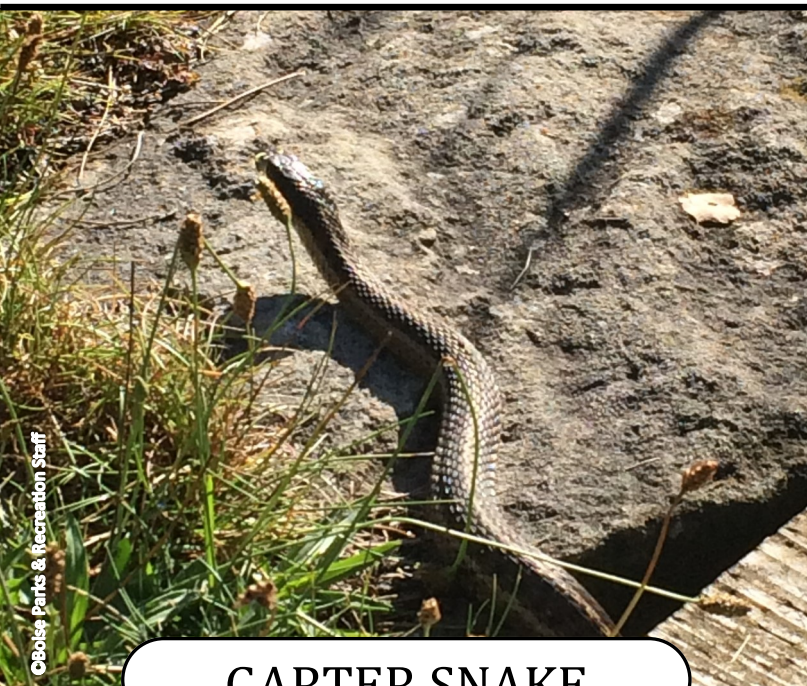




CEpiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

## AMERICAN BULLFROG

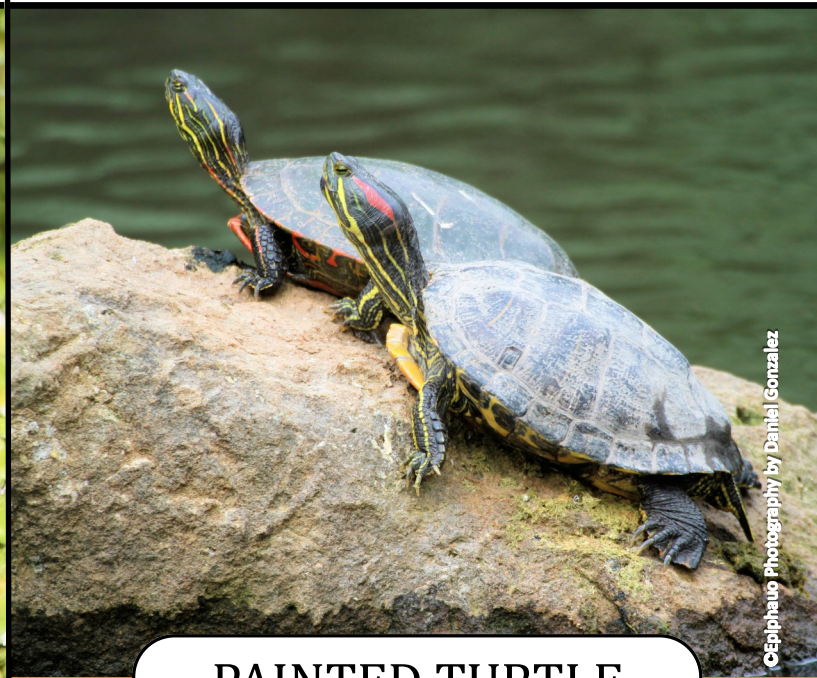
The American Bullfrog is an amphibian, and is the largest frog in North America. This picture was taken at Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve.



CEpiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

## GARTER SNAKE

Garter snakes are a reptile, and often mistakenly called a 'garden' snake. This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.



CEpiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

## PAINTED TURTLE

There are two types of turtles pictured: Painted Turtle and Red Ear Slider. Can you guess which is which?



CEpiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

## AMERICAN KESTREL

The American Kestrel is one species of raptor that lives in and around Boise. This picture was taken at Marianne Williams Park.





PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## PAINTED TURTLE

- **Scientific name:** *Chrysemys picta*
- **Where it lives:** Streams, ponds, lakes and marshes with shallow, slow-moving water and a soft muddy bottom. There should be logs or rocks to bask on.
- **What it eats:** Plants, insects, frogs and fish.
- **What eats it:** Raccoons, otters, mink and foxes like to eat turtle eggs and hatchlings.
- **Average lifespan:** If they survive their first year, they can live for several decades.
- **Distinguishing features:** Yellow lines on its head and legs; the underside of its shell is usually orange-red.
- **Other facts:** Turtles are reptiles, they are cold-blooded and need to bask to retain body heat.

Answer: The Painted Turtle is the one farthest from the camera.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## AMERICAN BULLFROG

- **Scientific name:** *Rana catesbeiana*
- **Where it lives:** In vegetation along permanent bodies of water, including swamps, ponds and lakes.
- **What it eats:** Insects, crayfish and small frogs.
- **What eats it:** Snakes, birds, raccoons and humans.
- **Average lifespan:** 7 to 9 years. The tadpole stage can last up to 2 years.
- **Distinguishing features:** Green-yellow color with brownish markings and darker markings on hind legs. Large external eardrums.
- **Other facts:** The male bullfrog's deep call can be heard up to a quarter-mile away.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## AMERICAN KESTREL

- **Scientific name:** *Falco sparverius*
- **Where it lives:** In open areas that have just a few trees - usually parks, fields, grasslands, meadows and deserts.
- **What it eats:** Small rodents and birds, insects, lizards and frogs.
- **What eats it:** Hawks, owls, crows and snakes.
- **Average lifespan:** 2 to 4 years.
- **Distinguishing features:** Males have bluish-colored wings. Both male and female are a reddish-brown on back and lighter underneath. Both have dark lines on both sides of their faces.
- **Other facts:** The American Kestrel is the smallest falcon in the United States.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## GARTER SNAKE

- **Scientific name:** *Thamnophis elegance*
- **Where it lives:** In a wide variety of habitats including lakes, ponds, streams, and meadows. For hibernation during the winter they need a warm den.
- **What it eats:** Fish, slugs, worms, small mammals, lizards, frogs, and salamanders.
- **What eats it:** Osprey, red tailed hawks, bald eagles, robins, great blue herons, crows, raccoons, mink.
- **Average lifespan:** Unknown number of years.
- **Distinguishing features:** Yellowish-brown stripes and dark spots run down the middle of their back.
- **Other facts:** Some terrestrial garter snakes are all black in color.





PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Birds

No. 2 of 6



©Ephraim Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

### BELTED KINGFISHER

These large-headed birds dive into water to catch fish.  
This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Birds

No. 3 of 6



©Ephraim Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

### CANADA GOOSE

Canada Geese are abundant in Boise parks.  
This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Birds

No. 4 of 6



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### GREAT BLUE HERON

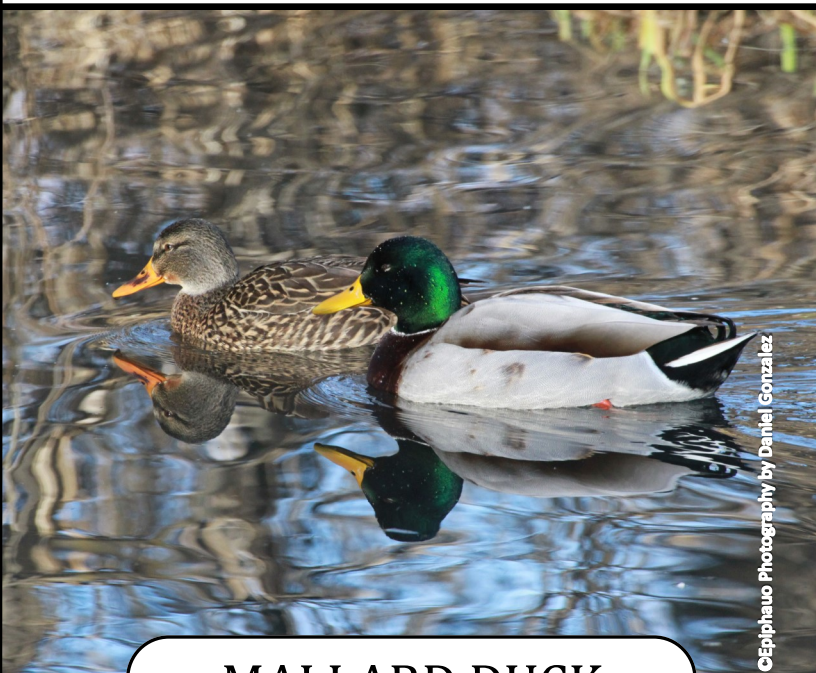
These majestic birds like watery habitats. This picture  
was taken along the Bethune Church River Trail.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Birds

No. 5 of 6



©Ephraim Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

### MALLARD DUCK

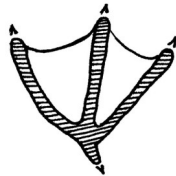
Mallard males and females are strikingly different in  
appearance. Can you tell which is which?

This picture was taken at Ann Morrison Park.



## CANADA GOOSE

- **Scientific name:** *Branta canadensis*
- **Where it lives:** In open, grassy habitats near water.
- **What it eats:** Grasses, grains, algae, pondweed and other plants. Also eats mollusks and small crustaceans.
- **What eats it:** Coyotes, raccoons, foxes, owls, weasels, skunks, dogs and humans.
- **Average lifespan:** About 12 years in the wild. Can reach 30 years in captivity.
- **Distinguishing features:** Honking call, large body, long neck.
- **Other facts:** Geese are sometimes considered a pest.



## BELTED KINGFISHER

- **Scientific name:** *Megasceryle alcyon*
- **Where it lives:** Near streams, rivers, ponds and lakes. They nest in burrows that they dig into soft earth.
- **What it eats:** Mostly fish, but also crayfish, amphibians, reptiles, insects and small mammals.
- **What eats it:** Hawks, skunks, mink, raccoons and snakes.
- **Average lifespan:** Unknown number of years.
- **Distinguishing features:** Small bird with a large head. They have a shaggy tuft of feathers on the top and back of the head.
- **Other facts:** The oldest known kingfisher fossil is 2 million years old and was found in Florida.



## MALLARD DUCK

- **Scientific name:** *Anas platyrhynchos*
- **Where it lives:** In ponds, lakes and wetlands.
- **What it eats:** Seeds, earthworms and aquatic vegetation.
- **What eats it:** Foxes, weasels, snakes, hawks, owls, eagles and humans.
- **Average lifespan:** 20+ years
- **Distinguishing features:** Males have a bright-green head and yellow bill; females are mottled brown with orange-and-brown bills. Juveniles are similar in appearance to adult females.
- **Other facts:** Male mallards don't quack; they make a quieter, rasping sound.



Answer: Male Mallard Ducks have bright green head feathers.

## GREAT BLUE HERON

- **Scientific name:** *Ardea herodias*
- **Where it lives:** Along shorelines, river banks, marshes and ponds.
- **What it eats:** Fish, insects, amphibians, reptiles, small mammals and other birds.
- **What eats it:** Eggs are preyed on by other birds and raccoons.
- **Average lifespan:** Oldest on record was 24 years.
- **Distinguishing features:** Great Blue Herons can curl their neck into an S shape, allowing them to strike at their prey from a distance.
- **Other facts:** Despite their size, they weigh only 5 to 6 pounds. Like all other birds, the Great Blue Heron has hollow bones.



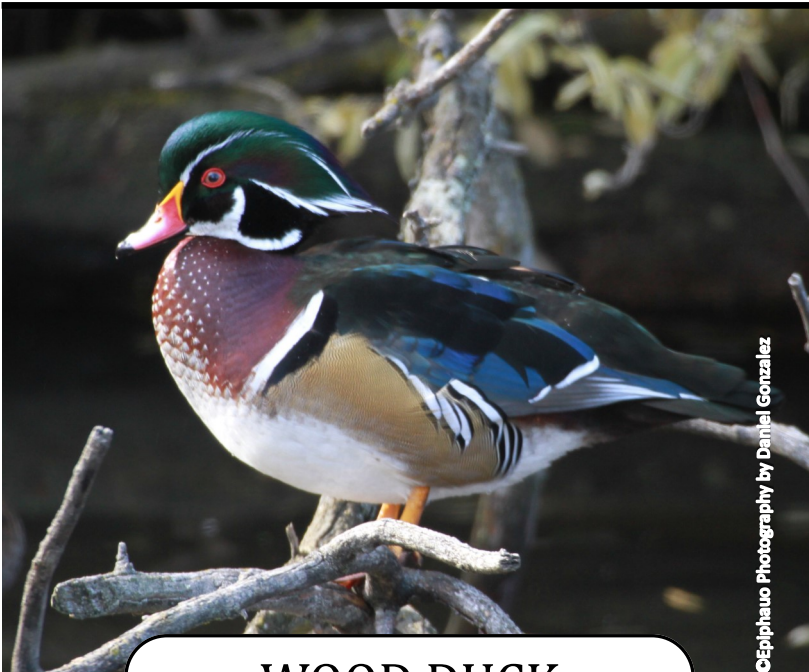




PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Birds

No. 6 of 6



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## WOOD DUCK

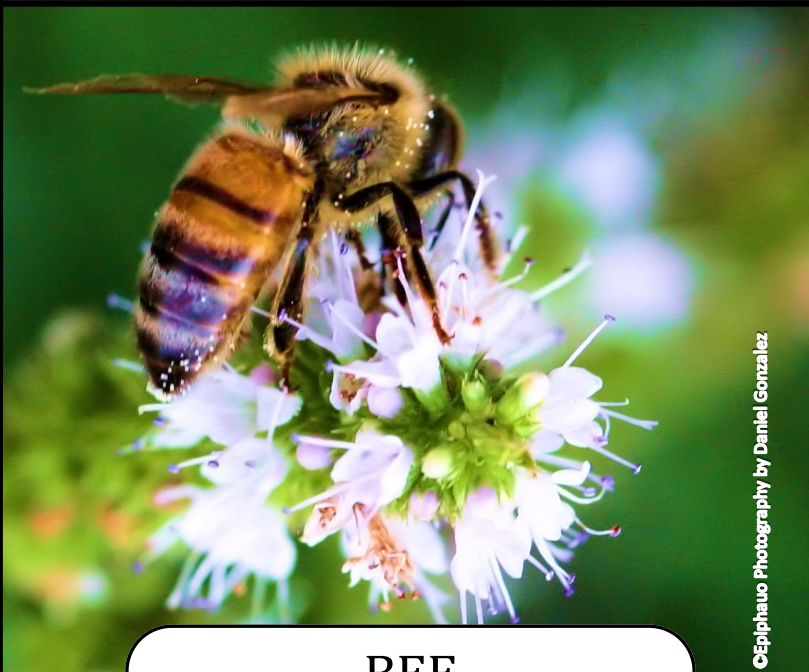
Wood ducks are strikingly colorful, especially the males. This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Insects

No. 1 of 8



©Epiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

## BEE

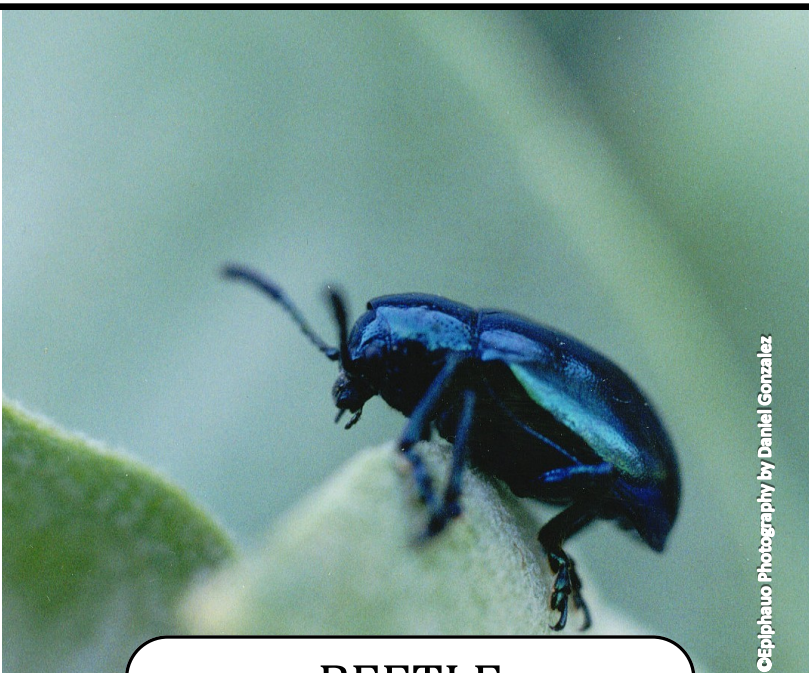
There are three kinds of bees in a colony: a queen, workers, and drones. This honey bee picture was taken in Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Insects

No. 2 of 8



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## BEETLE

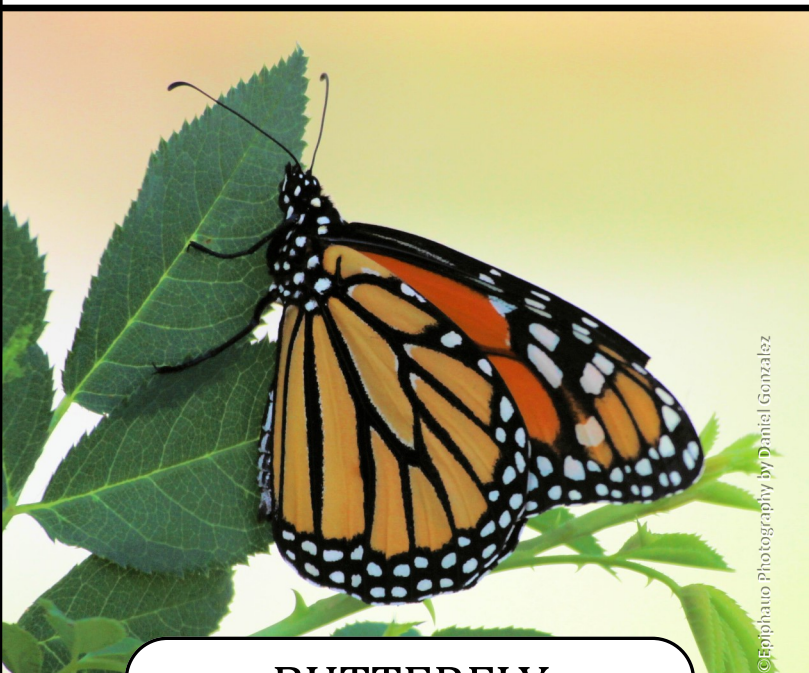
There are roughly 300,000 different species of beetle, representing about 40% of known insects. This cobalt beetle picture was taken in Warm Springs Park.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Insects

No. 3 of 8



©Epiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

## BUTTERFLY

Butterflies can be found during the warmer months almost anywhere flowers are found. This monarch butterfly picture was taken in Marianne Williams Park.



## BEE

- **Scientific name:** *Anthophila*
- **Where it lives:** Some bees live in colonies, while others live alone. Typically in areas where there is an abundance of flowering plants.
- **What it eats:** Most larvae eat honey. Adults eat nectar and pollen from flowers.
- **What eats it:** Birds, skunks, badgers, fox, mice, mink, spiders and a number of insects.
- **Average lifespan:** Colonies have queens that can live for 3 to 4 years. Workers and drones live up to four months.
- **Distinguishing features:** Usually round and hairy. Worker bees have a stinger, but are reluctant to sting because they will die after stinging.
- **Other facts:** All worker bees are female and drones are male. The queen is the only bee that reproduces, laying up to 2,000 eggs per day.

## WOOD DUCK

- **Scientific name:** *Aix Sponsa*
- **Where it lives:** In wooded areas near ponds, lakes, marshes, rivers and streams. Wood ducks are cavity nesters.
- **What it eats:** As juveniles, they eat invertebrates and small fish. The adult diet includes plants and seeds.
- **What eats it:** Owls, foxes, raccoons, big fish, squirrels and snakes.
- **Average lifespan:** 3- 4 years in the wild.
- **Distinguishing features:** Striking colors on males during mating season. Unlike most waterfowl, wood ducks perch and nest in trees.
- **Other facts:** The wood duck is threatened by wetland loss.



## BUTTERFLY

- **Scientific name:** *Rhopalocera*
- **Where it lives:** In a variety of different places and habitats; however, all butterflies need sun for warmth and flowers for food.
- **What it eats:** Butterflies don't *eat* anything! Instead of eating plants or organisms, butterflies rely on drinking nectar from flowers to live.
- **What eats it:** Praying mantises, birds, spiders, lizards and frogs.
- **Average lifespan:** Lifespan varies depending on the species of butterfly, with some living up to a year.
- **Distinguishing features:** Scaly wings and very bright coloration.
- **Other facts:** Use straw-like structure inside their mouths to extract nectar and water to survive.

## BEETLE

- **Scientific name:** *Coleoptera*
- **Where it lives:** Can be found in virtually all habitats, with the exception of extreme cold climates.
- **What it eats:** Certain species are predatory and eat only other insects. Others eat plant material, with some eating only the seeds or leaves of a specific kind of plant. Some will eat decaying organic matter of any kind.
- **What eats it:** Birds, frogs, bats, wasps and other insects.
- **Average lifespan:** Approximately one year.
- **Distinguishing features:** Hardened forewings, called elytra, which protect the delicate hind wings and abdomen beneath.
- **Other facts:** Communicate using pheromones, sounds or vibrations.





PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Insects

No. 4 of 8



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### DRAGONFLY

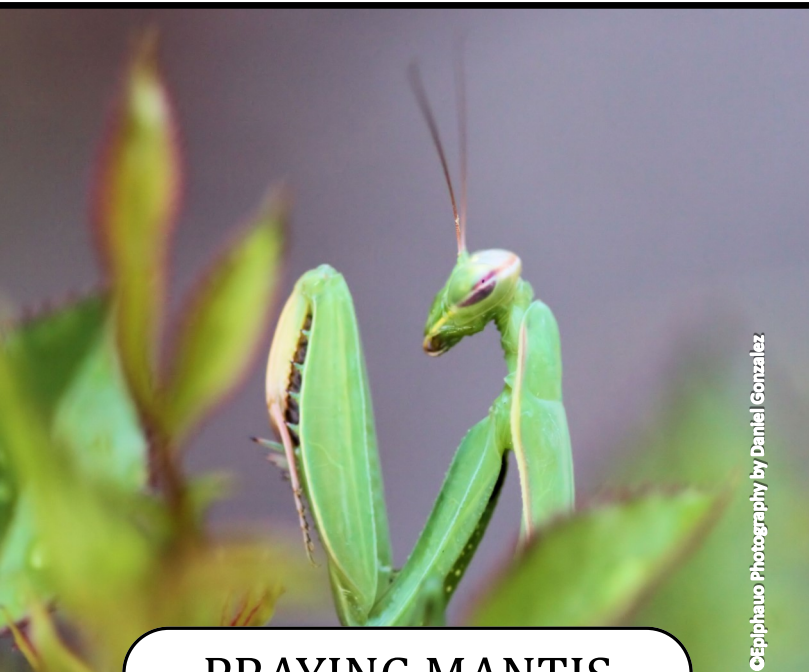
Dragonflies can fly forward at a speed of up to 30 miles per hour. This blue dasher dragonfly picture was taken in Kathryn Albertson Park.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Insects

No. 6 of 8



©Epiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

### PRAYING MANTIS

The praying mantis gets its name from the way it holds its front legs, appearing as if in prayer. This picture was taken in Boise.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Insects

No. 5 of 8



©Boise Parks and Recreation Staff

### GRASSHOPPER

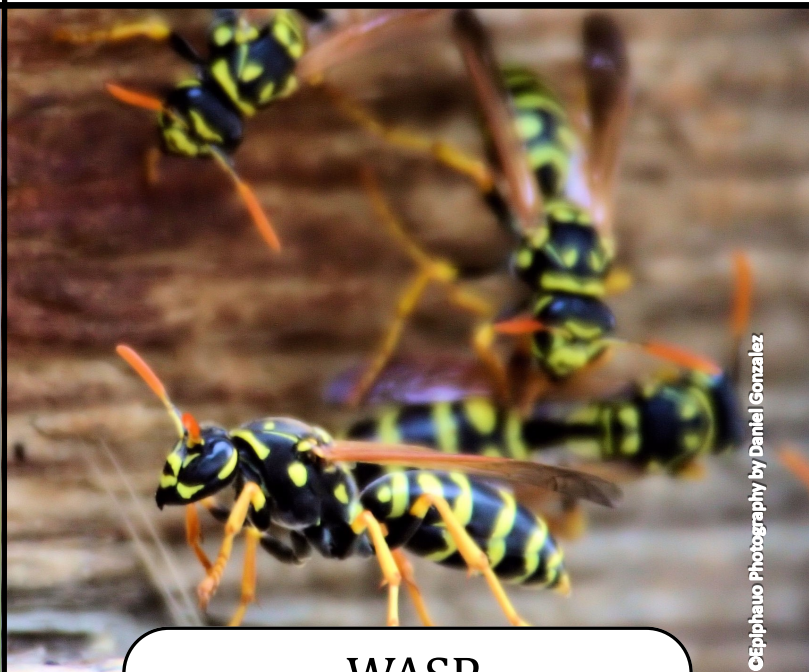
Grasshoppers carry their "ears," called tympana, on their abdomen. This picture was taken at Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Insects

No. 7 of 8



©Epiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez

### WASP

Bald faced hornets, yellow jackets and paper wasps are all types of wasps. This picture of paper wasps was taken in Boise.





PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## GRASSHOPPER

- **Scientific name:** *Caelifera*
- **Where it lives:** Grasslands, forests, mountains, wetlands, prairies and deserts.
- **What it eats:** Grasses, shrubs, leaves, trees, weeds and other types of plants. An average grasshopper can eat 16 times its own body weight.
- **What eats it:** Spiders, birds, bats, frogs and snakes. In certain countries, grasshoppers are eaten by people as a source of protein.
- **Average lifespan:** Approximately one year.
- **Distinguishing features:** Powerful hind legs built for jumping, that can be rubbed together to make music.
- **Other facts:** Can jump up to 20 times their body length.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## DRAGONFLY

- **Scientific name:** *Anisoptera*
- **Where it lives:** Anywhere close to freshwater, including marshlands, ponds, or cool running waters of streams and rivers.
- **What it eats:** Juveniles, called naiads, eat small slimy things such as tadpoles. Adults eat other tiny insects.
- **What eats it:** Birds, frogs, fish, spiders.
- **Average lifespan:** Average 6-8 weeks in adult stage; some species live up to 6 months.
- **Distinguishing features:** Large eyes that are multifaceted, two pairs of wings that are transparent and strong, and an elongated body.
- **Other facts:** A dragonfly might try to bite but it can't break skin. Dragonflies do not sting.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## WASP

- **Scientific name:** *Hymenoptera*
- **Where it lives:** In open-celled nests made from wood fiber they chew into a paper-like pulp. Nests are found in protected places such as under eaves and in trees.
- **What it eats:** Adults eat other insects, fruit and nectar. Larvae eat chewed-up insects.
- **What eats it:** Birds, other insects, bats, bears.
- **Average lifespan:** Spring to fall. Queens can survive for several seasons.
- **Distinguishing features:** Alternating yellow and dark bands on the abdomen. Three-quarter to 1-inch-long, slender bodies with narrow waist.
- **Other facts:** Wasps help farmers by preying on insects that damage food crops, such as caterpillars.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## PRAYING MANTIS

- **Scientific name:** *Mantis religiosa*
- **Where it lives:** On leaves and flowers, which provide camouflage.
- **What it eats:** Other insects: aphids, mosquitoes, flies, roaches, bees, crickets, butterflies, grasshoppers, beetles and spiders. May also feed on small lizards, frogs, and birds.
- **What eats it:** Bats, birds, frogs and spiders. Fish eat pupae.
- **Average lifespan:** Less than one year.
- **Distinguishing features:** Grasping front legs that look like they are praying. They can turn their heads a full 180 degrees.
- **Other facts:** Harmless to humans and can actually help farmers by eating insects that destroy crops.





PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Insects

No. 8 of 8



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### WATER STRIDER

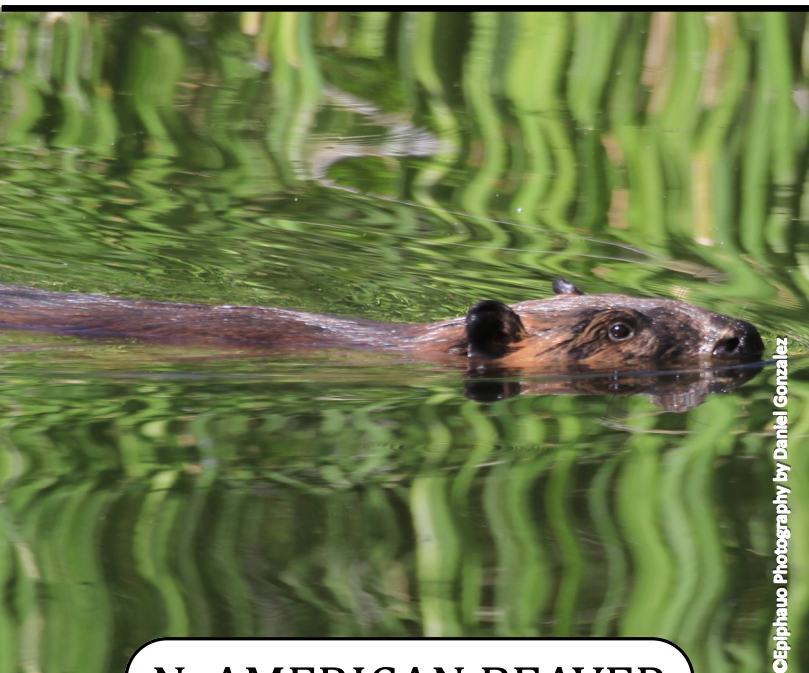
Water striders hunt prey by using their legs to detect movement in the water. This picture was taken in Willow Lane Park.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Mammals

No. 2 of 7



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### N. AMERICAN BEAVER

North American Beavers live in water and are great swimmers. This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Mammals

No. 1 of 7



©iStock Photo

### LITTLE BROWN BAT

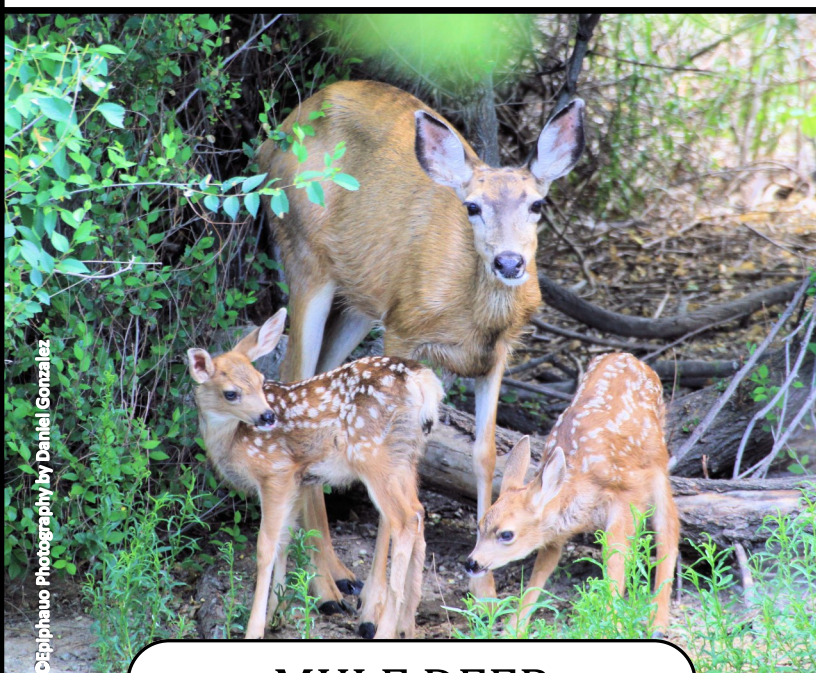
A single Little Brown Bat can eat up to 1,000 mosquitoes in an hour. Bats are great at helping keep mosquito populations low.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Mammals

No. 3 of 7



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### MULE DEER

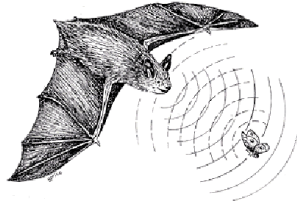
Mule deer are frequent visitors to some of Boise's parks. This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## LITTLE BROWN BAT

- **Scientific name:** *Myotis lucifugus*
- **Where it lives:** Roosts near ponds, lakes, rivers and other bodies of water in caves, trees, rocks and wood piles.
- **What it eats:** Mosquitoes, midges, beetles, wasps, and moths.
- **What eats it:** Hawks, owls, cats, weasels, mink and squirrels.
- **Average lifespan:** 6 to 7 years.
- **Distinguishing features:** Weighs less than half an ounce with a wingspan up to 11 inches.
- **Other facts:** Uses echolocation and the tips of its wings to hunt for and catch food.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## WATER STRIDER

- **Scientific name:** *Gerridae*
- **Where it lives:** In still watery areas, such as ponds, streams, and lakes, with an abundance of shade and other insects.
- **What it eats:** Mainly spiders and insects that fall into the water. Considered beneficial insects because they eat other insects, including mosquito larvae.
- **What eats it:** Fish, frogs, lizards, birds and larger insects.
- **Average lifespan:** Until they freeze in the winter, but in warmer climates they can live up to a year.
- **Distinguishing features:** Hind legs are longer than their abdomen.
- **Other facts:** Are extremely sensitive to pollution. So if you see a lot of them around, it means the area is a healthy ecosystem.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## MULE DEER

- **Scientific name:** *Odocoileus hemionus*
- **Where it lives:** In many different habitats, from deserts to woodlands and coastal forests. Mule deer are very adaptable.
- **What it eats:** Shrubs, grasses, berries.
- **What eats it:** Coyotes, bears, mountain lions, bobcats and humans.
- **Average lifespan:** 9 to 11 years.
- **Distinguishing features:** Big mule-like ears that help alert them to danger. Mule deer are easily distinguished from white-tail deer by their black-tipped, rope-like tail.
- **Other facts:** Most common large animal in Idaho.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## N. AMERICAN BEAVER

- **Scientific name:** *Castor canadensis*
- **Where it lives:** On ponds and lakes in lodges that it creates from sticks, grass, moss and mud.
- **What it eats:** Tree bark, roots and water plants.
- **What eats it:** Bears, wolves, coyotes and other carnivores.
- **Average lifespan:** Average 10-20 years, and up to 30 years.
- **Distinguishing features:** Long, orange teeth. Short in height with a long, flat tail. Clawed front feet and webbed back feet that are good for swimming.
- **Other facts:** The North American Beaver is the largest rodent in North America.







PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Mammals

No. 4 of 7



### RED FOX

Red foxes can be seen in Boise parks and neighborhoods, usually at dawn, dusk or night. This picture was taken near Memorial Park.

CElpiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Mammals

No. 5 of 7



### YELLOW BELLIED MARMOT

The Yellow Bellied Marmot uses whistles, a scream, and chatter to communicate. This picture was taken at the Jim Hall Foothills Learning Center.

CElpiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Mammals

No. 6 of 7



### AMERICAN MINK

American Mink are nocturnal and are most active at dawn, dusk and night. This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.

CElpiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Mammals

No. 7 of 7



### FOX SQUIRREL

Fox squirrels live in Boise parks and neighborhoods. This picture was taken at Shoreline Park.

CElpiphauo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez



## YELLOW BELLIED MARMOT

- **Scientific name:** *Marmota flaviventris*
- **Where it lives:** In dry, open meadows, near rocky outcrops at the base of hills. They burrow underground in dens.
- **What it eats:** Grasses, flowers, leaves, insects, and eggs.
- **What eats it:** Wolves, foxes, coyotes, eagles, badgers, dogs and humans.
- **Average lifespan:** Up to 15 years in the wild, but many die before they reach adulthood.
- **Distinguishing features:** A medium-sized ground squirrel with a yellow belly and white fur between its eyes.
- **Other facts:** Commonly known as a rock chuck and spend up to 80% of their life underground!



## RED FOX

- **Scientific name:** *Vulpes vulpes*
- **Where it lives:** Throughout the northern hemisphere, wherever it can find food, water and shelter.
- **What it eats:** Rodents, rabbits, birds, insects and dead animals; fruits and vegetables from people's gardens.
- **What eats it:** Eagles, coyotes, gray wolves, bears, mountain lions, and humans (for pelts).
- **Average lifespan:** 3 years in the wild.
- **Distinguishing features:** Red-colored; black feet and black-tipped, triangular ears and a bushy, white-tipped tail.
- **Other facts:** Red foxes have an amazing sense of hearing. They can hear a mouse squeak from 150 feet away - half the length of a football field.



## FOX SQUIRREL

- **Scientific name:** *Sciurus niger*
- **Where it lives:** Urban, park-like habitats and forests with a mixed variety of trees.
- **What it eats:** Pine and fruit seeds, nuts, insects, bird eggs, vegetation, dead fish and fungi.
- **What eats it:** Mainly hawks and owls, but also snakes.
- **Average lifespan:** Can live up to 18 years in the wild, but many die before they reach adulthood.
- **Distinguishing features:** A medium-sized tree squirrel with a bushy, well-furred tail. Color ranges from buff to reddish.
- **Other facts:** Fox squirrels use a variety of sounds to communicate with each other, including chatters, barks and high-pitch whines.



## AMERICAN MINK

- **Scientific name:** *Neovison vison*
- **Where it lives:** Along ponds, streams, and rivers in burrows and dens they either find or dig. Some burrows are 12 feet deep!
- **What it eats:** Fish, frogs, ducks, muskrats, rabbits and other small rodents.
- **What eats it:** Coyotes, bobcats, and humans (for pelts).
- **Average lifespan:** Up to 10 years in the wild.
- **Distinguishing features:** Long dark-brown body with a white patch on the throat. Partially webbed feet and a long tail help in water.
- **Other facts:** The American mink can emit a foul smell called musk. The smell is used to mark their territory.



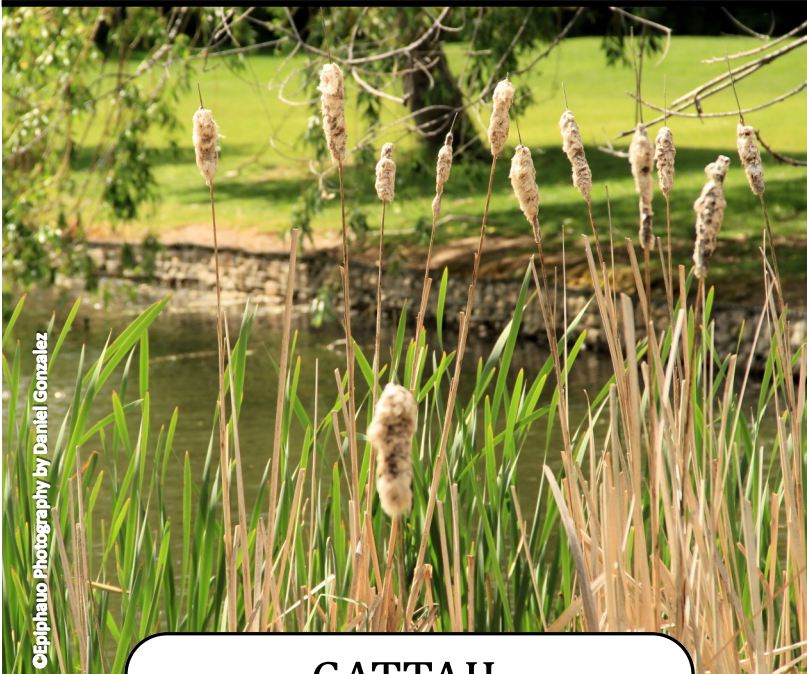




PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Plants

No. 1 of 7



### CATTAIL

Cattails are thought by many to look like a corndog on a stick. This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.

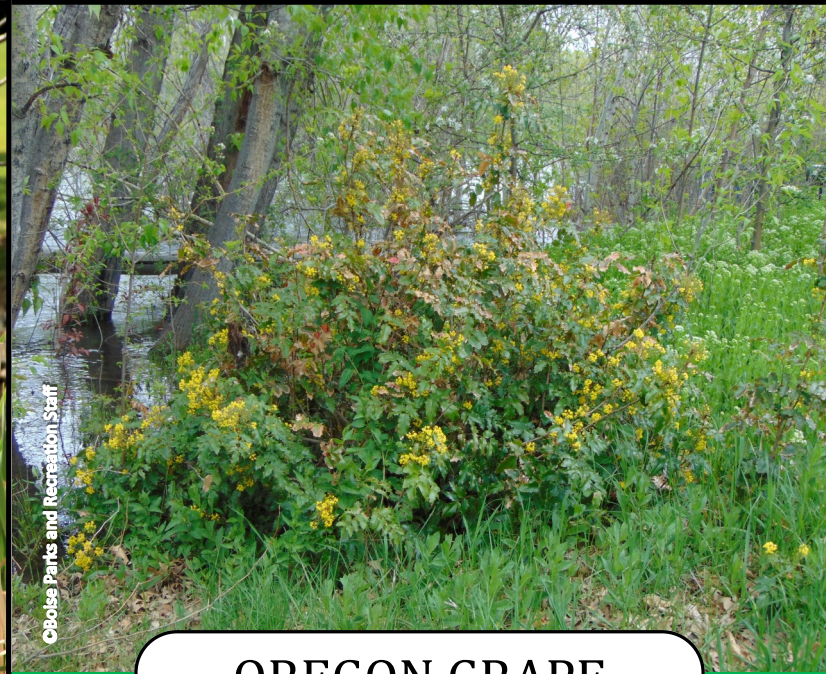
Céiphaeo Photography by Daniel Gonzalez



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Plants

No. 2 of 7



### OREGON GRAPE

These shrubs are easy to identify with their holly like leaves and can be found throughout Boise.

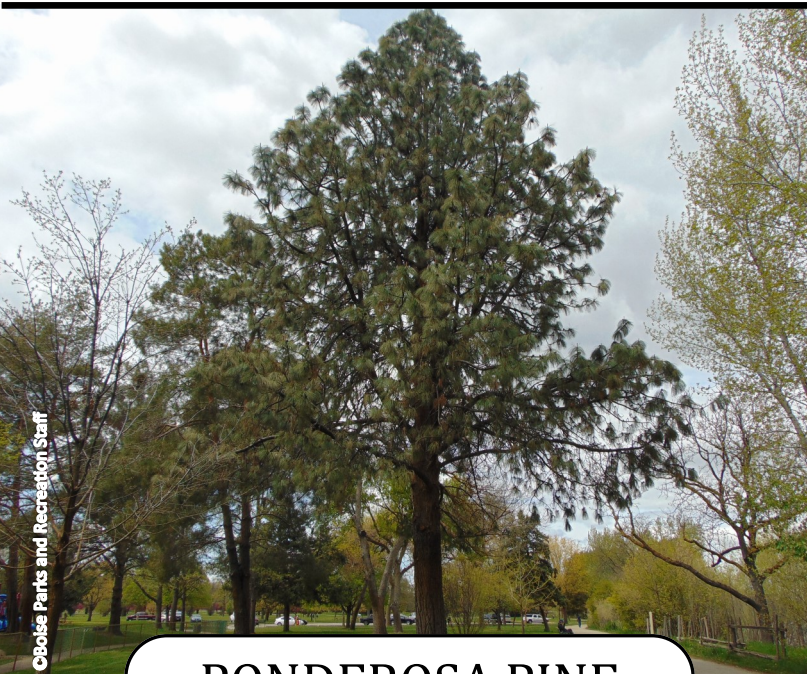
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PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Plants

No. 3 of 7



### PONDEROSA PINE

The ponderosa pine is fire resistant due to its thick, protective bark. This picture was taken at Ann Morrison Park.

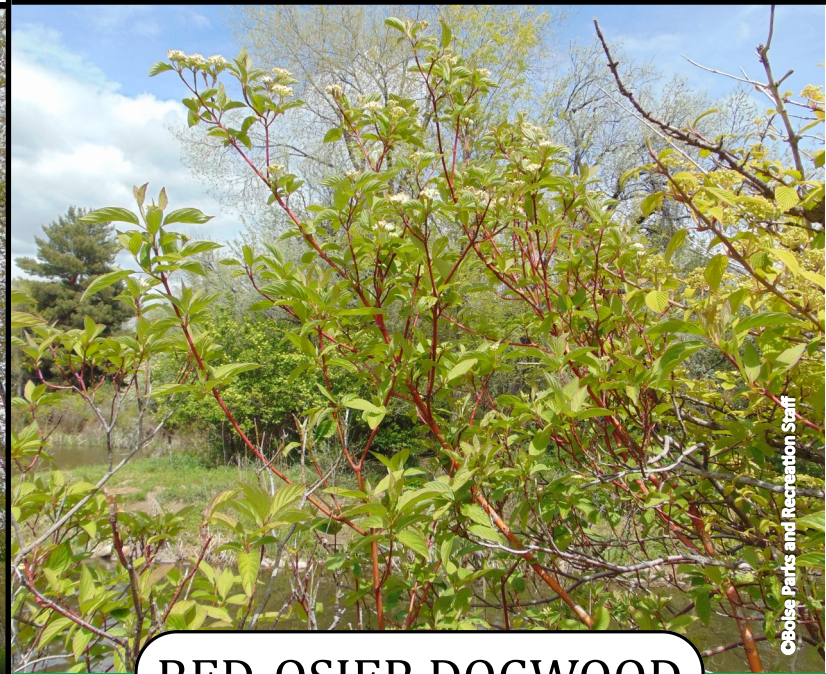
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PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Plants

No. 4 of 7



### RED-OSIER DOGWOOD

The word 'osier' is derived from a French word meaning 'willow like'. This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.

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PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## OREGON GRAPE

- **Scientific name:** *Mahonia aquifolium*
- **Is it native to Idaho?** Yes. It is native to the Pacific Northwest.
- **Where is it commonly found?** Along rivers and streams, and used for landscaping in gardens and parks. It grows best in well drained soil and partial shade.
- **Is it food?** The fruit provides food for birds. The raw fruit is often too sour for people to enjoy, but it can be sweetened with sugar to make juice, jams and jellies.
- **Does it have medicinal uses?** This plant has been used throughout history for medicinal purposes. An ingredient in the fruit is used to kill bacteria, treat psoriasis, and is high in antioxidants.
- **Other facts:** The tiny yellow flowers produced on the Oregon grape is the state of Oregon's flower.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## CATTAIL

- **Scientific name:** *Typha latifolia*
- **Is it native to Idaho?** Yes. It is native to every state in the U.S. except Hawaii.
- **Where it is commonly found?** In wet areas. It grows best in shallow water along ponds, lakes and canals.
- **Is it food?** Some water birds, including geese, eat the seeds. Some people cook and eat the tender inside of the long shoots.
- **Does it have medicinal uses?** Roots can be pounded and spread on skin to relieve burns. Fuzz from the flowers has also been used on scalded or chaffed skin.
- **Other facts:** Sometimes called Cat-O-Nine Tail. People have used the sturdy stalks to make woven mats and floor coverings.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## RED-OSIER DOGWOOD

- **Scientific name:** *Cornus sericea*
- **Is it native to Idaho?** Yes. It is native to the western states, including Alaska, and Canada.
- **Where it is commonly found?** Along streams, rivers and in wetlands. It grows best in partially saturated soils.
- **Is it food?** Birds and small mammals eat the berries that mature in late-summer. Native Americans would eat the berries fresh or would mash and dry them with other fruit like serviceberry or chokecherry to improve the flavor.
- **Does it have medicinal uses?** It has been used in a variety of ways including headaches, sore throats, weakness and sore eyes.
- **Other facts:** The bright red stems of the red-osier dogwood has been used for basket weaving due to its beautiful color.

## PONDEROSA PINE

- **Scientific name:** *Pinus ponderosa*
- **Is it native to Idaho?** Yes, it is native to the western states.
- **Where is it commonly found?** In dry warm areas. It is a shade intolerant and very drought tolerant species, allowing it to live between grasslands and forests.
- **Is it food?** Many birds and small mammals eat the seeds, including squirrels and red-winged black birds. Each cone produces up to 70 seeds each.
- **Does it have medicinal uses?** The needles, pitch, and bark are all used to make medicine for different purposes, such as to relieve muscular pain and reduce coughs and fevers.
- **Other facts:** The largest ponderosa pine on record was over 8 1/2 feet in diameter, and the oldest one was 600 years old!





PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Plants

No. 5 of 7

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### SHOWY MILKWEED

Showy Milkweed grows in many Boise parks near ponds, along the river and Greenbelt. This picture was taken in Kathryn Albertson Park.



PARKS AND  
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## Plants

No. 7 of 7

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### WESTERN YARROW

These fuzzy plants are soft to the touch and grow throughout Boise. This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.

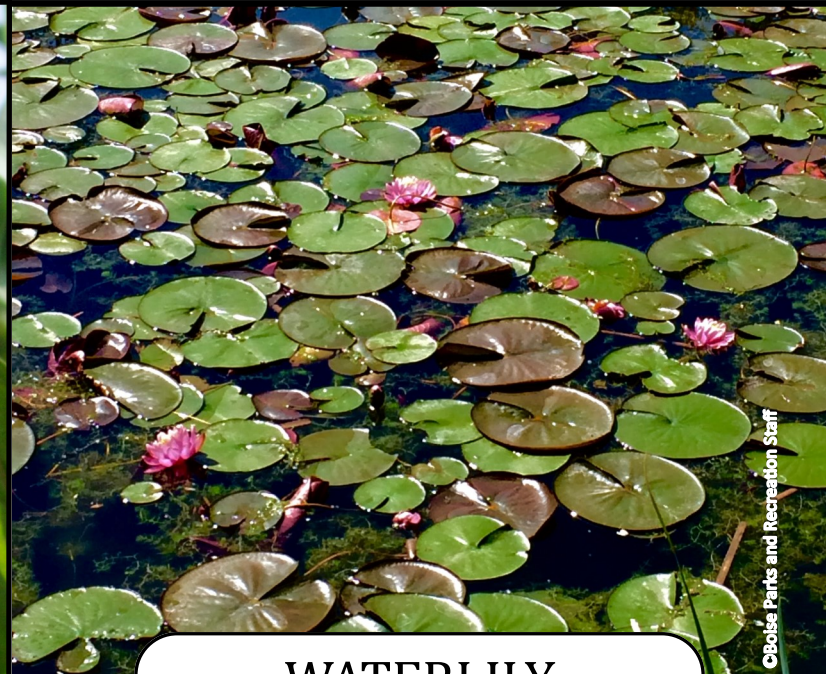


PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Plants

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### WATERLILY

Waterlilies grow up from the bottom of ponds and produce flowers which vary in color. This picture was taken at Kathryn Albertson Park.

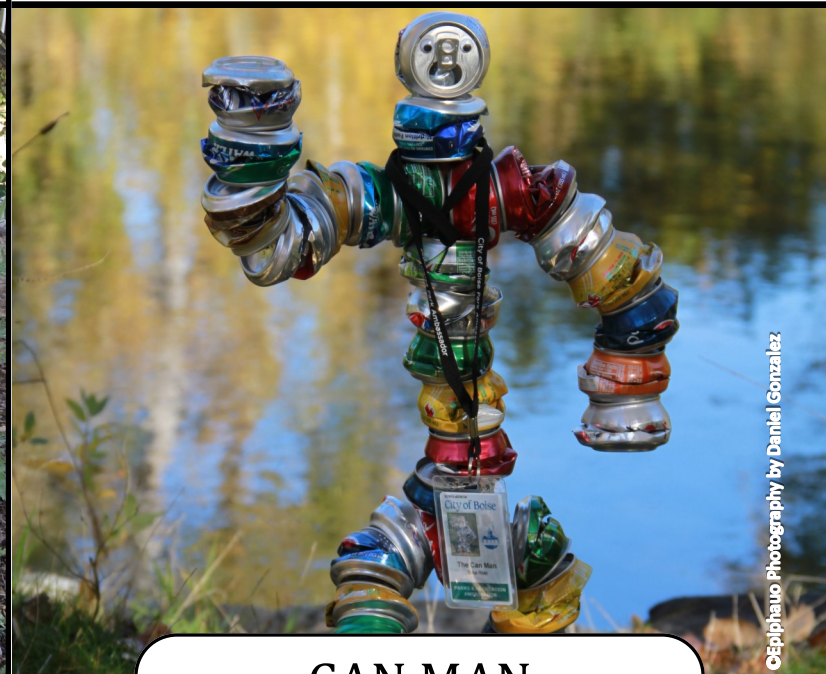


PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## Recyclables

No. 1 of 1

©Ephraim Photography by Daniel Gonzalez



### CAN MAN

Can Man is made of aluminum cans that were collected along the Boise River.





PARKS AND  
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## WATERLILY

- **Scientific name:** *Nymphaea*
- **Is it native to Idaho?** Yes. There are 3 native waterlilies in Idaho: Leibergs's waterlily, American white waterlily, and the pygmy waterlily.
- **Where is it commonly found?** Ponds, streams, lakes and wetlands.
- **Is it food?** Various insects, turtles, koi fish, snails, beavers, and moose eat the leaves, stems, and roots.
- **Does it have medicinal uses?** The roots can be mashed up for digestive problems, mouth sores, and swelling. The leaves and flowers are also used as cold compresses.
- **Other facts:** The lily pads create shade which keeps the water cool and offers small aquatic creatures protection to hide in and amongst them.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## SHOWY MILKWEED

- **Scientific name:** *Asclepias speciosa*
- **Is it native to Idaho?** Yes. It is native to the western states and Canada.
- **Where is it commonly found?** In open meadows, along roads and near riparian areas. It grows best in full sunlight.
- **Is it food?** Milkweed is the monarch caterpillar's main food source. Milkweed contains a toxin that is unappetizing to most animals and is often left to insects.
- **Does it have medicinal uses?** Throughout history, the plant and roots have been used for sores, cuts and swelling.
- **Other facts:** Can grow over 5 feet tall and bloom for 2 to 3 months. Also attracts honeybees and humming birds.



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## CAN MAN

- **Scientific name:** *Aluminium hominis*
- **Where it lives:** Found discarded along riverbanks and in parks throughout Boise.
- **Average lifespan:** It takes an estimated 80 to 100 years for an aluminum can to break down and fully decompose in a landfill.
- **Is it recyclable?:** Yes, aluminum cans can be recycled and are accepted at most recycling centers and by curbside pick-up services. A recycled aluminum can becomes a new can in as little as 60 days after being recycled.\*
- **Other facts:** Recycling aluminum saves more than 90 percent of the energy that would be needed to create a comparable amount of the metal from raw materials. Nearly 75 percent of all aluminum ever produced is still in use today.\*

\* Information from [www.aluminum.org](http://www.aluminum.org)



PARKS AND  
RECREATION

## WESTERN YARROW

- **Scientific name:** *Achillea millefolium*
- **Is it native to Idaho?** Yes. It is drought tolerant and fire resistant.
- **Where is it commonly found?** Almost everywhere: dry deserts, along roads, near water, anywhere the ground was recently disturbed.
- **Is it food?** Various wildlife, including deer and the greater sage-grouse, enjoy eating the feathery leaves.
- **Does it have medicinal uses?** The leaves can be dried and used as a tea for settling upset stomachs. Fresh leaves can also be rubbed on the skin to act as a mosquito repellent.
- **Other facts:** The scientific name comes from the legend that Achilles used yarrow in the Battle of Troy to stop his soldier's wounds from bleeding.