

White-tailed Jackrabbit

Urban Wildlife Relationships



AIWC Blogs

[White-tailed Jackrabbits: Nature's Master Survivors](#)
[Rabbits, Hares, and the Problem with Releasing Domestic](#)



Did you know?

White-tailed jackrabbits produce two types of feces: one dry and one moist pellet. The moist pellet is re-ingested to absorb the remaining nutrients. Talk about efficient!



Did you know?

White-tailed jackrabbits will leave their babies alone for up to 12 hours at a time. The babies, called leverets, are born without a scent making them virtually undetectable to predators. If you see a baby hare by itself the best thing to do is leave it where it is. If you think it may be injured, please call a wildlife hospital



Did you know?

White-tailed jackrabbits undergo seasonal colour changes - from snow white in the winter to brown and grey in the summer. This colour change helps them blend into their surroundings.

Telling Rabbits and Hares Apart:

1. Baby rabbits are born hairless and blind while baby hares are born sighted, furred, and become mobile within hours of birth.
2. Rabbits do not change colour over the seasons while hares do.
3. Hares tend to be larger than rabbits with longer ears and hind legs.
4. When faced with danger rabbits will tend to freeze or run for cover, while hares are more likely to run away.
5. The only true rabbit in Alberta is the mountain cottontail. Despite its name, you can find them in the prairies throughout the province.



Ecological Niche

White-tailed jackrabbits are a primary food source for many predators in the province like coyotes and bobcats. Hare populations tend to follow a cycle peaking every 7-10 years. White-tailed jackrabbits feed on living foliage in the summer and woody vegetation in the winter. They are a highly adaptable species living anywhere from busy city parks to wide open grasslands.

ID Characteristics

Also commonly known as the prairie hare, they are identifiable by their large ears with black tips and oversized hind legs typical of the largest hare found in Alberta.

Human Wildlife Conflicts

- Hares may nibble at fruit, vegetables, and flowers in the summer and may damage woody landscape plants in the winter.
- Using wire fencing around gardens or shrubs can deter hares from damaging vegetation.
- Mixing cayenne pepper and garlic powder with water is an effective natural deterrent.



CONTACT US

(403) 946-2361

www.aiwc.ca

info@aiwc.ca