



Owls you can see in Marquette County



Barred Owl



Barred Owl

- Habitat: Upland Hardwood Forests, Lowland Floodplain Forest and Pine Plantations.
- Nest: Most often in a tree cavity, but sometimes will use old hawk, crow or squirrel nests. Will also nest in a large bird house made for them. Will use the same nest site for many years.
- Food: Mostly mice, but also squirrels, fish, insects, amphibians, reptiles and birds of all sizes. Sometimes will take larger prey such as rabbits, opossums and woodchucks.



Eastern Screech Owl



Eastern Screech Owl

- Habitat needs: Hardwood forests and old trees like oak, hickory and maple
- Nests: Tree cavity often made by Pileated Woodpeckers, Flickers or squirrels. Will use Wood Duck houses and owl boxes.
- Food: Mice, shrews, snakes, lizards, frogs, large insects, moths, grasshoppers, beetles and small birds.



Great Horned Owl





Great Horned Owl

- Habitat: Forests, parks, golf courses and pine plantations. Forest edges.
- Nest: Most often uses an old Red-tailed Hawk nest, but will also use old nests of Crows, Ravens, Herons, Bald Eagles or squirrels.
- Food: Just about anything that moves and can be carried. Rabbits, squirrels, rats, house cats, small dogs, muskrats, mink, skunks, woodchucks, gophers, opossums, ducks, geese, herons, pheasants, chickens, hawks, other owls, woodpeckers, most other birds, frogs, fish and large insects.



Long Eared Owl



Long-eared Owl

- Habitat: Large forests of pine and hardwoods. Often roosts in large colonies in plantation pine or willow thickets near marshes in winter.
- Nest: Old squirrel or crow nests in both hardwoods and pines.
- Food: mice, shrews, moles, bats, squirrels, chipmunks, gophers, small birds, frogs and large insects. Only hunts at night.



Northern Saw Whet Owl



Northern Saw Whet Owl

- Habitat: Primarily coniferous forests, especially in winter where they roost in Christmas tree plantations or thick cedar groves.
- Nest: In old woodpecker holes and sometimes in nest boxes made for Flickers or Screech Owls.
- Food: Insects. Occasionally small birds or rodents.



Short-eared Owl





**Short-eared
Owl**

- Habitat: Large open grassy fields, prairies and marshes.
- Nest: On the ground. Will line the nest with dead grasses and feathers.
- Food: mice, shrews, rabbits, gophers, bats, grasshoppers, June beetles and small birds.

Snowy Owl



Snowy Owl

- Habitat: Treeless tundra in Canada and Alaska. Nests on high spot. Lays from 4-14 eggs depending on abundance of food.
- Food: Mostly lemmings on tundra. In winter grounds, marsh lemmings, mice, rats, rabbits, squirrels, some birds.