

WOLF MythBusters

Wolves are one of the most misunderstood and persecuted beings on the planet. Here are some interesting facts:

Wolves **ARE** shy. They **AVOID** humans.

To date, there have been no human injuries from wolves documented in Wisconsin, per Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR).

Wolves kill to eat, **NOT** for sport.

Wolves, pets and livestock can **peacefully co-exist.**

Of an estimated 1.5 million pet dogs in Wisconsin, only 2 lost their lives by wolf interactions in 2024.

Out of 58,500 Wisconsin farms, only 20 were affected by wolves in 2024.

There are proven nonlethal methods to reduce conflicts. With proper installation, fencing is 100% effective.



Wolves are self-regulating, meaning populations **WILL NOT** grow exponentially.

Wolves live a hard life. Research shows that **71%** of wolf pups die before their first birthday. Many more suffer unnecessarily painful deaths at the hands of humans, **like Wolf 813.**

Wolves and Deer

Wolves **reduce deer car collisions** by moving deer deeper into the forest and away from roads.

In the last 6 years, a WI based insurance company paid over $40 million in deer collision claims in Wisconsin. Recent studies have shown a **24% average reduction** in crashes in areas where wolves are present.

Wolves keep the deer herd healthy by removing the old, sick and weak, which can **slow the spread of diseases** like Lyme and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).

Wisconsin has one of the largest deer herds in the country, between 1.3 and 1.6 million in recent years, per WDNR.

Ticks live on deer and there are more than 5000 cases of Lyme disease in humans each year in Wisconsin, along with other emerging tick-borne diseases like babesiosis and ehrlichiosis.

CWD is fatal to deer and found in almost all counties in Wisconsin, with the exception of a few Northern counties where wolf populations are prevalent.

Wolves help ensure the future productivity of Wisconsin's **timber industry** by keeping deer on the move.

Deer must become more cautious and vigilant in the presence of wolf populations, meaning they move more frequently, avoid certain areas, and graze less intensely and more diffusely.

Increased deer movement ensures that food and habitat are not overexploited to allow for healthy forests.

Healthy forests and parks increase tourism, promote jobs, generate economic activity, fund the government, and boost property values.



WOLF 813 MEMORIAL

"Wolf 813 was a cherished wolf to the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe and to many others in the area. She was the matriarch of the Echo Valley pack for at least ten years and produced 35 confirmed pups during her life. It is our hope here at Red Cliff that people can learn to coexist with Ma'iinganag and learn to see the value and benefits they provide not only to the environment but to people as well."

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe