## BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON

Nycticorax nycticorax

## **FUN FACTS**

- The Brandywine Zoo's black-crowned night heron was hatched at the Florida Aquarium in 2008.
- Nestlings often disgorge their stomach contents and defecate when approached by intruders.
- Black-crowned night herons are social year round, associating with other species of herons, egrets, and ibises frequently. In the winter, they roost communally.

## THREATS & CONSERVATION

Colonies of Black-crowned night herons can provide good indications of overall environmental quality, because night-herons forage at the top of food chain, nest in colonies (where they are fairly easy to study), and have a wide distribution. They tolerate disturbances such as traffic, so they are especially useful in revealing environmental deterioration in urban environments.





class biome wetland carnivore endotherm

ibiome wetland carnivore body temp endotherm

biorhythm birth interaction habitat

oviparous

aquatic

social

crepuscular