



1200 Pioneer Circle, Watkinsville, GA 30677 - 1-866-880-9453 – www.letsgetwild.net

COMMON NAME – Great Horned Owl

SCIENTIFIC NAME – *Bubo virginianus*

DESCRIPTION –

- Length – 46 to 68 cm
- Wingspan – 101 to 152 cm
- Weight – Average of 3.1 lbs
- Large ear tufts, reddish, brown, or gray face and a white patch on throat

RANGE/HABITAT –

- North and South America
- Forests, rainforests, prairie, mountains, etc.

DIET –

- Mostly rabbits and hares
- Also rats, squirrels, mice, vole, marmots, skunks, shrews, bats, raccoons, house cats, porcupines
- Sometimes reptiles, amphibians, fish, crustaceans, and insects may be hunted depending on habitat

FACTS -

- Feathers are usually darker as the habitat gets closer to the Equator
- Owls can turn their necks 270 degrees to see in directions without moving its entire body
- Owls have stereo hearing that lets them find their prey's location with ease
- In northern regions, Owls may let big meals freeze and thaw them with body heat when hungry again
- Owl ears are not in the same position on either side of their skull; a factor that leads to their superior hearing
- Owls's eyes don't move from within their sockets



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COMMON NAME – Barred Owl

SCIENTIFIC NAME – *Strix varia*

DESCRIPTION –

- Length – 44 cm
- Wingspan – 112 cm
- Pale face with dark rings around eyes, yellow bill, dark eyes
- No ear tufts

RANGE/HABITAT –

- Canada, United States, and Central America

DIET –

- Mostly mice and rabbits
- May also eat small birds

FACTS -

- Also known as the hoot owl, eight hooter, rain owl, wood owl, or striped owl
- Most likely North American owl to be active in the daytime.
- Makes a buzzy, rasping hiss when agitated



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COMMON NAME – Barn Owl

SCIENTIFIC NAME – *Tyto alba*

DESCRIPTION –

- Length – 33-39 cm
- Wingspan – 80-95 cm
- Various colors including white and orange

RANGE/HABITAT –

- Worldwide, most prevalent in Southern hemisphere
- Farmland, edges of woods

DIET –

- Rodents, including rats, mice, gophers, shrews, moles, and voles
- Barn Owls have a higher metabolic rate than most owls, meaning they need to eat more food
- On a pound for pound measure, Barn Owls consume more rodents than any other creature!

FACTS -

- Nocturnal
- Also called Monkey-Faced Owls, Ghost Owls, Church Owls, Golden Owls, Rat Owls, and Stone Owls
- Barn Owls fly silently

Georgia's Screech Owls



Interesting Facts

The screech owl is probably Georgia's most common owl. In fact, screech owls commonly live in both rural and suburban areas as long as they can find open woodlands or backyards dominated by mature hardwood trees.

In rural locations as the screech owl may range over 75-100 acres. However, in suburban locales its range is sometimes as small as 10-15 acres. The size of the owl's home range is determined largely by the availability of food. Ranges tend to be smaller where food is most abundant.

Like all species of native wildlife that use natural cavities, suitable nesting and roosting sites are often at a premium. Each year logging, land clearing and other activities reduce the number of cavity trees. As a result, screech owls must compete for these sites with wood ducks, squirrels, starlings, house sparrows, raccoons and a host of other species.

Screech owls can often be found using abandoned northern flicker cavities. While they will nest within a few feet of the ground, most screech owls nest in cavities 10-30 feet above the ground.

Nesting Facts

- Males attract females to their territories that contain 1-2 cavities.
- Each female lays 4-6 eggs which she incubates for 27-30 days.
- Screech owls have one brood per year.
- Young screech owls fledge in 6-8 weeks.
- Nesting begins in spring.
- The male feeds the female during incubation.
- Both the male and female feed the young, making 10-70 feeding trips per night

Plumage

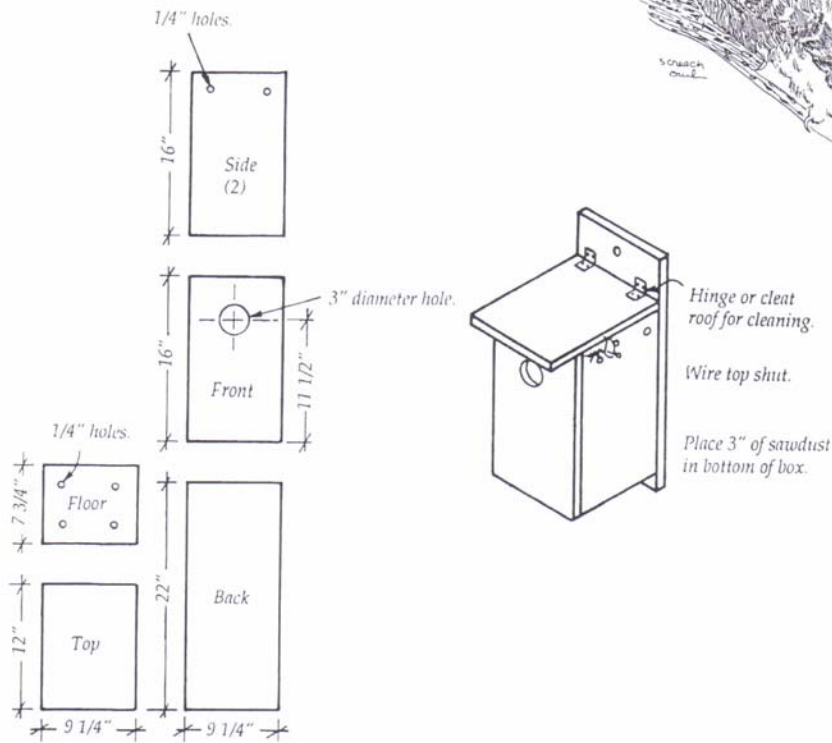
- The plumages of the male and female are alike.
- Screech owls can display two color phases, reddish-brown or gray.
- In Georgia, most screech owls are gray; however, reddish-brown birds predominate further north.

Size

- Standing only 8 inches tall, these tiny birds appear to be miniature great horned owls.

Screech Owl Nest Box Placement & Care

- Place boxes at least 10' above ground.
- If squirrels are a problem, erect boxes on metal poles.
- Pour 2-3" of wood chips or shavings in the bottom of each box.
- Check boxes annually. Remove leaves and other debris found in boxes.



Lumber: One 1" x 10" x 8' 0"

