



NORTHERN RACCOON

Procyon lotor



The common raccoon is a small mammal with a black mask across its white face and a dark, ring-covered tail. The raccoon is nocturnal. It does most of its scavenging at night and is most active before midnight. The raccoon usually lives alone in a variety of places from barns to tree hollows. It does not hibernate in the winter, but does prefer to stay in when the weather is poor. The female raccoon takes care of her young for over a year.



SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

Adult raccoons, on average, are about two feet in length.

WEIGHT

Raccoons average between 12 and 35 pounds in weight.

FOOD HABITS

Raccoons are omnivores. They eat fish, nuts, berries, bird seed, small birds, and bird eggs.

HABITAT

Raccoons frequent just about every type of habitat, including urban areas.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Raccoons are found throughout the United States, Mexico, and some southern regions of Canada.

FUN FACT

Raccoons have a well developed sense of touch. When a raccoon appears to be washing its food, it is actually wetting its paws to better feel the food.