

# RACCOONS

Procyon lotor

Medium-sized mammal ranging from 15-40 lbs

Appear hunched from having longer hind legs than front legs

Dense gray fur with a ringed tail and black facial mask

Dexterous front paws with 5 toes



# RACCOON

## NATURAL HISTORY



### Predators

- humans
- dogs
- cougars
- bobcats
- coyotes
- large raptors



Live alone or in  
small single sex  
social groups

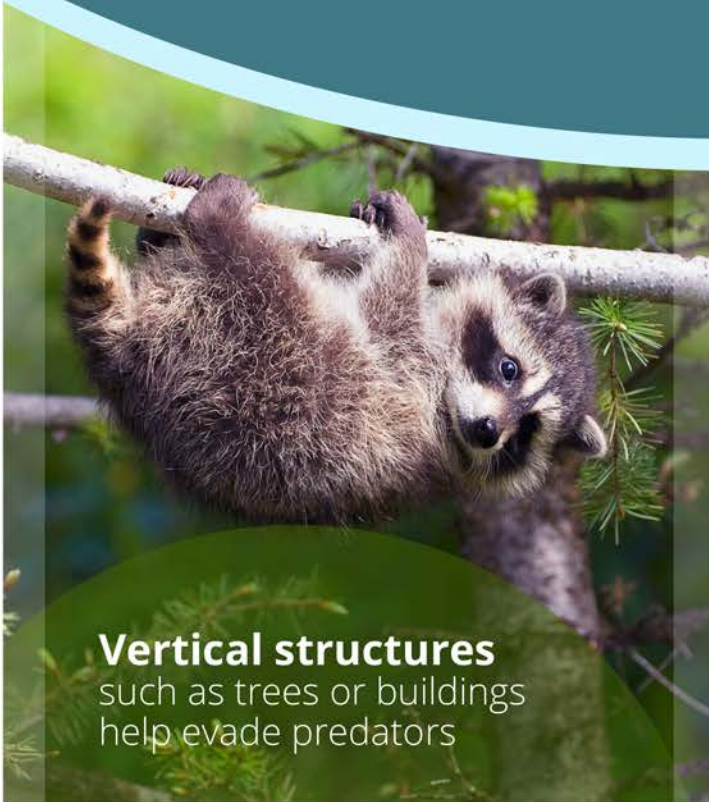
### Omnivore Diet

Fruits, berries,  
fungi and nuts

Crustaceans, fish, birds,  
reptiles, insects, and small  
mammals such as rodents



# RACCOON HABITAT



**Vertical structures**  
such as trees or buildings  
help evade predators

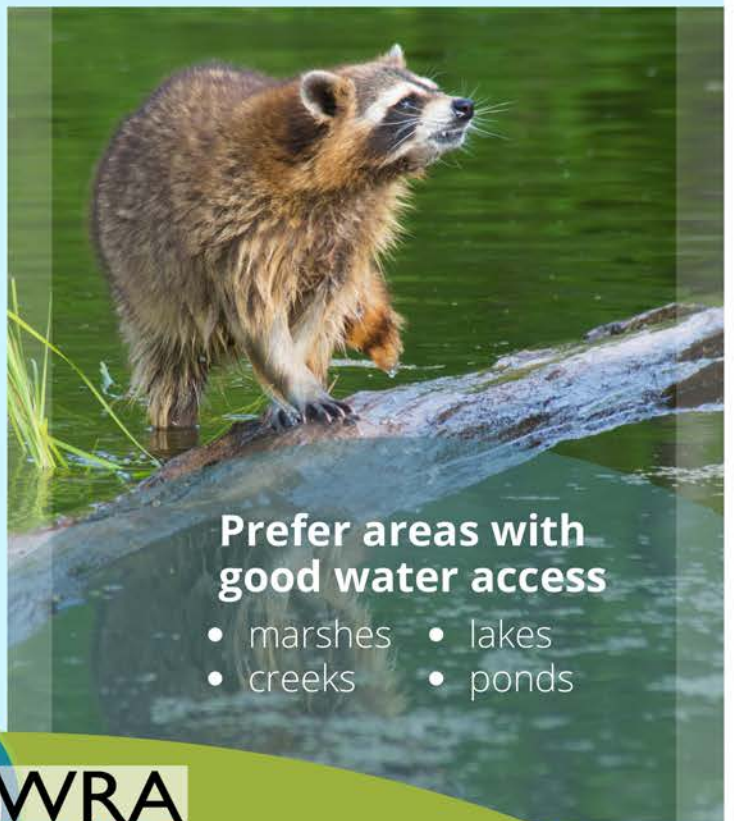


**Adapt well** to most  
environments, including  
cities and suburbs



**Utilize dens**

- tree cavities
- dens from other animals
- brush piles and rockeries
- under houses
- attics or chimneys



**Prefer areas with  
good water access**

- marshes
- lakes
- creeks
- ponds



# RACCOON

## REPRODUCTION

### Breeding

Late winter or early spring

### Gestation

65 days

### Birth

2-6 babies in late spring

### Kits

**3 weeks** (approximately)  
Eyes and ears open

**4-6 weeks**  
Begin to explore,  
walk, run, climb



- Young stay as a **family group** for the first winter
- **Males** have no part in raising their young



**WWRA**  
WASHINGTON WILDLIFE  
REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

# RACCOON

## FUN FACTS

### 40 Adult Teeth



### Good Memory

Recall solutions and performed tasks for up to 3 years

### Hypersensitive Front Paws



Sensitivity increases in water

### Make Many Noises

- chitters
- snarls
- snorts
- purrs
- various growls



### Playful and Smart



### Hosts for Baylisascaris roundworm

- Rarely harm raccoons
- Can harm other mammals, including **dogs and humans**



# ADULTS

## WHEN & WHY THEY NEED HELP

1

**Injured**  
in any way

2

**Sick or poisoned**  
**Canine Distemper**  
**and Rabies** are risks

## SAFETY

.....  
**Do not handle**  
**without** speaking to a  
licensed wildlife rehabilitator

.....  
If you must handle, use  
**thick welding**  
**gloves**

.....  
**Wash hands**  
**well**  
.....



# BABIES



## SAFETY

### Wear gloves

Welding gloves are best

Keep in a **dark, quiet, warm spot** with **no food or water** until transport can be arranged

**Wash hands well**

## REMEMBER!

The baby's **best chance** is with its **mother** in the wild!

## WHEN & WHY THEY NEED HELP

1

### Orphaned

**No mother**, crying or chirping  
Wandering around **alone**

2

### Sick or Poisoned

**Canine Distemper**  
and **Rabies** are risks

3

### Injured

in any way

