






# Common wls of North Carolina

Species	Habitat	Breeding Season	Breeding Codes
 Great Horned Owl <i>(Bubo virginianus)</i>	<p>Uncommon to fairly common, permanent resident of upland forests, but habitat use is extremely diverse: second-growth woodlands, swamps, farms, and suburbs.</p> <p>Almost always takes over nest built by hawk or crow, occasionally osprey.</p>	<p><b>Courtship:</b> begins as early as Oct</p> <p><b>Eggs:</b> Dec-Mar</p> <p><b>Incubation:</b> 30-37 d</p> <p><b>Fledglings:</b> Feb-Jun</p>	<p><b>S7</b> hooting 7+ nights apart</p> <p><b>C</b> Courtship Display, "<a href="#">duetting</a>"</p> <p><b>ON</b> Occupied Nest</p> <p><b>FL</b> Fledged Young; <a href="#">juvenile call</a></p>
 Barred Owl <i>(Strix varia)</i>	<p>Fairly common to common, permanent resident of swamps, river bottoms, and moist woodlands.</p> <p>Nest in large, natural cavities, but will occasionally use large stick nests of other birds of prey.</p>	<p><b>Courtship:</b> begins Jan</p> <p><b>Eggs:</b> as early as Dec, Feb-Apr</p> <p><b>Incubation:</b> 28-33 d</p> <p><b>Fledglings:</b> Mar-Apr</p>	<p><b>S7</b> hooting 7+ nights apart</p> <p><b>C</b> Courtship Display, "<a href="#">duetting</a>"</p> <p><b>FL</b> Fledged Young; <a href="#">juvenile call</a></p>
 Barn Owl <i>(Tyto alba)</i>	<p>Rare to uncommon, permanent resident, except on highest mountains.</p> <p>In the eastern U.S., owls usually prefer barns, silos, other structures in rural, agricultural landscapes. Will use natural cavity and nest boxes.</p>	<p><i>Limited data available</i></p> <p><b>Courtship:</b> begins Dec-Jan</p> <p><b>Incubation:</b> 29-34 d</p> <p><b>Fledglings:</b> Mar-Apr</p>	<p><b>S</b> Singing; classic <a href="#">scream call</a></p> <p><b>S7</b> hooting 7+ nights apart</p> <p><b>FL</b> Fledged Young</p>

Species	Habitat	Breeding Season	Breeding Codes
 <p>Eastern Screech Owl (<i>Megascops asio</i>)</p>	<p>Fairly common to common permanent resident of woodlands, preferably conifers throughout the Carolinas.</p> <p>Nests in natural cavities, old woodpecker holes, unused chimney, and large nest boxes.</p>	<p><b>Courtship:</b> begins Jan-Mar</p> <p><b>Eggs:</b> Apr-Jun</p> <p><b>Incubation:</b> 26 d</p> <p><b>Fledglings:</b> May-Aug</p>	<p><b>S7</b> hooting 7+ nights apart; <a href="#">descending whinny</a></p> <p><b>ON</b> female on nest, possible w/nest boxes</p> <p><b>FL</b> Fledged young, <a href="#">juvenile call</a></p>
 <p>Northern Saw-whet Owl (<i>Aegolius acadicus</i>)</p>	<p>Rare – breeds in old woodpecker cavities where spruce-fir stands meet hardwoods above 4000' ft. elevation; scarce winter resident in dense pines and cedars throughout the state.</p>	<p><b>Courtship:</b> begins Mar-Jun</p> <p><b>Eggs:</b> Apr</p> <p><b>Incubation:</b> 27-29 d</p> <p><b>Fledglings:</b> May-Sep</p>	<p><b>S7</b> hooting 7+ nights apart; <a href="#">insistent notes</a></p> <p><b>C</b> Courtship Display; <a href="#">male/female duets</a></p> <p><b>FL</b> Fledged young, <a href="#">juvenile call</a></p>

## REFERENCES

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