

## **EASTERN FOX SQUIRREL**

### *Sciurus niger*



Photos by:  
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**Order: Rodentia**  
**Family: Sciuridae**

### **Description**

- Large tree squirrel Grayish to brownish upper body
- Underbelly rusty to reddish
- Medium size:  
length-21"  
weight-1-1/2 to 2 lbs.

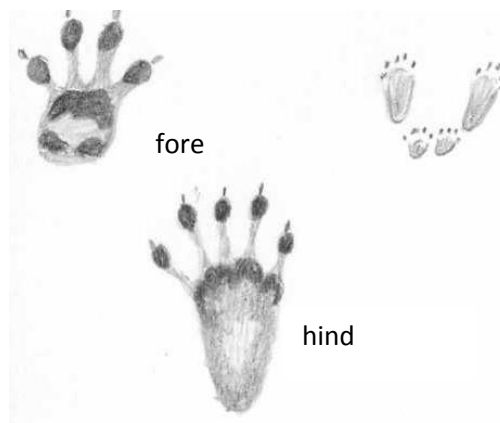
### **Life Cycle**

- Two breeding periods:  
January and February  
May and June
- 2-4 babies per litter
- Babies born blind and nearly naked
- On their own at 3 months
- Can live up to 15 years

### **Behavior**

- Diet of acorns, nuts, fruit, insects, tree buds
- Bury nuts and find by smell
- Usually active in morning and afternoon
- Social behavior with others of species

### **TRACKING PRINTS**



### **Habitat**

- Prefer forests with nut producing trees, with open areas
- Hollow trees for nests
- Use leaf and twigs for nesting

### **Environmental Contribution**

- An important game animal.
- Helps with planting of trees through burying seeds.