

# TRACKS & SIGNS

## COTTONTAIL RABBIT

### PRINT DESCRIPTION

**Size: Front Tracks 1" / Hind Tracks 4"**

To identify rabbit tracks, look for repeating hopping patterns. The overall shape of the four tracks forms a group that tends to be elongated and rectangular in shape. The tracks left by the front feet leave two small, offset depressions because they are placed on the ground first, one after the other, when the rabbit jumps forward. Their back feet land in front of their front paws leaving two larger depressions that look like parallel lines.



Rabbits have small, round toes that are covered with fur, so it's difficult to distinguish individual toes from their tracks. Keep in mind that their hind feet have four long, webbed toes, while their front paws have five toes but one of them is much reduced.

### PATTERN OF TRACKS

**Gallopers:** Smaller front feet are placed first, followed by the larger hind feet, which land ahead of the front paws, as they are lifted up. Other animals that move using this pattern include mice, voles, shrews, chipmunks, squirrels, and hares.

### OTHER SIGNS

- Rabbit scat looks like small, round, pea-sized balls made of tiny fibers that are usually black, light-brown or green in color. One or two scat might be found in tracks but most of them are deposited where the animal is hiding for resting.
- Rabbit urine can range from orange to red in color.