



Wisconsin NatureMapping Newsletter

www.wisnatmap.org



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Wisconsin NatureMapping Data From January 2009

- 210** Total NatureMapping Observations
(compared to 93 in December)
- 6.8** Observations/day
(compared to 3.0 in December)
- 1220** Animals observed
(during 6.8 total NM observations)

Top 5 Animals

Animal	# observed
Dark-Eyed Junco	214
Bald Eagle	197
Blue Jay	180
Black-Capped Chickadee	75
Mourning Dove	65

NOTE: Enter your observations on the website regularly so they are included in monthly calculations!

Porcupines



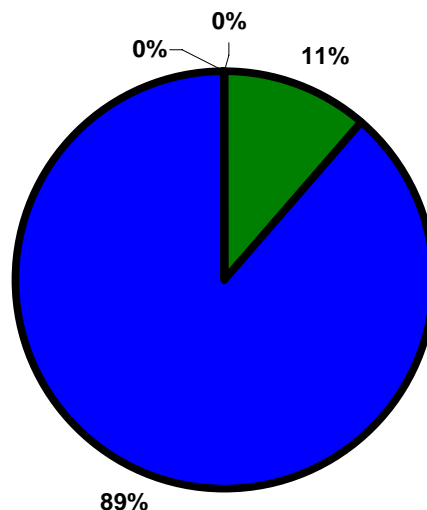
Image courtesy of Wisconsin DNR

Porcupines (*Erethizon dorsatum*) are nocturnal animals, but in the winter months it can be easier to spot signs of their nighttime wanderings during the day. Without leaves on the trees evidence of porcupines chewing off the bark of the upper branches can be spotted. Oak trees tend to be their favorite; however, they will eat aspens and white pine. Tracks in the snow will indicate where their dens are – usually in culverts, hollow trees, and rocky areas. Porcupines tend to populate areas in central and northern Wisconsin. For more facts about porcupines go to the WDNR website: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/eeek/critter/mammal/porcupine.htm>

February Phenology from EEK!

Look, deer and rabbit have chewed on twigs on the edge of woods to feed themselves this winter. Bark chewed off at the top of a tree might be from porcupines. If the edges are clipped off cleanly at a 45 degree angle and near the ground, then it was probably a cottontail rabbit in southern Wisconsin, or snowshoe hare in the north. Phenology information is from the EEK!-Environmental Education for Kids, www.dnr.wi.gov/eeek/, Wisconsin DNR.

Animals Observed by Category for January 2008



Birds – 89%

Mammals – 11%

Amphibians – 0 %

Reptiles – 0 %

What's Being Observed in Wisconsin?

- 1082** Birds
- 138** Mammals
- 0** Amphibians
- 0** Reptiles