

COBBS CREEK WATERSHED

A FIELD GUIDE

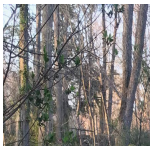


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Key



Insect



Flower



Plant



Bird



Fungi



Mammal



Other



Edible



NOT Edible

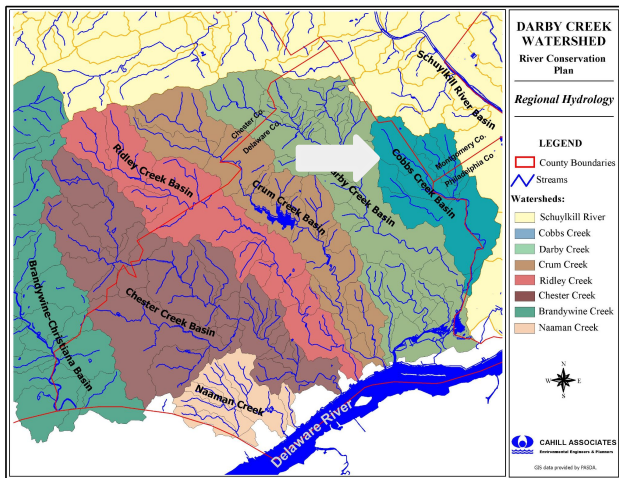


Native



Invasive

What is the Cobbs Creek Watershed?



Cobbs Creek is a main tributary of Darby Creek. The Cobbs Creek Neighborhood in West Philadelphia, and the towns of Haverford, Ardmore, Upper Darby, and more live along the Cobbs Creek within the Watershed. Prior to colonialism and dispossession, the Lenni Lenape people lived on this land. The Lenape people were forced off their land through manipulative treaties made with European colonizers.

BIG BROWN BAT

PIPISILUNKÒN

Eptesicus fuscus



Observations

Nocturnal

- _____ Uses echolocation to locate
- _____ prey or obstacles while flying
- _____ Have sharp heavy teeth to
- _____ help them eat large,
- _____ hard-bodied insects, like
- _____ beetles



COTTONTAIL RABBIT

CHĒMAMSĀK

Sylvilagus floridanus



Observations

Nocturnal, active at twilight

Live underground in natural cavities or excavated burrows

Eat a wide range of plant food

Have continuously growing teeth to eat twigs, barks, and other tough food in winter



GRAY SQUIRREL

WIPUNKWXANIKW

Sciurus carolinensis



Observations

One of 200+ types of squirrel

Builds nests high in trees or
uses tree cavities for dens

Forages for nuts, seeds, buds,
and flowers

Bury food for winter and finds
with strong sense of smell



NORTHERN RACCOON

NAHĒNĒMUK

Procyon lotor



Observations

Nocturnal

-
-
-
-
-
-
- Forages for rodents and reptiles with dexterous paws
- Good climbers and can swim
- Excellent night vision and very intelligent (like dogs)



WHITE-TAILED DEER

AHTUHW

Odocoileus virginianus



Observations

Active at dawn and dusk

Tan or brown in summer and grayish brown in winter

Males have antlers

Graze on most available plant food (leaves, fruits and nuts, grass, lichens and fungi)



BALTIMORE ORIOLE

Icterus galbula



Observations

Migrates south in winter

Often nests in American elms, maples, cottonwoods

Nest hangs below a branch, sometimes anchored to a vertical tree trunk

Eats insects, berries, nectar



BLUE HERON

Ardea herodias



Observations

Adult Height: 3.5 - 4.5 ft

Wingspan: 5 - 6 ft

Nest either in trees or on the ground

Hunt both at night and during the day

Very adaptable and live in almost any wetland

Eat small fish, some crabs, small amphibians and small mammals



CAROLINA WREN

Thryothorus ludovicianus



Observations

Migrates south in winter

Nest in open cavities 3 - 6 ft off the ground, in trees, overhangs, and stumps

Eats spiders, caterpillars, moths, bugs, beetles, grasshoppers, ants, bees, and some vegetable matter



NORTHERN CARDINAL

Cardinalis cardinalis



Observations

In winter, take shelter in evergreen trees and shrubs

Nest in dense tangles of shrubs and vines

Males are brilliant red all over, females are pale brown with hints of red

Eat mainly seeds and fruits; occasionally insects



NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW

*Stelgidopteryx
serripennis*



Observations

Migrates south in winter

Found in open areas often
near water

Often perch on wires and
exposed branches to
preen

Eats insects from midair



WOOD THRUSH

Hylocichla mustelina



Observations

Migrates south in winter

Near Threatened -

Population decreasing

Eats insects, fruit, larvae,
sometimes snails and
small salamanders



BLACK CHERRY

MWIMĚNSHI

Prunus serotina



Observations

Cherries turn from red to dark purple to almost black as they ripen

Fruit is edible but rest of plant can be TOXIC

Max Height: 25 - 110 ft



BLACK WALNUT

TÙKWIMĚNSHI

Juglans nigra



Observations

Grey-black bark with
furrowed pattern

Max Height: 100 - 130 ft

Drooping rows of white
flowers



CRABAPPLE

TĒMPIKÀNAKW

Pyrus coronaria



Observations

Max Height: 15-20 ft tall
and wide

Essentially immature
apples

Crab apples ARE NOT
toxic (the seeds are)



LADY FERN

AHSHIKĒMĒNSHI

Athyrium filix-femina



Observations

Found in damp, shady woodland environments

Single fronds: up to 1 ft wide and 3 ft long

Fronde stalks are green to purple or red in color



RED MAPLE

ANSIKĒMÈS

Acer rubrum



Observations

Most abundant native tree in eastern North America

Max Height: 40 - 60 ft

Leaves turn bright red in fall

Small, hanging clusters of bright red flowers in spring



SASSAFRAS

WINAKW

Sassafras albidum



Observations

Max Height: 30 - 60 ft

All parts of the plant are aromatic and spicy

Native Americans used different parts of the plant for medicinal purposes



SKUNK CABBAGE

Symplocarpus foetidus



Observations

Grows in swampy, wet areas of forested areas

Sprouts very early in spring; melts the snow around it

When the leaves are bruised they smell skunk-like

Max Height: 1 - 3 ft



STINGING NETTLE

Urtica dioica



DO NOT TOUCH

Observations

Commonly found along lakes, rivers, and streams

Long, thin, hollow hairs cover stem and underside of leaves

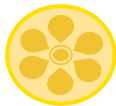
Stinging sensation comes from histamine that is injected by needle-like hairs



TULIP POPLAR

MÜXULHEMƏNŞI

Liriodendron tulipifera



Observations

Max Height: 6 in to 2 ft

Bell-shaped with 3 or more petals

Thrive in well-drained soils with full sun



ORIENTAL BITTERSWEET

Celastrus orbiculatus



Observations

Native to China

Deciduous, wood vine

Max Height: 100 ft

Can grow around and
strangle tree trunks

Brightly colored fruits



WHITE OAK

WIPUNKÒKW

Quercus alba



Observations

Light grey bark with scaly pattern; often small, narrow, rectangular blocks

Max Height: 50 - 80 ft
Lifespan of 500 - 600 years

Fruits are oval acorns with rough caps



CHICKEN OF THE WOODS

Laetiporus sulphureus



Observations

Edible when properly prepared

Grow at base of dead or dying trees, commonly oak; also cherry or beech

Typically fruit summer through fall

Each individual "shelf" : 2 - 10 in. across; up to 10 in. long



DRYAD'S SADDLE

Cerioporus squamosus



Observations

Edible when properly prepared

Grows on fallen logs and tree stumps; on hardwood trees like maple and elm

Found in April and May

Caps grow 4 - 24 in. long and almost 2 in. thick



TURKEY TAIL

Trametes versicolor



Observations

“Versicolor” - displays different colors

Edible when properly prepared

Grows on dead, deciduous wood; in wounds of living trees; on conifer trees

Typically fruit between May and December



COMMON EASTERN BUMBLE BEE TÙKÒMĒWE

Bombus impatiens



Observations

Most common bumble bee
in the area

Pollinator of flowers and
numerous fruit and
vegetable crops

Build a colony with a
queen and worker bees
that make honey



DIFFERENTIAL GRASSHOPPER

SHÙKWÌLKÈSÀK



Melanoplus differentialis

Observations

Often found in heavily weeded areas, grasslands, vacant lots

Eat in large swarms and can be damaging to crops

Eats plant food, particularly giant ragweed, common sunflower, and prickly lettuce



EASTERN CARPENTER BEE

Xylocopa virginica



Observations

Nest in wood; a small pile of sawdust beneath a $\frac{3}{8}$ in hole suggests their presence

Eat nectar and honey

Important pollinators of open-faced flowers

Distinguishable from bumble bees by “hairless” abdomen



SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Lycorma delicatula



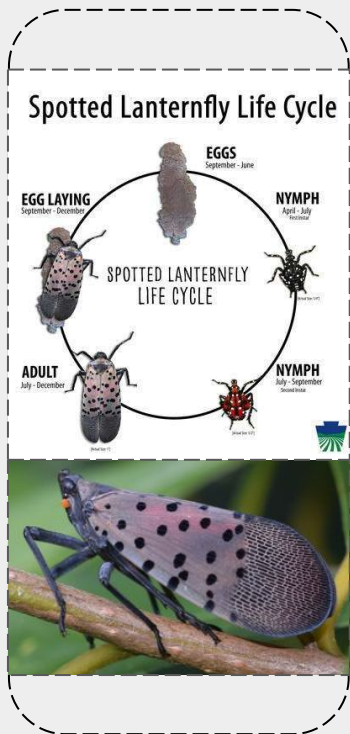
Observations

Invasive species first seen in PA in 2014

Native to South China, Taiwan, and Vietnam

Uses its piercing-sucking mouth to feed on sap from 70+ different trees; often damage trees

Can fly, hop, and climb



WESTERN HONEY BEE

Apis mellifera



Observations

Most common of 10
species of honey bee in
the world

Live in colony with one
queen bee

Feed on pollen and nectar
and eat their honey



COMMON (POND) SLIDER

Trachemys scripta



Observations

Often kept as pets and then released by humans; harming native species

Lifespan: 20 - 50 years

Eat aquatic and terrestrial plants; algae; freshwater invertebrates

Bask on partially submerged logs



Outside & Seek!- Kids Companion



Observe: Grey Squirrel



Collect: Flower Or Leaf



Stomp: Spotted Lanternfly



Draw: A Tree Taller
Than You



Observe: Bumble Bee

Credits

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

(<https://www.birdzilla.com/birds/Northern-Rough-winged-Swallow>)

White-tailed Deer

(<https://www.outdoornews.com/2018/02/21/seein-g-road-kills-pennsylvania-might-mean-nothing/>)