

# FURGOTTEN TIMES OUTDOOR GEAR



Photo: northbranchnaturecenter.org

## Coyote

This month’s animal is the Coyote (*canis latrans*) which means ‘barking dog’. The coyote is one of 8 native North American wild dogs in the Canidae family, which includes wolves and foxes. The Eastern Coyote, which is here in PEI, is larger than the Canadian western coyotes, attributed to the interbreeding with timber wolves as they travelled eastward across Canada. They are capable of long treks across the ice flows, and were first reported being seen in PEI in 1983. Coyotes mate in late winter, and the monogamous pair together raise litters of 5-7 young pups born in April or May. The pups become independent and move out usually by Fall. Coyotes are most active at dusk to dawn, and have excellent eyesight and smell. They eat a variety of food, including but not limited to snowshoe hare, mice, poultry, insects, berries, grass seed, voles, squirrels, muskrats, apples and carrion (dead animals).

How do you properly identify a dogwood tree?

By its bark!

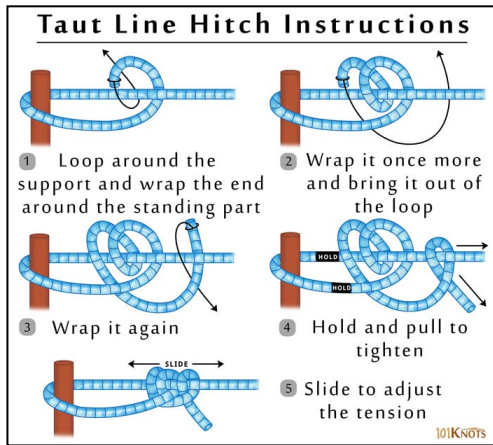
### UPCOMING CLASSES

#### Learn-to-Tan Class:

Saturday, January 27  
at 3:00 PM.

Contact us to sign up!



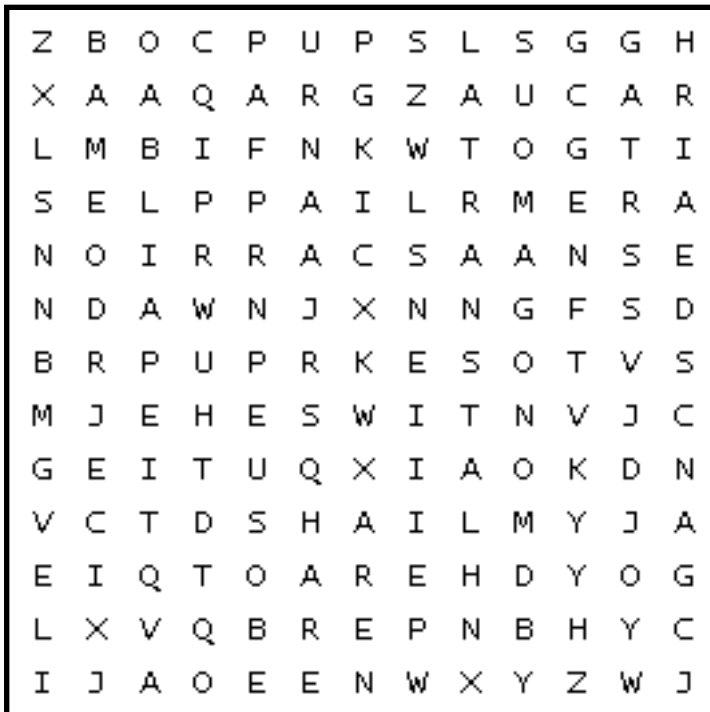


The **taut line hitch** is a non-slipping, adjustable loop knot hitch. It slides freely but jams under load making line adjustments simple. Commonly used to secure tent guy lines, tying down aircraft, securing loads on vehicles, and setting up hammocks.

**Want your feet to be cozy?  
Order moccasins today!**



Options of **sheepskin** lined, fur trim, leather colour, sole type, and style, sized for you!



**WORD SEARCH**

COYOTE  
CANIS  
LATRANS  
CARRION  
APPLES  
DAWN  
DUSK  
EASTERN  
HARE  
ICE  
LITTER  
MONOGAMOUS  
PEI  
PUPS  
WILD

## PEI PLANT SPOTLIGHT



### Usnea

commonly known as Old Man's Beard

Usnea is a green-yellow lichen found growing on trees (often dead spruce) in wooded areas throughout PEI. It grows slowly, staying on the trees throughout the seasons. Usnea has a white stretchy 'elastic' thread interior, differentiating it from other lichen species. The presence of Usnea in an area is an indication of healthy air. Usnea has been used traditionally as a medicine against infection, both internal and external, often being prepared as a tincture, powder, tea, infused oil, or salve. Dry Usnea also makes a great fire-starter.