

Corn



Red-tailed Hawk



Corn

Corn is grown across North Carolina. The most common use for corn in North Carolina is as animal feed for farm animals. There are many wild animals that also eat corn, such as deer, turkey, quail, ducks, and rodents.

Red-tailed Hawk

Red-tailed hawks can be found along open fields or perched on telephones poles, fence posts, and trees. These hawks typically eats snakes, mice, grasshoppers, and sometimes smaller birds.

Hairy Woodpecker



Fence Lizard



Hairy Woodpecker

Hairy woodpeckers are found in woodlots, suburbs, parks, forest edges, and open woodlands. Hairy Woodpeckers typically eat insects, berries and seeds.

Fence Lizard

Fence lizards can be found in a variety of habitats, but are most commonly found in areas with trees. They eat a variety of insects, such as beetles, ants, moths, grasshoppers, spiders, and stink bugs.

Cardinal



Rat Snake



Cardinal

Cardinals live in backyards, parks, woodlots, and shrubby forest edges. They eat berries and seeds found on the ground. Predators include housecats, snakes, and hawks.

Rat Snake

Rat snakes are commonly found in the eastern United States in forests and meadows. They are constrictors, and will eat mice, rats, frogs. Rat snakes also eat bird eggs and some adult songbirds.

White-tailed Deer



Raccoon



White Tail Deer

White-tailed deer are very common all across North Carolina. They live in forests, croplands, pastures, and even in our towns and cities. They like to browse and eat grasses, crops, nuts, leaf buds, fruits, and mushrooms.

Raccoon

Raccoons are scavengers who eat almost anything including grubs, insects, eggs, seeds, nuts, mollusks and berries! Raccoons often nest in hollow trees and are found mainly in wooded areas but also in our urban areas.

Beetle



Red Fox



Beetle

Beetles like to live in places that they can find shelter. They might live deep in the ground, in trees, inside fruit, inside seeds, or inside leaves. Beetles like to eat plant parts, seeds, or wood.

Red Fox

Red foxes can live in forests, grasslands, mountains, and deserts. Red foxes are omnivores, so they eat a variety of foods. Some things they like include: fruits, berries, seeds, birds, squirrels, rabbits and mice.

Tent Caterpillar



Black Bear



Tent Caterpillar

Tent caterpillars live in trees in North Carolina. Tent Caterpillars typically eat foliage of cherry, apple, plum, peach, hawthorn, and other deciduous trees. They do not kill the trees who's leaves they eat, but they can be eaten by birds and parasitic wasps.

Black Bear

Black bears are primarily found in forested and swampy areas with thick ground vegetation. Black bears commonly eat acorns, berries, grains, fruits, grubs, insects, seeds, small mammals, frogs, and fish. Black bears will also eat carrion.

Grasses



Seeds



Grasses

Grasses are found all over North Carolina! Deer, insects, and many other animals eat grasses. Small mammals and birds will eat grass seeds. Tall grasses can also provide shelter for many animals and insects.

Seeds

All plants produce some type of a seed that will grow a new plants. Seeds are a very valuable food source for birds and small mammals, and can be found in a variety of habitats including forests and grasslands. There are many varieties in shape and size of seeds.

Berries



Yellow Pine



Berries

Berries are a type of fruit and can be found on bushes, trees, and vines in forests and meadows. They are eaten by birds, black bears, and other animals.

Yellow Pine

Yellow pines are found across North Carolina. Small pines are good cover for wildlife and large pines are used by woodpeckers and other birds for nesting. The seeds produced by pines (pinecones) provide food for squirrels and birds. Many insects and fungi feed on pine trees.

Cotton Mouse



Grasshopper



Cotton Mouse

Cotton mice are found in woodlands and on the edges of fields, often nesting in logs. They are omnivores, and will eat assorted plants, seeds, fruits, berries, grubs, spiders, and insects. Owls, snakes, foxes, and bobcats are natural predators to the cotton mouse.

Grasshopper

Grasshoppers prefer dry, open, grassy habitats. They eat corn, seeds and berries. Their predators include mice, birds, lizards, and other small organisms.

Toad



Coyote



Toad

Toads live near ponds, swamps, and marshes. Toads only live on the ground, starting as tadpoles in the water and metamorphosing to live on land. Toads will eat small insects such as grasshoppers, and crickets, spiders, and even other frogs and toads!

Coyote

Coyotes can now be found throughout the Southeast, including our towns and cities. They eat everything from small mammals and birds, acorns, berries, and even garbage in urban areas. The main predator or threat to coyotes are humans.

Warblers



Mallards



Warblers

Warblers typically reside in brushy habitats on forest edges. They eat spiders, grasshoppers, other insects, small berries, and flower or leaf buds. Predators include snakes, cats, birds of prey, foxes, and other small predators.

Mallards

Mallards live in almost any habitat with a lake, pond, or river, including suburban parks. Mallards eat seeds and insects found in water. They will also eat grain and other insects on dry ground. Predators include snapping turtles, raccoons, foxes, snakes, birds of prey, and humans.

Green Ash Tree



Tree Rot



Green Ash Tree

Green ash trees are common street and shade trees in urban areas. The leaves and seeds of the green ash are consumed by birds and some insects. Green Ash is susceptible to a wide range of insect pests, including the emerald ash borer.

Tree Rot

Tree rot is a type of disease caused by fungus. Tree rot causes mushroom and fungal growths, yellowing and wilting leaves, and the decay of the center of the trunk and branches. Tree rot can create habitat for a variety of organisms.

Box Turtle



Northern Bobwhite



Box Turtle

Box turtles live near sources of freshwater. Box turtles eat spiders, snails, earthworms, grasshoppers, fallen fruit, berries, flowers, and grass. Predators include coyotes, raccoons, snakes, birds, and fox.

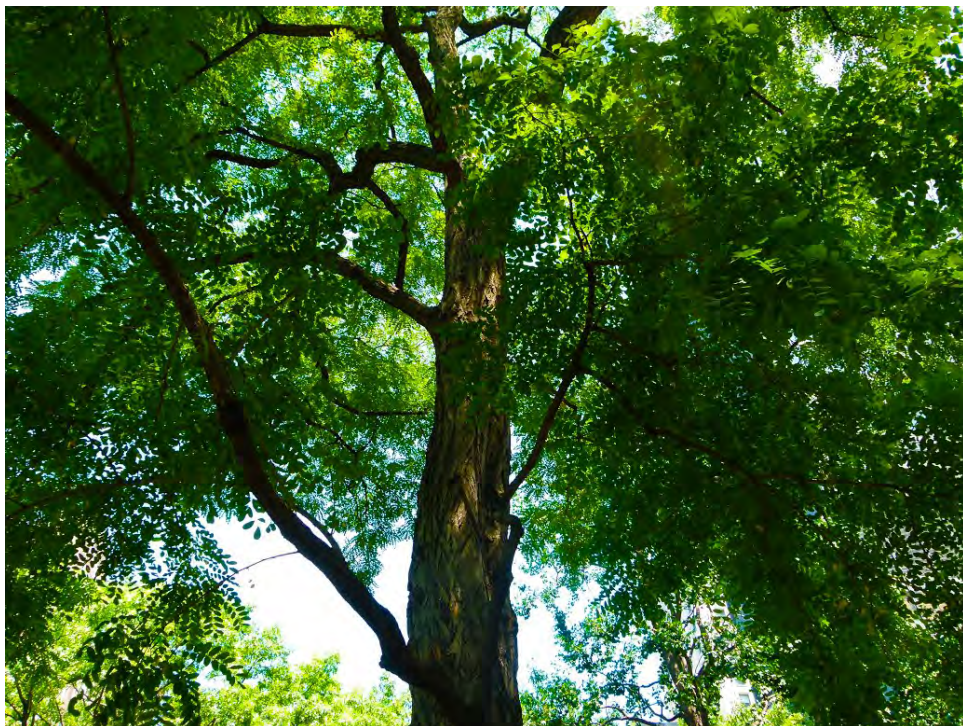
Northern Bobwhite

Northern bobwhites live in agricultural fields and grasslands. They eat plants and small organisms such as ticks, snails, grasshoppers, beetles, berries, and grass seeds. Predators include fox, snakes, birds of prey, and raccoons.

Dogwood Tree



Black Locust



Dogwood Tree

Dogwood trees are found across North Carolina, and it is our state flower. The bright red berries, which stay on the tree throughout the winter, are an important wildlife food.

Black Locust

Black Locust trees naturally occur in the mountains of North Carolina, but can be found across the state. These trees provide shelter for many organisms. The seeds, similar to a bean pod, are eaten by many game birds, rabbits, deer, and squirrels.

Blackberries



Eastern Cottontail Rabbit



Blackberries

Blackberries grow in thickets. The plants provide berries that are eaten by birds, black bears, raccoons, and other animals. They also provide flowers that are a source of food for bees, butterflies, and other insects.

Eastern Cottontail Rabbit

Eastern cottontail rabbits are found across the state, on edges of fields and meadows, and in our backyards. They eat rabbits eat a variety of grasses and plants, as well as twigs and bark. Rabbits are common prey for coyotes, foxes, birds of prey, and snakes.

Fire



Eastern Red-cedar



Prescribed Fire

Prescribed fire is a habitat management tool used by natural resource professionals to improve habitat for plants and animals.

Fire provides nutrients for the soil, and helps new plants to grow.

Eastern Red-cedar

The Eastern red-cedar is common across North Carolina. Deer eat the small twigs of this tree, and it's small berries are a food source for small birds and mammals. Eastern red-cedars provide valuable shelter for animals during the winter.

Oak Tree



Soil



Oak Tree

Oaks are hardwood trees. Their seedlings are often food for deer. Birds use the trees for nesting. Many insects and fungi feed on oak trees. Acorns, the seeds of oaks trees, provide a good source of food for many animals and birds.

Soil

Soil is a complex mixture of minerals, water, air, organic matter, and countless organisms that are the decaying remains of once-living things. Different types of plants require different soils. Soil also provides shelter for many organisms.

Insects



Black Cherry Tree



Insects

There are a wide range of insects that live throughout North Carolina, including butterflies and dragonflies. The diet of many insects include vegetation or smaller insects. Insects make up the diet of many birds and small mammals.

Black Cherry Tree

Black cherry trees have a thin bark that can be damaged easily by fire. Birds and other animals used the fruit as a source of food. Tent caterpillars can often be found on cherry trees in the spring

Goldenrod



Fungi



Goldenrod

Goldenrod grows in moist locations including forests edges, fields, roadsides, compost piles, cultivated fields, and orchards. It provides nectar as food for bees, flies, wasps, and butterflies.

Fungi

Fungi helps to break down dead and decaying plants and animals, and returns nutrients to the soil. Deer, turtles, and other animals will eat some types of fungi.

Wild Turkey



Bobcat



Wild Turkey

Wild turkeys make their nests on the ground and roost in trees or tall shrubs at night. They like to feed in grassy areas and forage for seeds, berries, acorns, and insects. Predators include snakes, raccoons, coyotes, hawks, and foxes will feed on young turkeys, or poults, as well as adult turkeys.

Bobcat

Bobcats can be found across the state, but prefer wooded swamps in the east and mature forests in the west. They often den in hollow or uprooted trees. Bobcats prey on rabbits, cotton mice, birds, snakes and even deer.