

Save The River® / Upper St. Lawrence RIVERKEEPER®

Protecting the St. Lawrence River now, and for generations to come

My Little Book of Otters

Fun Facts!



River otters are carnivores who eat crayfish, fish, frogs, snakes, snails, turtles, and insects.

Otters live along rivers, streams, and lakes bordering wetlands. The wetlands provide a great food source.

A river otter can hold its breath under water for up to ¼ mile as it swims! That can be up to four minutes.

When on land they travel on their belly.

They have a warm fur coat of two layers: guard hair and the undercoat.

Crepuscular- The river otter is active mostly at dawn and again at dusk.

They secrete a musky scent.

Their webbed feet help them to be fantastic swimmers.

Their tails are specially adapted to be long, strong and propel them through the water. They are expert fast swimmers.

They can dive deep up to 60'.

Their whiskers are also specially adapted with long length that helps them to "feel" their prey in murky water.

A river otter washes itself after every meal- do you?