



1200 Pioneer Circle, Watkinsville, GA 30677 - 1-866-880-9453 – [www.letsgetwild.net](http://www.letsgetwild.net)

COMMON NAME – Striped Skunk

SCIENTIFIC NAME – *Mephitis mephitis*

DESCRIPTION –

- Length - 40 to 70 cm
- Weight – 1 to 10 lbs
- Elongated body with short, muscular legs
- Long front claws used to dig
- Black and white, brown, grey or cream colored fur; all skunks are striped

RANGE/HABITAT –

- Most of North America north of the Mexican border
- Other types of skunks inhabit the Americas, Indonesia, and the Philippines
- Prefers ground burrows, beneath buildings, boulders, or rock piles

DIET –

- Omnivorous, but prefers meat
- Insects and their larvae, earthworms, rodents, lizards, snakes, etc.
- Wild fruits and large seeds
- Garbage

FACTS -

- Smell from a skunk's spray can be smelled by humans from a mile downwind
- A skunk will never spray another skunk (they prefer to fight with claws and teeth)
- Scientific tests show that one of the best ways to remove a skunk's smell is with a combination of hydrogen peroxide, baking soda, and liquid soap.



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COMMON NAME – Eastern Spotted Skunk

SCIENTIFIC NAME – *Spilogale putorius*

DESCRIPTION –

- Length – 16–23 cm
- Weight – 1-3 lbs
- Broken striped pattern (hence spotted appearance)
- White spot on forehead

RANGE/HABITAT –

- Eastern United States
- Forest edges and upland prairie grasslands
- Woody fencerows and abandoned farm buildings

DIET –

- Omnivorous
- Rodents, birds, eggs, insects, larvae, lizards, snakes, carrion
- Fruits and berries

FACTS -

- Was previously bred for fine silken fur (Marten Fur)
- The spotted skunk will raise its tail, hiss, and stamp its feet before spraying
- Spotted skunks are accurate with their smelly spray up to 15 feet away
- Skunks will scratch and bite each other but not spray each other
- Can live up to six years in captivity