### Eastern Collared Lizard

**Crotaphytus collaris**

*Animalia > Chordata > Vertebrata > Reptilia > Squamata > Crotaphytidae*

**Roadrunners** are a species of bird that chases their prey to catch it. They live in the southwest U.S. and drier parts of Missouri and Arkansas.

**Size**
- Adults: 30 cm (12") long, with a tail fully grown at 3 years, females unable to mate after a year.
- Their habitat in Missouri is threatened by cedar-invading glades. Recovery efforts use fire to restore glades, so their populations are recovering.

**Significance**
- Eastern Collared Lizards: racers, hawks, roadrunners will eat young adult eastern collared lizards.

**What eats Eastern Collared Lizards?**
- Grasshoppers, hawks, roadrunners (in SW MO).

**What Eastern Collared Lizards eat?**
- Grubs, moths, spiders, small snakes, lizards, and mammals, small amounts of fruit and vegetables.

**Habitat (home/food/water)**
- Glades, sw or s-facing slopes, dry, rocky areas.

**Home**
- Under rocks and crevices, burrows in winter.

**What Eastern Collared Lizards do?**
- Active at temperatures between 27°C (80°F) and 43°C (110°F).

**North American Distribution**

[Map of North American Distribution]

**Missouri Distribution**

[Map of Missouri Distribution]

**Eastern Collared Lizards will run on two legs (like T. rex) when they are being chased by predators. In this case the predator is a Roadrunner.**

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