

2026 Area 1 Envirothon Wildlife Questions – ANSWER KEY

- 1) The ODNR Division of Wildlife is tasked with managing wildlife resources and habitats for all Ohioans. A portion of the funding to manage these resources is allocated to states from funds collected through the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937, more commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act. These funds are generated from which of the following sources?
 - a. Property and Income Taxes from Ohioans
 - b. Excise tax on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment**
 - c. Fines collected from poachers
 - d. Tariffs

- 2) Newly hatched wild turkeys are commonly referred to as what?
 - a. Goslings
 - b. Kits
 - c. Fawns
 - d. Poults**

- 3) A wildlife species, like the white-tailed deer, whose primary activity times are described as dawn and dusk would be referred to as:
 - a. Nocturnal
 - b. Diurnal
 - c. Perennial
 - d. Crepuscular**

- 4) Native prairie grasses provide brood-rearing cover, food, and nesting cover for many wildlife species. Which species listed below is **NOT** a native warm-season prairie grass?
 - a. Indiangrass
 - b. Switchgrass
 - c. Orchardgrass**
 - d. Big Bluestem

- 5) Food, water and shelter are the three main components of _____?
 - a. Wildlife Diversity
 - b. Habitat**
 - c. Food Chain
 - d. Succession

- 6) Monarch butterflies are a species of concern and are important pollinators. These native plants are the only host plants for monarch caterpillars:
 - a. Cattails
 - b. Black-eyed Susan
 - c. Milkweed**
 - d. Gray-headed Coneflower

7) Invasive species are non-native species that, once introduced, can cause harm by out-competing native species. Which of the following is an example of an invasive species found in wetlands in Ohio?

a. Phragmites

- b. Swamp Milkweed
- c. Joe-Pye-Weed
- d. Cardinal Flower

8) Furbearer trapping is used as a tool to manage populations of species including this formerly endangered species in Ohio. This animal was once extirpated and was reintroduced to Ohio in the late 1980s. That reintroduction program was so successful that this animal was removed from the state endangered species list in 2002 and can now be trapped on a limited basis in Ohio. Which of the following is this animal?

- a. Beaver
- b. Badger
- c. River Otter**
- d. Bobcat



9) Which of the following oak species have acorns that develop in a single growing season, making them less bitter and generally more attractive as food for wildlife?

- a. Red Oak
- b. White Oak**
- c. Pin Oak
- d. Black Oak

10) Vernal pools are an important and unique type of wetland, specifically for amphibians. One important factor of vernal pools is that they _____, which is important to breeding salamanders.

- a. Do not support fish populations**
- b. Maintain consistent water levels
- c. Freeze solid in the winter
- d. Have a high salinity

11) The maximum population of animals that a habitat can sustainably support given available resources is known as:

- a. Recruitment Rate
- b. Carrying Capacity**
- c. Ecological Survival
- d. Wildlife Density

12) This native warm-season prairie grass has deep roots, grows 3 to 10 feet tall, and has a head that resembles a “turkey’s foot.” What is it?

- a. Indiangrass
- b. Switchgrass
- c. Orchardgrass
- d. Big Bluestem**



13) Both hard mast and soft mast producing trees provide a valuable food source for wildlife. Which of the following species is considered to produce soft mast?

- a. Swamp White Oak
- b. Shagbark Hickory
- c. Crabapple**
- d. Black Walnut

14) Prescribed burning is one important tool that habitat managers use to maintain and improve grasslands. Which one of these is **NOT** a benefit of prescribed fire?

- a. Control of invading tree and herbaceous weed species
- b. Cycle nutrients by reducing old plant growth to ash
- c. Temporarily removes cover for wildlife**
- d. Remove thatch to expose bare ground

15) Early successional areas are a habitat type that is lacking in Ohio. A beneficial practice for wildlife involves thinning the perimeter of forest to allow for early successional plant species growth providing a gradual transition from open grasslands or farm fields to forest habitat. What is this management practice called?

- a. Select Cut
- b. Shelterwood Harvest
- c. Mowing
- d. Edge feathering**

16) There are three species of venomous snakes in Ohio. Which of these is **NOT** one of the venomous species?

- a. Eastern Copperhead
- b. Massasauga Rattlesnake
- c. Timber Rattlesnake
- d. Northern Watersnake**

17) Ohio is home to several species of mammals belonging to the family Mustelidae which are typically characterized by having elongated bodies and short legs. Which of the following Ohio mammals is **NOT** considered a Mustelid?

- a. River Otter
- b. Raccoon**
- c. Long-tailed Weasel
- d. American Mink

18) Name this Ohio upland game bird:

- a. Ringneck Pheasant
- b. Bobwhite Quail
- c. Chukar
- d. Ruffed Grouse**



19) Which of these species was **NOT** present historically in Ohio at the time of European settlement?

- a. Elk
- b. Bison
- c. Whitetail Deer
- d. Pronghorn**

20) Which of these species was previously extirpated in Ohio but has since made a comeback thanks to efforts of the Ohio Division of Wildlife and its partner organizations?

- a. Wild Turkey
- b. River Otter
- c. Bobcat
- d. All of the Above**

- 21) Which of the following tools is used most frequently by the ODNR Division of Wildlife to ensure that wildlife populations remain at healthy, sustainable levels?
- a. Birth Control Medication
 - b. Disease
 - c. Hunting**
 - d. Releasing Predators

22) This Ohio native wildflower is in the mint family, has a square stem, and is loved by pollinators. What is it?

- a. Purple Coneflower
- b. Partridge Pea
- c. Black-eyed Susan
- d. Wild Bergamot**



23) Prairies are an important habitat type in Ohio. Without continuous management, prairies can be invaded and eventually turn into permanent woody habitat. What is this natural process of prairie to woody conversion commonly known as?

- a. Seasonal Flooding
- b. Succession**
- c. Shelterwood Harvest
- d. Natural Selection

24) The only native marsupial of Ohio is the:

- a. River Otter
- b. Raccoon
- c. Red Fox
- d. Virginia Opossum**

25) The plant diversity in a wetland can be increased by:

- a. Building wetlands with varying bottom depths
- b. Manipulating water levels during the growing season
- c. Removing non-native exotic species and reestablishing natives
- d. All of the above**

26) An herbaceous flowering plant that is not a grass is referred to as a _____?

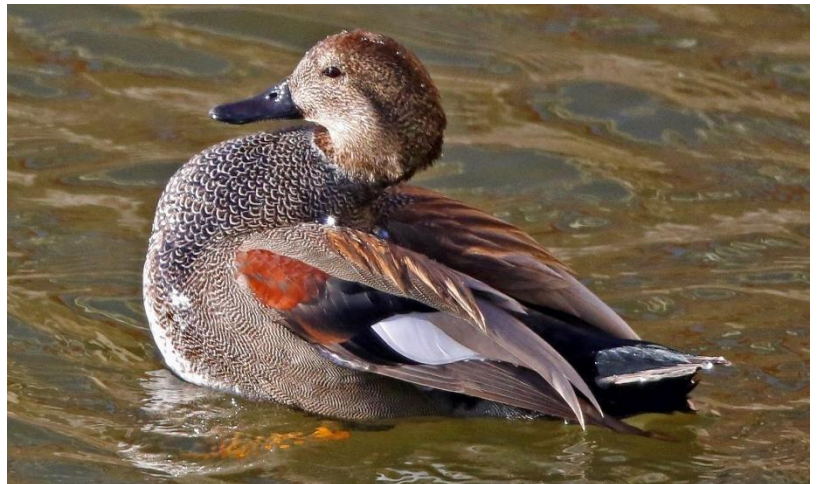
- a. **Forb**
- b. Shrub
- c. Sapling
- d. All of the above

27) This non-native, invasive species of swan destroys native vegetation and chases native waterfowl from their habitat.

- a. Tundra Swan
- b. Trumpeter Swan
- c. **Mute Swan**
- d. All of the above

28) Name this species of waterfowl:

- a. Mallard
- b. Pintail
- c. **Gadwall**
- d. Wood Duck



29) Which of the following members of the Canidae family is unique in the fact that it has semi-retractable claws, enabling it to climb trees better than other Ohio canids?

- a. **Gray Fox**
- b. Red Fox
- c. Coyote
- d. None of the above

30) Common Evening Primrose is a native herbaceous plant that takes 2 years to mature. The first year it grows low to the ground as a rosette before growing into a 1- to 6-foot-tall flowering stem in year 2. What is the term for plants, like primrose, that take 2 years to complete their life cycle?

- a. Perennial
- b. **Biennial**
- c. Annual
- d. Diurnal

31) Middens are large, central food caches used for year-round storage and as territorial markers. Which of these is the only squirrel species in Ohio that creates middens?

- a. **Red Squirrel**
- b. Fox Squirrel
- c. Gray Squirrel
- d. Southern Flying Squirrel

32) Some Ohio mammals such as the long-tailed weasel and the Ermine (short-tailed weasel) exhibit a reproductive characteristic in which fertilized eggs pause development allowing birthing in the spring when conditions are best for survival. What is this pause in reproductive development known as?

- a. Ectopic Pregnancy
- b. **Delayed Implantation**
- c. Gestation Period
- d. Direct Implantation

33) The skull labeled #33 belongs to an animal that is described as an ecosystem engineer. Identify the species:

- a. Red Fox
- b. Fox squirrel
- c. **American beaver**
- d. Opossum

34) Looking at the teeth on this lower jaw, what is the age of the whitetail deer labeled #34?

- a. ½ Year
- b. **1 ½ Years**
- c. 4 ½ Years
- d. 9 ½ Years

35) The state endangered reptile labeled #35 has known populations here in Williams County (See Mount):

- a. Timber rattlesnake
- b. **Copper-belly watersnake**
- c. Blue Racer
- d. Plains garter snake

36) The teeth of a skull tell a story about that animal's diet, behavior, and lifestyle. Looking at the teeth on the skull labeled #36, determine if that animal is an herbivore, carnivore, insectivore, or omnivore.

- a. **Herbivore**
- b. Carnivore
- c. Insectivore
- d. Omnivore

37) Wild Lupine is the exclusive host plant for the butterfly shown here that is listed as endangered in Ohio:

- a. Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
- b. Summer Azure
- c. Karner Blue**
- d. Silver-spotted Skipper



38) Name the non-native, invasive herbaceous plant that is common here in Williams County:
(See Plant labeled #38)

- a. Autumn Olive
- b. Bush Honeysuckle
- c. Common Teasel**
- d. Canada Thistle

39) The owl shown here is listed as threatened in Ohio. They prefer to hunt in open grasslands and feed mainly on small mammals, particularly voles.

- a. Barred Owl
- b. Great Horned Owl
- c. Screech Owl
- d. Barn Owl**



40) Name this bird species: (See mount labeled #40)

- a. Great Blue Herron
- b. Whooping Crane
- c. Sandhill Crane**
- d. Egret

41) Which animal does this track belong to?

- a. Raccoon
- b. Bobcat
- c. Coyote**
- d. Mink



Front:
Length - 2 1/4"
Width - 2 1/2"

42) This shell (labeled #42) belongs to Ohio's largest and most common turtle. Name the species:

- a. Spiny Softshell Turtle
- b. Common Snapping Turtle**
- c. Blanding's Turtle
- d. Red-Eared Slider

43) Name the mammal this pelt (labeled #43) belongs to:

- a. Bobcat
- b. Gray Fox
- c. Beaver
- d. Mink**

44) What source does **not** cause nonpoint source pollution?

- a. Soil erosion
- b. Fertilizer runoff
- c. Industrial pipe with specific drainage**
- d. Storm drain discharge

45) At the wildlife station, a clearcut has been performed. What land based BMPs should be in place to address nonpoint source pollution?

- a. Noise control BMPs
- b. Forestry Management Plan
- c. Erosion control BMPs**
- d. Construction site BMPs

46) The porous and varied terrain of natural landscapes (such as grass) allow rainfall and snowmelt to slowly run off or filter into the ground. In urban areas where we have roads, parking lots, and rooftops the surfaces are impervious and the rainfall and snowmelt remains above the surfaces. What is the **most common** way Urban areas address this issue?

- a. Pass ordinances to address the amount of runoff
- b. Install natural filters to slow the runoff
- c. Install storm drain systems that carry the water directly to a water body**
- d. Ask residents to get involved to find solutions to nonpoint source pollution

47) What is one way to prevent nonpoint source pollution in an urban environment?

- a. Pick up litter on your property to keep it out of the storm drain**
- b. Wash your car on the blacktop so the rinse water runs into the storm drain
- c. Hose spilled oil into the street to allow it to enter the storm drain
- d. Keep soils in your garden areas bare (no plants) until the spring rains have passed