

# Eastern Box Turtle



## Description:

Male box turtles usually have bright red or orange colored eyes, whereas females have a darker red or brown

## Diet:

Earthworms, snails, grubs, beetles, caterpillars, grasses, fallen fruit, berries, mushrooms, and flowers

## Fun Facts:

Box turtles do not develop their hinge until the age of 4 or 5

In the wild adult box turtles can live to 30 or 40 years

A female box turtle can store sperm for up to 4 years and use it to fertilize her eggs

## Photographs provided by:

### Snakes and Toads:

1 ) Myers, P., R. Espinosa, C. S. Parr, T. Jones, G. S. Hammond, and T. A. Dewey. 2006. The Animal Diversity Web (online). Accessed July 09, 2007 at <http://animaldiversity.org>.

### Salamanders:

2) <http://www.cortland.edu/herp/keys/salamand/pcineriu.htm>

3) Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife

<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/Resources/amphibians/redbacksal.htm>

### Turtles:

4) Melissa Bole in GNA

5) [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern\\_Box\\_Turtle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Box_Turtle)



Created by Melissa Bole

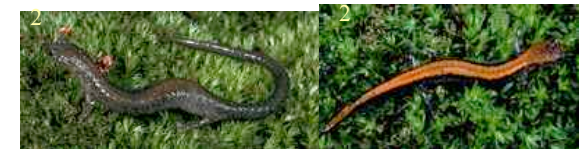
(Biology)



# Reptiles and Amphibians

you may see in the

# Gordon Natural Area





## Common Garter Snake



### Description:

A garter snake usually has one or three longitudinal yellow or red stripes, with checkered blotches between

### Diet:

Amphibians, earthworms, fish, small birds and rodents

### Fun Facts:

Garter snakes bear live young in large litters, sometimes numbering 50 or more

Garter snakes are the most common snakes in North America

The common garter snake is the only species of snake to be found in Alaska

There is little variation within the pattern of scales among the different varieties of garter snakes, but coloration varies widely across varieties and geographic regions

During hibernation, garter snakes sleep in large, communal dens called hibernacula

## Eastern American Toad



### Description:

Most toads are brown with dark spots containing 1-3 warts on its back. Also the underside is spotted.

### Diet:

Earthworms, caterpillars, spiders and a variety of flying insects

### Fun Facts:

Toads move in short hops rather than long leaps like frogs

A toad's hind feet have special small knobs used for shoving soil aside so they can gradually sink and bury themselves

Female eastern American toads are larger than the males

Eastern American toads are the largest toads in Pennsylvania



## Redback Salamander

### Description:

Redback salamanders can be a red color or lead color, which is a dark gray

### Diet:

Ants, beetles, caterpillars, earthworms, snails, and grasshoppers and centipedes

*Fun Facts:*

As a defense mechanism, Redback salamanders will break off their tail to escape while the predator watches its wiggling tail. The tail will grow back over time.

The Redback salamander is considered the most common woodland salamander in the Northeastern US

Redbacks are lungless therefore their skin must be moist to allow for respiration