

Here comes
Peter Cottontail...

The New England cottontail inspired Peter Cottontail in Thornton Burgess stories. It's the only rabbit native to greater New England.



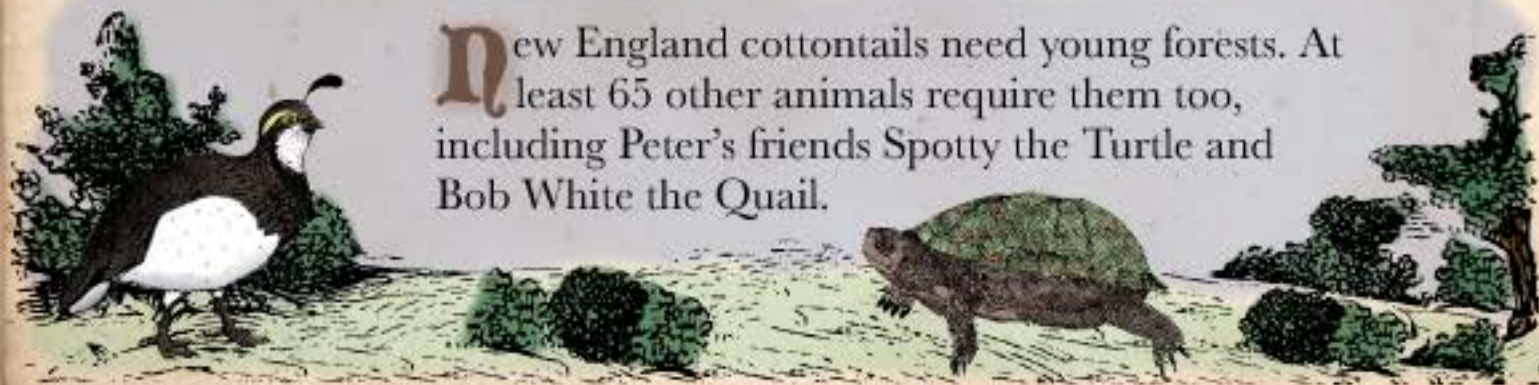
He's not the rabbit nibbling in your garden! That's the common, non-native eastern cottontail.

When Peter first appeared in 1910, New England cottontails were so abundant they were sometimes considered pests. A century later, they had become scarce.



Peter's Old Briar-patch had grown up, and houses and businesses popped up all over his home. Populations blinked out.

New England cottontails need young forests. At least 65 other animals require them too, including Peter's friends Spotty the Turtle and Bob White the Quail.



- Historic habitat range
- Remaining populations and focus areas

Biologists, landowners and many others began working over 8 years ago to bring back Peter Cottontail. We've restored and protected habitat, and released captive-raised rabbits to boost populations. Biologists estimate there's **over 18,000 acres** of habitat and about **10,500 rabbits** in focus areas.



We're closing in on our habitat and population goals, but the work is not done. With development and maturing forests, we must actively restore and protect areas of young forest.

Help us keep Peter Cottontail on the bunny trail:

- Create or maintain young forest
- Conserve your land
- Learn about the New England cottontail
- Advocate for young forest conservation



newenglandcottontail.org

