

# THE WILDLIFE

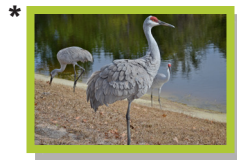
## of Victoria Park

As Volusia County residents, we can be proud of the vast acreage set aside as public parks, forests, preserves, conservation areas and wildlife management areas— one of the highest percentages of protected natural lands of any U.S. county. Many of the animals that benefit from these refuges can be found in Victoria Park, either as residents or as periodic visitors. More than 120 species of birds, 38 reptiles, 15 frogs, 20 mammals and 55 butterflies have been recorded in Victoria Park. Residents who stroll our paths, walk our nature trails, bicycle our roads or even take a leisurely drive past the many ponds, wetlands and woodlands in our communities may glimpse a bald eagle, swallow-tailed kite, bobcat, gopher tortoise, sandhill crane, American alligator, wild turkey, red-headed woodpecker and many other iconic species of central Florida wildlife.



## ENDANGERED SPECIES

A few of our animals are listed on the federal and/or state “Endangered Species” Lists, and Victoria Park represents important habitat for their continued survival. Please help all these species to survive by not touching or disturbing them.



### FLORIDA SANDHILL CRANE

“Threatened” at state level. Look for these tall, stately birds walking through our residential neighborhoods and golf course.



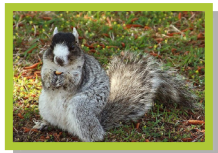
### GOPHER TORTOISE

“Threatened” at state level and federal “candidate species.” When not in its deep burrow, this large turtle can be seen grazing on plants along roads and trails.



### FLORIDA SCRUB JAY

“Threatened” at both state and federal levels. This beautiful, blue and gray bird lives in Victoria Gardens’ conservation areas.



### SHERMAN FOX SQUIRREL

“Species of special concern” in Florida. Twice as big as a gray squirrel, this animal varies greatly in color and lives in Victoria Hills, especially on the golf course.



### EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE

“Threatened” at both state and federal levels. North America’s largest snake (up to 8 feet long), this attractive, glossy, bluish-black reptile occurs in Victoria Gardens’ conservation areas.

\*Photos by John Serrao.



Learn more about our wildlife by tuning in to T.V. channel 733 for weekly “Wildlife Notes”

If you have any problems with snakes on your property, please DO NOT KILL them! (Even venomous snakes serve a very important ecological role as members of our natural community.) Call John Serrao who will come over and transfer the snake to a conservation area: **(386) 218-4018**