

# Rideau Wildlife



La table ronde  
**Rideau**  
Roundtable

Here is a selection of Rideau Waterway plants & animals that you might see on your tour.

## Birds

- |                     |                           |  |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 1. Common Loon      | <i>Gavia immer</i>        | swims underwater to catch fish         |
| 2. Great Blue Heron | <i>Ardea herodias</i>     | large with wide wingspan               |
| 3. Green Heron      | <i>Butorides striatus</i> | small, dark, usually seen flying       |
| 4. Canada Goose     | <i>Branta Canadensis</i>  | eats a lot of grass                    |
| 5. Mallard          | <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | quacks when flushed                    |
| 6. Wood Duck        | <i>Aix sponsa</i>         | squeaks when flushed                   |
| 7. Osprey           | <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>  | large bulky nests, dives to catch fish |
| 8. Ring-billed Gull | <i>Larus delawarensis</i> | gull with mark on bill                 |
| 9. Common Tern      | <i>Sterna hirundo</i>     | large white tern with dark bill        |
| 10. Black Tern      | <i>Chlidonias niger</i>   | small tern with black body (adult)     |

## Mammals

- |             |                           |  |
|-------------|---------------------------|--|
| 11. Beaver  | <i>Castor Canadensis</i>  | large head, slaps water with broad tail                          |
| 12. Muskrat | <i>Ondatra zibethicus</i> | small head, skinny tail seen above water or writhing as it swims |

## Reptiles & Amphibians

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|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 13. Painted Turtle | <i>Chrysemys picta</i>  | small turtle seen basking on logs |
| 14. Water Snake    | <i>Nerodia sipedon</i>  | dark snake which swims frequently |
| 15. Bull Frog      | <i>Rana catesbeiana</i> | loud deep baritone call           |



**Aquatic Plants: submerged**

- |                  |                      |  |
|------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1. Waterweed     | <i>Elodea</i>        | like aquarium plant                          |
| 2. Pondweed      | <i>Potamogeton</i>   | several species with different leaves        |
| 3. Smartweed     | <i>Polygonum</i>     | holds flower above surface of water          |
| 4. Tape-grass    | <i>Vallisneria</i>   | like underwater grass, flower on coiled stem |
| 5. Coontail      | <i>Ceratophyllum</i> | like a thick furry coon's tail               |
| 6. Water-milfoil | <i>Myriophyllum</i>  | one species an invasive alien                |

**Aquatic Plants: floating**

- |                        |                  |   |
|------------------------|------------------|---|
| 7. White Water-lily    | <i>Nymphaea</i>  | large white fragrant flower                         |
| 8. Bullhead Water-lily | <i>Nuphar</i>    | round yellow flower                                 |
| 9. Frogbit             | <i>Lymnobium</i> | invasive alien, small floating leaf like water lily |
| 10. Duckweed           | <i>Lemna</i>     | food for ducks, tiny plant                          |

**Aquatic Plants: emergent**

- |                        |                   |   |
|------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 11. Cattail            | <i>Typha</i>      | big brown seed heads                      |
| 12. Pickerelweed       | <i>Pontederia</i> | blue flowers on stalk                     |
| 13. Flowering Rush     | <i>Butomus</i>    | invasive alien                            |
| 14. Arrowhead          | <i>Sagittaria</i> | arrowhead-pointed leaves, white flowers   |
| 15. Purple Loosestrife | <i>Lythrum</i>    | invasive alien, now controlled by beetles |

