



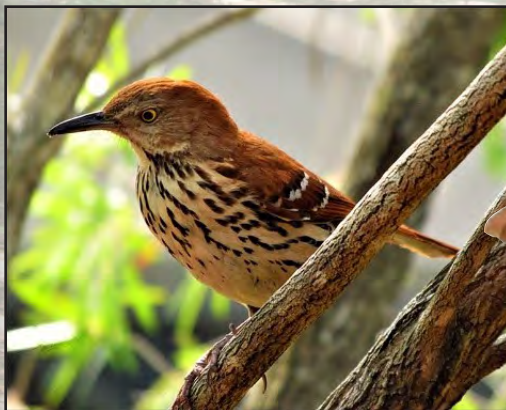
Brown Thrasher

POINT OF INTEREST

THE BROWN THRASHER IS A BIRD IN THE FAMILY MIMIDE, WHICH ALSO INCLUDES MOCKINGBIRDS. THE BIRD RECEIVES ITS NAME DUE TO ITS BEAUTIFUL BROWNISH-RED COLOR AND LONG TAIL. THE BROWN THRASHER IS THE ONLY BIRD IN THE THRASHER FAMILY THAT RESIDES EAST OF TEXAS.



THEY ALSO HAVE ONE OF THE LARGEST REPERTOIRES COMPARED TO ANY OTHER NORTH AMERICAN SONGBIRD. THE BROWN THRASHER IS COMMONLY FOUND IN THICK BRUSH AND CONSEQUENTLY CAN BE A TOUGH BIRD TO SPOT.



BROWN THRASHERS HAVE OVER 1,000 SONG TYPES





Gopher Tortoise

POINT OF INTEREST

THE GOPHER TORTOISE IS A TERRESTRIAL TURTLE AND A VERY IMPORTANT SPECIES FOR THE FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM; THEY ARE FOUND IN ALL 67 COUNTIES. THESE TORTOISES ARE KNOWN AS AN UMBRELLA OR KEYSTONE SPECIES DUE TO THEIR BURROWS THAT ARE USED AS HOMES FOR OVER 360 DIFFERENT SPECIES, RANGING FROM INSECTS TO MAMMALS.



GOPHER TORTOISES CAN LIVE MORE THAN 40 YEARS



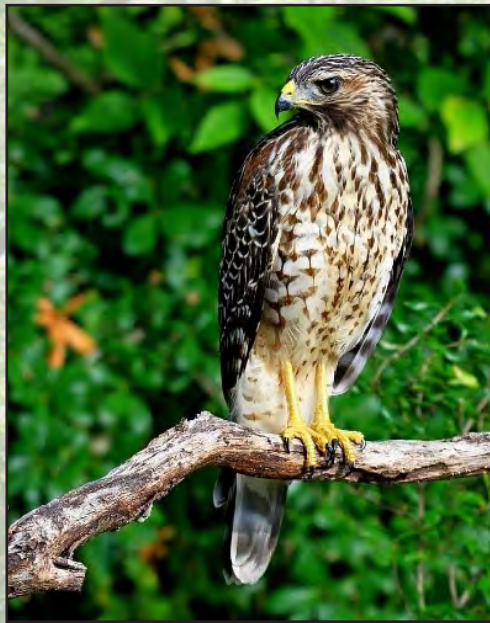
GOPHER TORTOISES CAN LIVE FOR UP TO 80 YEARS AND HAVE BEEN AROUND FOR OVER 60 MILLION YEARS. THIS SPECIES IS PROTECTED WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND IS REAL PLEASURE TO SEE OUT AND ABOUT.





Red-shouldered Hawk

POINT OF INTEREST



RED-SHOULDERED HAWKS ARE NAMED FOR THE REDDISH COLORS ON THE TOP OF THE WING NEAR THE SHOULDER. THEY ALSO HAVE DISTINCT BANDING ON THE TAIL THAT STANDS OUT IN THE NATURAL FLORIDA LANDSCAPE. THESE HAWKS ARE OFTEN IN WET WOODLANDS AND LIKE TO SIT ON PERCH POINTS AS THEY HUNT LIZARDS AND SMALL MAMMALS.

WITH THEIR REPETITIOUS CALLS, RED-SHOULDERED HAWKS ARE KNOWN TO BE THE NOISIEST WHEN COMPARED TO OTHER SPECIES IN THE SAME FAMILY. THESE BIRDS CAN USUALLY BE SEEN ON SNAGS AT THIS PROPERTY LOOKING FOR FOOD.



FOOD MAY BE CACHED FOR LATER





Pennyroyal

POINT OF INTEREST

WITH A VERY NICE PURPLE FLOWERING COLOR PENNYROYAL IS A TREAT TO SEE OUT IN THE WILD. THIS PLANT IS A BIG ATTRACTANT FOR BEES AND BUTTERFLIES IN THE NATURAL FLORIDA LANDSCAPE.



PENNYROYAL IS MORE COMMONLY FOUND IN DRIER AREAS LIKE SCRUBBY FLATWOODS OR SCRUB HABITAT. A FUN FACT ABOUT THIS PLANT IS THAT IT CAN BE USED AS A NATURAL MOSQUITO REPELLANT AND EMITS A VERY NICE MINTY FRAGRANCE WHEN IN BLOOM.

