

# Help us celebrate Winter Wildlife Field Days and find nature in your neighborhood!

Pick up a passport for Winter Wildlife Field Days. Then go to [tinyurl.com/wwfd2021](https://tinyurl.com/wwfd2021) for nature- and science-based activities from a variety of organizations. Mark off the passport and register to win a WWFD patch.

## Do your first activity here with Corvallis P&R!



### P&R Challenge: Raccoon Roundup

Help find Blackberry, the raccoon kit, and her six other litter mates! They got spooked while scavenging one day and scattered. P&R heard they are hiding in seven parks across town.

Can you find them, too? **Clue: You will discover them near features important for winter wildlife in each park.**

These are not real raccoons (sorry:))

### Explore these parks to find Blackberry and her litter mates:

Bruce Starker Arts Park and Natural Area

MLK Jr. Park

Village Green Park

Lilly Park

Tunison Park

Garfield Park

Cloverland Park



**Raccoons are this year's mascot as they can relate to our COVID protocols in that they are fastidious about cleaning their hands (*well, food before eating*), and they wear a mask (*granted over their eyes instead of their mouth and nose*).**

Excellent work! You found **Willow**, one of the missing raccoons.



## Winter Wildlife Field Days

**How can you help other winter wildlife?**  
*Attract Pollinators by Planting Native Plants*

Look BEEhind me and see the bee domicile. This is a home for all different kinds of solitary native bees like mason bees. Native plants (plants that originate in an area and aren't brought in from other areas) attract bees and other pollinators, like butterflies.

Many of these plants are food for wild animals. Many more of these plants are foods for you. All the fruits and vegetables you eat couldn't grow without the help of pollinators.



**Raccoon Fact: Raccoons are omnivores. They eat plants and animals. Favorites include native plants like blackberry and salmonberries.**

*The rest of Willow's litter mates are hiding in 6 other parks in Corvallis. Find them next in Garfield Park, Village Green Park, MLK Jr. Park, Lilly Park, Cloverland Park & Tunison Park.*

Excellent work! You found  
**Ash**, one of the  
missing raccoons.



## Winter Wildlife Field Days

**How can you help other winter wildlife?**  
*Volunteer for Habitat Restoration Events*

Look around and see the variety of trees that volunteers planted along the river bank. This slows down erosion and provides habitat and coverage.

You'll also see the beaver dam and lodge. A lodge is a beaver's house. Beavers build dams to surround their lodge, or home, with water. This is to protect them from predators. Beavers are very important animals. Their beaver ponds create wetlands which increase plant, bird and wildlife variety, improve water quality and raise salmon and trout populations. Beaver teeth never stop growing and their four front incisor teeth are self-sharpening. Beavers are vegetarian.



**Raccoon Fact: Did you know raccoons are great swimmers?**

*The rest of Ash's litter mates are hiding in 6 other parks in Corvallis. Find them next in Garfield Park, Starker Arts Park, MLK Jr. Park, Lilly Park, Cloverland Park & Tunison Park.*

Excellent work! You found **Blackberry**, one of the missing raccoons.



## Winter Wildlife Field Days

**How can you help other winter wildlife?**

*Keep Waterways Clean*

Find Lamprey Creek. It's three miles long and home to native fish like cutthroat trout and Pacific lamprey. Pacific lamprey are strange looking! Eel-like in form, they are an important food source for other animals and even people. Their numbers are decreasing due to lack of passage (caused by culverts and other water diversions), stream and floodplain degradation and poor water quality.

Picking up pet waste, using lawn fertilizers that don't include phosphorus, making sure garbage makes it into bins, and using a commercial car wash instead of your driveway or street help to keep water clean.



**Raccoon Fact:** Some of a raccoon's favorite foods are found in and near water; crawfish, frogs and worms.

*The rest of Blackberry's litter mates are hiding in 6 other parks in Corvallis. Find them next in Garfield Park, Starker Arts Park, Village Green Park, Lilly Park, Cloverland Park & Tunison Park.*

Excellent work! You found **Red**, one of the missing raccoons.



# Winter Wildlife Field Days

**How can you help other winter wildlife?**

*Plant a tree*

Look around and you can see Giant Sequoias, Sweetgums and Pin Oaks. Other trees common in Corvallis are Maple, Ash, Cherry and more. Trees provide a source of food and home to many native animals. Trees also provide shelter from winter wind and summer heat. Trees make their food through photosynthesis and take carbon dioxide out of the air. This is good because carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change.

Did you know Corvallis Parks & Recreation can help you plant a tree? You can learn more on our city website under Urban Forestry.



**Raccoon Fact:** Raccoons are primarily nocturnal (active at night). During the day, they may use tree branches, hollow logs and tree cavities for dens.

*The rest of Red's litter mates are hiding in 6 other parks in Corvallis. Find them next in MLK Jr. Park, Starker Arts, Village Green Park, Lilly Park, Cloverland Park & Tunison Park.*

Excellent work! You found  
**Oak**, one of the  
missing raccoons.



# Winter Wildlife Field Days

**How can you help other winter wildlife?**

*Appreciate the diversity of plants and trees*

Explore this small tree arboretum. How many different trees are here? Trees and other vegetation like shrubs and flowers provide food and habitat for winter wildlife.

Each kind of tree and plant provides different benefits. Raccoons and birds like to eat the acorns from the Pin Oak in this park. Squirrels build nests in a variety of trees. Trees and other plants bloom at different times during the year. Osoberrys and Snowberrys are native shrubs that don't bloom and fruit until winter. This means there is food in winter as well as year round.



**Raccoon Fact:** Raccoons wash their food in water before they eat it. Even with no water around, they go through the motion of washing food. This behavior likely softens food items and removes dirt and sand.

*The rest of Oak's litter mates are hiding in 6 other parks in Corvallis.  
Find them next in MLK Jr. Park, Starker Arts Park, Village Green Park, Lilly Park,  
Garfield Park & Tunison Park.*

Excellent work! You found **Cherry**, one of the missing raccoons.



## Winter Wildlife Field Days

**How can you help other winter wildlife?**

*Use high quality food designed for wild birds in feeders*

Look to the sky to find one of the local house finches. This social bird is rarely seen alone. A small bird, males have a red forehead, throat, eyebrow and chest. Their three to seven-inch wide nests are cup-shaped and made of stems, leaves, twigs, string and feather with finer materials in the lining.

House finches prefer black oil sunflower seeds in feeders which are great for tiny beaks. Compare these to the less desirable seed which get pushed out of the feeder and can grow invasive plants. Planting native, fruit-bearing trees and shrubs like elderberry, serviceberry, dogwood and snowberry provide bird feasts in the fall and winter, too.



**Raccoon Fact:** Raccoons have front paws that work like human hands. They can open doors, refrigerators and garbage cans!

*The rest of Cherry's litter mates are hiding in 6 other parks in Corvallis. Find them next in MLK Jr. Park, Starker Arts Park, Village Green Park, Cloverland Park, Garfield Park & Tunison Park*

Excellent work! You found **Maple**, one of the missing raccoons.



## Winter Wildlife Field Days

**How can you help other winter wildlife?**

*Observe winter wildlife in parks and open spaces*

Take a moment to be silent. What sounds do you hear? Besides human-made sounds, you likely heard breeze rustling the needles of the trees and birds. Many birds, including paired barn swallows, live in and use this park.

For wildlife, this park is a home. A place to find food and shelter. What benefits do parks provide people? They are a place to play and go to feel better physically and mentally. Even if there aren't a lot of shade trees, grass and other plants are cooler than concrete. Trees and green spaces help clean the air by absorbing carbon dioxide.



**Raccoon Fact:** Raccoons babies are called kits. Mothers usually have three or four young but can have as few as one or as many as seven. Kits are born without fur.

*The rest of Maple's litter mates are hiding in 6 other parks in Corvallis. Find them next in MLK Jr. Park, Starker Arts Park, Village Green Park, Lilly Park, Cloverland Park & Gafield Park.*