

Mammals on the river edge

The **St. Charles** Ecopark is home to more mammals than meet the eye. Some are small and secretive (mice, shrews) or uncommon (fox). Others operate mainly at night (bats, opossums, raccoons). Look for signs such as a squirrel's winter nest, flowerheads browsed by deer, or a tree chewed by beaver.

Nature has been reclaiming the ecopark since the 1993 flood. Wetlands and forest are expanding. This natural corridor connects greenspaces along the Missouri River, allowing all kinds of animals to move more freely.

ECOPARK MAMMAL LIST

- beaver
- big brown bat
- bog lemming
- chipmunk
- cottontail
- coyote
- deer mouse
- eastern pipistrelle
- fox squirrel
- gray fox
- gray squirrel
- groundhog
- least shrew
- little brown bat
- mole
- muskrat
- opossum
- raccoon
- red fox
- river otter
- striped skunk
- white-footed mouse
- white-tailed deer



Top to bottom: Opossum, Eastern cottontail, White-footed mouse, Raccoon. Background: White-tailed deer. (All photos courtesy of Missouri Department of Conservation)