Cottontail (I)
Mountain Beaver
Eastern Gray Squirrel (I)
Douglas Squirrel
Northern Flying Squirrel
American Beaver
Creeping Vole
Muskrat
Deer Mouse
House Mouse (I)
Norway Rat (I)
Black Rat (I)
Coyote
California Sea Lion
Harbor Seal
River Otter
Short-tailed Weasel
Long-tailed Weasel
Mink
Raccoon
Black-tailed Deer
Gray Whale
Orca (Killer Whale)
Harbor Porpoise
Dall's Porpoise



FISH

Coho Salmon
Spotted Ratfish
Spiny Dogfish
Big Skate
Pacific Herring
Surf Smelt
Eulachon
Chinook Salmon
Sockeye Salmon
Chum Salmon
Pink Salmon
Steelhead Trout
Cutthroat Trout
Tubesnout
Copper Rockfish
Black Rockfish
Yellowtail Rockfish
Quillback Rockfish
Kelp Greenling
Lingcod
Tidepool Sculpin
Cabezon
Shiner Perch
Striped Seaperch
Pile Perch
Penpoint Gunnel
Pacific Sand Lance
Blackeye Goby
Starry Flounder
C-O Sole
Sand Sole
English Sole



INTERTIDAL INVERTEBRATES

Painted Anemone
Bread Crumb Sponge
Lion's Mane Jellyfish
Moon Jelly
Brooding Anemone
Aggregating Anemone
Feather Duster Worm
Calcareous Tube Worm
Mossy Chiton
Lined Chiton
Keyhole Limpet
Shield Limpet
Moon Snail
Checked Periwinkle
Purple Whelk
Sea Lemon
Opalescent Nudibranch
Shaggy Mouse Nudibranch
Striped Nudibranch
Frosted Nudibranch
Blue Mussel
Heart Cockle
Littleneck Clam
Manila Clam (I)
Butter Clam
Horse Clam
Acorn Barnacle
Rockweed Isopod
Beach Hopper
Skeleton Shrimp
Hairy Hermit Crab
Green Shore Crab
Purple Shore Crab
Red Rock Crab
Dungeness Crab
Kelp Crab
Sunflower Sea Star
Purple Sea Star
Mottled Sea Star
Blood Star
Six-rayed Sea Star
Green Sea Urchin
Orange Sea Cucumber



AMPHIBIANS

Pacific Treefrog
Northwestern Salamander
Long-toed Salamander
Ensatina
Western Redback Salamander
Northern Red-legged Frog
American Bullfrog (I)



REPTILES

Common Garter Snake
Western Painted Turtle (I)
Red-eared Slider (I)
Rubber Boa
Western Terrestrial Garter Snake
Northwestern Garter Snake
Northern Alligator Lizard

Resource List

BOOKS:

- Living with Wildlife in the Pacific Northwest* by Russell Link
- Landscaping for Wildlife in the Pacific Northwest* by Russell Link
- Amphibians of Oregon, Washington and British Columbia* by Charlotte C. Corkran and Chris Thoms
- Birds of the Puget Sound Region* by Bob Morse, Tom Aversa, and Hal Opperman
- Wildlife of the Pacific Northwest* by David Moskowitz
- Mammals of the Pacific Northwest* by Chris Maser
- Bugs of Washington and Oregon* by John Acorn and Ian Sheldon
- Insects of the Pacific Northwest* by Peter and Judy Haggard
- Passionate Slugs & Hollywood Frogs* by Patricia Lichen and Linda Feltner
- Plants and Animals of the Pacific Northwest* by Eugene N. Kozloff
- Field Guide to the Birds of North America* by National Geographic Society
- The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Western North America* by David Allen Sibley
- The New Stokes Field Guide to Birds: Western Region* by Donald and Lillian Stokes
- Reptiles of the Northwest* by Alan St. John

WEBSITES:

- Edmonds Discovery Programs:* www.discovery.edmondswa.gov
- Burke Museum/Washington State Field Guides:* www.burkemuseum.org/fieldguide

Photography



Bill Anderson: Bald Eagle (Birds list), Bewick's Wren, Green-winged Teal, Northwestern Garter Snake, Wilson's Snipe, River Otter, Osprey (flying), Mourning Cloak Butterfly, Hoary Comma Butterfly

Michael L. "Mike" Baird (Wikimedia Commons): Greater Yellowlegs

Paul Bannick: Long-toed Salamander

Todd Brown: Mason Bee, Great Blue Heron (flying over title)

Debbie Lynne Chally: Steller's Jay, Pileated Woodpecker

Douglas Chewning: Osprey (marine habitat species), Great Blue Heron (fishing)

Barb Drake: Painted Anemone, Green Sea Urchin, Lined Chiton

Janine Harles: Bald Eagle (flying)

Craig Kerns: Mountain Beaver

William Lider: Townsend's Warbler

Michael McAuliffe: Black-capped Chickadee

Jon McGinnis (Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife): Pacific Treefrog (backyard habitat species)

Kevin Mack: Pacific Treefrog (Amphibians list), Anna's Hummingbird, Western Tiger Swallowtail, Marsh Wren

Susan Morrow: Harbor Seal

Terry Olmsted: Townsend's Chipmunk, Belted Kingfisher, Douglas Squirrel, Spotted Towhee, Sanderling

Dennis Paulson: Common Garter Snake, Paddle-tailed Darner, Virginia Rail

Ken Pickle: Great Blue Heron (marsh habitat species)

Thomas A. Sawtell: Coho Salmon, Brant

Merlin D. Tuttle: Little Brown Myotis

LeRoy VanHee: Edmonds Marsh

I = Introduced, Non-native Species

Funded in part through a grant from the Hubbard Family Foundation.

© 2015, Printed on recycled paper, chlorine-free, acid-free manufacturing process using soy-based inks

>
backyard
habitat
species



Steller's Jay



Anna's Hummingbird



Mason Bee



Townsend's Mole



Western Tiger Swallowtail



Bewick's Wren



Black-capped Chickadee



Pacific Treefrog

>
marsh
habitat
species



Douglas Squirrel



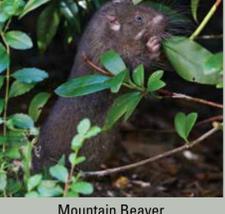
Pileated Woodpecker



Long-toed Salamander



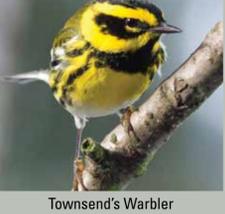
Spotted Towhee



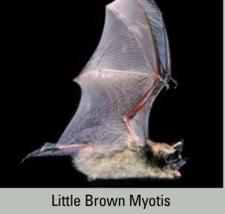
Mountain Beaver



Banana Slug



Townsend's Warbler



Little Brown Myotis

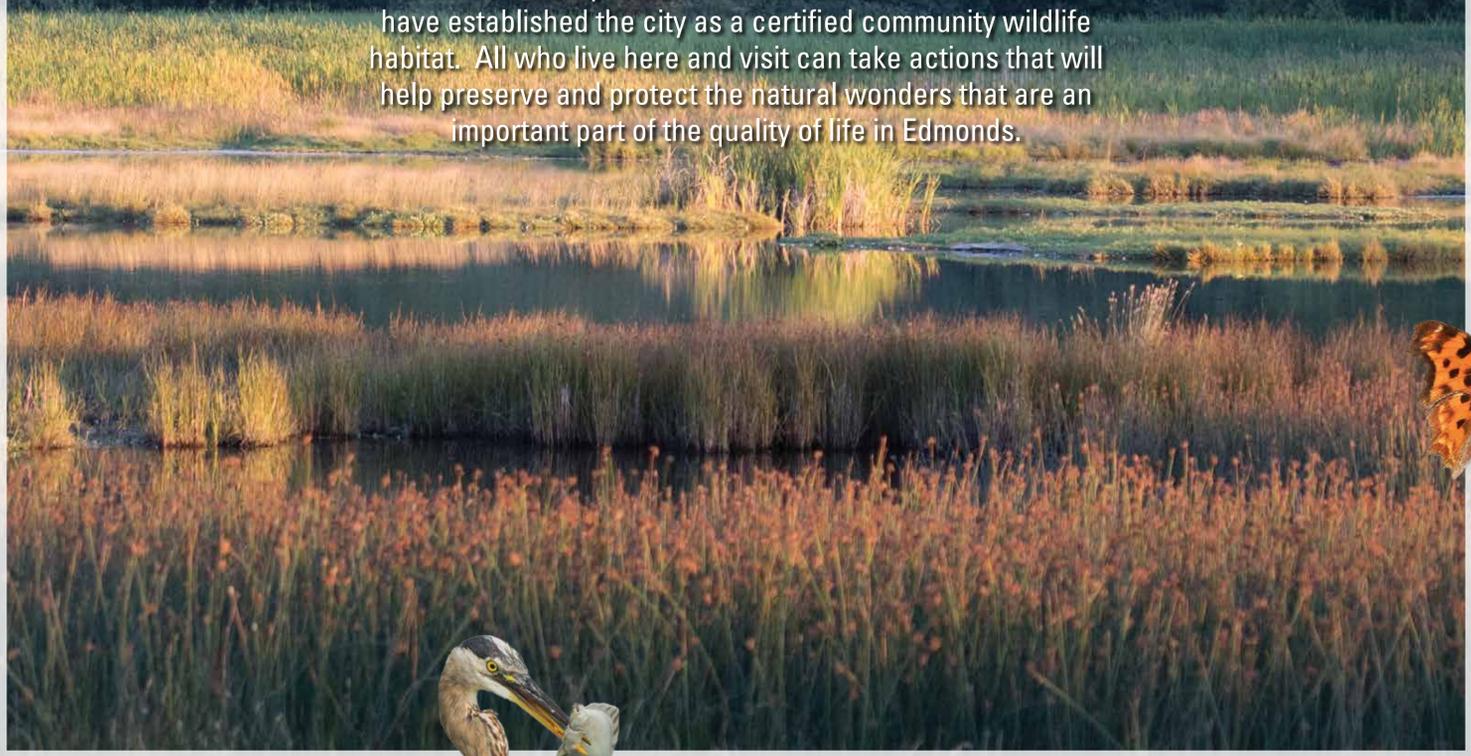
backyard habitat Birds and other wildlife need food, water, shelter, and a safe place to raise a family. Backyards provide essential habitat in an urban environment like Edmonds. Hummingbirds and butterflies, frogs, Great Blue Herons, and even bats are found in these places. You can help by planting native plants, limiting the use of pesticides, and keeping your cats indoors. Adding water features and nest boxes can turn your property into an oasis for wildlife. You'll be amazed at the variety of species that will be happy to visit or take up residence in your yard.

forest habitat The urban forests in Yost and Pine Ridge Parks and other sites in Edmonds are home to fascinating and delightful birds such as Pileated Woodpeckers and Barred Owls. Migratory species like the Swainson's Thrush can be seen and heard in some seasons. Elusive Raccoons and Mountain Beavers inhabit these areas as well. Evergreen trees and shrubs provide cover that helps birds survive the cold winters. The forest canopy, understory trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants form the basis of a complex food web and multi-layered habitat. Even dead trees or "snags" serve a purpose. Woodpeckers feed on insects in the rotting wood, and excavate cavities for nesting.

Wildlife of Edmonds

A diversity of habitats within the City of Edmonds shelter hundreds of species of wildlife from microscopic marine invertebrates to majestic Bald Eagles. Citizens of Edmonds care about the protection of its natural resources, and have established the city as a certified community wildlife habitat. All who live here and visit can take actions that will help preserve and protect the natural wonders that are an important part of the quality of life in Edmonds.

marsh habitat At the intersection of fresh and saltwater, the Edmonds Marsh provides a diversity of habitats for a variety of wildlife. Songbirds like the Red-winged Blackbird and Marsh Wren nest among the cattails in the freshwater zone. Fluctuating water levels due to the daily tidal cycle and seasonal changes create feeding opportunities for waterfowl and shorebirds. Garter snakes hunt for a variety of small prey animals in and around the wetland. Planned restoration of the connection between Willow Creek and Puget Sound will offer juvenile Chinook Salmon access to the marsh habitat. You can help by following leash and scoop laws when walking your dog near streams and wetlands.



marine habitat The receding waters of Puget Sound reveal a treasure trove of marine life during low tide on the beaches of Edmonds. Step carefully into this rich intertidal zone and you will see strange and beautiful creatures like Feather Duster Worms, Opalescent Nudibranchs, and Purple Sea Stars. The marine sanctuary along the shoreline and in the Edmonds Underwater Park provides a refuge for hundreds of species, including some of the largest Lingcod in Puget Sound. Visit anytime, but take home only photographs and memories from this special place.



Greater Yellowlegs



Great Blue Heron



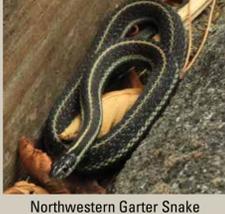
Marsh Wren



Green-winged Teal



Paddle-tailed Darter



Northwestern Garter Snake



Virginia Rail



Wilson's Snipe

>
forest
habitat
species



Belted Kingfisher



Harbor Seal



Red Rock Crab



Green Sea Urchin



River Otter



Brant



Sunflower Sea Star



Osprey

<
marine
habitat
species